

Handweave Variation: April 2022 Block of the Month

This month's block is all squares and rectangles and is inspired by a block from Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*. I used a one 10" Kaffe Fassett layer cake print square and a coordinating solid square for "Square A" and "Square B," and Kona "Snow" for the background fabric. If you choose a directional print, make sure to preserve its up/down direction.

Materials:

From the layer cake set or other print or solid fabrics:

- two 10" squares, contrasting but complimentary, one is Square A and the other is Square B

From the background fabric:

- one 1.5" width of fabric strip (there will be some left over)
- one 4.5" square

Cutting instructions:

Square A:

- four 3.5" squares
- four 4.5"x 1.5" rectangles

Square B

- four 4.5"x3.5" rectangles

Background Fabric

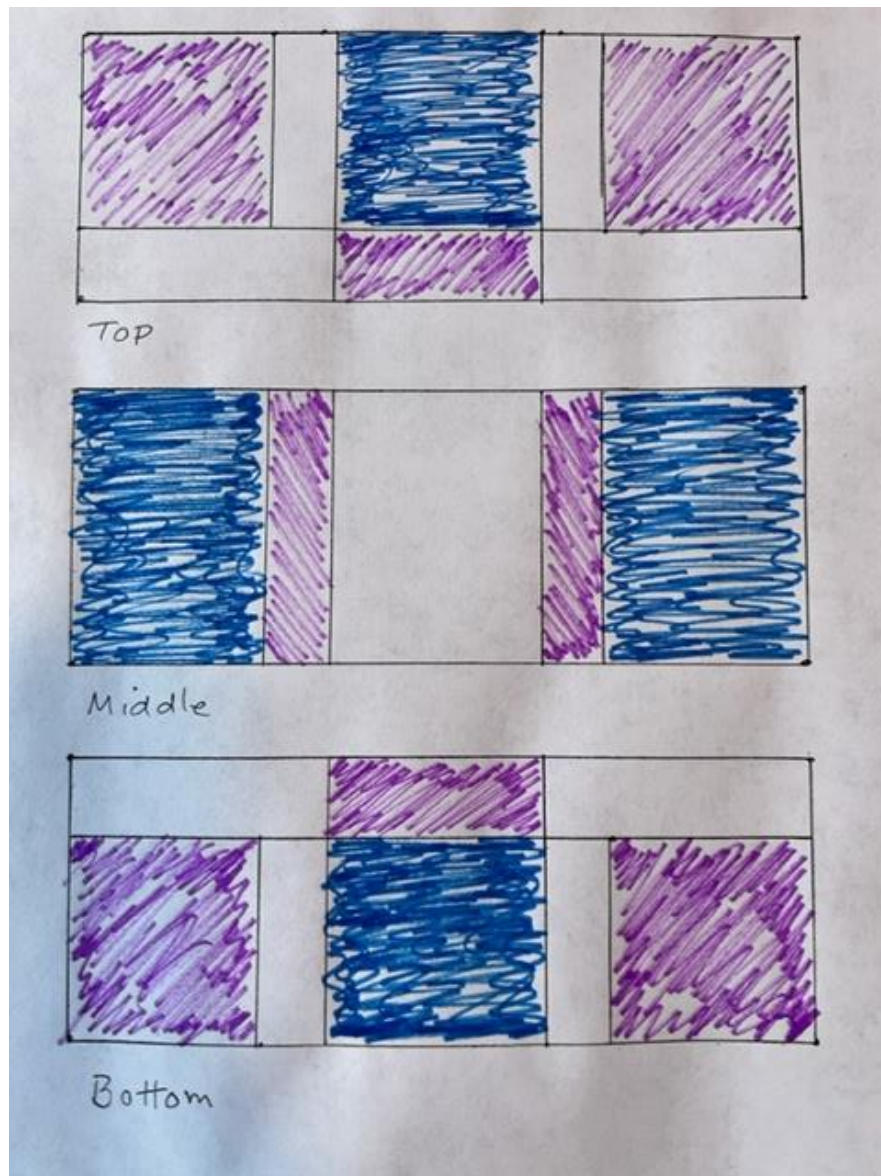
- four 1.5"x3.5" rectangles
- four 1.5"x4.5" rectangles
- one 4.5" square

Strip Assembly:

- Sew a 1.5"x3.5" background strip to **one** side of each 3.5" fabric A square, right sides together. If the fabric has a directional pattern, sew 2 of the background rectangles to the left sides and 2 to the right sides. Press seams to the patterned square.
- Sew a 1.5"x4.5" background strip to the bottom of a right and left unit and to the top of a right and left unit, right sides together. (Top and bottom matter only if the fabric is directional, but you must have 2 "right units" and 2 "left units".) Press seams away from the background strip.
- Sew a 1.5"x4.5" fabric A rectangle to a long side of each fabric B rectangle. Press seams to the fabric A rectangle.
- Assemble strips as shown, pressing seams to away from the background strips and square. Be sure that the shorter background strips are toward the **inside** of each strip. (Not on the outside edge.)

Block Assembly

- Sew the strips together, nesting the seams. Make sure the longer background strips are toward the **center** strip. (Not on the edge of the block.)
- Press seams toward the middle strip.
- Press and trim to 12.5" square if needed.



Finished block

