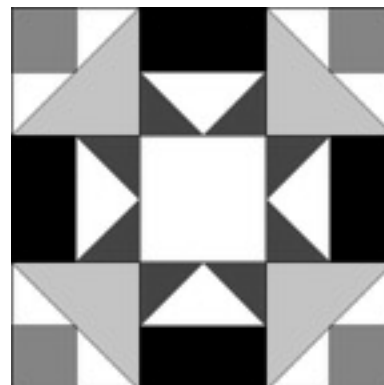


Block 11: French Silk Pie (provided October 2016; share November 2016)

French Silk Pie is composed of flying geese and a unit called cats's cradle. This block design highlights the design possibilities with a combination of reasonably straight forward to piece units. The instructions given here include bias edges. Be very careful not to stretch or otherwise distort them. The units will be made slightly oversized so that they can be trimmed down to the perfect size. As shown, this block uses 5 fabrics: Lightest, Light, Medium, Dark, Darkest.



Fabric needed: Cut the listed pieces for each fabric. Be sure each piece is cut accurately.

	3" blocks	6" blocks	9" blocks	12" blocks	15" blocks
Lightest	1 at 1-1/2" x 1-1/2" 1 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" 4 at 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	1 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" 1 at 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" 4 at 2" x 2"	1 at 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" 1 at 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" 4 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	1 at 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" 1 at 5-1/2" x 5-1/2" 4 at 3" x 3"	1 at 5-1/2" x 5-1/2" 1 at 6-1/2" x 6-1/2" 4 at 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"
Light	2 at 2" x 2"	2 at 3" x 3"	2 at 4" x 4"	2 at 5" x 5"	2 at 6" x 6"
Medium	4 at 1" x 1"	4 at 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	4 at 2" x 2"	4 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	4 at 3" x 3"
Dark	4 at 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	4 at 2" x 2"	4 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	4 at 3" x 3"	4 at 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"
Darkest	4 at 1" x 1-1/2"	4 at 1-1/2" x 2-1/2"	4 at 2" x 3-1/2"	4 at 2-1/2" x 4-1/2"	4 at 3" x 5-1/2"

Piecing Instructions for 9" blocks (3", 6", 12", 15"): Note: Watch carefully as you stitch.

1. Draw a diagonal line on the back of all of the Dark squares. Carefully position two Dark squares on opposite corners of the Lightest 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" (2-1/2" x 2-1/2", 3-1/2" x 3-1/2", 5-1/2" x 5-1/2", 6-1/2" x 6-1/2") square, right sides together. Be sure the drawn lines on the smaller squares connect to form a diagonal on the larger square. Stitch a 1/4" seam on both sides of the drawn line. Cut apart along the drawn line. Press the seams toward the Dark fabric.
2. Line up a Dark square on the remaining corner of each unit from Step 1. Stitch a 1/4" seam on both sides of the drawn line. Cut apart along the drawn line. Press the seams toward the Dark fabric.

3. To trim the flying geese units to size, position your ruler so that the 1/4" line and 1-3/4" (3/4", 1-1/4", 2-1/4", 2-3/4") marking intersect at the point of the unit. The edge of the ruler should intersect the seam at the 2" (1", 1-1/2", 2-1/2", 3") marking. The other seam should be positioned at the intersection of 2" (1", 1-1/2", 2-1/2", 3") and 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2"). Trim 2 sides of the unit. Now rotate the unit 180 degrees. The flying geese unit should measure 3-1/2" x 2" (1-1/2" x 1", 2-1/2" x 1-1/2", 4-1/2" x 2-1/2", 5-1/2" x 3"). Trim the other 2 sides.
4. Sew a Darkest rectangle on the bottom of each flying geese. Press the seam toward the added rectangle. This unit should measure 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" (1-1/2" x 1-1/2", 2-1/2" x 2-1/2", 4-1/2" x 4-1/2", 5-1/2" x 5-1/2").
5. Cut the 4 (four) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (1-1/2" x 1-1/2", 2" x 2", 3" x 3", 3-1/2" x 3-1/2") Lightest squares in half along a diagonal. Watching the orientation of the triangles, sew 2 to each of the Medium squares. Be sure to align the straight edges. Press the seams toward the Lightest triangles.
6. Being careful not to stretch the long bias edge, trim the units you made in Step 5. First, use a square ruler to trim the ends of the added triangles. The unit should measure 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") along the two short sides. Then, align the edge of your ruler with the two short ends you trimmed. Check that there is 1/4" of seam allowance at the corner of the Medium square. Trim the edge of the long side of the triangle.
7. Cut each Light square in half along a diagonal. Layer each with a unit from Step 6, right sides together. Stitch together using a 1/4" seam. Sew with the triangle on the bottom so you can watch as you stitch through the seam intersection at the corner of the square. Press the seam toward the triangle. This unit is called a cat's cradle. Trim it to 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" (1-1/2" x 1-1/2", 2-1/2" x 2-1/2", 4-1/2" x 4-1/2", 5-1/2" x 5-1/2") square.
8. Arrange your cat's cradles, flying geese units and the Lightest square as shown for the block. The top and bottom rows will have 2 cat's cradle and a flying geese unit. The middle row will have 2 flying geese units and a Lightest square.
9. Watching the orientation of the units, sew a cat's cradle on either side of the flying geese unit to create a top/bottom row. Press the seams toward the cat's cradle. The rows should measure 3-1/2" x 9-1/2" (1-1/2" x 3-1/2", 2-1/2" x 6-1/2", 4-1/2" x 12-1/2", 5-1/2" x 15-1/2").
10. To create the middle row, sew a flying geese unit on either side of the Lightest square. Press the seams toward the Lightest square. The row should measure 3-1/2" x 9-1/2" (1-1/2" x 3-1/2", 2-1/2" x 6-1/2", 4-1/2" x 12-1/2", 5-1/2" x 15-1/2").
11. Arrange the rows as shown for the block. Stitch the rows together using a 1/4" seams. Match up the seams and secure with pins. These seams should nest snugly. Stitch using a 1/4" seam, removing the pins before stitching over them. Press and furl the seams.
12. Trim your block to 9-1/2" x 9-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2", 6-1/2" x 6-1/2", 12-1/2" x 12-1/2", 15-1/2" x 15-1/2").
13. Your French Silk Pie block should be complete and measure 9-1/2" x 9-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2", 6-1/2" x 6-1/2", 12-1/2" x 12-1/2", 15-1/2" x 15-1/2") if you have sewn and trimmed correctly.