

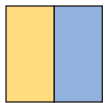
Nautical Flag Borders

Now that summer is upon us, feel free to “pirate” this border idea-- after adding it, to a couple of our Summerhouse projects, we think there’s not a project it wouldn’t enhance!

Two, three, and four inch block sizes are provided-- the two inch size is perfect for a small project such as a mug rug or

potholder, the three inch works well for a table runner or other medium size project, and the large four inch blocks works great for our quilt, as in our Seaside Sampler. Pick a dark and a light value for each block, but be sure to enjoy mixing and matching all of the colors used in your project. Note that our approach is for a big mix of blocks-- if you have a large project, strip piecing methods will help you move along faster.

Best of all, don’t worry about your border lengths-- our “Marooned” block at the end will easily make whatever length you end up with fit, your project will be ship shape in no time!

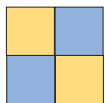


Doubloons

	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 1-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(1) 2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 2-1/2" x 4-1/2"
Unit B	(1) 1-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(1) 2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 2-1/2" x 4-1/2"

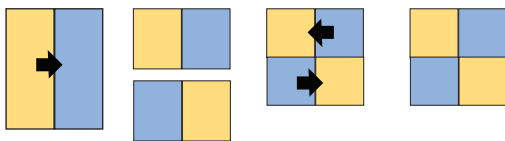


With shorter sides at the top, place Units A and B right sides together. Stitch along right side and press seam toward darker fabric. Note that the Doubloons block may be oriented horizontally or vertically in the border. The finished Doubloons block will measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

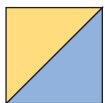


Check, Matey!

	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 1-1/2" x 3"	(1) 2" x 4"	(1) 2-1/2" x 5"
Unit B	(1) 1-1/2" x 3"	(1) 2" x 4"	(1) 2-1/2" x 5"

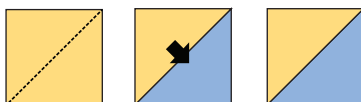


With shorter side at the top, place Units A and B right sides together. Stitch along right side and press seam toward darker fabric. Cut unit in half as shown and rotate the bottom piece. Place right sides together, nesting seams, and stitch. Fold seam in opposite directions. The finished Check, Matey! block will measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

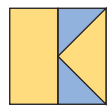


Swashbuckler

	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(1) 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 4-1/2" x 4-1/2"
Unit B	(1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(1) 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 4-1/2" x 4-1/2"

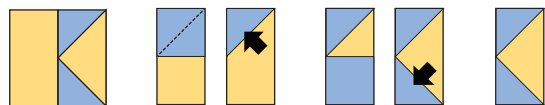


Draw a diagonal line on Unit A. With right sides together, stitch on the line. Flip seam to the darker side, press, and trim. The finished Swashbuckler block will measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

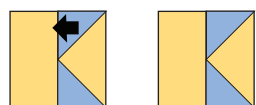


Three Sheets to the Wind

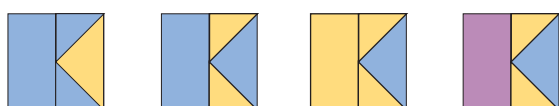
	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(2) 1-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(2) 2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 2-1/2" x 4-1/2"
Unit B	(2) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	(2) 2" x 2"	(1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"



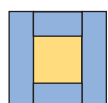
Draw a diagonal line on the back of on both Units B. With shorter side at the top, place a Unit A and B right sides together. Stitch along the drawn line. Flip seam toward triangle, press, and trim. Repeat on the bottom of Unit A.



With shorter sides on top, place the remaining Unit A on top of the stitched unit, right sides together. Stitch along the left edge. Press seam away from the triangle.

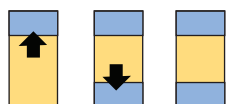


The finished Three Sheets block measures 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2"). Note that changing the colors of the blocks, or even adding a third color, will yield many variations.

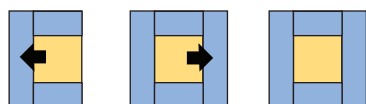


White Pearl

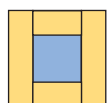
	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	(1) 2" x 2"	(1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"
Unit B	(2) 1" x 1-1/2"	(2) 1-1/4" x 2	(2) 1-1/2" x 2-1/2"
Unit C	(2) 1" x 2-1/2"	(2) 1-1/4" x 3-1/2"	(2) 1-1/2" x 4-1/2"



Place a Unit B on top of Unit A. Stitch and press toward Unit B. Repeat on the bottom of Unit A.



Place a Unit C on the left side of Unit A. Stitch on the left side and press toward Unit C. Repeat on the right side of Unit A.



Note that reversing the values yields a Black Pearl block!

The finished Pearl block will measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

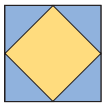


Marooned

Use a simple rectangle to add whatever width needed to make your borders fit.

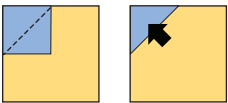
	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	? x 2-1/2" Long	? x 3-1/2" Long	? x 4-1/2" Long



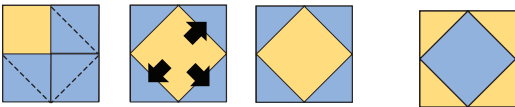


Treasure Chest

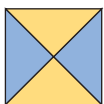
	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	(1) 3-1/2" x 3-1/2"	(1) 4-1/2" x 4-1/2"
Unit B	(4) 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"	(4) 2" x 2"	(4) 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"



Draw a diagonal line on all Units B. With right sides together, place a Unit B in the upper left corner of Unit A. Stitch along the marked line. Flip seam toward Unit B, press, and trim. Repeat on the remaining three corners.

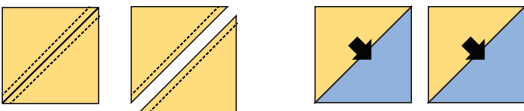


Note that reversing the values makes a different block. The finished Treasure Chest block will measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

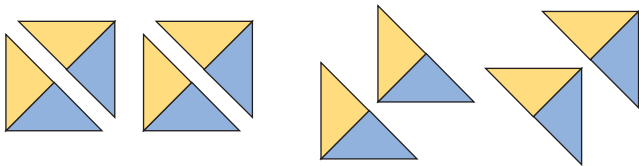


X Marks the Spot

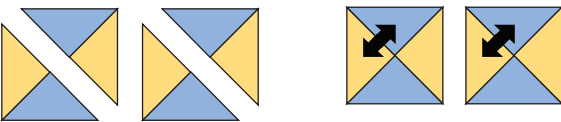
	2" Block	3" Block	4" Block
Unit A	(1) 3-1/4" x 3-1/4"	(1) 4-1/4" x 4-1/4"	(1) 5-1/4" x 5-1/4"
Unit B	(1) 3-1/4" x 3-1/4"	(1) 4-1/4" x 4-1/4"	(1) 5-1/4" x 5-1/4"



(Yields two.) Draw a diagonal line on Unit A. With right sides together, stitch 1/4" on either side of the line. Cut in two pieces on the drawn line and press seams toward darker fabric.



Crosscut both units in half as shown. Swap the resulting triangles into matching pieces.



Rotate one piece in each set to form the blocks shown. Stitch each together, nesting seams. Press seam open. Trim to a finished size of 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" (3-1/2" x 3-1/2") (4-1/2" x 4-1/2").

Assembly

Measure the border size needed (without seam allowances at the ends) and divide by the finished block size you are using to get the total number of blocks needed.

If the math doesn't work out perfectly, leave off the fractional amount and start sewing the whole number of

blocks needed leaving a space in the middle of them. Fill the space with a "Marooned" block-- just a simple rectangle cut to whatever width you need.

For more ideas, and technical advice on our Nautical blog border, please visit the tutorial tab on our blog! And be sure to share your own results on Facebook and Instagram pages... look for the links on the home page of our website:

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