

Use the Triangle Duo Ruler (#CGRTDUO) to make this block.

Light and Dark Nine Patch Block

Finished block: 6"

All squares and triangles are cut from fabric strips measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide.

Use as many fabrics as possible to make a scrap quilt from this block.

Each block has a light side and a dark side separated by a diagonal line of a square and triangle in a contrasting colour. Just one fabric may be used for this diagonal line or several fabrics of a similar colour. Choose a colour that shows up well against the main collection of fabrics so that when blocks are joined the diagonal squares and triangles form chains to add emphasis to the quilt design.

Cutting:

1. From as many dark and light fabrics as possible cut strip $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. Cut these into squares measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ".
2. For the half-square triangles, cut strips from the fabric to be used for the diagonal chain $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide.

Cut short strips from a selection of light fabrics each $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. A 7" strip will give four half-square triangles and it is probably best to limit each fabric used to just four triangles at most which can spread about the quilt to keep the design looking scrappy.

3. Match a 7" strip of light fabric with a similar 7" strip of 'chain' fabric. Place these right sides together.
4. Straighten one end of the layered strips of fabric. Turn the fabric so that the straightened end is at the left hand side. Left handers should work with the ends of the fabric at the right hand side.

Place the 45° section of the Triangle Duo Ruler on the layered fabric strips, lining up the bottom edge of the fabric with the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " line marked on the ruler. The top edge of the fabric should line up with the dotted horizontal line on the ruler (Fig.1).

5. Cut along the diagonal edge of the ruler with a rotary cutter.
6. Turn the ruler through 180° - do **not** turn it over. Line the ruler up with the cut edges of the fabric and the top and bottom of the fabric strips as before (Fig.2).
7. Cut along the edge of the ruler.



Fig 1.

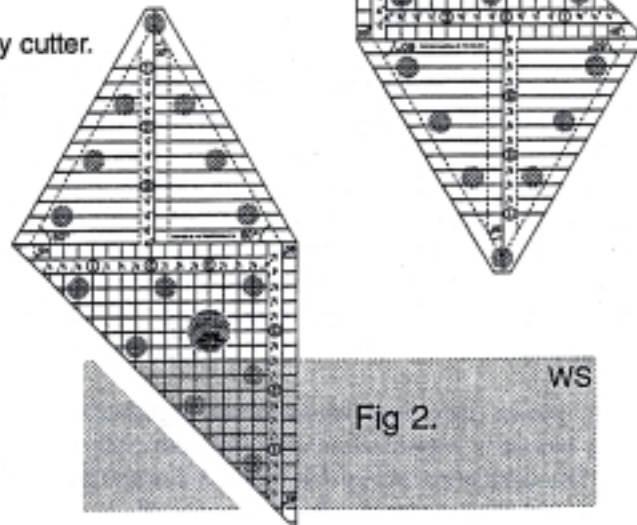
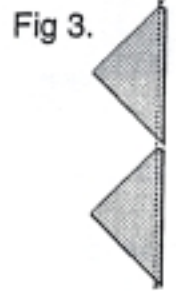


Fig 2.

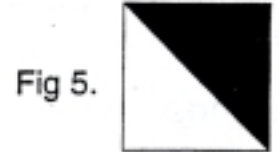
- Continue to turn the ruler and position it on the layered fabric strips until four pairs of half-square triangles are cut. Left handers should work from right to left along the fabric.
- In the same way cut as many pairs of triangles as are needed, using 7" strips from a large selection of light fabrics, each one matched with a 7" strip of the diagonal "chain" fabric. Always place the two fabrics right sides facing and cut four pairs of triangles as described in steps 4-8.



Stitching:

- First stitch together the matched half-square triangles along the diagonal edge (the longest side), stitching an exact $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam at all times. Stitch the triangles one pair after another in a chain (Fig.3). If the blunted corner of each pair of triangles is always at the start of the seam as in Fig.3, the sharp corners will not be munched by the machine as you stitch.

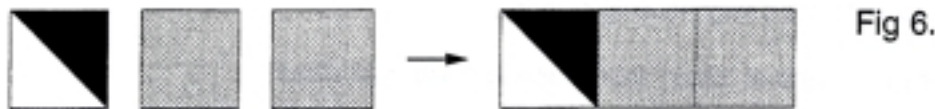
- Separate each stitched square and open it out. Press the seam to one side, ironing from the front of the work (Fig.4)



Trim back the overhanging seam allowance at one end of the seam to make it level with the other fabric edges (Fig.5).

Assembling the Light and Dark Nine Patch Block:

- Trying not to repeat any fabrics in the nine patch, stitch together the top rows of squares (Fig.6). Press the seams to one side from the front of the work.



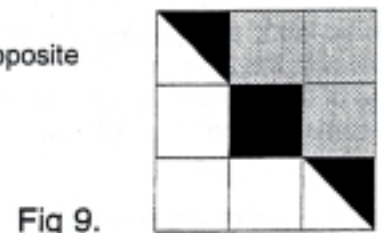
- Arrange and stitch together the middle row of squares as in Fig.7. Press the seams in the opposite direction to the top row, ironing from the front of the work.



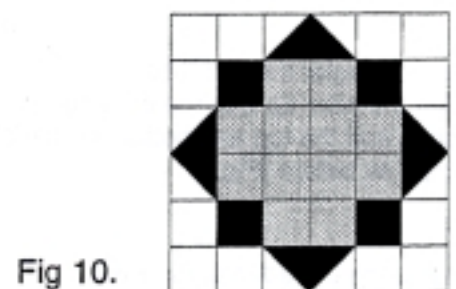
- Arrange and stitch together the bottom row as in Fig.8. Press the seams in the opposite direction to the middle row, ironing from the front of the work.



- Pin and stitch together the three rows, matching seams carefully (Fig.9). Press the seams to one side, ironing from the front of the block.



Each block measures 6" finished, so you can calculate how many blocks you would need for a chosen project. Try to mix the fabrics around as much as possible when making the blocks and when arranging them in a design. The blocks are similar to log cabin in that two halves of dark and light are divided diagonally, so any arrangement for log cabin, such as Barn Raising, can be used with the Light and Dark Nine Patch Block.



The quilt design shown used four blocks joined together with the dark sides in the centre (Fig.10). This unit of four blocks is repeated across the main part of the quilt with a border of blocks surrounding it. The variations using this block in Scrap Quilts are limitless and, using the Triangle Duo Ruler, easily cut and stitched. Use it and enjoy!