

PROJECT: Amish Baskets

A traditional block in solid colors set on a black background replicates the look of Amish-made quilts.

INSPIRED BY: *La Rouge Baskets* from Wendy Sheppard (ivoryspring.wordpress.com)

QUILT TESTER: Diane Tomlinson



FABRICS are from the Bella Solids collection by Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).

FINISHED QUILT: 44¼" square
FINISHED BLOCKS: 7½" and 6" square

MATERIALS

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- 2 yards solid black (large and small basket blocks, setting pieces, binding)
- 9—18×21" pieces (fat quarters) assorted solids (large and small basket blocks)
- ⅞ yard solid blue (border)
- 3 yards backing fabric
- 53"-square batting
- White marking pencil

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

If you prefer to make triangle-squares larger than necessary and trim them to size, cut 4" and 2½" squares instead of the 3⅞" and 2⅜" squares listed in cutting instructions.

Cut assorted solid pieces in sets as indicated, and keep sets together for block assembly.

From solid black, cut:

- 5-2½×42" binding strips
- 2-12¼" squares, cutting each diagonally twice in an X for 8 setting triangles total
- 4-8" setting squares
- 2-6¼" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 4 corner triangles total
- 13-3⅞" squares
- 58-2⅜" squares
- 18-2×5" rectangles
- 29-2×3½" rectangles
- 13-2" squares

From assorted solids, cut 9 sets for large Basket blocks:

- 1-3⅞" square
- 6-2⅜" squares
- 1-2" square

From assorted solids, cut 4 sets for small Basket blocks:

- 1-3⅞" square
- 1-2⅜" square
- 5-2" squares

From solid blue, cut:

- 4-6½×32¼" strips for border

ASSEMBLE LARGE BASKET BLOCKS

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

1 From solid black, gather two 2×5" rectangles, one 3⅞" square, one 2×3½" rectangle, six 2⅜" squares, and one 2" square. From one assorted solid, gather a set of large block pieces (one 3⅞" square, six 2⅜" squares, and one 2" square).

2 Use a white marking pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of solid black 3⅞" and 2⅜" squares and assorted solid 2" square.

3 Layer a marked solid black 2⅜" square atop an assorted solid 2⅜" square. Sew together with two seams, stitching ¼" on each side of drawn line (**Diagram 1**). Cut pair apart on drawn line. Press open to make two small triangle-squares. Each small triangle-square should be 2" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 12 small triangle-squares total.

4 Using marked solid black 3⅞" square and assorted solid 3⅞" square, repeat Step 3 to make two large triangle-squares (**Diagram 2**). Each large triangle-square should be 3½" square including seam allowances. Set one aside for a future project as you will need only one.

5 Align marked assorted solid square with right-hand end of solid black 2×3½" rectangle (**Diagram 3**; note direction of marked line). Sew on marked line. Trim excess fabric, leaving ¼" seam allowance. Press open attached triangle to make a rectangle unit. The unit still should be 2×3½" including seam allowances.

6 Referring to **Diagram 4**, lay out solid black 2" square, nine small triangle-squares, and rectangle unit in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows. Add a solid black 2×5" rectangle to right-hand edge of joined rows to make Unit A. The unit should be 8×5" including seam allowances.

7 Referring to **Diagram 5**, join remaining small triangle-squares. Add remaining solid black 2×5" rectangle and one large triangle-square to make Unit B. The unit should be 8×3½" including seam allowances.

8 Sew together Unit A and Unit B to make a large Basket block (**Diagram 6**). The block should be 8" square including seam allowances.

9 Repeat steps 1-8 to make nine large Basket blocks total.

ASSEMBLE SMALL BASKET BLOCKS

1 From solid black, gather one 3⅞" square, five 2×3½" rectangles, one 2⅜" square, and one 2" square. From one assorted solid, gather a set of small block pieces (one 3⅞" square, one 2⅜" square, and five 2" squares).

2 Mark a diagonal line on wrong side of solid black 3⅞" and 2⅜" squares and assorted solid 2" squares.

3 Referring to **Assemble Large Basket Blocks**, steps 3 and 4, use marked solid black 2⅜" square and

assorted solid $2\frac{3}{8}$ " square to make two small triangle-squares. Use marked solid black $3\frac{7}{8}$ " square and assorted solid $3\frac{7}{8}$ " square to make two large triangle-squares. Set one aside for a future project as you will need only one.

4 Align a marked assorted solid 2" square with one end of a solid black $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle (**Diagram 7**; note direction of marked line). Sew on marked line. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Press open attached triangle. Add a marked assorted solid 2" square to opposite end of rectangle to make a Flying Geese unit. The unit still should be $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances. Repeat to make a second Flying Geese unit.

5 Align remaining marked assorted solid 2" square with one end of a solid black $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle (**Diagram 8**; note direction of marked line). Sew on marked line. Trim excess fabric, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Press open attached triangle to make a rectangle unit. The unit still should be $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances.

6 Referring to **Diagram 9**, lay out one solid black $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle, one small triangle-square, Flying Geese units, one large triangle-square, and solid black 2" square in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make Unit C. The unit should be $5\times 6\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances.

7 Sew together remaining solid black $2\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle and a rectangle unit to make Unit D (**Diagram 10**). The unit should be $2\times 6\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances.

8 Sew together Unit C and Unit D to make a small Basket block (**Diagram 11**). The block should be $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

9 Repeat steps 1-8 to make four small Basket blocks total.

ASSEMBLE QUILT CENTER

1 Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, lay out large Basket blocks and solid black setting squares and triangles in five diagonal rows.

2 Sew together pieces in rows. Press seams toward solid black setting squares and triangles.

3 Join rows; press seams in one direction. Add solid black corner triangles to make quilt center. Press seams toward corner triangles. The quilt center should be $32\frac{1}{4}$ " square including seam allowances.

PIECE AND ADD BORDERS

1 Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, sew two small Basket blocks to ends of a solid blue $6\frac{1}{2}\times 32\frac{1}{4}$ " border strip to make a long border strip. The border strip should be $6\frac{1}{2}\times 44\frac{1}{4}$ ". Repeat to make a second long border strip.

2 Sew remaining $6\frac{1}{2}\times 32\frac{1}{4}$ " solid blue border strips to opposite edges of quilt center. Add long border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top. Press all seams toward border.

FINISH QUILT

1 Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste.

2 Quilt as desired. Handi Quilter Studio Educator Kristina Whitney used the Pro-Stitcher quilting system to digitize the large Basket shape and add it to the solid black setting squares (**Quilting Diagram**). She filled the setting triangles and borders with a variety of designs, including waves, pebbles, and figure eights.

3 Bind with solid black binding strips.

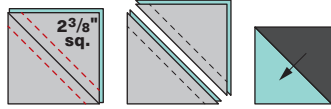


Diagram 1

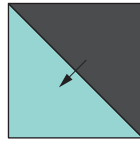


Diagram 2

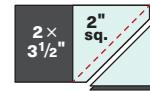
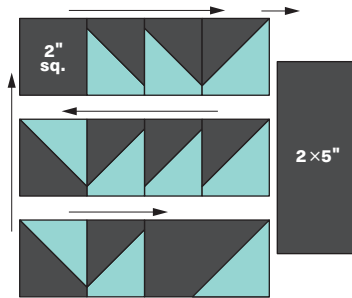
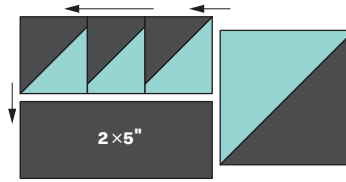


Diagram 3



Unit A
Diagram 4



Unit B
Diagram 5

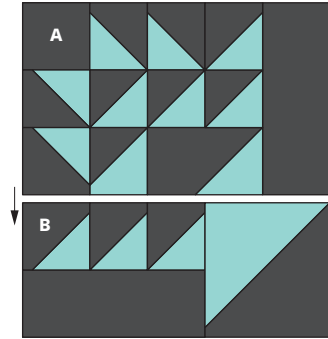


Diagram 6

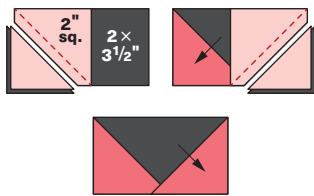


Diagram 7

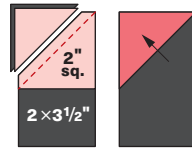
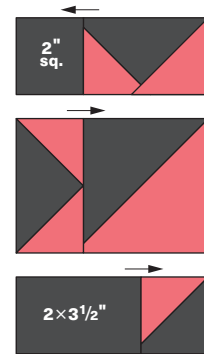


Diagram 8



Unit C
Diagram 9



Unit D
Diagram 10

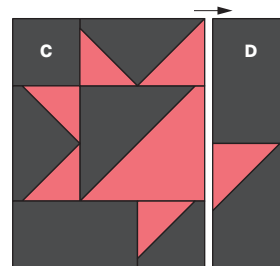
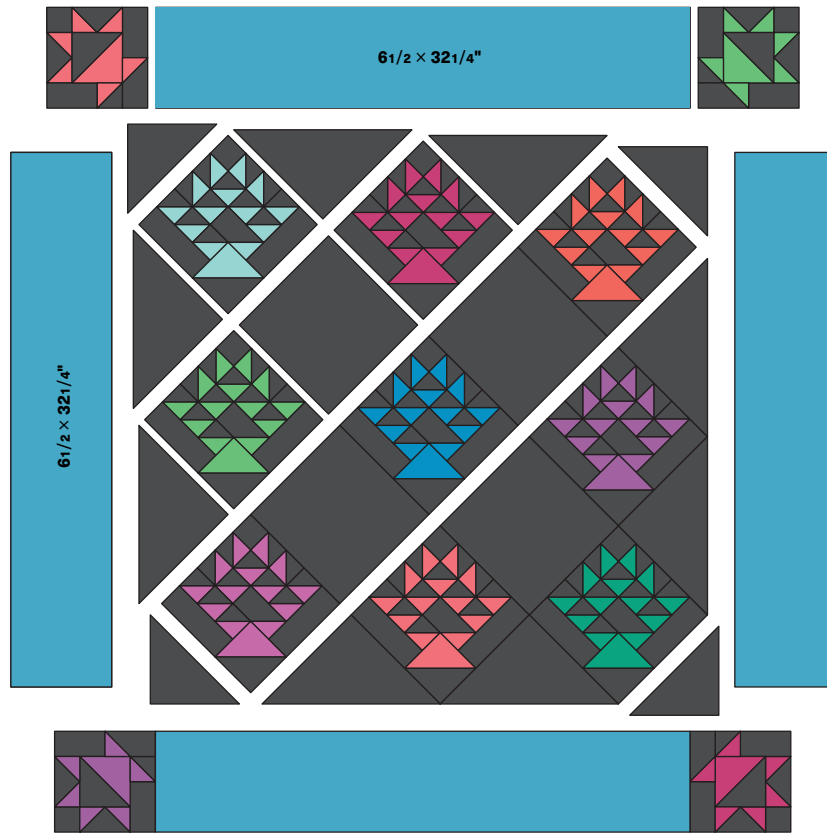
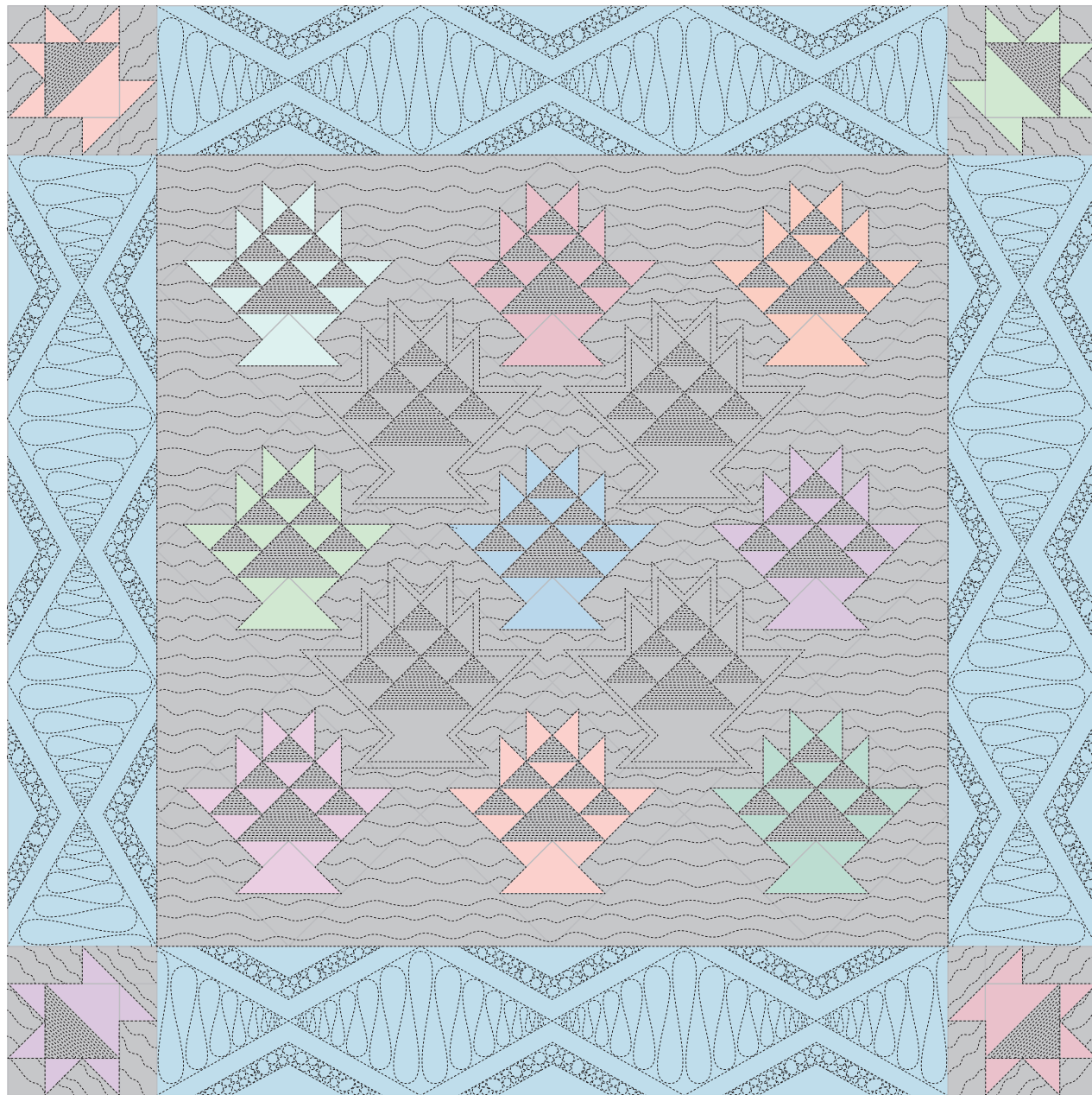


Diagram 11



Quilt Assembly Diagram



Quilting Diagram