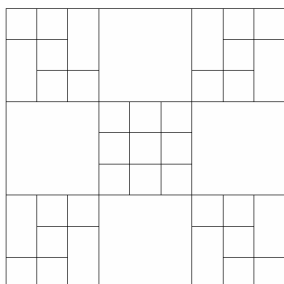


Irish Chain

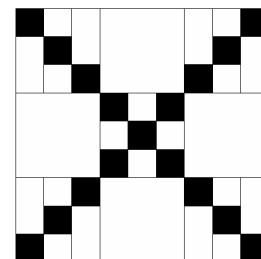
The BOM is a 10 inch finished block
10 1/2 inches edge to edge

The Irish Chain is one of the oldest quilt blocks. A simple arrangement of squares form diagonal cross patterns. The chain can be single, double, treble or even quadruple. It can be done with nine patches or four patches. In some blocks the centre squares are a different size from the other blocks to add interest.

We are going to use a single chain as a lattice for our sampler quilts. Unfortunately this version lends itself to a nine inch block, and the rest of the blocks are better as 10 or 12 inch blocks. The pieces are cut to the nearest 1/8 inch, so some of the blocks may need to be generous.



Colour the block on the left with your own colour choices to help with the placement of the pieces.



Cutting:

Fabric	10 inch block	12 inch block
Background	4 - 3 7/8 inch squares	4 - 4 1/2 inch squares
Background (Strip A)	3 inch strip	3 1/4 inch strip
Background (Strip B)	1 5/8 inch strip	1 7/8 inch strip
Dark (Strip C)	1 5/8 inch strip	1 7/8 inch strip

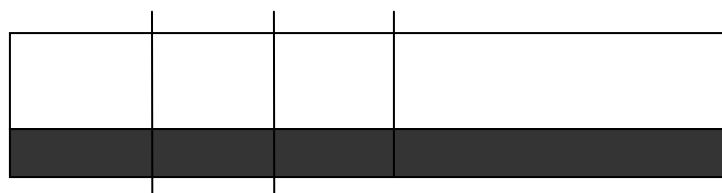
The easiest way to accomplish these blocks is creating some strata.

You need about 20 inches of Background A strips, 20 inches of Background B, and about 30 inches of Dark C strips for a single block. If you are making any of the Sampler Quilts, you will use more than one of each strata - see the end of the instructions for approximations of how many you will need. We have found that if your strata is sewn half the total width of the fabric, it will retain its shape better than sewing the entire width of the fabric.

You need the following strata:

Background A/Dark C (total length of just over 13 inches for the 10 inch block,
15 inches for the 12 inch block)

- cross cut into 8 - 1 5/8 inch rectangles (10 inch block)
- cross cut into 8 - 1 7/8 inch rectangles (12 inch block)



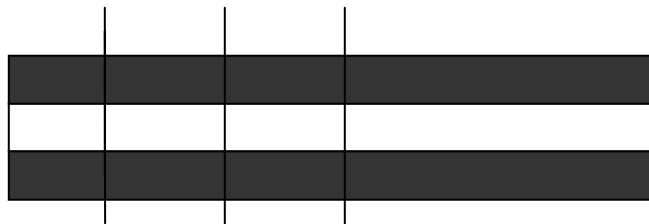
Background B/Dark C/Background B (total length of just over 8 ¼ inches for the 10 inch block
Over 9 ½ inches for the 12 inch block)

- cross cut into 5 - 1 5/8 inch rectangles (10 inch block)
- cross cut into 5 - 1 7/8 inch rectangles (12 inch block)



Dark C/Background B/ Dark C (total length of just over 3 ¼ for the 10 inch block
Over 3 ¾ for the 12 inch block)

- cross cut into 2 - 1 5/8 inch rectangles (10 inch block)
- cross cut into 2 - 1 7/8 inch rectangles (12 inch block)

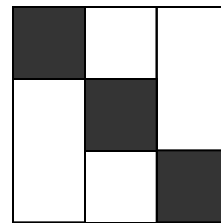
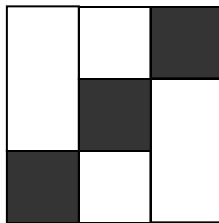
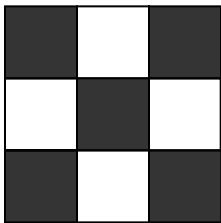


Assemble the nine-patches:

Lay the strata to form the five nine patches.

Crossover Patch

Chain Patches



Lay the pieces out as they are in the diagram and sew yourself a block – and one for the Guild.

If you have any problems, please don't hesitate to call Lyn at 421-1357.

For the Sampler Quilts ---

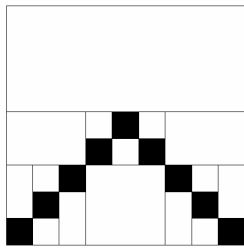
In the Traditional sampler or the Just the Blocks Sampler:

There are 4 complete Irish Chain blocks, 12 partial blocks.

In the Bali sampler

There are 12 partial blocks only.

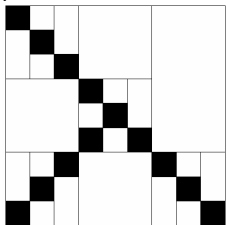
The first partial block is for the 4 corners of the chain. It consists of two of the chain patches and half the crossover patch. Use the same strips for the nine patches that you used on the full blocks. For the extra pieces you will need three more background pieces:



10 inch block: 1 - 5 by 10 ½ in strip
 2 - 2 ¾ by 3 7/8 in strips.
 1 - 3 7/8 in square

12 inch block: 1 - 6 by 12 ½ inch strip
 2 - 3 ¼ by 4 ½ in strips
 1 - 4 ½ in square

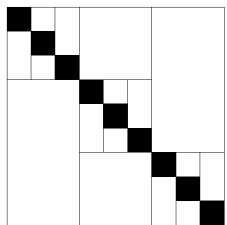
For the traditional samplers - you will need 8 of the following partial block. Use three of the chain patches, and a block made up of two strips from the crossover patch, plus one from the chain patch. In addition, you will need



10 inch block - 1 - 3 7/8 by 7 ¼ in strip
 3 - 3 7/8 inch squares

12 inch block - 1 - 4 ½ by 8 ½ in strip
 3 - 4 ½ inch squares

For the Bali Sampler - you will need 8 single chain blocks. These will use three chain patches, and the following









10 inch block - 2 - 3 7/8 by 7 ¼ in strips.
 2 - 3 7/8 inch squares

12 inch block - 2 - 4 ½ by 8 ½ in strips
 2 - 4 ½ inch squares

If you have any problems, please don't hesitate to call Lyn at 421-1357.

With 20 inch stratas (1/2 the width of fabric), you can get 12 cross cut sections for the 10 inch block, and 10 cross cut sections for the twelve inch block, so you will need the following:

Quilt	Cross Cut	No Pieces	10 inch finished	12 inch finished
Traditional/Just Blocks		104	9 strata	11 strata
		20	2 strata	2 strata
		64	6 strata	7 strata

Bali Sampler		96	9 strata
		12	1 strata
		56	5 strata

If you have any problems, please don't hesitate to call Lyn at 421-1357.