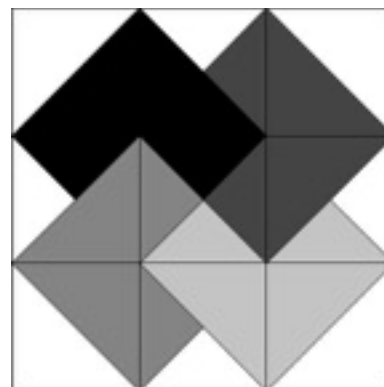


**Block 6:** Card Trick (provided May 2016; share June 2016)

The Card Trick block uses a y-block which is a variant of HST and QST units. There are numerous blocks that utilize y-blocks. There are also numerous ways to piece these units. The instructions given here do not avoid bias edges so you will need to be careful while handling and pressing so that the fabric does not get distorted. 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	2 at 2" x 2" 1 at 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	2 at 3" x 3" 1 at 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"	2 at 4" x 4" 1 at 4-1/2" x 4-1/2"	2 at 5" x 5" 1 at 5-1/2" x 5-1/2"	2 at 6" x 6" 1 at 6-1/2" x 6-1/2"
Light	1 at 2" x 2" 1 at 1-3/4" x 1-3/4"	1 at 3" x 3" 1 at 2-3/4" x 2-3/4"	1 at 4" x 4" 1 at 3-3/4" x 3-3/4"	1 at 5" x 5" 1 at 4-3/4" x 4-3/4"	1 at 6" x 6" 1 at 5-3/4" x 5-3/4"
Medium	1 at 2" x 2" 1 at 1-3/4" x 1-3/4"	1 at 3" x 3" 1 at 2-3/4" x 2-3/4"	1 at 4" x 4" 1 at 3-3/4" x 3-3/4"	1 at 5" x 5" 1 at 4-3/4" x 4-3/4"	1 at 6" x 6" 1 at 5-3/4" x 5-3/4"
Dark	1 at 2" x 2" 1 at 1-3/4" x 1-3/4"	1 at 3" x 3" 1 at 2-3/4" x 2-3/4"	1 at 4" x 4" 1 at 3-3/4" x 3-3/4"	1 at 5" x 5" 1 at 4-3/4" x 4-3/4"	1 at 6" x 6" 1 at 5-3/4" x 5-3/4"
Darkest	1 at 2" x 2" 1 at 1-3/4" x 1-3/4"	1 at 3" x 3" 1 at 2-3/4" x 2-3/4"	1 at 4" x 4" 1 at 3-3/4" x 3-3/4"	1 at 5" x 5" 1 at 4-3/4" x 4-3/4"	1 at 6" x 6" 1 at 5-3/4" x 5-3/4"

Piecing Instructions for 9" blocks (3", 6", 12", 15")

Note: Watch carefully as you stitch.

1. Cut the 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") Lightest square along both diagonals to create four triangles. Set aside for the y-blocks starting at Step 14.
2. Cut all of the remaining squares of fabric in half along a diagonal. Cut carefully from one corner to the other. Keep each size separate.
3. Carefully position a Lightest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle on a Light 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle, right sides together, matching the edges. Stitch a 1/4" seam on the long

side of the triangles. Be careful to sew straight and watch that the end doesn't twist. Press the seam toward the Lightest fabric. At this point the units should measure something larger than 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2") on each side and have dogears.

4. Use a ruler with a 45 degree line to trim the unit to size. Align the 45 line along the seam. Check that the unit extends beyond the edges of the ruler and the 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2") markings. Trim 2 sides of the unit.
5. Now rotate the unit 180 degrees. Again align the 45 line along the seam. This time, check that the trimmed sides line up with the 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2") markings. Trim the remaining 2 sides of the unit.
6. Repeat Steps 3-5 using a Lightest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle and a Medium 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.
7. Repeat Steps 3-5 using a Lightest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle and a Dark 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.
8. Repeat Steps 3-5 using a Lightest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle and a Darkest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.
9. Make a QST using a 3-3/4" (1-3/4", 2-3/4", 4-3/4", 5-3/4") triangle of Light, Medium, Dark and Darkest. Start with the Darkest and Dark triangles. Arrange them so that the Dark triangle is on the left and the Darkest one is on the right. Have the long sides facing out and short sides facing in and up. Sew them together along the facing short side. Press the seams toward the Dark.
10. Now arrange the Medium triangle on the left and the Light one on the right. Have the long sides facing out and short sides facing in and up. Sew them together along the facing short side. Press the seams toward the Medium.
11. Now layer the results of Step 8 & 9, nesting the seams. Stitch using a 1/4" seam. Press and furl the seam.
12. Use a ruler with a 45 degree line to trim the unit to size. Align the 45 line along one seam. Check that the other seam line crosses the 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2") markings on the ruler. Trim 2 sides of the unit.
13. Now rotate the unit 180 degrees. Again align the 45 line along one seam. This time, check that the trimmed sides and the other seam line up with the 3-1/2" (1-1/2", 2-1/2", 4-1/2", 5-1/2") markings. Trim the remaining 2 sides of the unit.
14. Construct a y-block. Arrange a Light 3-3/4" (1-3/4", 2-3/4", 4-3/4", 5-3/4") triangle on the left and a Lightest one on the right. The Lightest triangle will be smaller. Have the long sides facing out and short sides facing in and up. Sew them together along the facing short side while aligning the top short edges. Press the seams away from the Lightest triangle.
15. Layer the result with a Dark 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle, centering them along their long sides. Stitch using a 1/4" seam. Trim the unit as described in Steps 12 & 13.
16. Repeat Steps 14 & 15, using a Medium 3-3/4" (1-3/4", 2-3/4", 4-3/4", 5-3/4") triangle, a Lightest triangle and a Light 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.

17. Repeat Steps 14 & 15, using a Dark  $3\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ " ( $1\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $2\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $4\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $5\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ") triangle, a Lightest triangle and a Darkest 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.
18. Repeat Steps 14 & 15, using a Darkest  $3\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ " ( $1\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $2\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $4\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ",  $5\text{-}\frac{3}{4}$ ") triangle, a Lightest triangle and a Medium 4" (2", 3", 5", 6") triangle.
19. Arrange the y-blocks, HSTs and QST as shown for the block. The top and bottom rows of the block will have 1 y-block and 2 HSTs. The middle row will have 2 y-blocks and 1 QST.
20. Watching the orientation of the units, sew a HST on either side of the y-block to create a top row. Press the seams toward the y-block. The row should measure  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " ( $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $4\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $5\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ").
21. Repeat Step 20 to create a bottom row.
22. To create the middle row, sew a y-block on either side of the QST. Press the seams toward the y-blocks. The row should measure  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " ( $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $4\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $5\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ").
23. Arrange the rows as shown for the block. Stitch the rows together in pairs using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Match up the seams and secure with a pin. These seams should nest together snugly. Stitch using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, removing the pin before stitching over it.
24. Press and furl the seams. Each of the four seam intersections on the back should have a tiny four-patch. The unit should now measure  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " ( $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ").
25. Your Card Trick block should be complete and measure  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $9\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " ( $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $6\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $12\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $15\text{-}\frac{1}{2}$ ") if you have sewn and trimmed your y-blocks correctly and sewn accurate  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams.