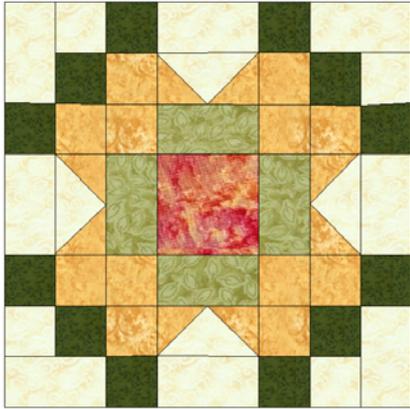


Tulips

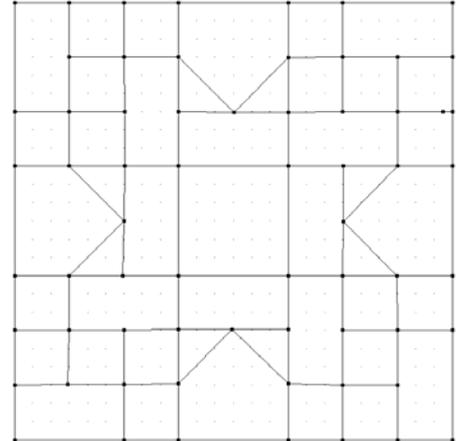


Let's consider spring this month.

These stylized tulips make a cheerful block

No triangles in this one!

12 inches finished



Background:



- 4 - 3 1/2 inch squares
- 2 inch by 10 inch strip
- 3 1/2 inch by 10 inch strip



Centre:



- 1 - 3 1/2 inch square



Tulips



- 2 inch by 10 inch strip
- 3 1/2 inch by 10 inch strip
- 8 - 2 inch squares for connector corners



Light Leaves



- 4 - 2 by 3 1/2 inch rectangles



Dark Leaves

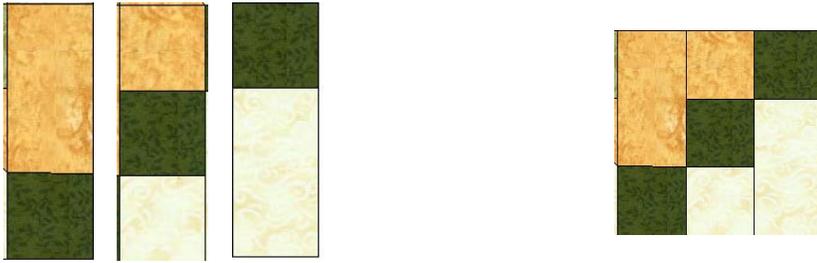


- 3 - 2 inch by 10 inch strips

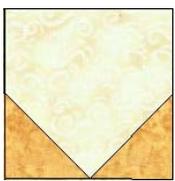


Start with sewing some strata for the corner tulips:

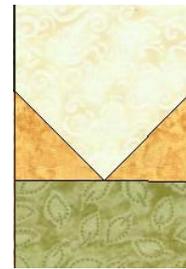
With your 10 inch strips, sew the following sets of strata. Then cross cut into 2 inch segments, and sew them into the corner units;



Next, apply tulip connector corners on the remaining background squares:



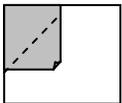
Add the light leaf rectangles to the side with the connectors.



Lay the units out to match the diagram on the top of the first page, and sew them all together. Now you have four bright tulips to brighten up your winter!

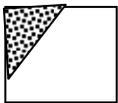
Easy wasn't it?

Connector Corners:



Draw a line kitty corner across the back of your small connector square. Place this on the appropriate corner of your larger piece, right sides together. Make sure that the line that you drew is in the correct position.

Now, sew along that line.



Press the connector into the corner so that the right side of the connector is in the correct position on the base piece, then trim away the centre layer $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the seam. Square up your piece.

Building Strata:

When sewing multiple four or nine patches, it can save you time, and make your piecing a bit more accurate to build a strata. Take a look at your nine-patch, and divide it into columns. Figure out the width of strips you would need if you were sewing a long strip that looked like the column. Cut these strips and sew them together. Do this for both columns of your four patch, or all three columns of your nine-patch.

Now all you have to do is cross cut your finished strata into the width of your columns (plus $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of course), and sew the strips together. If you are sewing four patches, put the two strata right sides together, iron them together and cross cut - then your pieces will be ready to sew.