

Row 7: Baskets

There will be six basket blocks that will be 6 ½-inches square (finish to 6-inches square.)



1. For each block, you will need:

- For the contents: one 5-inch square, cut in half diagonally.
- For the handles: A strip 11 ½-inches x 1 ¼-inches; sub-cut into 5 ¼-inch and 6 ¼-inch strips.
- For the basket bottom: A strip of 14 ½-inch x 1 ½-inch fabric sub-cut into strips: 6 ½-inches, 4 ½-inches and 3 ½-inches long.
- For the background: one 5 ½-inch square cut in half diagonally, two 1 ½-inch squares and two 1 ½-inch x 2 inch rectangles.



2. In log cabin fashion, sew the 5 ¼-inch strip of handle fabric to one short side of the triangle of contents fabric. Press seam out. Repeat with the 6 ¼-inch strip on the other short side.



Important: It's OK if things don't line up along the bottom of the unit; it's going to get trimmed down later.

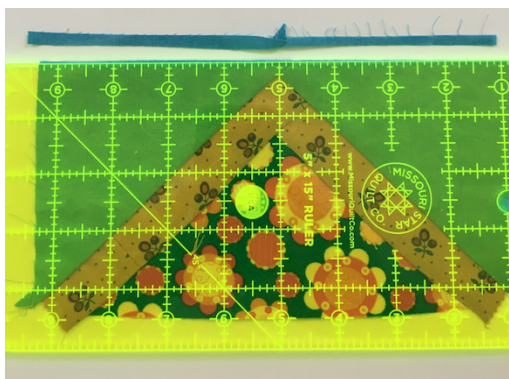


3. Repeat with the background triangles.

Be sure to position the triangles far enough up the side of the contents/handles unit that you have enough of an overlap at the top for a seam allowance.



Now we're going to trim this unit.

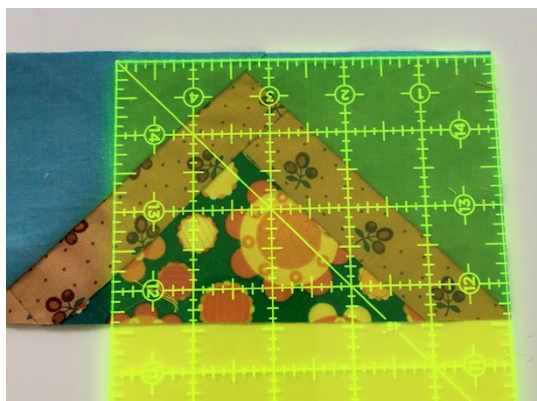


3. First trim the top edge. Position your ruler so that the point of the handles is $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch from the cutting edge of the ruler. Trim off any extra. If you don't have extra to trim, no problem.



4. Now reposition the ruler so that the cutting edge is at the bottom of the unit and trim the unit down to $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inches high.

Now the unit is the right height, but still too wide.



5. We are going to trim the sides by measuring out from the center point. Reposition your ruler again so that the $3\frac{1}{4}$ -inch mark is at the point of the handles. ($3\frac{1}{4}$ is half of the $6\frac{1}{2}$ width you're aiming for.) Trim off at one of the sides of the unit.

Note that this photo shows the unit already trimmed---I skipped taking a photo by mistake.

Now turn the unit and trim off the other side edge.

Your handle unit is now $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inches x $6\frac{1}{2}$ -inches.

Basket bottom is next.



6. Lay out your remaining pieces as shown at left.

Notice that there is one basket strip that is the full width of the block and 2 basket strips that are shorter.

Make sure the smaller background pieces are paired with the longer strip and that the larger background pieces are paired with the shorter strip so that the units are the length.



7. Stitch the pieces together, first in rows. Then sew the rows together to form the basket bottom.



8. Stitch the handle section to the basket bottom section and there you have it!

