

String Blocks

Trim to 6 ½" x 9 ½"

String blocks are a great way to use up leftover strips. They are a fun improvisational block that have a lot of visual interest when you vary the width of the strips.

You may choose to use a foundation of paper or muslin for your blocks, or simply piece the strips as normal.



Please keep a black or dark strip in the center to allow a noticeable chevron or diamond to appear when blocks are put together.



String blocks with foundation:

- Cut the muslin or paper to the finished block size (including seam allowance).
PHXMQG 2023 Block Swap size is 6-½" x 9-½".
- Place a black strip of fabric roughly in the center of the foundation, right side up. Work with strips of around 11" to be sure they cover the block when placed on an angle.
- Add a second strip, right sides together with the black piece and sew a ¼" seam along one side.
- Press open, and add another piece, working on the same side of the center line.
- Use a variety of colors and continue adding strips until you reach the corner.
TIP: be generous with the last piece so that the corner color doesn't get lost in the seam allowance when blocks are put together.
- Rotate the block and add strips to the other side of the center line to completely cover the foundation.
- Trim the final block to 6 ½" x 9 ½". Leave the foundation in place.

Note: if paper foundation was used, remove before quilting. Muslin does not have to be removed, although you may want a thinner batting in the quilt.