Cathedral Star Block
Skill Level: Beginner



Designed By
Elizabeth Dackson
Sewn By
Elizabeth Dackson

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Block 7 of 9 in the Cathedral Window Quilt-a-Long. Block size is 12-1/2" square unfinished. Use a 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise indicated. Finished quilt measures 36" square. Use Legacy™ by Pellon® 100% Natural Cotton or Soy/Cotton Blend Batting for a beautiful finish. Cathedral window blocks are traditionally about folding and topstitching to create beautiful blocks with a lot of depth. This block uses two different units, a cathedral window in the center and 'cathedral geese' (frames with no windows) for the star points.

Fabrics Needed

Fabric A (focal print)	One 3-1/4" square for the window - can be fussy cut
	Twelve 3-1/2" squares
Fabric B (dark)	One 6-1/2" square
	Four 3-1/2" squares
	Four 3-1/2" x 6-1/2" rectangles

Materials Needed
Thread

Tools Needed
Sewing machine and related supplies

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Assembly Instructions

To piece the 'cathedral geese', begin with one 3-1/2" x 6-1/2" rectangle of fabric B and two 3-1/2" squares of fabric A. Place one fabric A square right side up. Fold the long side of the fabric B rectangle wrong sides together and place it on top of the square with the fold facing away. Align the raw edges on the right hand side. The fold will not line up with the square.

Make four of these units.



Place another fabric A 3-1/2" square on top of the two pieces from the previous step, keeping the raw edges aligned.



Stitch the right hand side using a 1/4" seam allowance. Finger press the seam open, then set with a dry iron.



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Open the unit just made as shown.



Grab one corner of fabric A and pull towards the fabric B square as shown.



Fingerpress the 'geese' (frame) in place, then press with an iron.



To create the curves, fold the edge of the 'goose' (frame) as desired.



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Press and pin in place.



Repeat for the other side of the 'goose' (frame).



Topstitch the curves in place, stitching close to the edge. Upon reaching the top of the left curve, travel over to the right curve, making sure to pause with the needle down when pivoting.

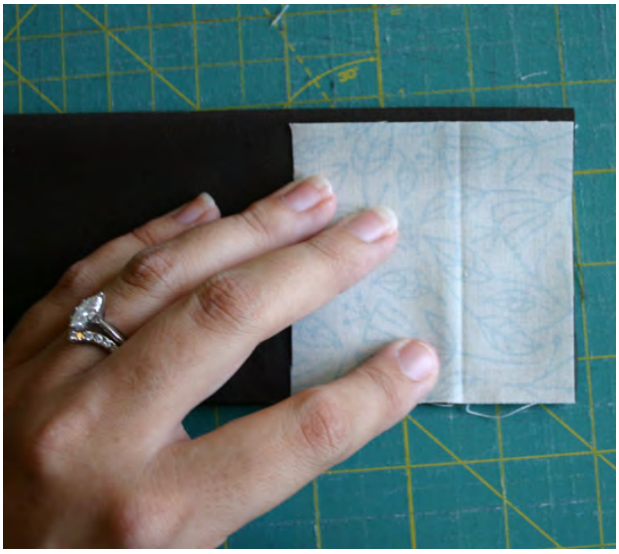




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Creating the Center Cathedral Window

Place one fabric A 3-1/2" square right side up. Next, take the fabric B 6-1/2" square and fold it in half, wrong sides together. This square will become the frame for the Cathedral Window. Lay the folded rectangle on top of the fabric A square with the fold facing away and aligning the raw edges on the bottom and right hand side. This fold will not line up with the square.



Place another fabric A 3-1/2" square on top of these two fabrics, right side down. Align the raw edges on the bottom and the right hand side. Sew the right side using a 1/4" seam allowance.

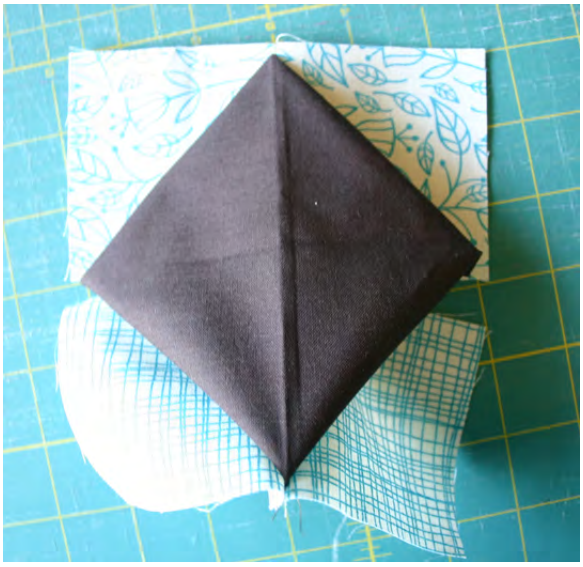


Place one fabric A 3-1/2" square face up. Take the unit just stitched and place it on top of this square with the fold facing away and the seam just sewn on the left hand side. Align the raw edges on the bottom and right hand side. Next, place one more fabric A 3-1/2" square on top right side down, again aligning the bottom and right hand side. Stitch the right hand side using a scant 1/4" seam allowance.



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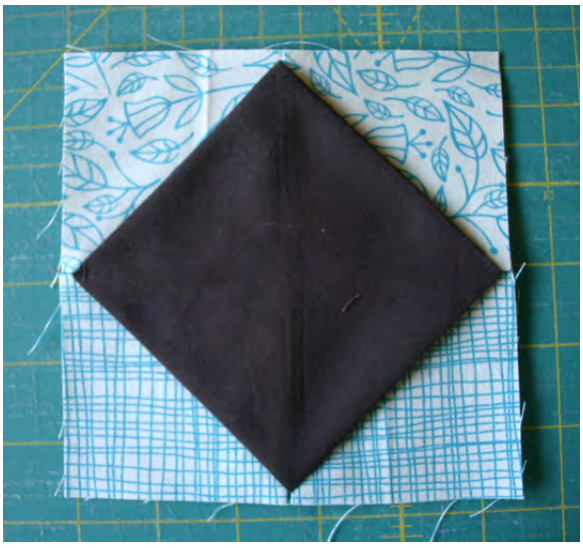
Finger press the two seams open that were just made. Press with an iron. Pull the four fabric A squares together in a four-patch formation. This will turn the fabric B frame into a diamond shape. Pull the diamond shape (frame) out and finger press the edge.



Close the four-patch/diamond shape onto itself, fabric A squares, and the raw edges of the brown diamond shape (frame), right sides together. Line up the center seam. Make sure the brown top side of the diamond shape (frame) is outside of the stitching line. Sew a scant 1/4" along the raw edges, not the opposite side where the fold is.



Press the seam open. Flip the unit over and press the front side.



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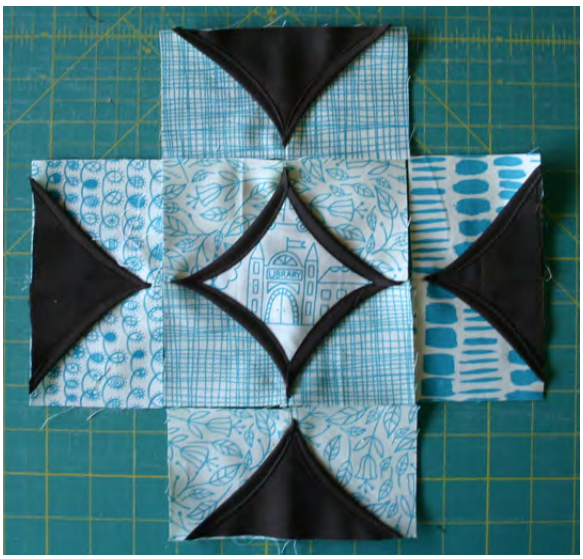
Place the window square in the middle of the diamond (frame). Fold the edges of the diamond (frame) down carefully to create curves over the top of the window square. Use an iron to press the curves into place and pin.



Stitch each curve in place, pivoting at each peak.



Sew the left and right 'cathedral geese' unit to the center Cathedral Window unit using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seams open.



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Sew one fabric B 3-1/2" square to each side of the remaining 'Cathedral Geese' units. Press seams open.

Sew the three rows together to finish block. Press seams open.



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