

Block of the Month: December 2020

Improv Trees



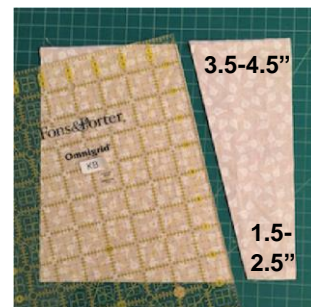
Here are some fun instructions for creating two improvisational tree blocks at once. You will need two contrasting fabrics - contrasting in color and scale work best. Use any fabrics that read Winter: Red, Green, White, Cream, Pink, light Blue.

Materials Needed

- (2) 9" x 9" squares of contrasting fabrics - in green, red, white, pink, cream, or light blue
- (2) 2" x 9" rectangles in the same fabrics as above
- (2) 1.5" x 2" piece in brown fabric for trunk

Instructions

1. Lightly spray starch fabric and iron dry to help with bias cuts.
2. Cut the two 2"x 9" rectangles in half to create (2) sets of 2"x 4.5" rectangles.
3. Sew a brown tree trunk between each of the (2) sets of 2"x 4.5" rectangles. Press seams open.
4. Stack the two 9" squares on top of each other (right sides up). Place a ruler at an angle (1.5" to 2.5" from bottom edge and 3.5" - 4.5" from the top edge) to make a diagonal cut. (Pic 2). Move right piece to side.
5. Make a second diagonal cut the other direction to create a tree shape.— Make sure to leave about 1" above the point for seam allowance and squaring up. (Pic 3)
6. Move the bottom tree to the top (Pic 4) and sew it to the contrasting background starting with the side of the second cut. Press seams to dark fabric.
7. Place second side on top of unit with a 1/4" overlapping at the top edge (Pic 5). Sew 1/4" seam. Press to dark side.
8. Once the sides are attached to tree, trim the bottom edge to straighten it.
9. Sew the trunk unit to the bottom of the tree — the trunk unit will be wider than needed, so that you can center it under the wonky tree. Press seam open. Repeat for second block.
10. Square up all sides to create two units of **7.5" wide x 9.5" tall**.



Please mail your blocks to Lucille McCarthy, 7 Batchelder St, Melrose MA 02176 to arrive **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1ST**.