Spinning Strips Block

Written by Karen Bialik – please use these directions for Guild use only

For each set (2) of $10\frac{1}{2}$ " blocks you need 6 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x wof strips and 2 squares $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ". Use a scant quarter inch seam when sewing strips together.

- 1) Sew the six $1\frac{1}{2}$ " strips together lengthwise. This unit should measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x wof.
- 2) Trim the left side of the strip unit.
- 3) Cut the $6\frac{1}{2}$ " wide strip into 4 rectangles $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".



4) Mark 1¹/₂" in from the upper left corner and the lower right corner. Place your ruler at each of these marked points. The 45° line of your ruler should be parallel to the long edge of the fabric. Cut along this 45° line. Repeat with the remaining 6¹/₂" x 9¹/₂" rectangles.



5) Place the angled units around the 3½" squares in a rotating order.
*Note the orientation of the angled units. The length of the strips are sewn to the centre square.



6) Flip one angled piece on top of the centre square. Sew a partial seam along half of the 3½" square and the first angled piece. Finger press. Press the centre square seam to the outside of the block as the angled units are sewn on.



Sew from the top, about halfway down



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7) Sew the next angled unit to the top of the unit just sewn, matching the start of the angled piece with the edge of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Continue sewing the angled pieces in a counter clockwise direction (to the left) until you get to the last seam. The last seam finishes the partial seam that you started with. Press well (no steam).



Sew the pieces to the centre in a counter clockwise direction

Start this seam at the beginning of the centre square



8) Square to 10¹/₂" x 10¹/₂". To square, place the 5¹/₄" ruler mark at each corner of the centre square. Trim right side and top. Rotate block. Place the 10¹/₂" lines on the left and bottom edge. Trim right side and top.



Close up of the 5¹/₄" markings at each corner of the centre block

These blocks have bias sides, so sash between blocks. Cut sashing strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. After sashing and sewing the blocks together, stabilize with border cut at $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Trim all the leftover remnants from the $6\frac{1}{2}$ " strips into $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide strips. Sew into one long strip. Sew to sides, top and bottom as a narrow border. Add more borders as desired.

Remnant pieces cut into 1¹/₂" wide strips. Use as a border as desired.



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