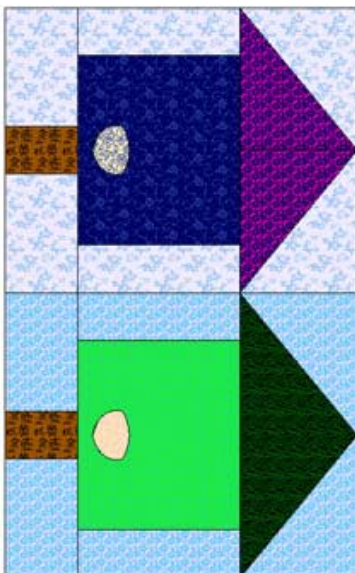


BIRDHOUSE #2 BLOCK

Instructions are given in this document for a very simple, pieced, double-birdhouse block that measures 6" x 10" finished, 6 ½" x 10 ½" unfinished. This block is turned sideways and gives the quilt a zippier look. The block can be placed in either direction; facing "east" or "west".

This is a great little quilt for rotary cutting and chain piecing!

Instructions for BIRDHOUSE #2, 6" x 10" Block



Color suggestions: Use a blue fabric for the "sky" background and a brown fabric for the post that the birdhouse is sitting on. The rest is up to you!

Instructions: Use good quality, 100% cotton, pre-washed fabrics for best results. Follow the instructions below for each block.

Sew each seam with a scant ¼" seam allowance. A "scant" seam allowance means that you sew it a few threads **short** of the measurement. You will be sewing just a tad bit short of ¼". This is a "scant".

FABRIC PIECES NEEDED (for one block)			
BLUE	BROWN	COLOR A	COLOR B
4 – 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2 – 1" x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	2 – 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2 – 1" circles
2 – 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "		COLOR C	
4 – 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "		2 – 3" x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS (10 blocks)			
BLUE	BROWN	COLORS A, C	COLOR B
5/8 yard	1/8 yard (or 1-1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " strip)	$\frac{1}{2}$ yard total ($\frac{1}{4}$ yard each)	Scraps

- 1) Cut each of your fabric pieces out according to the measurements given in the chart above for each block being made. The BLUE fabric is for the sky, the BROWN is for the post of the birdhouse, COLOR A is for the roof, COLOR B is for the hole/entry section (to be appliquéd) of the birdhouse, and COLOR C is for the house section of the birdhouse.

This block is pieced in three sections: a) The post section that the birdhouse sits on, b) The house section, and c) The roof section. The order in which you piece these sections does not matter, since all three sections are sewn together anyway, so we begin with the post section.

- 2) The post section consists of three pieces: The brown "post" that the birdhouse sits on, and two blue "sky" fabrics. With right sides of the fabric together, stitch the short side of the 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to the longest side of the rectangular "post". Next, with right sides together, stitch the longest side of the other 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to the other long side of the rectangular "post". Press the seams so that they go **AWAY FROM** the small rectangular "post". Set this section aside for now.
- 3) The house section consists of four pieces, of which we are only going to use three now. The fourth piece is the circle that is appliquéd last, once the block is finished. With right sides together, stitch one of the long rectangular pieces of blue "sky" fabric to the 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " side of the 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3" rectangle of "house" fabric. Next, with right sides together, stitch the other rectangular piece of blue "sky" fabric to the opposite side of the 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3" rectangle of

“house” fabric. Press the seams toward the darkest fabric. Set this section aside for now.

- 4) The roof section consists of four pieces, but since it involves triangles sewn on the bias, we’re going to do it the fast and easy way, thereby avoiding the bias edges! Take the blue “sky” 3 ½” x 3 ½” square and place it right sides facing the 3 ½” x 3 ½” square “roof” fabric. Draw a line on the diagonal on the outside fabric (the wrong side of the fabric). Then, stitch ¼” on **EACH** side of this diagonal line. DO NOT stitch on the line! Cut the fabrics into two pieces, **ON** the diagonal line. This makes two half-square units. Press the seams to the darker fabric.
- 5) Trim these half-square units down to 3” square, being **careful** to keep the diagonal stitch line in the center at a 45° angle.
- 6) Stitch these two half-square triangles together so that they form a ‘V’ in the middle, thusly creating the “roof”. Refer to the diagram of the finished block if you need to see how this looks. Press the seam in any direction.
- 7) Now, we’re going to trim this entire half-square triangle unit down. **Read this carefully**, because if you trim it in the wrong direction, you have to do this piece again! Line an acrylic ruler up so that the left edge of the ruler is on 2 ½” and it’s lined up with the left edge (the edge with the center “v” of the roof section. In other words, the top of the roof). Make sure that there is ¼” from the point of the “v” on the roof to the outer edge. This is your seam line and it’s important that it be there in order for you to have a pointy point. (If there is more than ¼” there, trim it down to ¼” BEFORE you do the rest of this step. If there is less than ¼” there, you will have to take a smaller seam or else you won’t have a pointy point.) Now, back to lining up the acrylic ruler again. The 2 ½” line should be lined up on the left, going over the pointy part of the roof. Cut the rest of the bottom off, all the way across. You should be cutting away about ½” or so. Press again, then set this section aside for now.

Now that the three sections have been sewn, it’s time to assemble them into the block.

- 8) With right sides facing one another, stitch the house section to the roof section, making sure that the points on the roof are NOT on the edge being sewn. The roof needs to point up! Press the seam in any direction.
- 9) Next, place the post section and the house/roof section right sides together and stitch them, making sure to sew the post section to the house section and NOT the roof section. There are no seams to match.
- 10) Now, sew the two birdhouses together, according to the diagram. The block will be facing east-west.

This completes the piecing portion of your block. Now, it's time to complete the block.

11) Appliqué the circles to the center bottoms of the birdhouses in any manner you wish; either button-hole stitch, whip-stitched, needle-turn, whatever!

Option: Use a large button or a fabric "yo-yo" instead of a fabric circle!

12) Press the entire block flat and trim to 6 ½" x 10 ½".

This now completes your double-birdhouse block! Congratulations! If you finish a quilt or wallhanging, please e-mail me a picture of it and it will be posted on the Web site with credit given to you! Thanks, Terry.

This block can be used in combination with the Birdhouse #1 pattern!



Coming Soon! Birdhouse #3!



© 2001 RiverMOO, Inc. Designed using Electric Quilt 4.1 by Terry L. Crawford. Instructions were created by Terry L. Crawford, to be used for personal use (with credit given to Terry L. Crawford) only. E- mail sregora@sregora.com for permission to use in a guild or otherwise.