

“Good Fences Make Good Neighbors”

June 2017 “In My Neighborhood” Row
Designed by Beth Helfter, EvaPaige Quilt Designs

Block size – 8 ½” unfinished



Supplies

- One fat quarter blue fabric
- One fat quarter white fabric
- One fat eighth green or green floral fabric (I used a Kaffe Fassett print)

Cutting

From blue:

- Cut six rectangles 5” x 8 ½”
- Cut six rectangles 1” x 3”
- Cut twelve rectangles 1” x 3 ¼”

From white:

- Cut two strips 1 ½” x 22” (long side of fat quarter)
- Cut two strips 1 ¼” x 22”
- Cut twelve rectangles 1 ½” x 8 ½”
- Cut 36 1” squares

From green:

- Cut three strips 2” x 22”

For embellishments – floral fabric scraps to fussy cut, buttons, ribbons, threads, etc. Anything goes!

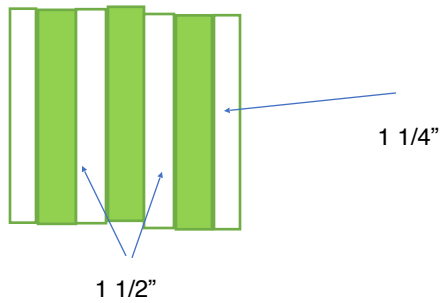
“Press as Desired”:

I am an open presser. I know. It’s almost as controversial as being a non-prewasher (which, full disclosure, I also am). One reason I like pressing open is it really helps with size accuracy of blocks, and when a block has a lot of seams, like this one does, the more chance you take of shrinking it with even a slightly too big seam allowance. Pressing open often will alleviate this shrinkage. If you hate it, press to the dark. But I urge you to give it a try!

Block Construction

1. Strip piece all 22” long cut strips as shown, beginning and ending with 1 ¼” wide white strips. (Diagram 1)

Diagram 1



2. Press \searrow as desired. The pieced unit should measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by approximately 22" long. Cut six 2 " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " strips and six 1 " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " strips from the pieced unit.
3. Sew a white $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to the top of each strip cut in step 2. Diagram 2. Make six of each.

Diagram 2 – 2 " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces

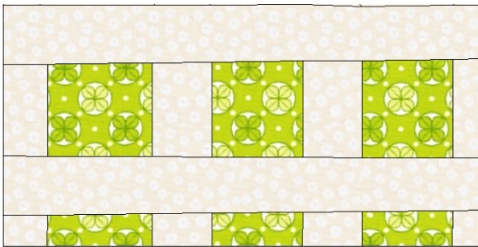


1 " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces



4. Sew units made in step 3 as shown in Diagram 3 below. Press all seams as desired. This unit should measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Diagram 3 – fence unit



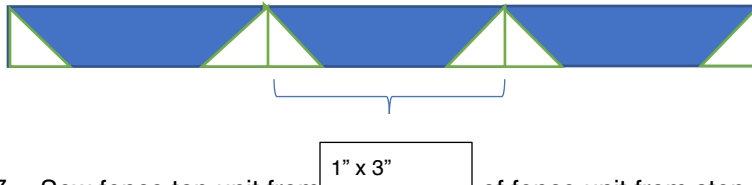
5. Retrieve your 1 " white squares and 1 " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ " and 1 " x 3 " blue rectangles. Sew white rectangles point to point as shown by red stitching line to either end of all of the blue rectangles (Diagram 4). Trim seam allowance if desired and press as desired. Trim flush with blue rectangle as needed. Make 12 units 1 " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ " and 6 units 1 " x 3 "

Diagram 4 – picket units



6. Sew picket units from step 5 together as shown in Diagram 5, with a 1 " x 3 " unit between two 1 " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ " units. Make 6.

Diagram 5 – Fence top



7. Sew fence top unit from step 6 to top of fence unit from step 4. Press as desired. Make 6.
8. Sew 5" x 8 1/2" blue rectangle to the top of the fence. This completes both the sky and the block piecing!
9. Now for the fun! Embellish your fence using fussy cut floral fabrics, buttons, embroidery, whatever your heart desires! I went the fussy cut applique route for this sample. My suggestion, though, if you are making each row of this quilt, is to wait until you have the rows together to add your embellishments – that way they won't get in the way as you sew the rows together.



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