

THE GRAND QUILT GUILD

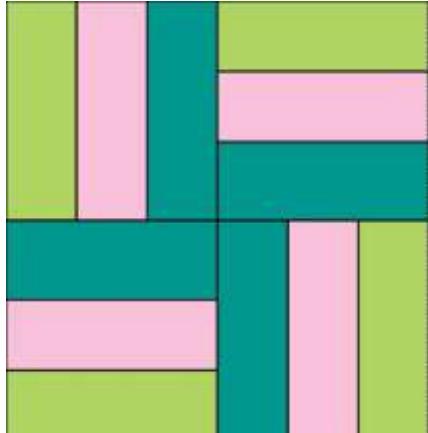
ROW BY ROW PROJECT 2025 – 2026

BLOCK # 4 January 14, 2026 Due February 11, 2026

RAIL FENCE QUILT BLOCK

The Rail Fence quilt block mimics old split rail fences. This is quite an old block dating back to the early 1800's. It has been suggested that this block (along with the Log Cabin block) has ties to the Underground Railroad. Although the debate rages there is no solid evidence linking these blocks to the Underground Railroad. This block goes by several names, one of which is a Roman Square.

This simple strip pieced block is ideal for using up scraps. (*and no TEMPLATES are required*)



Fabric Requirements:

3 (three) fabrics - light

- Medium
- Dark

This is a 6 (6 1/2 unfinished) block.

All seams are 1/4 inch. This is a perfect opportunity to measure and assess your 1/4 inch seam. (this is discussed at the end of the pattern)

There are two ways to cut and sew the strips depending on the size of your fabric pieces.

You can cut individual strips, ie 1 1/2 ' x 3 1/2 ' or cut strips your length of fabric(WOF) and then sub cut into the required size.

Instructions are for 1 (one) 6 inch (6 1/2) block

Cut the Fabrics:

Light 4 x 1 1/2 in x 3 1/2 in (or 1 1/2 in x 15 in)

Medium 4 x 1 1/2 in x 3 1/2 in (or 1 1/2 in x 15 in)

Dark 4 x 1 1/2 in x 3 1/2 in (or 1 1/2 in x 15 in)

Assemble the block:

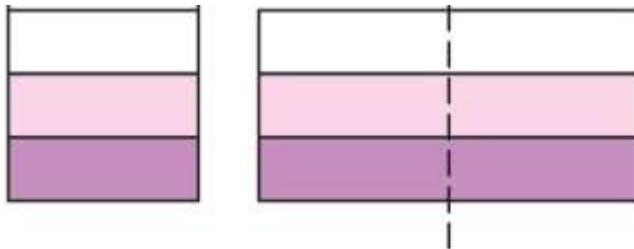
Stitch the strips together lengthwise – light – medium – dark

To make 4 (four) sections

If you cut long strips:

Sew the long strips together then sub cut into 4 x 3 1/2 in sections

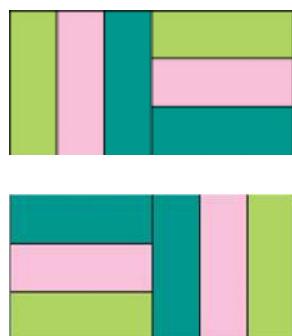
TIP – when sewing long strips together reverse the direction of sewing when adding the next row this can help prevent stretching or puckering of the fabric strip.



Step #2

Stitch two sections together alternating the direction of the stripe

Again stitch the next two sections together alternating the stripe direction.



Experiment with your layout, placing the dark or light stripes in different directions.

To check your 1/4 inch simply measure the center stripe of one of your sections – it should measure 1 inch, and if it does – great your seam is 1/4 inch.

Now that you have made your seven blocks, please don't forget to email them to me so as they can be shown on the February Zoom meeting.

As usual, any questions or issues don't hesitate to contact me:
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