

## Blast from the Past Sampler: Block 14

From *Blue Sunshine* by designer Jane Huisingh

*American Patchwork & Quilting* magazine April 2001

**FINISHED BLOCK: 12" square**

### MATERIALS

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

- 18×21" piece (fat quarter) light print
- 9×21" piece (fat eighth) medium print No. 1
- 9×21" piece (fat eighth) dark print
- 5" square medium print No. 2

### CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

Patterns are on *page 2*. To make a template of the pattern, see *Make Templates and Use Templates, page 3*.

#### From light print, cut:

- 2-1½×14" strips
- 1-1½×8" strip
- 4-1½×4½" rectangles
- 4-1½×3½" rectangles
- 4 of Pattern B

#### From medium print No. 1, cut:

- 1-1½×14" strip
- 2-1½×8" strips

#### From dark print, cut:

- 4-2½" squares
- 4 each of Pattern A and Pattern A reversed

#### From medium print No. 2, cut:

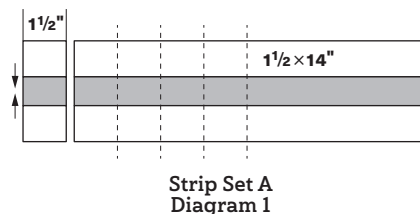
- 1-4½" square

### ASSEMBLE BLOCK

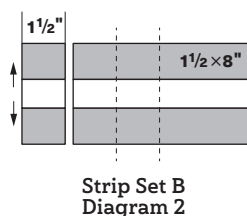
Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

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

- 1** Sew together light print 1½×14" strips and medium print 1½×14" strip to make Strip Set A (**Diagram 1**). Cut strip set into eight 1½"-wide A segments.



- 2** Sew together medium print 1½×8" strips and light print 1½×8" strip to make Strip Set B (**Diagram 2**). Cut strip set into four 1½"-wide B segments.



- 3** Sew together two A segments and one B segment to make a Nine-Patch unit (**Diagram 3**). The unit should be 3½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four Nine-Patch units total.

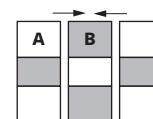


Diagram 3

- 4** Sew a light print 1½×3½" rectangle to top of a Nine-Patch unit (**Diagram 4**). Add a light print 1½×4½" rectangle to left-hand edge to make a corner unit. The unit should be 4½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four corner units total.

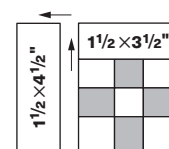


Diagram 4

- 5** Referring to **Diagram 5**, sew together a dark print A triangle and a light print B triangle. Add a dark print A reversed triangle to make a side unit. The unit should be 4½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four side units total.

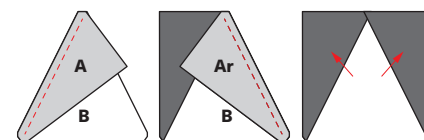


Diagram 5



**6** Mark a diagonal line on wrong side of dark print  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

**7** Align marked dark print  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares with opposite corners of medium print  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square (**Diagram 6**). Sew on marked lines. Trim seam allowances to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Press open attached triangles. Align remaining marked dark print  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares with remaining corners of medium print square. Stitch, trim, and press as before to make center unit. The unit still should be  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

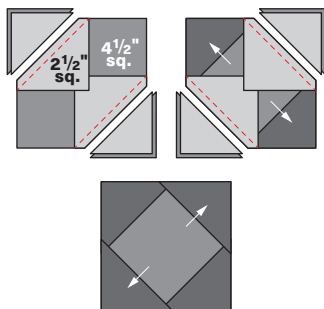


Diagram 6

**8** Referring to **Diagram 7**, lay out corner units, side units, and center unit in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows; press seams toward side units. Join rows to make block; press seams in one direction. The block should be  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

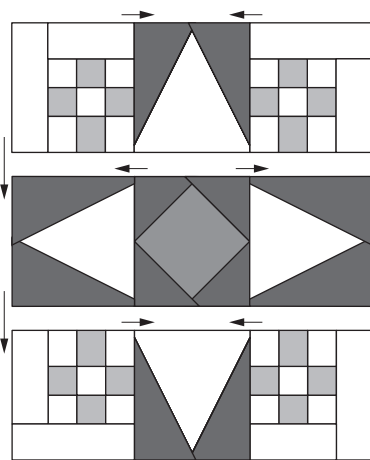
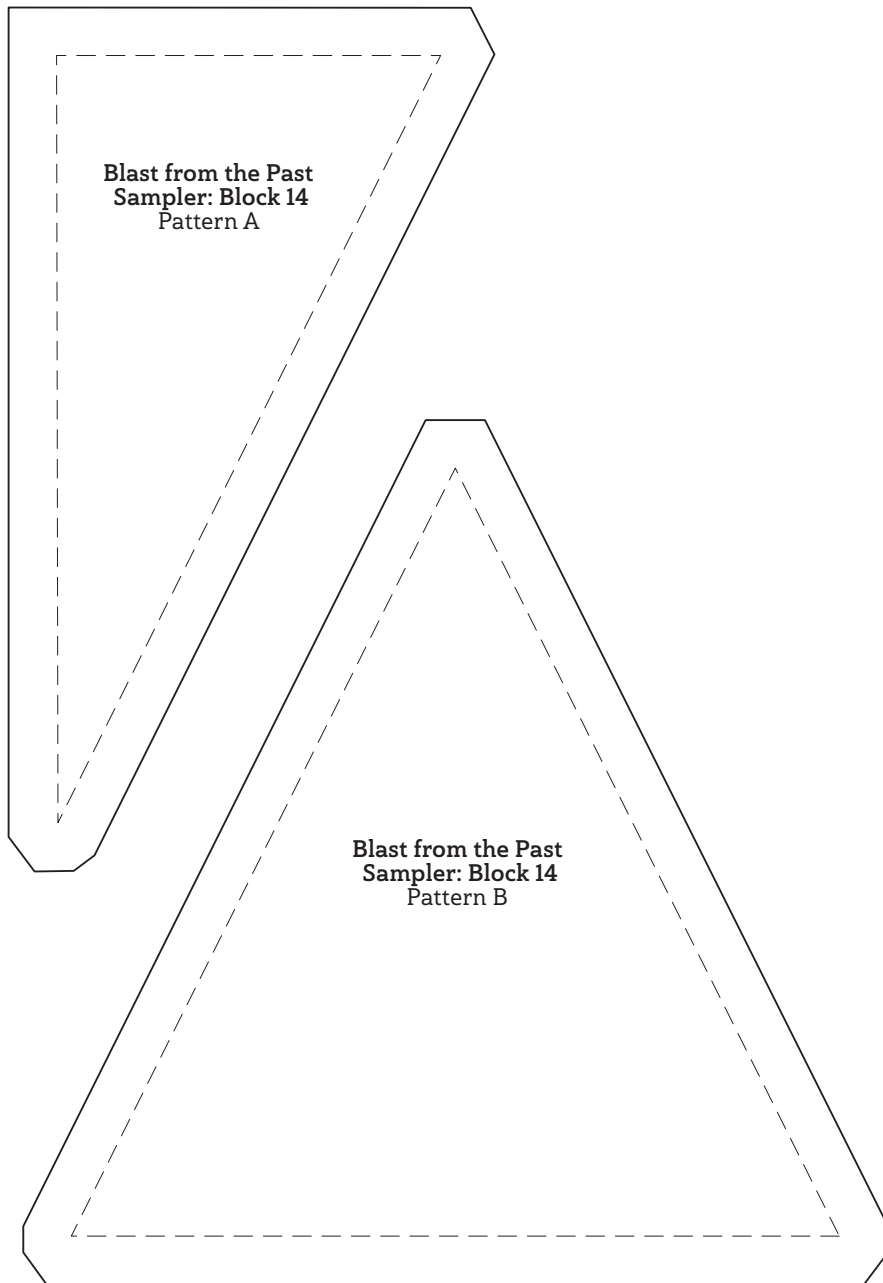


Diagram 7



This box should measure 1"  
← 1" →

**\* NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

## MAKE TEMPLATES

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

## USE TEMPLATES

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

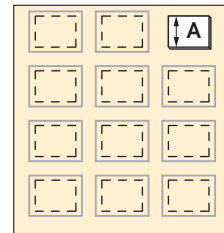


DIAGRAM 1

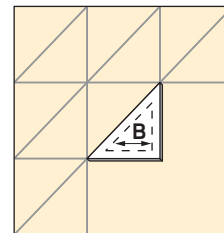
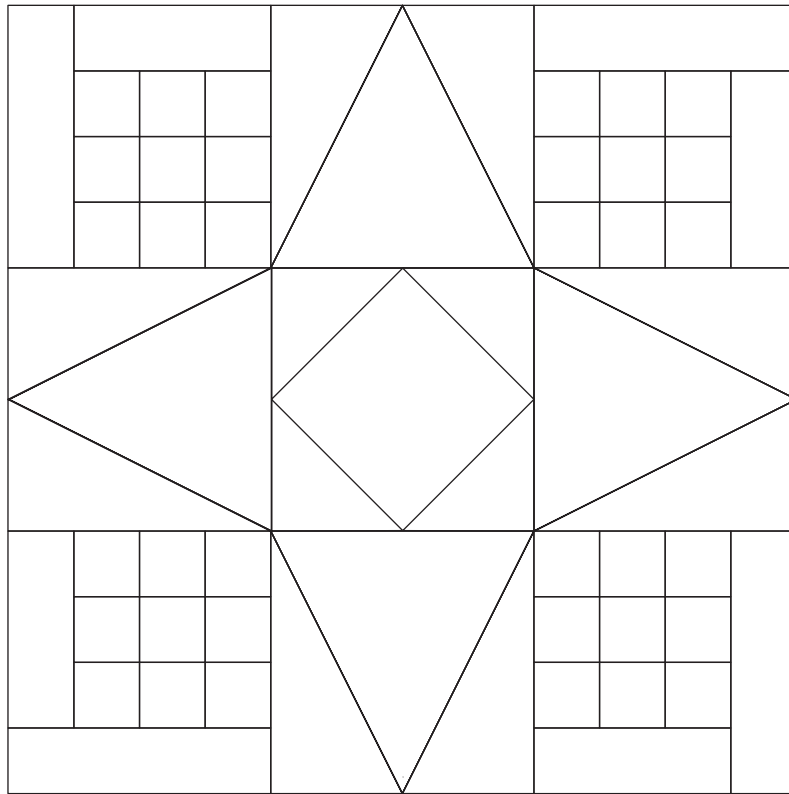
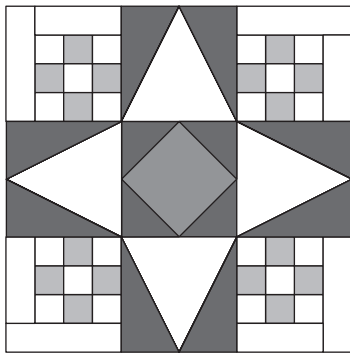


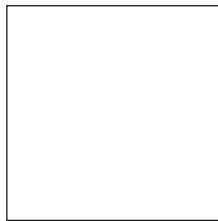
DIAGRAM 2



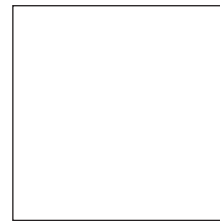
Coloring Diagram



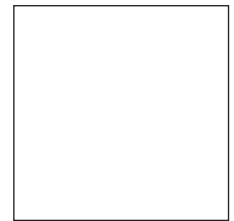
Use the Coloring Diagram, *top*, to plan your version of the original block, *above*. Audition fabric swatches using the squares, *right*.



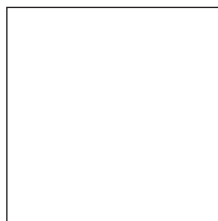
Swatch



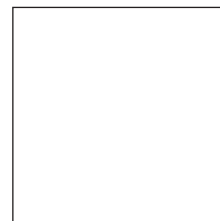
Swatch



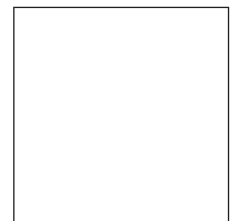
Swatch



Swatch



Swatch



Swatch