

Basket Block

Friendship Block - April, May, June -- Drawing in June

A tisket, a tasket, let's make a spring basket !!!



To make this 6 inch block:

Cutting Instructions

Choose a bright background fabric and a white/black basket fabric for your first basket block.

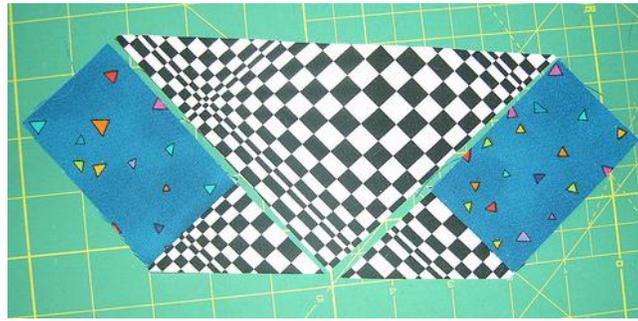
- **Largest triangle for block top and basket:** Cut a 5-3/8" square from each fabric; cut each in half once diagonally
- **Triangle for bottom corner of block:** Cut a 3-7/8" square from the bright background fabric; cut in half once diagonally
- **Basket base:** Cut a 2-3/8" square from the black/white basket fabric; cut in half once diagonally
- **Background sides:** Cut two 2" x 3-1/2" rectangles from the bright background fabric
- *Extra triangles can be used for a second block.*

Assembling

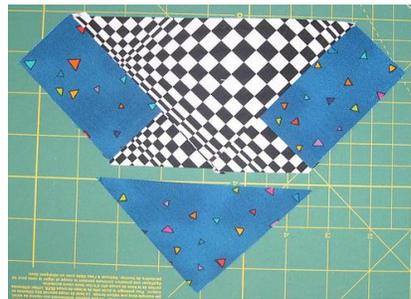
1. Sew a small basket base triangle to the end of each background rectangle, creating mirror image pairs.



2. Press seam allowances towards the rectangles.
3. Sew a rectangle/triangle unit to each side of the black/white basket base triangle that you created from a 5-3/8" square.



4. Press seam allowances towards the rectangles.
5. Center and sew the bottom background triangle, created by dividing the 3-7/8" square, to the bottom of the block.



6. Press the seam allowance towards the bottom triangle.

Add a Handle to Your Basket Quilt Block

The basket handle is variable:

- Cut from the same fabric as the basket and appliquéd to the background.
- Fashioned from rickrack
- Sewn using a decorative stitch

No matter which basket handle method you choose, begin by determining its position on the large background triangle.



1. Make a paper template that's a 3-1/2" circle. Mark the midpoint across the circle, and then cut all the way across 1/4" below the mark.
2. Center the circle on your unsewn large background triangle. Trace around the circle to mark the position of your handle.

To **appliqué a fabric handle** to the triangle:

1. Cut a 1" x 7" strip (adjust length for the next handle if too long). Bias strips have some stretch and will allow you to curve the handle with ease.
2. Fold in half, wrong sides together and stitch about a 1/4" seam. Trim the seam a bit.
3. Press, rolling the seam to place it midway between the pressed edges (a bias press bar makes this much easier, but you can open the tube with a bamboo skewer or other similar object and remove it before pressing).
4. Placing the seam down, appliqué the strip to the triangle, taking care not to stretch the triangle in the process.
5. For a **rickrack handle**, match a length of rickrack to the marked handle lines and sew to the triangle. Be sure to extend the ends of a rickrack handle into the seam allowance below them. When basket halves are joined, the seam will stabilize rickrack ends and keep them from fraying.
6. If you plan to **hand-embroider a handle**, do it after the block is assembled to keep from stretching the triangle when placing it in a hoop.
7. Center and sew the handle triangle to the basket bottom. Press.
8. The block should measure 6-1/2" square.
9. Insert the finished block into a 6" embroidery hoop if you are creating an embroidered handle.
10. Use leftover triangles to make a second block.

Questions? Call Sue Greene (860-675-8326). Remember for help with ANY quilting project logon to our website www.fvqi.org , then click on Member's Helping Members for list of skilled members who can help you.

