



CLASSIC meets
modern
quilt along
at www.sewathomemummy.com



February:

AMETHYST BLOCK



The birthstone for February, what could be more fitting than a simplified version of the “Amethyst Block”?

Assume exact $\frac{1}{4}$ ” seam allowance. Yields one beautiful 12.5” block (**note: the block will come out a bit larger than 12.5” to allow for squaring**). If you’ve never created with y-seams, see instructions below for links to y-seam tutorials I admire.

Supplies:

- fabric marker
- templates, printed & cut out
 - Click here for [TEMPLATE A](#)
 - Click here for [TEMPLATES B & C](#)
- pins

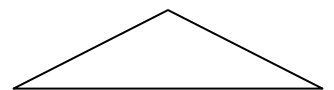
Templates:

Ensure that the line marked ‘1”’ on each template does indeed measure 1”; if not, make sure print size is set to “actual size”.

Cutting:

From white/background fabric:

4 pieces of Template C, cut on the fold of fabric to create a shape that looks like this:



From Colored Fabric(s):

1 square from Template A (size of a charm square)

4 pieces of Template B

Instructions:

1. Using a pin or small hole punch, cut out each marked dot on each of the templates; lay templates over wrong side of fabrics, and using your fabric marker mark each dot through each template onto the fabrics accordingly. (Image 1)

Image 1: pop holes through templates at dots; mark fabric with dots



2. Matching marked dots, join 1 triangle piece B to each side of square piece A, careful to sew only between dots and not past; backstitch at each beginning and end dot. (Image 2)

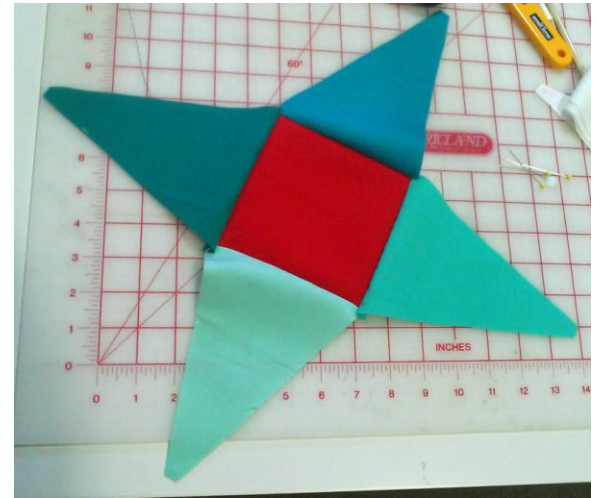


Image 2: matching dots on square to triangle, sew between dots backstitching at starting and ending dots.

3. Y-Seams: the next part of the block requires you set-in the background pieces (C) to the star unit you just created. If you've never sewn a "Y-seam" or "set-in seam", don't be afraid. You can do it 😊. Here are two *excellent* tutorials, two different ways of creating a Y-seam; play with it and see which one works best for you, and the big thing to remember is to take your time (and make sure to line up the dots 😊)

This is the technique I use: [Elizabeth's Easy Y-Seams](#)
 And this technique is also popular: [Faith's Easy Y-Seams](#)

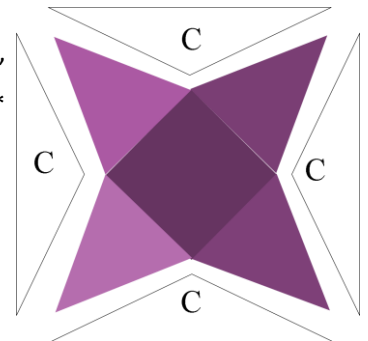


Image 3: using preferred y-seam technique, set your piece C into each side of piece Bs, careful to sew only to dots.

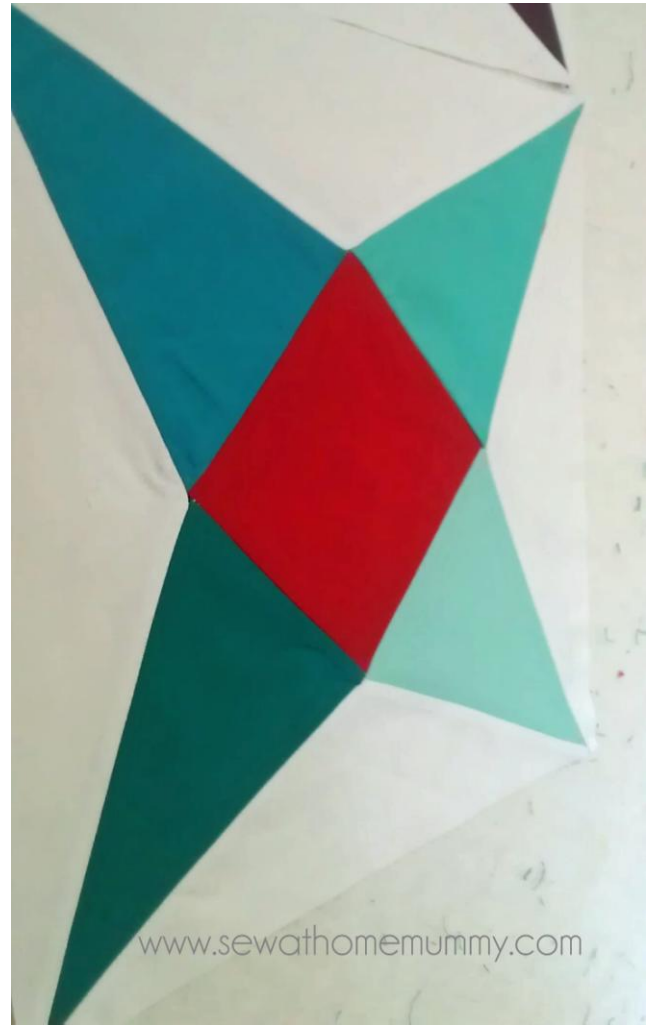
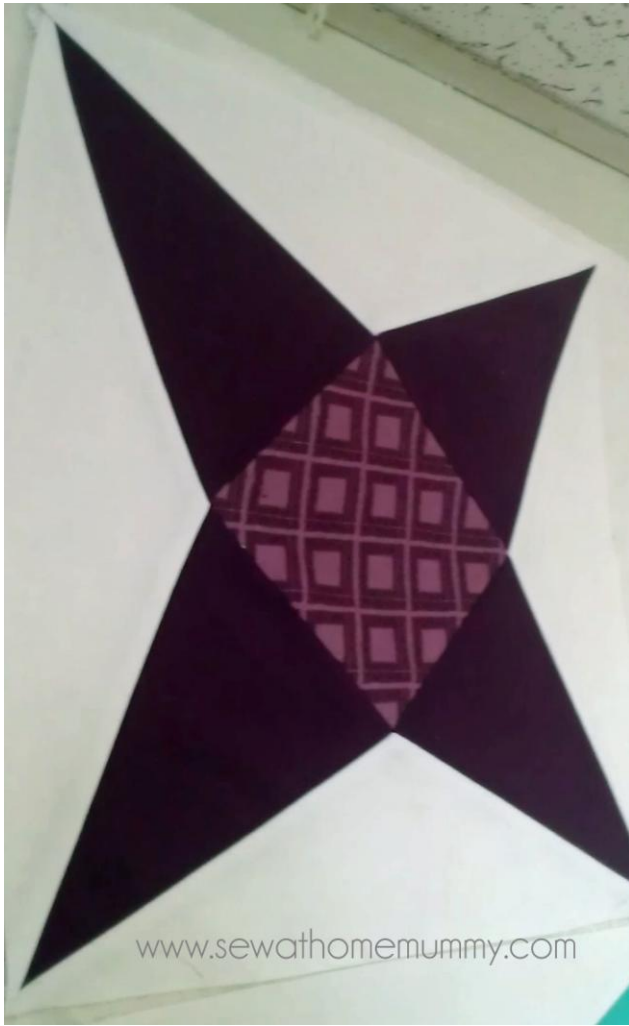


Image 4: DON'T press as you go....

Tip: don't press your block until the very end. I personally like to press my seams open on these types of seams, but go with what works for you.

Image 4: wait until all of your y-seams are in and your block is completed to press – you'll find the fabric easier to work with this way.

4. Press all of your seams. Admire your beautiful block, and if this is the first time you've done Y-seams, give yourself a huge pat on the back! Here are my two versions for this month's block (purple print from V and Co's "Simply Color"):



Don't forget to upload pictures of your block(s) to the [Sew at Home Mummy: Classic meets Modern QAL group](#), and then link-up your photo to the blog post at [Sew at Home Mummy](#) to be entered to win this month's prize!