Block of the Month 2026

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Block of the Month

Welcome back to the 2026 QOL Block of the Month!

They say that a picture's worth 1,000 words. And in this case it definitely is right! I believe it will be much easier for you to make each month's blocks if I show you pictures instead of trying to write out how to turn each half square triangle (HST). So here are the first two:

Blocks 1 & 2**: (See blocks 1 & 2 diagrams on next page)**

Before you can sew any blocks, you must cut your fabric. You can, of course, use whatever colors you want in your quilt, but since you are following the pictured patterns, I will refer to them as teal & cream.

Cut both your teal and cream each in twelve 6" wide strips WOF and subcut them into 6" squares. You will need two WOF strips (one of each color) for each block. You can cut them all at once or just enough for this month's blocks--that's up to you.

For each block, put 5 pairs, one of each color, right sides together (RST) and make 8 HSTs at a time. To do that, put the squares RST and mark an X on the back of the cream piece, corner to corner. Sew 1/4" away from each side of both lines. Then cut on both lines AND both horizontally and vertically in the center of the block at the center of the X. This makes 8 HSTs. Trim them all to 2 1/2" square.

If you want to work with 2-1/2" strips, you can make HSTs by: Sew cream & teal strips RST along both long sides. Put the 2-1/2" marks of your square ruler on the seam line of the sewn strip and the 45 degree line in the middle, pointing to the other side of the strip. (**See Figure 1 on next page**) Cut along both sides of the ruler. Then flip the strip and do the same on the other side. Continue along the whole strip and square the resulting HSTs to 2-1/2".

The blocks are not hard; but you must be careful because it's TOO EASY to turn one the wrong way or sew the wrong sides together! It's also important to nest and pin your seams--both diagonal and vertical-- especially when sewing the rows together, so your points match.

I recommend laying out your block first, then sewing one row at a time by sewing the first pair, then the second, then the third. Then sew the first & second pair, then add the third. Then do the same with the second row, and so on. Sew rows 1 & 2 together, 3 & 4, and 5 & 6; then row 1-2 to row 3-4, and 3-4 to 5-6 and trim the block to 12 1/2". Do this for each of your two blocks and you're done for the month! It's important to mark each of your blocks (example "Block 1", "Block 2") so you know how to arrange them at the end.