JULY 2013 BLOCK LOTTO

ABOUT THE BLOCK LOTTO

The Block Lotto has been a monthly online activity for quilters since January 2002.

It began as an activity on a quilting message board and moved into blog land in 2007. In 2012, we moved to our own site and group blog at blocklotto.com

The Block Lotto is open to all quilters at any level of experience.

No commitment is required: make blocks and enter them when you want; otherwise sit on the sidelines, read along, and

Join us!



SHOW US YOUR QUILT

If you use this I-Spy House block in a project, please share a photo of your work. You can:

- Email photos and the story of your quilt to jeansophie@gmail.com
- Add your photo to the Flickr group pool Lotto Block Quilts
- Join the block lotto and add your quilt and its story to the Gallery

I can't wait to see what you make from this block.









I-Spy Row House

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ABOUT THE BLOCK



I-SPY ROW HOUSE

This 6 x 9 inch (finished size) block is a simple house outline with door and/or window(s) fussy cut from novelty fabrics to add occupants to the house.

FABRIC GUIDELINES



CHOOSING FABRICS FOR YOUR BLOCK

Each block is made from FOUR fabrics:

SKY-Black fabric – may be solid or a black-on-black (BOB) print.

HOUSE—For each block, the house fabric you use should be unique. The fabric you use is quilter's choice but let's avoid anything dull or neutral for a light, bright neighborhood.

I-SPY/Novelties – For doors and windows. Fussy cut them to put people and things inside your house.

If you make multiple blocks, you may use the same black fabric for all your blocks and you may cut different occupants (for different blocks) from the same I-spy fabric. Each house fabric should be unique.

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BLOCK GUIDELINES

All our blocks should have the following characteristics:

- The block is 6 ½ by 9 ½ inches (to finish at 6 by 9 inches when sewn into a project
- The house is between 6 and 9 inches tall (finished size).
- The bottom of the house is at the bottom of the block (no yards added)
- The top of the house is the same shape as a 3 x 6 inch Flying Geese unit (though it doesn't have to be created as a separate FG unit.
- Each house must contain one ore more I-spy elements, which appear as door and or window(s) in the house.
- I-spy elements may be pieced or appliquéd. If you use appliqué, all edges must be turned under and sewn by hand or machine.
- The outside edges of the house block should be house fabric (no I-spy fabrics up against the edges)

MAKING THE BLOCK



MY APPROACH

Because we each will be working with different sized I-Spy fabrics, instead of measurements, I'm going to tell you how I built my house (without a lot of measuring).

Select your I-spy elements first and decide if they are doors or windows.

I saw two quilter-greeters at the door, show & tell downstairs and quilt-making upstairs.



SEWING THE BLOCK

MAKEVOUE

MAKE YOUR BLOCK FROM THE INSIDE-OUT

Whether you have a single door, a picture window, a door and a window or two doors, add fabric on the inside to connect multiple occupants.

For my block, I first added wall from the house fabric to the bottom of the window to make it as tall as the door. Then I added some wall between the window and door.





Next, I added strips to the sides of the door/window unit and trimmed the width to 6.5 inches.

Then I started building up. I added a wide strip to the top of the door/window unit and laid the third I-spy quilter in place upstairs to decide how much space I wanted between upstairs and down and how tall I wanted my house to be.

I trimmed the fabric to the height I decided.

I constructed the upstairs by adding house fabrics to each side of the Ironing Quilter in the window and trimming to 6 ½ inches wide.

Then I added a strip above the window, so she wouldn't be squashed under the eaves.





FINISHING THE BLOCK.

After you have constructed a rectangle that is 6-1/2 inches wide and as tall as your house will be, create the pointy roofline and sky by adding two 3 ½-inch black squares.





Align one black square in an upper corner of the house unit. Draw (or press) a line, diagonally across the square, and then stitch on the line.

Trim away the excess fabric (bonus triangles!), press and repeat on the other side.



If your house block is less than 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches tall, add more black fabric at the top.

Remember your house must be at least 6 inches tall.

I-Spy House Block
July 2013