November BOM

Transparency

Another type of optical illusion uses color to create a layered effect, as if something transparent is being layered over or under something else.

There are several ways to create the illusion of transparency: One is to use a darker value of one of the colors you are using at a point of intersection. Another uses a lighter value of one of the colors you are using. A third method uses blended colors, so where, for example, red and yellow intersect, orange is created.

Cutting Instructions

For this block, you will need three coordinated colors in addition to your focus fabric and background fabric. Two will be main color fabrics and one will be the blended fabric.

From focus fabric cut four 3½" squares (A).

From background fabric cut two 4¼" squares (B).

From EACH of your two main color fabrics cut two 4¾" x 2⅝" rectangles (C and D) and two 4¼" squares (E and F).

From your blended color fabric cut one 4¾" square (G) and four 2⅝" squares (H).

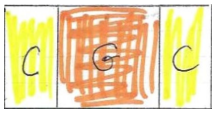
Treat the four 4¼" squares (two from background color and one each of the main color fabrics) with Best Press or other starch, then cut them diagonally twice into QSTs.

Putting it Together

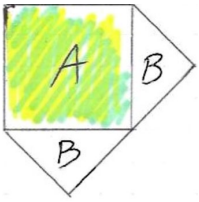
1. Lay out the entire block on a design wall or table. This will make it much easier to see how things go together.

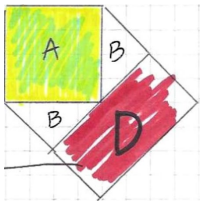


2. Sew two D rectangles to opposite sides of the G square. Press seams open and set back in the design. This is the DGD unit.

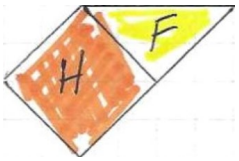


3. Sew two B triangles to adjacent sides of each of the A squares. Note that the long sides of the B triangles are sewn to the sides of the A squares. Press seams open and set aside. Sew a C rectangle to the ends of two of these units. Press seams open and set all units back in the design. These are the ABB and ABBD units.





4. BE VERY CAREFUL WITH THIS STEP. IT'S TRICKY! Sew an F triangle to the side of each of the H squares. **Two should go in one direction and two should go in the other direction.** Note that the short sides of each triangle are sewn to the sides of the H squares. These are the FH units.



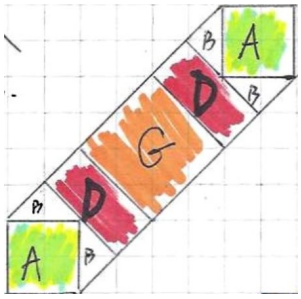


5. Sew the E triangles to the other sides FH units as shown. Press seams open and set back into the block. Again, be careful. There should be two EHF units and two FHE units. This is important to maintain the transparency effect.

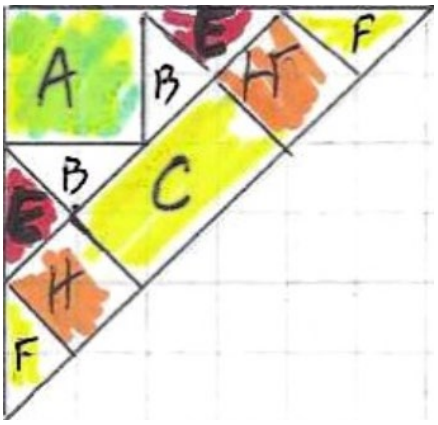




6. Sew the BAB units to each side of the DGD unit. Press seams open and set back in the block.



7. Sew an FHE and an EHF to either side of the remaining ABB units as shown. Press seams open and set back in the block. Take extreme care that you sew the FHE and EHF units on correctly.



8. Sew each of the large triangles to the central unit as shown. Press the seams open and admire your beautiful block!

