

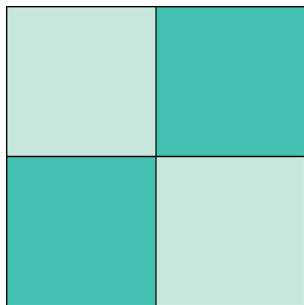
CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH- SEPTEMBER 2022

Brenda Dagg

Your first challenge is designed to get us thinking about the colours you use, and those you don't like to use in your piecing.

Look in your stash and choose **a fabric whose colour you don't really like**. You're going to begin your quilt block with this colour and try to make a block you like by combining it with other colours.

I'm suggesting a simple four-patch block so you can easily move your colours around.



Of course, if you want to use smaller squares, and you might like to, then each of the four blocks can be cut into 4 squares which will give you a 16- square block.

This block is just a suggestion- you can make any block you wish. You might find some ideas in the files on our websites from previous BOMs. You might even like to try the split 4 patch we looked at last year.

Four Patch/Sixteen Patch Math- To Make a 12 ½ inch (unfinished) block

To make the simplest 4 Patch- **4 squares at 6 ½ inches each**

To make a 16 Patch- **16 squares at 3 ½ inches each**

To make smaller 4 patches within your 16 squares- **4 squares at 2 inches each.**

My Process-

I picked this purple fabric from my stash. I don't use a lot of purple, and



something about this particular purple has never appealed to me.

I cut a variety of squares (see Math chart above) of a variety of colours and created blocks on my design wall. I played for quite a while before actually stitching a block. ***It was fun!!***

I first thought I'd try to use a complementary colour, which of course is yellow for purple. I tried deeper yellow and a lighter yellow with large squares. It was okay,



but I knew I could do better.

Bonnie Hunter, a well-known scrap quilter, says if you don't like a fabric or colour in your block, you just need to



cut it up smaller, so I tried several variations of that.. Not bad- improving.

Then I tried finding a fabric I liked in my stash which co-ordinated with the purple. This made me happier, but there was not enough value change so I added a lighter fabric to the mix.



The possibilities are endless:



My favourite two are these, especially the one with the turquoise, perhaps because it has less purple in it. Note that all of the above blocks are just placed on the design wall. I didn't stitch anything together until I reached this point.



You may have some questions at this point:

Do I have any fabric whose colour I don't like?

My husband asked this question and I just laughed. Of course I do, and I imagine you do too.

Why would you want to use a fabric colour you don't like?

- Because you have those fabrics in your stash.
- Because it may co-ordinate with a fabric you do like.
- Because you are making a quilt for someone who does like that colour.
- Because you might even find you like that colour after all.
- Because it's good practice to figure out how to make an unliked colour likeable.

Hope you'll give this challenge a try- using the 4 patch or any other block you would like to make. Good luck!