

2022 PhxMQG Block Lotto

October: Feather Block

Unfinished: 12½" x 8½"

Everyone in the Vitamin Bee Sol had so much fun making Francine T's feather block that it was decided to offer it as a Lotto Block. Thinking of Thanksgiving with Pilgrims and Native Americans, you can see how this block fits. However, you are not limited to autumn colors for this block. Choose your favorite color scheme—monochromatic, complimentary, analogous, split-complementary, PhxMQG colors, or just colors that when put together make you happy (like I did.) Please use a white or cream for your background— which ever goes best with your color scheme. (Solid white, or white-on-white print, OR solid cream or cream-on-cream or white-on-cream print.) Using a solid background gives it a modern look. Using solids and modern prints for the feather vanes will also give it that modern look.

Don't let the paper piecing scare you— this is a very simple pattern and the illustrated directions in the tutorial are very clear. If you want to make it super easy, use only solid fabrics so you can't sew any pieces in with the wrong side up.



The Template Pattern:

When I downloaded the template pattern, it automatically used my Dropbox app for some reason. If you have any trouble downloading the pattern, please contact me (Patti K) by email or text.

Whenever I am making a paper-piece pattern for someone else, I determine which edges are on the outside and draw an extra line ¼" outside of that edge. When I sew, I ignore the original outside line and make sure that my fabric extends past the newly drawn line. When I am about to put the sections together (such as A and B in this pattern), I only trim the lines on the sides that I am going to sew together. I leave the outer edges untrimmed until all the sections are sewn together. Then I give a super good press and trim the entire block along the outer edge lines I drew. That leaves plenty of room for the recipient to square up her/his blocks.



Please leave the paper in your block. It helps stabilize the whole block, particularly if the block has to travel through the mail or if it will be stored for a while.

Cutting:

For the feather vane sections, I used fairly large sections of scrap fabric. The largest piece needed is less than 3" x 3", so you can cut all your colored scraps to 3" x 3" if you wish. The center (rib) piece needs to be at least 12½" long, but with my extended borders, I use a piece greater than 14" x 1".

For the background you need 2 pieces around 4" x 14", 2 pieces 4" x 4½" and two smaller pieces (at the top of the feather.)

If you use the background for 2-3 vane sections, you can produce a tattered feather.

Directions: Just click on the link below:

[Free Feather Block Pattern + Paper Piecing Tutorial - Blossom Heart Quilts](#)

There are only two sections in each of the paper template, but you will need to cut out the bottom and attach it the top portion in each of the sections. Using a glue stick or glue is preferred. Your iron will melt transparent tape and masking tape is thick (but better than transparent tape). This is well explained in the tutorial.

Using paper that is designed for paper piecing is much easier that using computer paper that doesn't tear easily. Remember to shorten your stitch length to about 1.6 mm (14-16 stitches/inch).

If your paper tears when removing a mistake, you can always glue or tape another piece over it– especially if it is paper piecing paper which is more transparent.

If you have any questions or problems, please be sure to email or text Patti K.

