

**Subject: Prep info for Jack's Chain class**

Good morning and, as somebody from another class said, Welcome to the "chain gang".

If there is anything in this informational sheet you don't understand you can call/text/email me with your questions or simply wait and do it in class so I can explain it better...no pressure!

To make your class time more productive, you can get started making the 9-patch blocks. The first decision you'll want to make is whether you want a dark background or a light background. You do not need to have all the strips/pieces cut before class.

9-patch blocks: strips are cut 1 1/2". Blocks should measure 3 1/2", including seam allowances, 3" finished.



If you are making the dark background your 9-patch blocks will have 5 light and 4 dark squares, the light squares will become your circular chain. Strips are cut 1 1/2". Blocks should measure 3 1/2", including seam allowances (3" finished blocks). Please check these for accuracy. They need to measure 3 1/2" so they will match the center hexagon and the triangle template. Do a test block or 2 to check that your seam allowance is accurate. Mine are scrappy so I could use all those small leftover pieces first...more info below.



If you choose a light background, the 9-patch blocks will have 5 dark squares and 4 light chains, the dark squares will become your circular chain. Blocks should measure  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " , including seam allowances,  $3$ " finished blocks. Please check these for accuracy. They need to measure  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " so they will match the center hexagon and the triangle template. Do a test block or 2 to check that your seam allowance is accurate.



I choose to "spin" the seam allowances to minimize bulk at the intersections of the squares. Remove the stitches beyond the seam to the outer edge, as shown in the photo marked in orange. Taking out those few stitches, front and back, allows the seam to spin and press flat. If you don't understand this step I'll show you in class. It's an optional step.



If you are like me, you have lots of short pieces you'd like to use. I started with a light strip and sewed colored fabric bits, end to end, until it was full. This allowed me to get more variety. Even when using longer strips of color, I cut them in half (1 1/2" X 22") so I had more combinations of fabrics in the 9-patches.

It takes 6 9-patch blocks per circle. **You do not have to have all of your 9-patch blocks made before class**, just enough to make a few blocks to get the rows started. Don't stress over this. It's a long term project and you'll have plenty of time to get everything done.

Choosing the border and binding fabric can wait until you've made the center.

I can mail you the pattern and template, if you haven't already gotten it, or you can pick it up the day of class and cut a few hexs and triangles to use in class. Cutting in class will be fine.

There are 3 projects included in the pattern.

## **CUTTING**

**REMEMBER! Background can be either light or dark so note which you are doing before you start cutting. Strips required can be converted to an equivalent amount in partial strips for more variety.**

### **Small Quilt**

39" X 44"

Background: 2 yds. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 2 yds.

Contrast: 3/4 yd. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 3/4 yd. Contrast will be the chain.

Border and binding: 1 yard

From the background:

Cut 12 strips 1 1/2" X wof (width of fabric). Make 68 9-patches + 8 6-patches

Cut 6 strips 3 3/8" X wof for 102 triangles

Cut 1 strip 3 3/8" X wof for 6 half hexs for the sides

Cut 2 strips 5 3/4" X wof for 11 hexs

From the contrast:

Cut 15 strips 1 1/2" X wof for 9-patch blocks

**What you need to know before class is that you are making 68 9-patch blocks for the small quilt + 8 6-patch blocks. A 6-patch means you are sewing 2 rows together not 3 rows.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Bed/Table Runner**

25" X 82"

Background: 1 3/4 yds. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 1 3/4 yds.

Contrast: 3/4 yd. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 3/4 yd. Contrast=chain.

Border and binding: 1 yd.

From the background:

Cut 12 strips 1 1/2" X wof (width of fabric). Make 38 9-patches + 28 modified 9-patches as show in the diagram in the pattern

Cut 6 strips 3 3/8" X wof for 108 triangles

Cut 2 strips 3 3/8" X wof for 12 half hexs for the sides

Cut 2 strips 5 3/4" X wof for 7 hexs

From the contrast:

Cut 14 strips 1 1/2" X wof for 9-patch blocks

**What you need to know before class is that you are making 38 9-patch blocks for the bed runner.**

\*\*\*\*\*

70" X 76" for blocks only. Adjust size with the borders, which you can choose when the patchwork is finished.

Background: 8 1/2 yds. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 8 1/2 yds.

Contrast: 3 yds. This can be a combination of fabrics totaling 3 yds. Contrast=chain.

Border and binding:

To do the border on my sample, I had 3 yards of the main fabric and used lots of my leftover colored strips. We will cover this in class.

Bias binding 1 yd.

From the background:

Cut 53 strips 1 1/2" X wof (width of fabric). Make 332 9-patches + 12 6-patches

Cut 25 strips 3 3/8" X wof for 470 triangles

Cut 3 strips 3 3/8" X wof for 16 half hexs for the sides

Cut 9 strips 5 3/4" X wof for 52 hexs

From the contrast:

Cut 66 strips 1 1/2" X wof for 9-patch blocks.

**What you need to know before class is that you are making 332 9-patch blocks for the bed runner. 12 6-patches. A 6-patch means you are sewing 2 rows together not 3 rows.**

Glad you will be joining us for a fun day of sewing.

Cindy Page

[Cindyquilter@gmail.com](mailto:Cindyquilter@gmail.com)

Call or text 704-376-2531

Cindy Page

The Quilter's Gallery

[quiltersgallery@gmail.com](mailto:quiltersgallery@gmail.com)

[www.quiltersgallery.net](http://www.quiltersgallery.net)

704-376-2531