

Jean Biddick Workshop ~ No-Nonsense Nine-Patch

This quilt is a great way to use up some of those scraps of fabric you have saved and hoarded. If you use them up you will have room for new fabric! There are two blocks in this quilt. One is a half-square triangle block. The other is a nine-patch. You are encouraged to cut pieces for your quilt before you come to class.



How many blocks will I need to make?

Lap-size (48" by 60"): about 80 blocks (40 of each type)
Twin (72" by 90"): about 180 blocks (90 of each type)
Queen (90" by 108"): about 270 blocks (135 of each type)

What do I cut for each block?

For each half square triangle block you will need one dark and one light triangle. Cut a square $6\frac{7}{8}$ " by $6\frac{7}{8}$ ". Cut on the diagonal to make two triangles.

For each nine-patch block you will need 9 squares. Cut the squares $2\frac{1}{2}$ " by $2\frac{1}{2}$ ". The block can have 5 dark squares (all from the same fabric) and 4 light squares (all from the same fabric) OR 4 dark and 5 light squares.

I've done the cutting – can I also do some sewing before class?

Yes. If you'd like to have more time to design your quilt you may start sewing blocks before class. We only have 3 hours for this class. If you choose to sew blocks before class you will have more time to play with them and see how the design is built. Do not feel like you HAVE to sew before class.

If you DO decide to sew some blocks before class here are some hints:

Each half-square triangle block needs to have one dark fabric and one light fabric. These should be pretty distinctly dark and light.

Each nine-patch block is also made of one dark and one light fabric, but for these the contrast can be somewhat lower. A dark and a medium value could be paired. A light and a medium-dark can be paired. If you make a block from a very dark fabric and a very light one it will be harder to place the block easily into the quilt layout.

I look forward to our half-day together.