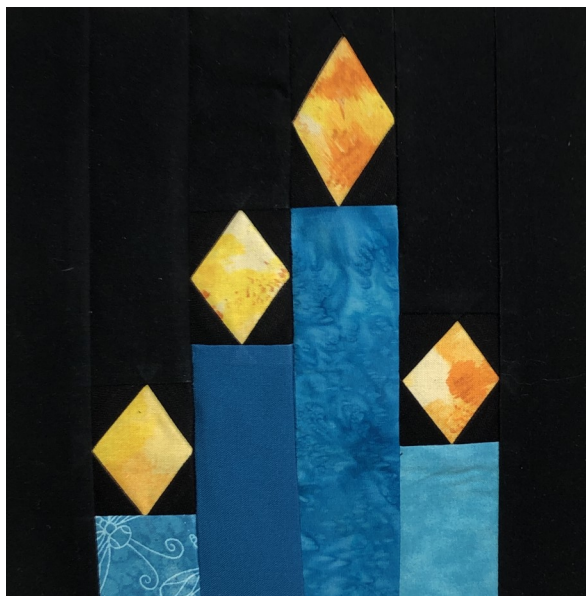


2022 PhxMQG Block Lotto November: Candles

Unfinished: 8" x 7½"



December has so many holidays in it and almost all the holidays use candles. Hence, a lovely little candle block was chosen. Please make the candles in any colors you wish to celebrate any December holiday or just because the colors make you happy. The one lesson I learned from making this block is that the block looks better if each candle is different—four candles of the same solid color just does not look as nice! Please use solid black as your background;

One of the best things about this particular block is that the tutorial actually talks about how to make the flame improv. This is the perfect pattern for those of you who

want to try a little improv without investing a lot of time or fabric AND there's a small bit for those of you who absolutely adore improv.

For those of you who like paper-piecing there are 2 pages of paper-pieced templates to use.

It's a win-win-win for everyone, so no excuse not to make this block!

The OPTIONAL Paper Pieced Template Pattern:

There are two pages of templates to download for this pattern. You will need to request access to the Google drive for EACH page. It takes about a day or two for the response, so please plan in advance. 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.



I've drawn arrows pointing out where all the outside edges are. I later added lines ¼" further out at each arrow.

Because the templates can accidentally be turned upside down, I recommend labeling which rectangles are black and which are your candle colors as seen in the photo.

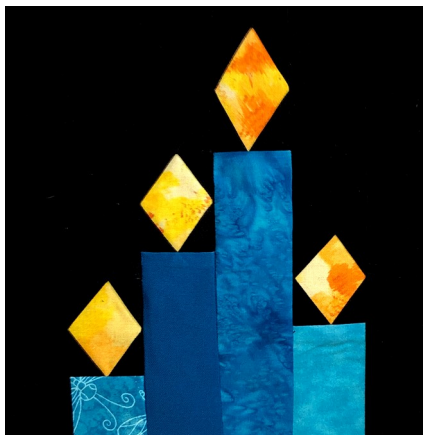
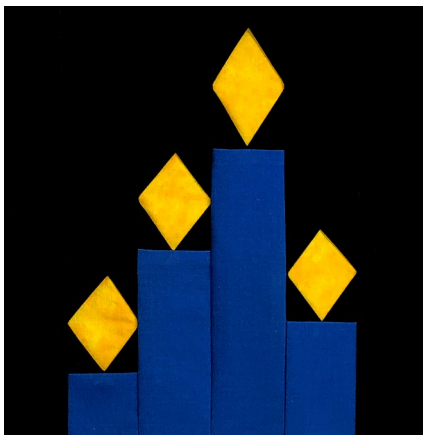
Please leave the paper in your block. It helps stabilize the whole block, particularly if the block has to travel through the mail or if it will be stored for a while.

Cutting:

Please use solid black for the background.

Please use four different colors (they can be the same hue) for the candles.

You can see that my block where all the candles are a solid blue isn't as nice as the one done in variations of blue.



If you are piecing the block, these are the sizes:

Black background:

2 – 8 1/2" x 1 1/2" rectangles

1 – 2" x 4 1/2" rectangle

1 – 2" x 3" rectangle

1 – 2" x 5 1/2" rectangle

Scraps for making the flame look more diamond shaped- this can be improv or cut small squares and align to each corner and sew on the diagonal and press to the corner (flip and sew style). Text or email Patti if you need help with this straight piecing option.

Your choice of colors for each candle:

1 – 2" x 2 1/2" rectangle

1 – 2" x 6" rectangle

1 – 2" x 4" rectangle

1 – 2" x 1 1/2" rectangle

Orange or Yellow or other "flame"-looking fabric for flame:

3 – 2" x 2 1/2" rectangles

1 – 2" x 3" rectangle

You could consider piecing a strip of blue with a strip of flame fabric together and then cut your rectangles from the sewn strips, creating flames with blue at the bottom.

Directions: Just click on the link below:

<https://quiltjane.com/desperate-housewives-quilt-block-23/>

If you are choosing to paper piece, using paper that is designed for paper piecing is much easier than using computer paper that doesn't tear easily. Remember to shorten your stitch length to about 1.6 mm (14-18 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.