

May 2017 LOTTO BLOCK Due May 3rd

Modern Churn dash (9" finished, 9 1/2" unfinished)

This month's lotto block is a modern twist on the traditional churn dash. Original tutorial was found at the following blog, and edited for size and our purposes:

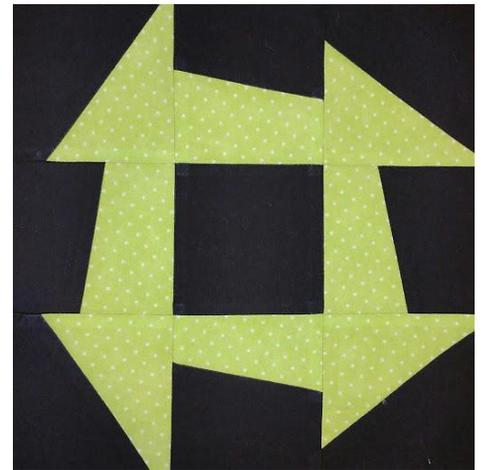
<http://www.42quilts.com/2011/10/modern-monday-block-4.html>

You will need two fabrics:

- Black, preferably a solid
- Bright solid or print.

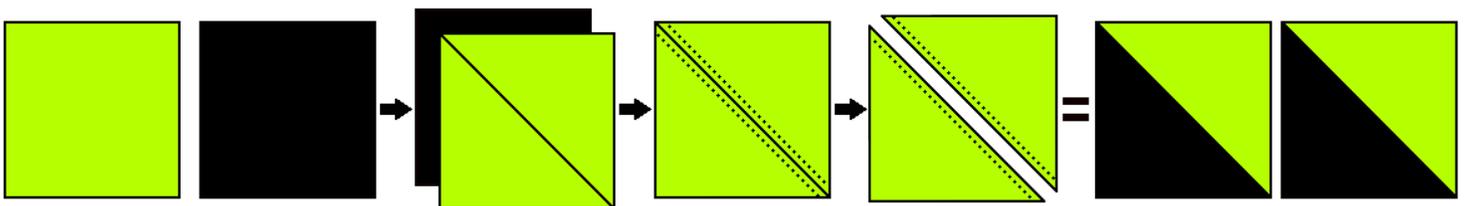
Cutting:

- From the both the bright and black, cut two 4 1/2" squares.*
- From the bright, cut four 2 3/4" x 4 1/2" rectangles.*
- From the black, cut four wedges 4 1/2" inches long. Taper the width from 3" down to 2".*
- From the black, cut one 3 1/2" square for the center.
- Cut a 3 1/2" square from paper or cardstock for cutting guide.



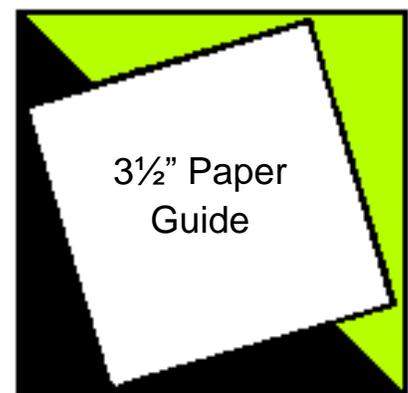
*These are over-sized and fairly vague because of the improvisational nature of this block

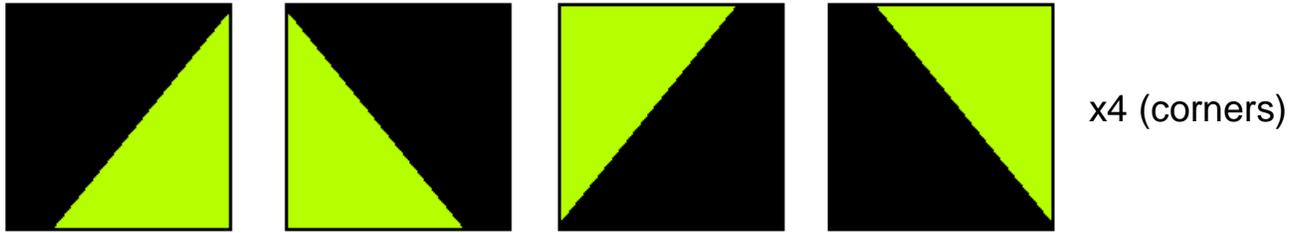
To make the half square triangles (HSTs), draw a line from corner to corner, diagonally on the back side of the bright fabric. Match the bright and black squares up, right sides together and sew 1/4" from the drawn line on both sides. Cut apart on the drawn line. Press each open, toward the black to make four HSTs.



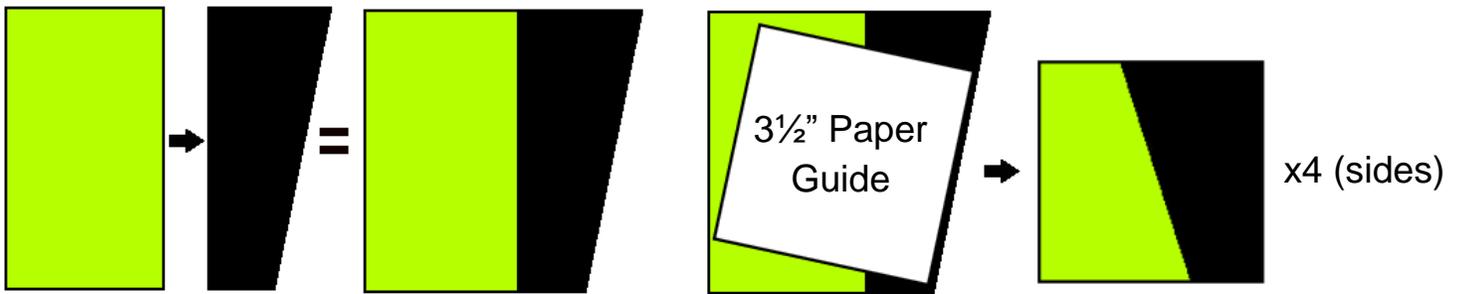
Instead of trimming normally, rotate the ruler slightly to make the HSTs "off", trimming to 3 1/2".

Note: I *really* recommend cutting a 3 1/2" paper square to use as a guide to make sure you don't cut off too much. Lay it on your block and rotate to the angle you desire, and then align your ruler with the paper and cut. There is a bit of waste and you will have points cut off on your block.

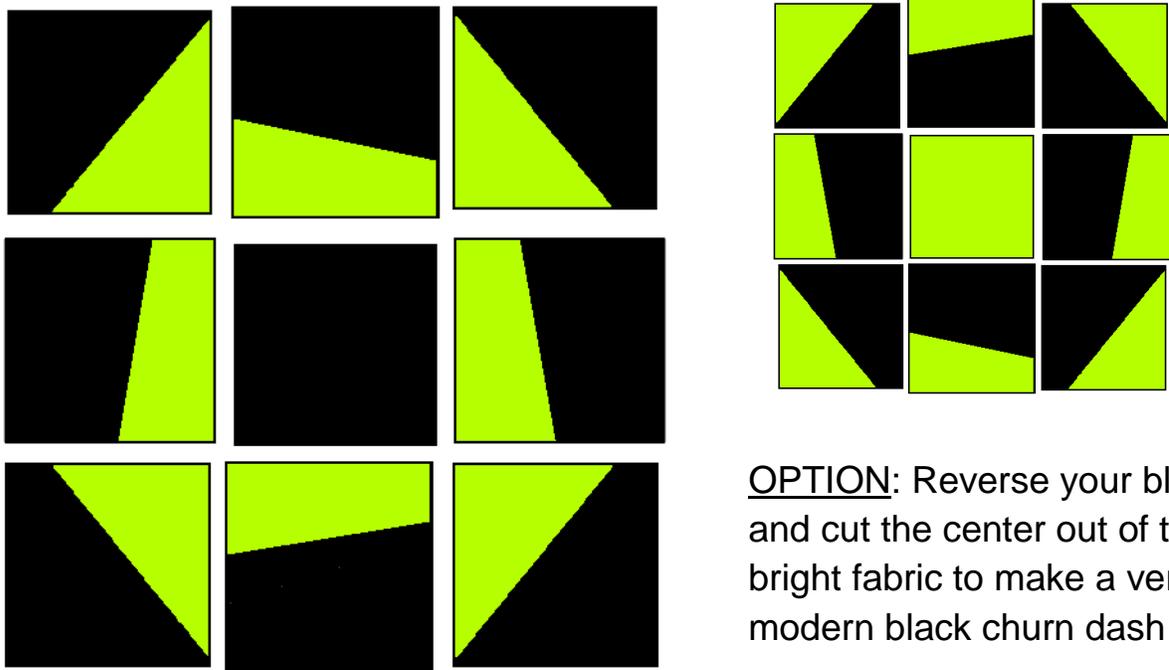




For the sides, sew the square edges of the black wedges to the bright rectangles. Press seam allowances to the black side. Again, use the paper square as a guide to ensure you don't cut off too much. Trim the side squares to 3½". Make sure the black fabric will still show the taper once cut. It's easy to inadvertently make these units perfectly straight if you don't pay attention!



Lay out your units as illustrated and sew together in rows. Join the rows together, pressing seam allowances to one side at each step. Your block will be 9½" unfinished.



OPTION: Reverse your blocks, and cut the center out of the bright fabric to make a very modern black churn dash block!