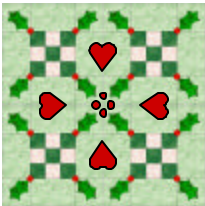
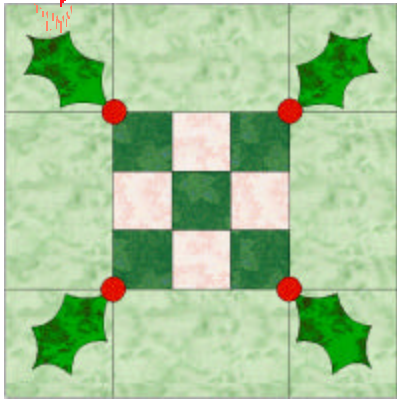


FVQG November 2006 Block of the Month

Holly Nine-Patch

9½" x 9½" Finished Block - 10" X 10" Unfinished



Idea for a possible quilt with hearts and berries added into the spaces which will be available when the blocks are put together.

Create Your 4½" Finished 9-patch (5" Unfinished)
You can use the "Quick 9-Patch" instructions below or your own favourite method.

If you are using the strip method you will need 2" wide strips.

The colours for the 9 patch block are green (a Christmas print that is predominately green will work) **and tone on tone white/beige.**

The Borders of the block will be green, too.

Note: The borders should be a lighter green than the holly leaves and green blocks in your 9-patch, so that the holly leaves will be visible.

Cut four pieces for your borders -

Two pieces 3" W x 5" L

Two pieces 3" W x 10"L

Add the 3"x 5" pieces on alternate sides of your 9-patch block first and then add the 10" pieces to the remaining two sides (*the diagram was created in EQ5 and shows corner joins on all four sides - this will not be the case in your sewn block*).

Create your four pieces of holly and appliqué (your choice of method) a piece of holly to each end of your 9-patch block remembering to leave space at outside the corners for ¼" seam allowance when joining blocks. Finally add a red button to each piece of holly.



There are well over 150 species of holly. Some are deciduous and lose their leaves; others are evergreen. Although the flowers are inconspicuous, the berries are not. Yellow as well as red-berried species are common.

Quick 9-patch Blocks

This method will produce two nine patch blocks with alternate colours.

Step 1

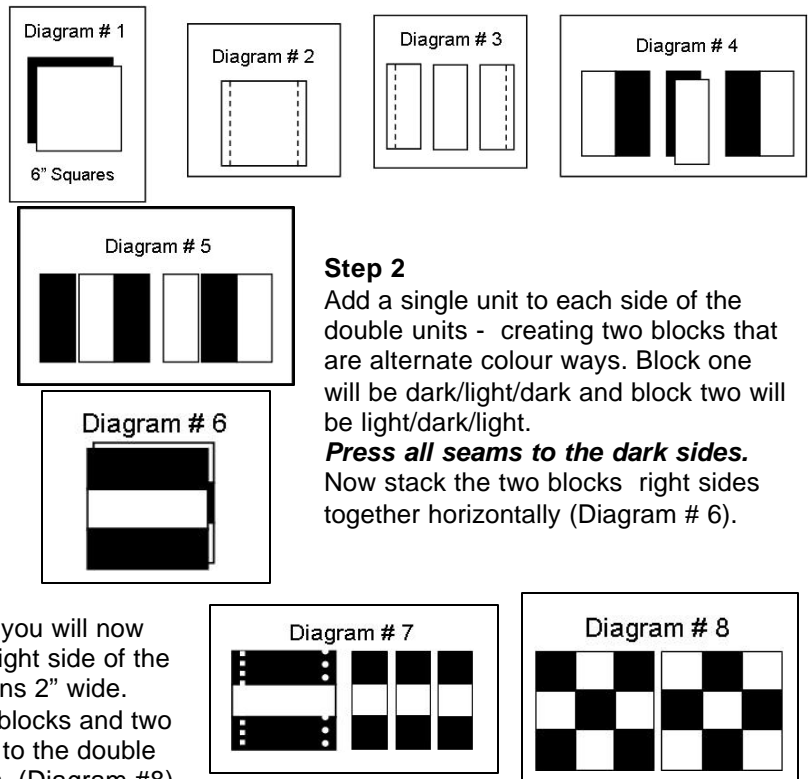
For this block of the month you will start with two 6" squares - one tone on tone beige or white and one tone on tone green or Christmas print that is predominately green. The formula to create a 9-patch block of your own size would start with two squares that are 1½" larger than the size of your finished 9-patch. Therefore, this finished 9-patch will be 4½"

(6" - 1½" = 4½")

Stack the two 6" blocks right sides together (Diagram # 1) all edges aligned. Stitch a scant ¼" seam down the left and right side of the stacked blocks (Diagram # 2). Cut this block vertically into three equal sections, which should measure 2" wide. (Diagram # 3). This will give you two pieced sections and two single strips as shown in Diagram # 4.

Step 3

With the blocks stacked in the horizontal position, you will now repeat Step 1. Sew a ¼" seam down the left and right side of the stacked blocks and cut this into three equal sections 2" wide. (Diagram # 7). This will give you two double wide blocks and two single strip blocks. Sew the single strip blocks on to the double wide blocks to create two alternate 9-patch blocks. (Diagram #8)



Step 2

Add a single unit to each side of the double units - creating two blocks that are alternate colour ways. Block one will be dark/light/dark and block two will be light/dark/light.

Press all seams to the dark sides.

Now stack the two blocks right sides together horizontally (Diagram # 6).