

COLOUR THEORY FOR QUILTERS: a Sampler of Colours
Dancing Corners Quilt Block Challenge
Grand Quilt Guild
2012 – 2013

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You will learn about the 9 classic colour combinations used by all who wish to create using colour. You will be encouraged to play with colour for each combination used. We will use a pattern that incorporates 2 basic traditional block shapes and one other not so usual block shape that can all be manipulated in a variety of ways to change the look of each block.

You may choose 2 ways of doing this challenge.

1. Make one 12" block each month using fabric and working in a traditional manner for a small quilt.
2. See separate handout for option 2 prepared by Elizabeth Litch.

Fabric Requirements:

First you must choose a "THEME" fabric. This should be one that you absolutely love. Choose small prints, tone on tone, or batik with one over all colour tone; avoid anything with big blotches of other colours or strong contrasts on shading. Avoid large prints, stripes, or any large design. You need **0.5 m** of this theme fabric for the blocks, but if you want to use it for your borders or sashing, then get at least 1.0 m.

1m neutral background: this should be white, creamy off white, or black.

Throughout the year you will need a wide variety of fabric pieces, at least 9" x 11" covering the full colour spectrum. Choose small prints, batiks, or tone on tones for the best results. Be sure to include light, medium, and dark fabrics as well. If you don't have a big stash, try swapping colours with a friend. Hopefully everyone will share and trade fabrics to broaden each other's choices.

You will work with the same colour family as your "Theme" fabric in block one.

After the first block you will have a better idea of what you need.

Other Supplies: Make 9 copies of the Dancing Corner Worksheet

Pre-cut the following for the first block:

Background fabric: Cut 2 strips 3 7/8". Sub-cut into 3 7/8" squares.

Theme fabric: Cut 2 strips @ 3 7/8". Sub-cut into 3 7/8" squares for the star points.

You will also need little pieces to create your Dancing Corner worksheet before you sew.

For every block, you will make a fabric sample of the block pieces on the photocopied pages by pasting small pieces of fabric on the worksheet. This way you see if you like the fabrics you have chosen before sewing them in place.

Dancing Corners Work Sheet

Block Name: _____

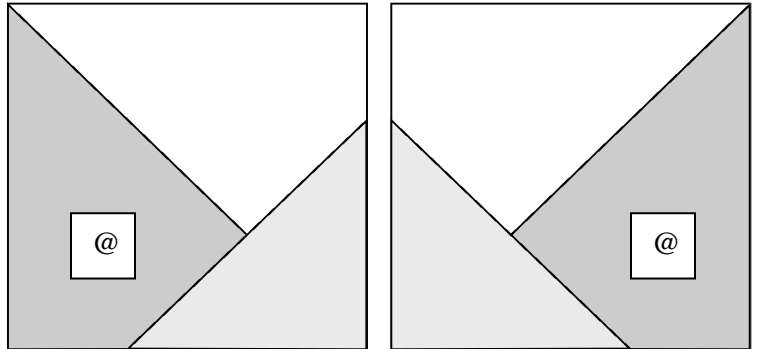
Dancing Corners Unit & Reverse

Cut 4 background @ $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $3 \frac{7}{8}$ "

Cut 4 theme colour # 1 @ $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $3 \frac{7}{8}$ "

Cut 8 theme colour #2 @ $2 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $2 \frac{7}{8}$ "

These will be $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " when sewn;
3" x 3" after finishing.

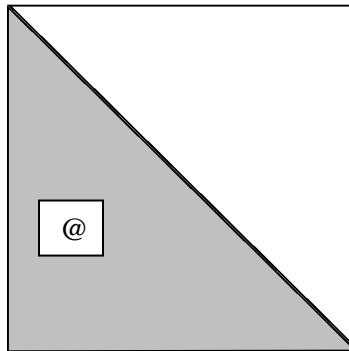


Half-Square Triangle Unit

Cut 2 background @ $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $3 \frac{7}{8}$ "

Cut 2 theme colour #3 @ $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $3 \frac{7}{8}$ "

These will be $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " when sewn;
3" x 3" after finishing.



Half-Split Half-Square Unit

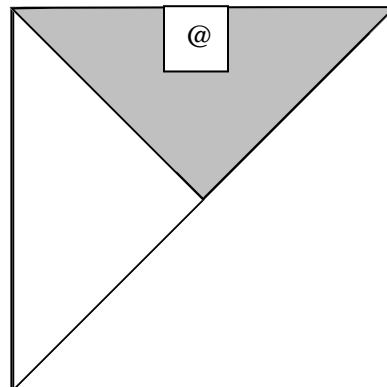
Cut 1 background @ $4 \frac{1}{4}$ " x $4 \frac{1}{4}$ "

Cut twice on the diagonal.

Cut 1 theme Colour # 4 @ $4 \frac{1}{4}$ " x $4 \frac{1}{4}$ "

Cut twice on the diagonal.

Join  +  = 



Cut 2 theme colour # 5 @ $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " x $3 \frac{7}{8}$ ".

Cut once on the diagonal. Join to above unit.

These will be $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " when sewn;
3" x 3" after finishing.

