

## Picket Fences May, 2009

### Cutting

#### 6 1/2 inch Center Square

##### Fabric A

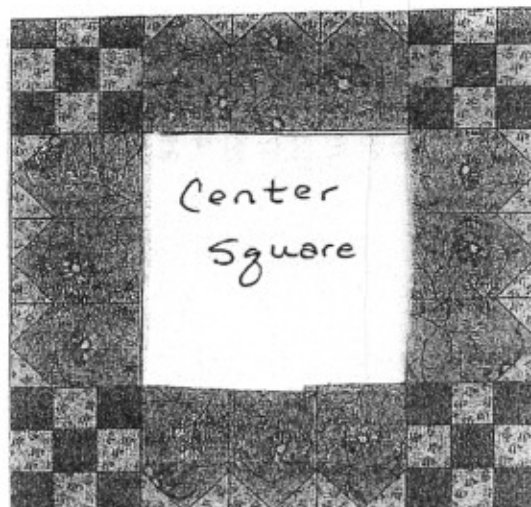
- Cut 24, 1 1/2 inch squares.
- Cut 2, 1 1/2 x 7 inch strips.
- Cut 1, 1 1/2 x 13 inch strip.

##### Fabric B

- Cut 12, 3 1/2 x 2 1/2 inch rectangles

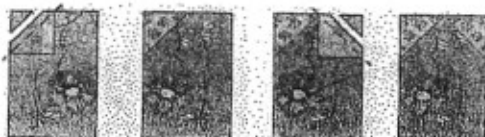
##### Fabric C

- Cut 1, 1 1/2 x 7 inch strip.
- Cut 2, 1 1/2 x 13 inch strip.



### Piecing

**Step 1** With right sides together, position a 1 1/2 inch Fabric A square on the upper right corner of a 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inch Fabric B rectangle. Draw a diagonal line on the square and stitch on the line. Press up to corner. **Trimming is optional.** Repeat this process on the upper left corner. Make 12 units.

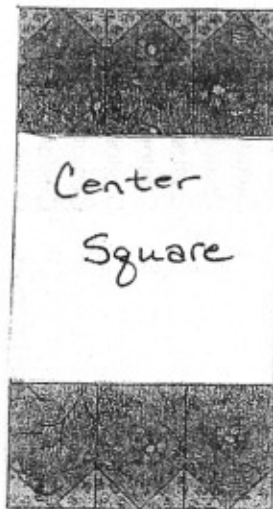


Make 12

**Step 2** Sew 3 of these units together and press. Make 4 new units. At this point each unit should measure 3 1/2 x 6 1/2 inches. Sew two of these units to the top/bottom edges of the Center Square and press seam open.



Make 4



**Step 3** Aligning long raw edges, sew 1 1/2 x 13 inch Fabric C strip to both edges of a 1 1/2 x 13 inch Fabric A strip; press. Cut the strip set into 8, 1 1/2 in segments.



Crosscut 8  
1-1/2-inch wide  
segments

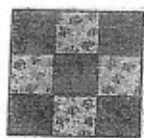
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**Step 4** Aligning long raw edges, sew  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x 7 inch Fabric A strip to both edges of a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x 7 inch Fabric C strip; press. Cut the strip set into 4,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch segments



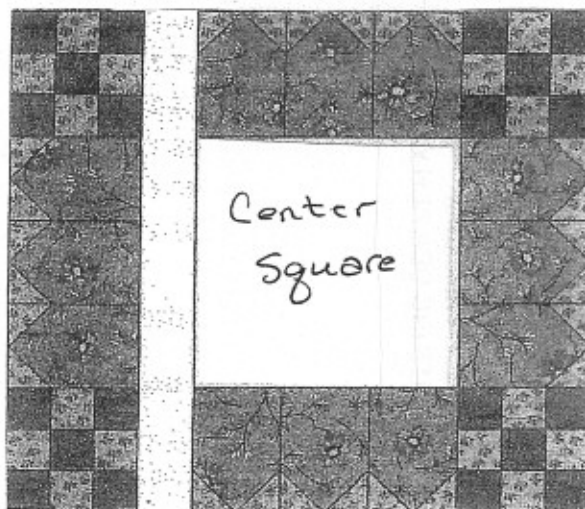
Crosscut **4**  
1-1/2-inch wide  
segments

**Step 5** Sew the Step 3 segments to the top/bottom edges of each Step 4 segment; press. At this point each unit should measure  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches square.



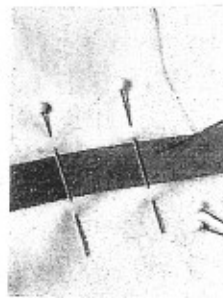
Make  
**4**

**Step 6** Sew the Step 5 units to both ends of the remaining Step 2 units; press. Sew these units to the side edges of the Center Square; press. At this point the block should measure  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches square.



### Tips of the Month:

1. If you are having difficulty threading your needle, you may be working from the wrong side of the eye. Spin the needle to the opposite side and try again.
2. For appliqué or embroidery work, keep several needles threaded with all the colors you need. You'll save time and thread.
3. Apply moleskin or wrap a strip of ordinary, white adhesive tape around the ends of your finger tips to protect them from needle pricks when hand sewing.
4. To keep narrow appliqué "stems" from shifting out of position while stitching, pin over, rather than through them.



Pin in Place