

Butterfly Blotto

-- MCQA June 2010 Blotto

How do you make a butterfly? There are too many ways to count!

This blotto will be mixed butterfly blocks. The basic concept is to --

1. make a butterfly block, 3" to 9" in size (that is, 3-1/2" to 9-1/2" unfinished size).
2. Add a strip border on all sides.
3. Bring it to the **AUGUST** meeting.

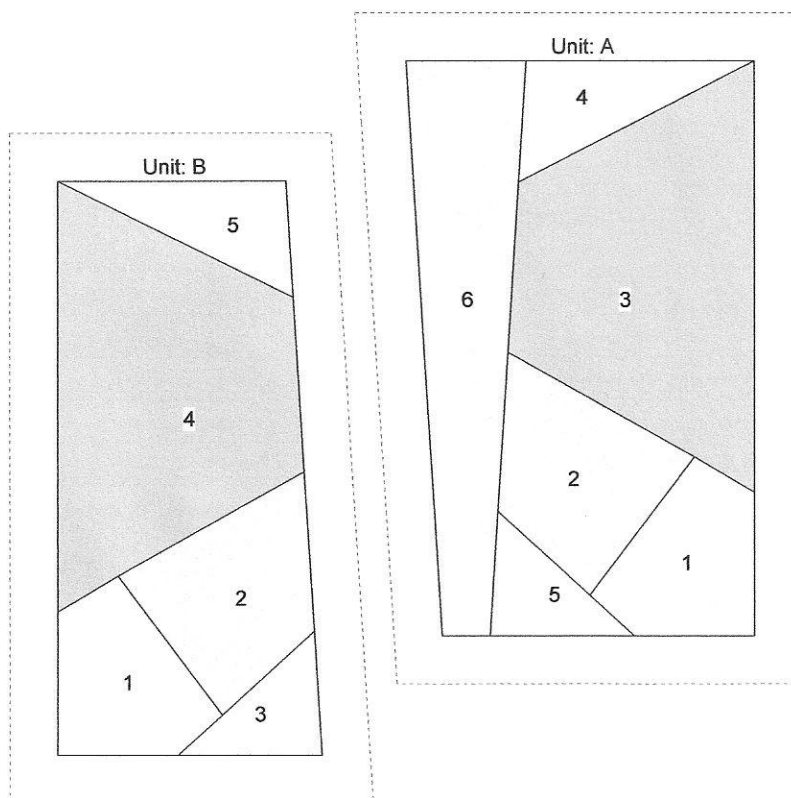
Make one of the blocks below -- or -- another butterfly pattern you like -- or -- do something original. You can use any technique to make your block -- piecing, paper piecing, applique, embroidery, painting...?!?!?
Border instructions are at the end.

Aim for a feeling of light-hearted child-like joy. Have fun with it!

Fabrics -- Background (including the border strips) -- light to medium sky blue. Butterflies sleep at night!
Butterfly -- any colors you want.... think of the "Crayola" colors, what colors did you like as a child.
Please no Moths... limited amount of brown, grey and black.

3 Ways to make a Butterfly.....

1. **Paper Piece...** here is a pattern for a 3" block. You can enlarge it, if you like, with a copier, or find and use a different paper piecing pattern. Skip down to the border instructions.

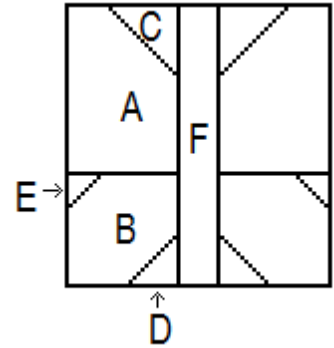


2. Rotary Cut... Two sizes 6" [9"] Butterfly block.

Pieces A, B, & F are the butterfly, C, D, & E are background.

For butterfly cut --
two As 3" x 4" [4-1/4" x 5-3/4"]
two Bs 3" square [4-1/4"]
one F 1-1/2" by 6-1/2" [2" x 9-1/2"]

For background cut --
two Cs 2-1/2" square [4"]
two Ds 2" square [3"]
two Es 1-1/2" square [2-1/2"]

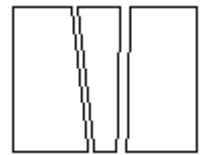


Using the drawing as a guide for placement. Put the background squares on pieces A and B and stitch on the diagonal; trim the seam and press the triangle out to form the corners. Stitch the A and B units together and then stitch them on to the body piece F. Skip down to the border instructions.

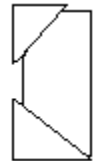
3. Stack, Cut, Switch and Wonky Piece... My current favorite way! Makes 2 blocks, 6"square... keep one or enter both! These are in the "Jan Mullen" style, from her book Cut-Loose Quilts.

For butterflies choose two fabrics and cut one 6-1/2" x 7-1/2" rectangle from each.

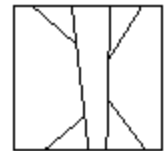
Stack them, then make two wonky cuts. The side pieces are the wings and the middle is body. Now unstack them and switch the body pieces. To help put them back together, mark the top of each piece in some way. One way is to draw small line in the seam allowance; another way is to put a pin in the top of each.



From your background fabric cut four pieces approximately 2-1/2" square-ish [two for each butterfly]. Cut these sort-a kind-a on the diagonal.



Use two triangles on each wing to cut off the two inside corners. Preview how you want to place the triangle. Flip right sides together and move slightly toward the corner, then stitch. Press out and trim the triangle to match the piece, then cut away the excess fabric. Now stitch the wings to the body and proceed to the border instructions.



If you want to change the size of these blocks, here are the cutting sizes.

- 3" block -- rectangles are 3-1/2" x 4-1/2", squares are about 1"
- 4" block -- rectangles are 4-1/2" x 5-1/2", squares are about 1-1/2"
- 5" block -- rectangles are 5-1/2" x 6-1/2", squares are about 2"
- 7" block -- rectangles are 7-1/2" x 8-1/2", squares are about 3"
- 8" block -- rectangles are 8-1/2" x 9-1/2", squares are about 3-1/2"
- 9" block -- rectangles are 9-1/2" x 10-1/2", squares are about 4"

Bordering -- If your butterfly comes to the edges of your block then use just one fabric for your background and border strips.

If your butterfly does not come to the edges of your block then you can use either the background fabric or any other color fabric for your border strips.

Cut strips for the border... blocks smaller than 6" -- cut 2" wide strips.

blocks 6" and larger -- cut 3" wide strips.

Add your border to the top and bottom first..... and then the sides.

.Yee-Haw! You are finished... hope you win! Remember -- Bring to the **AUGUST** meeting!