LAZY PINEAPPLE

Lazy Pineapple is similar to square-in-a-square. Except that you use less fabric and there is very little fabric waste. Also, there are no points on the sides to worry about when sewing the block into seams. No fancy rulers.

All you need to do is choose a focus fabric for the center and 3-4 coordinating fabrics, a 6 ½" x 12 ½", cutting mat, rotary cutter, a sewing machine, thread and notions.

1. Cut focus fabric at desired square measurement. Figure 1

Figure 1

2. Cut first "layer" of the pineapple same size square as step 1. Figure 2

Figure 2

3. Place right sides together. Stitch ¼" seam edge to edge on all 4 sides. Figure 3.
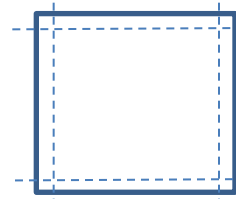   DO NOT sew up to ¼" from edge and pivot to sew the next ¼" seam.

Figure 3

4. On the NON focus fabric draw lines (pencil) diagonally from corner to corner. Figure 4.
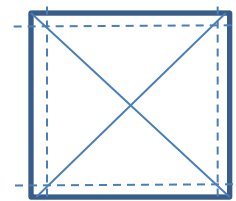
Figure 4

5. With the NON focus fabric facing you, carefully pull apart the fabrics at the center. Pinch together the fabrics in the center along one of the drawn lines. Using a small pair of sharp scissors, clip a ¼" opening along one of the lines in the center. Then cut with small scissors on each of the drawn lines to the corners where the seams intersect. Clip all the way to the seam line in the corner. Press the triangles open, press seams to the outside. Figure 5. Carefully clip off the "dog ears" to even up the new square and reduce bulk. You can square up the unit if you want to.
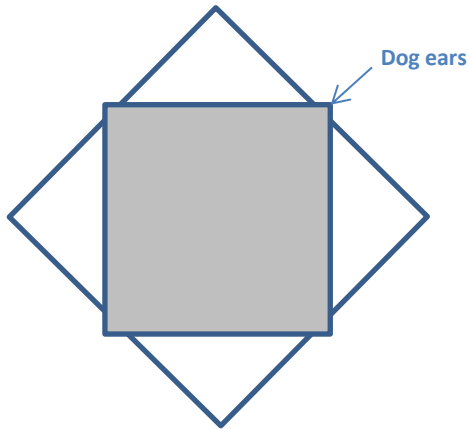

Figure 5

6. Measure the unit in Figure 5. Cut your next layer in the pineapple the same size as the square in step 5.

7. To add more layers, follow steps 3 through 6 for the next layer in the pineapple. Again, drawing lines and cutting on the NON focus fabric.

8. Square up final blocks and sew together. Add borders or not.

Suggestions:
- Fussy cut your focus fabric (note that direction changes as you add layers; do a test block)
- Alternate the outer layers: in one block use a light fabric for the first layer and a medium/dark fabric for the second layer; in the next block switch the medium/dark with the light fabric.
- Layout: Turn the blocks on point and add triangle setting squares
- Add 2 to 4 layers to the focus block
- After sewing a layer on, trim block down ¼" on all sides. This will accentuate the pineapple layers. If using a fussy cut focus fabric, be careful not to cut into the design.

This is a great way to use up stash fabrics that you are no longer interested in or don't like! This frees up space to buy more fabric!

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