

STORM AT SEA Instructions

A 12 inch block/ four Block hanging would be about 20 inches (52 x 52 cm) square without the borders; and a 12 inch / six block is about 20 inches by 30 inches (52 x 74 cm) without the borders. The eight inch block makes a six block hanging 14 x 20 inches (36 x 50 cm). This could also be used to make decorative pillow tops, or other projects.

1. Planning the project and purchasing Fabrics

- a. Select a value pattern from the selections provided or design your own.
- b. In selecting fabrics be conscious of their values and hues

At the very least, there should be three fabric values, whether they are all the same color (hue) or different colors. There should be at least a light fabric, a dark fabric, and a medium that look well together. With more than three fabrics, the more interesting the pattern can be made. A couple of the patterns require more than three fabrics - the Waves and the Knot work best with both dark and medium fabrics in different colors. One, Traditional 1, can be done with just lights and darks.

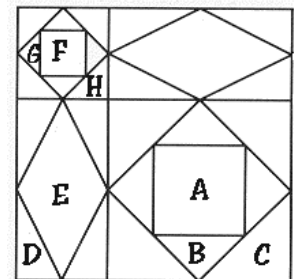
Plan to have plenty of the white, or light fabric; in most patterns, it makes up about half the project. Depending on how big the project will be, and how many blocks are made, 1/2 a yard will probably be enough of the light fabric, though it might be safe to have a bit more. Less of the dark fabric is needed, as in most of the patterns, less of it is used. Probably 1/2 yard would be adequate, with the leftover used for the borders, which tend to take quite a bit. Then several smaller pieces of medium value fabric that blend in well with the light and dark fabrics. Less than 1/2 yard total of the mediums should be enough. The Storm at Sea is a good pattern for using assorted scraps out of the scrap bag. If doing a larger quilt, figuring out the yardage is itself quite a project.

2. Templates and Cutting pieces:

Knowledge of Rotary Cutting techniques is assumed here.

There are eight template pieces:

Three for the Large Square (A, B, C);
 Two for the Diamond Rectangle (D, E)
 and Three for the Small Square (F, G, H)).



When cutting, pay close attention to the pattern and lay the pieces out - a flannel board is helpful here. After trimming selvage, fold and cut fabric in strips of the right "width" and then, using the templates, cut the pieces you need. For the Triangular pieces, use a short side for the "width"; for the diamonds use the two parallel sides to measure the "width" of the strips. Templates include seam allowance - note the dashes for the seams.

How many pieces to cut	Four Block Hanging	Six Block Hanging
Large Squares (A/ 4B/ 4C)	4 (4/16/16)	6 (6/24/24)
Diamond Rectangles (E / 4D)	9 (9/36)	12 (12/48)
Small Squares (F/ 4G/ 4H)	12 (12/48/48)	17 (17/68/68)

3. Sewing: Preparing the Four Sub-Blocks:

Knowledge about sewing patchwork pieces together, and spreading and pressing seams is assumed. Be careful that the right sides are together as you sew.

- a. **Large Square** (One for each block) Sew 4 **B** Triangles to **A** Square;
Sew 4 **C** Triangles to sides of that.
- b. **Small Square** (One for each block) Do the same with Sewing 4 **G** to **F**,
Then sew 4 **H** to that.
- c. **Diamond Rectangles** (Two for each Block) Sew 4 **D** Triangles along their long sides to the **E** Diamond's four sides. (Note that the **D** Triangles have both "left" and "right" hand pieces.)

Be sure and trim the "points" of seam allowance that jut out after you press the seams.

4. **Lay out and Assemble the Sub-Blocks into blocks** by rows. Try to carefully match the points of the diamonds to the intersections in the center of the sides of the squares - pinning these carefully. Frequent reference to the pattern will prevent mistakes in orienting the pieces together. Join rows together.

5. **Join Blocks together** by rows and then these rows together. Again try to match the points of the diamonds to the intersections in the squares..

6. **Add Borders** either solid strips, or create something decorative with patchwork. Add a binding strip around the sides of the top.

7. **Batting and Backing** - Cut batting and the backing. Sandwich the batting between the Top and the Backing. Pin and Baste together.

8. **Quilting** - designs can be added within the squares, or diamonds. Quilting adds a lot to the finished project.

9. **Finishing** - finish the binding and add loops for hanging.

Now that you have done a Storm at Sea Project, maybe you will be inspired to do another - perhaps even a full quilt!

Marianne McWilliams (Everett, Wa.)