Singin’ in the Rain
Block of the Month - April 2016
12” x 12” finished block (12 ½” x 12 ½” unfinished)

**Fabric:** Pale grey or blue-grey for background; something bright for the umbrella. Rickrack or ribbon for the handle.

**Cut Strips** (These are for precise measurements. If you use these, you MUST sew a scant ¼” seam. You may want to make longer strips and cut them to size after piecing):

**Umbrella fabric only:**
A - (1) 1 ¼” x 10 ½”
One of each - background and umbrella (Kathie recommends adding ¼” to all these measurements and cutting down after sewing):
B - (2) 1 ¾” x 9 ¼”
C - (2) 1 ¾” x 8”
D – (2) 1 ¾” x 6 ½”
E – (2) 1 ¾” x 5 ½”
F – (2) 1 ¾” x 4 ¼”
G – (2) 1 ¾” x 3”
H – (2) 1 ¾” x 1 ¾”

**Background only:**
J - (2) 1 ½” x 10 ½” (or 1 ¾” x 10 ¾” if you want fudge room)
K – (2) 1 ½” x 12 ½” (or 1 ¾” x 12 ¾” if you want fudge room)

**Rickrack handle** – approx. 9” long

**Directions**
Sew the umbrella strips together as shown in diagram. Background H+ Umbrella B, G+C, F+D, E+E, D+F, C+G, B+H.
Press seams and then sew the rows together. Each strip should be 10 ½” in length. (Jeanne used precise measurements on the umbrella fabric and longer strips on the background, then trimmed to size after they were sewn together.)
Trim to 10 ½” square
Add the J pieces to the sides of the umbrella to help stabilize the rows.
Sew the K pieces to the top and bottom.
If you’ve used larger strips, square it down to 12 ½”.
You may sew the handle on using applique or other techniques that appeal to you. Start it on the E pieces and curve the handle whichever way appeals to you.

**BOM GUIDELINES:** Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name on your block(s). Make it simple: stick your mailing label on the back of each block. If you have any scraps left over, consider including them with your block (pinned to the block or in an attached baggie) for the winner to use in a border or for other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the November 5th or 7th meetings, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the drawings. Address: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414. We’ll have a drawing at both the Thursday night and Saturday meeting if we have enough blocks. If we get only a few on Thursday night, we’ll do one drawing on Saturday. You need not be present to win. We’ll call to notify winners. Blocks can be mailed to the winner or picked up at the MQ office or at the next meeting.