DECEMBER 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 the Stripes block in 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.



Stripes Block Pattern

ABOUT THE BLOCK



STRIPES

This 6 x 9 inch (finished size) block is a quick and easy block for a busy-for-most-of-us month that is also a good measure of how accurately you are cutting fabrics and sewing that 1/4 -inch seam.

The blocks on the cover were made by sneak peekers, Ellen, Jo, Julie, Nann, Peggy and me.

CHOOSE AND CUT FABRICS



CHOOSING FABRICS FOR YOUR LOTTO BLOCK

The Stripes Block is made from two fabrics.

WHITE-a solid or white-on-white (WOW) print. If you make multiple blocks, you may use the same white fabric for the all your blocks.

QUILTER's CHOICE—your choice of cotton fabric, suitable for guilting. If you make multiple blocks, use a unique guilter's choice fabric in each block.



CUTTING FABRICS – TWO WAYS

Cut a 2-by-20 inch strip from each fabric OR Cut three 2by61/2 inch rectangles from each.



SEWING THE BLOCK



FROM LONG STRIPS

Sew the two strips together along the long edge. Press. Your sewn strip should measure 3 1/2-inches wide.

Cut the strip into three sections, each 6 ½ by 3 ½ inches.

Arrange the sections into alternating fabric stripes and sew together.









FROM RECTANGLES

Arrange the six rectangles into alternating fabric stripes and sew together.

In the finished block, the top and bottom stripe (including seam allowance measures 1 ¾ inches. All the interior strips measure 1 ½ inches



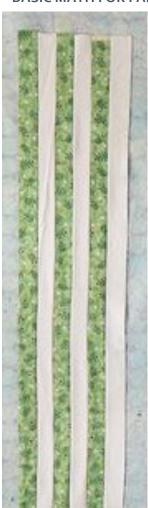


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Stripes Block for the Block Lotto

BONUS – USING STRIP SETS

BASIC MATH FOR FABRIC REQUIREMENTS



You can quickly make multiples of 6 Stripes blocks using strip sets of two inch strips cut from the width of fabric.

NOTE: This method is NOT appropriate for our lotto blocks because each must use a unique fabric combined with white.

To calculate how much fabric you'll need, divide the number of blocks by 6 and round up to an even number. For example, if you wanted to make 35 blocks, you would round up to 6. That's the number of strip sets you would need to make.

For each strip set you need 6 inches of each of two fabrics. So to make the 35 blocks in our example, you would need 6 * 6 inches or 36 inches (1 yard) of each of two fabrics.

If you decided to turn the rectangle blocks into squares, like I did with these blocks you would need to add the fabric needed to do that.



You could add strips, also cut at 2 inches to each long side to form a ginch (finished size) square. To calculate how much fabric you would need for that, you would divide the number of blocks by 4, round up and multiply by 2 inches. So, for our example of 35 blocks, you would divide by 4 and round up to get 9 and then multiply by 2 inches to get 18 inches or a half a yard

BONUS – USING STRIP SETS



ASSEMBLE STRIP SETS

For each strip set, sew 6 strips together along the long edges, alternating fabrics. Don't worry if your fabrics have slightly different widths.

Each set of sewn strips should measure 9 ½ inches tall.

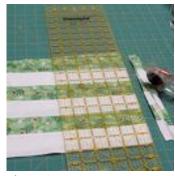


CUT BLOCKS

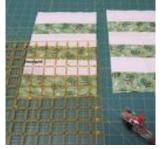
Once the strip sets are assembled and pressed, you will cut them into individual blocks.

You can cut them individually or stack them, making sure that all layers are perfectly aligned. In these photos, I had two strip sets layered.

First square up one edge (cutting off the selvage and making sure the cut edge is



perpendicular to the stripes.



Then cut 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch sections, creating the 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch block (including seam allowance).

You will cut 6 blocks from each strip set with a few inches left over. These few

inches give you the

wiggle room to square up an edge, if needed to keep things nice and perpendicular or ... you might use the leftovers for some art on the back of your quilt, or a checkerboard pillow.



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