**May Day Basket**

Block of the Month - May 2016

10 ½” unfinished

This is a traditional basket block design, but filled with flowers!

**Fabrics:** Background—white or white-on-white, Leaves—Fresh Spring green, Flowers—any small to medium flower print in bright colors, Basket—Brown, tan, “woody”-looking

**Cutting instructions for one block:**

*3” x 3” pieces marked with an asterisk are used to make half-square triangles or flying geese with fabrics of other colors. All will be trimmed to 2 ½” square.

**White background:**
- A (2) 2 ½” x 4 ½” rectangles
- B (2) 2 ½” x 6 ½” rectangles
- C (2) 2 ½” x 2 ½” squares
- * (2) 3” x 3” squares

**Spring Green leaves:**
- * (4) 2 ½” x 2 ½” squares
- * (3) 3” x 3” squares

**Flower print:**
- D (1) 2 ½” x 2 ½” square
- * (4) 3” x 3” squares

**Basket brown:**
- E (1) 2 ½” x 2 ½” square
- * (3) 3” x 3” squares

**Instructions**

Make 2 Flying Geese units. For each, use a 2 ½” x 4 ¼” white rectangle and attach one 2 ½”x 2 ½” square to each bottom corner. Stitch one on diagonal, trim seam, press open. Stitch second corner on diagonal, trim seam, press open. Check that finished measurement of unit is 2 ½” x 4 ¼”.

Make 12 half-square triangle (HST) units in the following manner.

- Layer RST 3”x 3” white square with 3”x 3” green square. Draw one diagonal. Stitch a scant ¼” on each side of the line. Cut between the lines of stitching. Press open. Trim to 2 ½” x 2 ½”. This makes 2 white and green HST units.
- Repeat using flowered fabric and green fabric 3” squares. Make 3, resulting in 6 green and flowered HST units. You’ll use 5 of these units.
- Repeat using flowered fabric and brown 3” squares. Make 2, resulting in 4 flowered and brown HST units.
- Repeat using brown and white 3” squares. Make 1, resulting in 2 brown and white HST units.

Lay out all pieces in the order indicated in diagram #1 and using the photograph of the finished square as your guide. Stitch together pieces into rows, as indicated in diagram #2. Before joining rows, press seams so they nestle with therowbelow. When assembled, block should measure 10 ½” square.

**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.