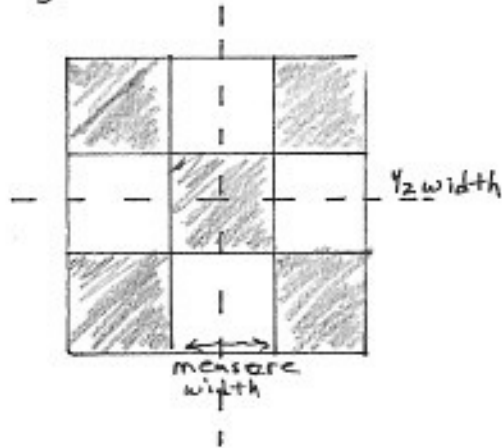


## Disappearing 9 Patch

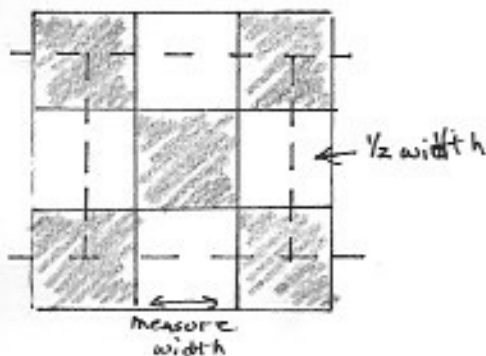
The 9 patch is a basic quilt block which has been used in quilts for century's. I was in a block swap and ended up w 200-9 patches. So I searched for ideas for what to do. I happened onto the concept of the Disappearing 9 Patch on Pinterest. I'm going to talk about 4 different / manipulations of a basic 9 patch block. Take time to play, it's kind of fun block to play with.

- 1) This to me is the least complicated method of making a 9 patch. You can make you 9 patch using any size block you want. For my quilt I had 5" finished blocks, it works great with larger finished blocks.



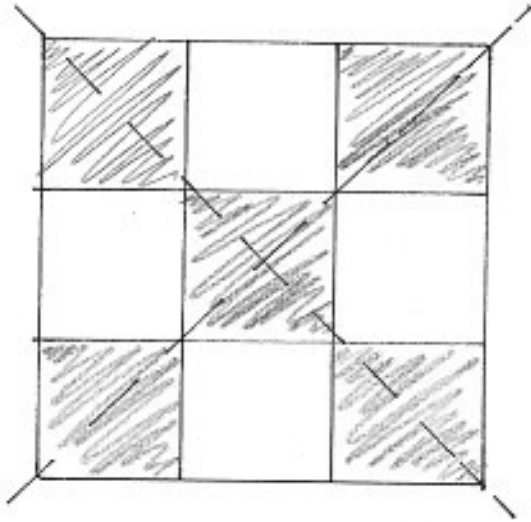
- 1) measure the width of the center block -
- 2) Divide this number by 2 and this is the 'center of your block. i.e. if I measure 3", the center is 1 1/2" from the edge of the center block
- 3) make 1 horizontal cut across the center of the block
- 4) make 1 vertical cut across the center of the

- 2) This method works well when you want to add a scrappy look to a project when you maybe have a lot of one color or fabric.



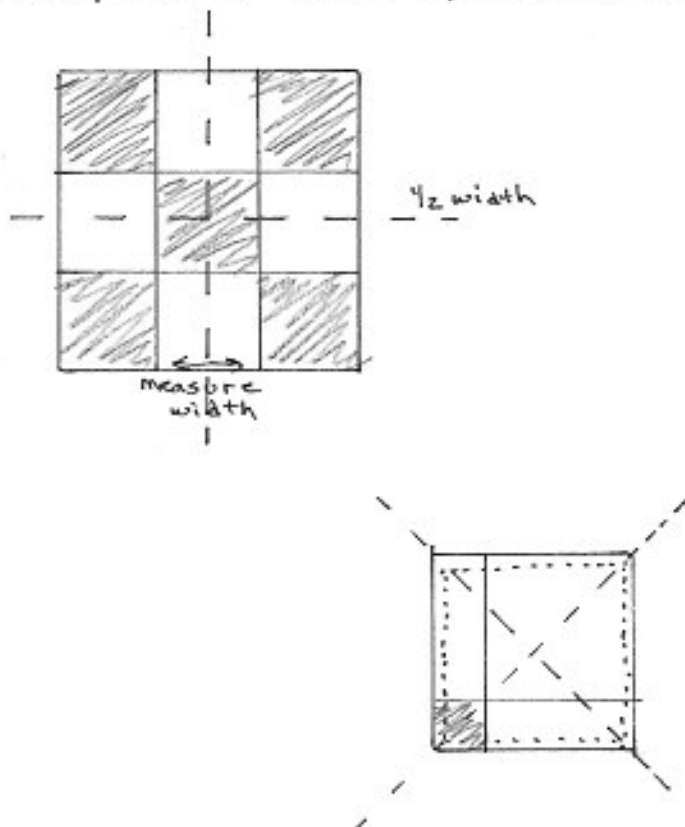
- 1) Measure the width of the center block
- 2) Divide this number by 2 and that is the 'center' of your block, i.e. if I measure 3", the center is 1 1/2 " from the edge of the center block
- 3) This time cut that dimension from the top and bottom of your block.
- 4) Turn the block and cut that dimension from the sides of the block
- 5) Take these parts and sew your blocks back together with a scrappier result.
- 6) I put them together or add a sashing.

3) This method is fun, you end up with a lot of triangles, but never make a 1/2 square triangle block. The challenge for this block is you work with a lot of bias so need to be very aware of this as you're sewing your blocks together. With bias, you blocks stretch and can easily become misshapen. Use lots of pins!! This is a good way to end up with a 'scrappy' looking quilt. I did like to set on either all the 5 squares being light or dark in the 9 patches. I preferred the 5 squares being dark, but experiment. If you start with a 9 1/2" block you'll have an 8 1/2" block by the time you've done your final trim.



- 1) Cut a line from corner to corner of your block
- 2) Being careful to not move the parts, cut a line from the 2 opposite corners,
- 3) You should have 4 pieces
- 4) Make several blocks,
- 5) Randomly start putting the blocks together. Your center block is not an hour glass. You have a lot of 1/2 square triangles!!

4) This method is a bit more complicated. I recommend you use 5 1/2" blocks to make you 9 patch. There is a lot of manipulation so smaller blocks would have you working with smaller pieces. I found this was a great way to use those few squares left from charm packs. 9 - 5 1/2" squares will result in 2 - 8 1/2" blocks.



- 1) Measure the width of the center block.
- 2) Divide this measurement by 2. That dimension is the center of your center block, i.e if you measure 5" you will cut a line vertically on the block 2 1/2" from the seam of the center block.
- 3) Cut the same measurement going horizontal across your block
- 4) Pick up on of the 4 sections and place onto one of the other sections with the small square at opposite ends of the block.
- 5) Sew a 1/4" seam on all 4 sides of the 2 blocks.
- 6) Do this to the other half of the block as well.
- 7) Take the block you sewed around and cut across diagonally one direction, then the other.
- 8) You now have 4 blocks. Press and trim to 4 1/2" (if you used 5 1/2" squares to make your block.)
- 9) Play with how you would like to set. I chose to join the little triangles in the center.