

APRIL 2021 – BLOCK OF THE MONTH – PUZZLE

In the late 80s, I lived in the beautiful state of Montana for 3 years. The season changes were startling. There were 9 months of Winter and Spring was very welcome. The saying for Springtime in the Rockies was, “If you don’t like the weather, wait 10 minutes”. One April, I went to Easter services in my cotton dress and high-heeled shoes. After 1 hour inside, I emerged to a full-on blizzard with 6 inches of snow! In California, Springtime is more gentle. But, we can have warm sun one day and cold rain the next. This month, we will do the puzzle block to celebrate our California Spring.

This is a stash-busting block. You can make up to 3. You will receive 1 point for each block. The block is made from 4 units; a rectangle and 3 squares. It is easy and intriguing. I saw a picture of a jigsaw quilt, sat down and figured it out. Study **Figures 1, 2, 3 & 4** carefully. These are my measurements and placements. Please read all instructions before you start. If you have ANY questions at all, call or email me and I’ll get back to you. I am on the PVQA Roster.

IMPORTANT: Please call me or email me to verify that you want to try this block so I can put you on my participant list.

FABRIC SELECTION & CUTTING : Choose 4 colors for each unit, a combination of light and dark prints and solid cottons for contrast. See **Figure 2&3**. Use small to medium prints and/or solids. For each fabric, cut one 4” x 6” rectangle and three 2&1/2” squares. I used dark prints and light solids. The top right unit is a print, but it “reads” as a solid. **See Figure 4.**

ASSEMBLY: All seams are ¼”. Press as you sew press seams toward the dark side.

Unit 1:

1. Using **Figure 3&4 as your guide**, Place the 4” x 6” rectangle vertically to the left of your work space.
2. Sew 2&1/2’ squares of the unit color and 1 square of the fabric from the adjacent unit together with adjacent fabric square in the middle. See **Figure 1**.
3. Iron seams to the dark side of your fabric.
4. Sew the completed 3 squares vertically to the right side of the rectangle. Placement is important. (See below and page 2).

Units 2, 3 & 4:

Using **Figure 2,3&4** and **Block Setting** as your guide, repeat steps 1 thru 4 above. Pay attention to how the units interact with each other so that the rectangles and the ‘tabs’ of the adjacent units are properly placed. Trim the units to 6”. **DO NOT** trim the completed block. The winner will do that.*

***Note for Beginners:** When doing group blocks, the final blocks do not always match the other blocks in size. This happens when the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams are not all the same width. The winner will need to find the smallest block in the group and adjust the other blocks to match. If you would like an article on how to make an accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, let me know and I'll be happy to mail you a copy. The article was written by longtime PVQA member and quilt teacher, Betty Whitman, who is a very experienced quilter. The Block of the Month is a **learning tool**. If you are a beginning quilter, ask lots of questions. Call or write me, I'm glad to help.

BLOCK SETTING: See Figures 2,3&4

Unit 1: Rectangle is vertical across the far right of the unit with the 3 pieced squares vertically to the right.

Unit 2: Rectangle is horizontal across the top of the unit with the 3 pieced squares horizontally across the bottom of the unit.

Unit 3: Rectangle is horizontal across the bottom of the unit with the 3 pieced squares horizontally across the top of the unit.

Unit 4: Rectangle is vertical at the far right of the unit with the 3 pieced squares vertically to the left of the unit.

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2:

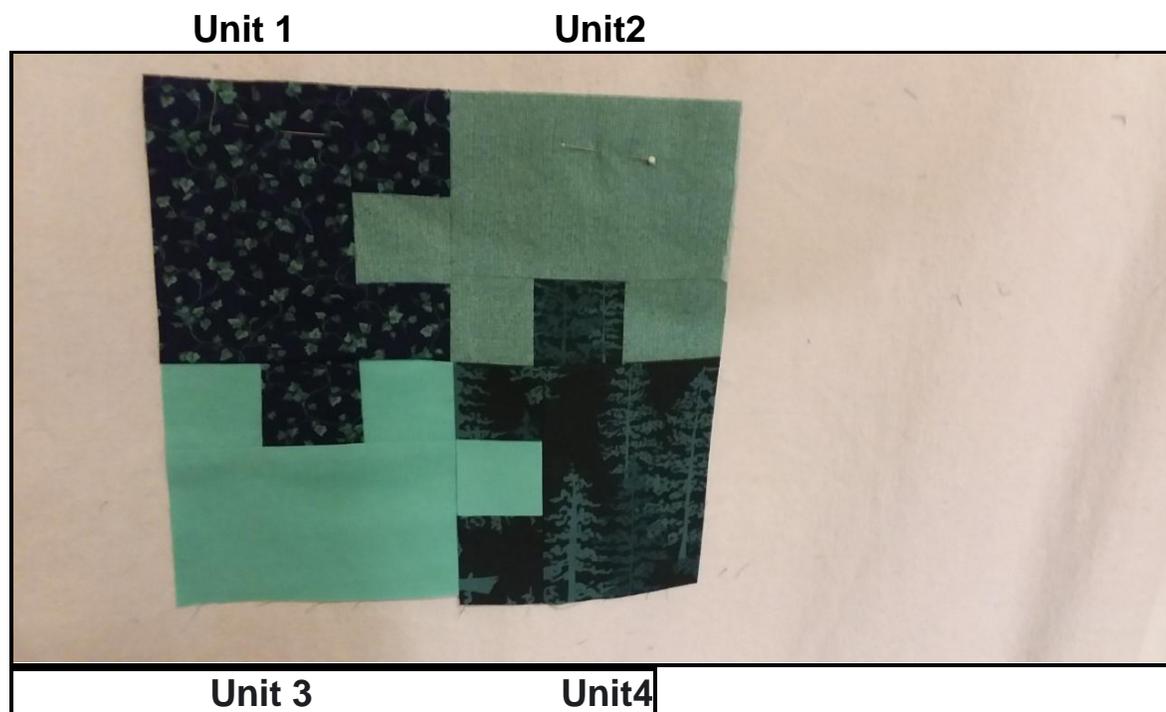


FIGURE 3:

This is placement of the block showing all 4 units. Take note of the 'tabs'.



FIGURE 4:
Here is the 11" completed block.



DO NOT Trim the completed block.

Remember, I'll need the block(s) back from you by our next meeting, which is the 2nd Monday in April (4/15). Please mail your blocks in time for me to receive them by the meeting date and so I can post a picture of the winner's blocks. It is okay if you are unable to complete the block, but let me know so I am not waiting to receive them for the winner.

Please complete and return the BOM slip, enclosed with your instructions or printed from the website, with your name and how many blocks you have returned and also circle "yes" or "no" for the drawing. Again, call me with any questions.

Thanks for participating in PVQA BLOCK OF THE MONTH and HAVE FUN!

FIGURE 5:

Here is a possible quilt setting. Google “Jigsaw Quilts” or go to Pinterest. There are lots of ideas for other settings, or create your own!



