

December BOM - Hayes Corner

Lucy (Ware Webb) Hayes (1831 – 1889) was the college-educated wife of 19th president, Rutherford B. Hayes, during the end of Reconstruction. Lucy was 9 years his junior and theirs was a love match. A few months after attending the same wedding, Rutherford wrote, "I guess I am a great deal in love with Lucy. ... She sees at a glance what others study upon, but will not see. She is a genuine woman, right from instinct and impulse rather than judgment and reflection." Lucy shared her parents' views on alcohol and slavery. She supported the temperance movement but opposed prohibition. She preferred to persuade rather than prevent and did not condemn those who used alcohol in moderation. Lucy was anti-slavery and in favor of the war. She encouraged "Rud" to enlist as a major in the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Lucy (with her mother and children) visited him in the field and assisted her brother, Dr. Joe Webb. She helped care for the wounded, cheered the homesick, and comforted the dying. She secured supplies from Northern civilians to better equip the Union soldiers. The men affectionately nicknamed her "Mother Lucy". At one point, 23 year old William McKinley (the 25th president) spent hours tending a campfire just because Lucy sat nearby.



FUN FACTS

- * Loved animals. A cat, a bird, two dogs, and a goat joined the Hayes family in residence at the White House .

- *Oversaw the installation of bathrooms with running water and the addition of a crude wall telephone at the White House.

- *Frequently accompanied her husband on trips and was the first First Lady to visit the West Coast with her husband.

- *Advocated for the completion of the Washington Monument

- *Held the first White House Easter Egg Roll,

- *Christened "Lemonade Lucy" by press & historians but it was her husband who banned alcohol from the White House, not her.

- *During the holidays, she invited staff members and their families to Thanksgiving dinner and opened presents with them on Christmas morning.

I found this block to be as interesting as Lucy herself. Just a small color or directional changes in the 9-patch quadrant can make a huge difference in the overall design. I've included an outline sketch on the last page so you can do a little experimenting with colors.



These directions will be for the traditional design this month. (Example on the left). Cutting specs change a bit for examples 2 & 3. Contact me if you need help with them.

I opted for 4 colors: 2 reds and 2 blues.

CUTTING

From light red print:

6 rectangles - 2.5 x 4.5

2 rectangles - 2.5 x 6.5

From dark red print:

1 strip - 2.5 x 11

1 square - 5 x 5

From blue print #1:

1 strip - 2.5 x 11

2 squares - 2.5 x 2.5

From blue print #2:

1 square - 5 x 5





STEP 1 - Half Square Triangle (HST)

You will make 2 HST with the 5" red and 5" blue print #2 squares. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of 1 square. Pin squares right sides together and sew 1/4" away from line on both sides. Cut on line, press to blue side, and trim to 4.5 inches. (See June block for picture instructions)

You now have 2 HST.

STEP 2 - 4-Patches

Sew the 2.5 x 11" red and the blue print #1 strips together. Press to the blue.

Cut this strip set into 4 sections, 2.5" wide.



Sew 2 sub-cuts into a 4-patch as shown. Seams should nest .

Make 2 units that will measure 4.5 x 4.5.



STEP 3 - 4-Patch Corner Sections

Layout the 4-patch units, the 2.5 blue print #1 square, and 2 of the light red 2.5 x 4.5" rectangles as shown.

Sew the 4-patch to the long side of a 4.5 rectangle. Press towards rectangle

Sew a blue 2.5 square to the end of a 4.5 rectangle. Press towards rectangle.

Now sew the 2 units together so that the blue squares make a "chain".

Press flat. Unit should measure 6.5 x 6.5.



STEP 4 - Half Square Triangle Corner Sections

Lay out a HST, a 2.5 x 4.5 rectangle and a 2.5 x 6.5 rectangle as shown. Play with direction of the HST colors. Sew HST to long side of 4.5 rectangle. Press toward rectangle. Press toward rectangle.

Then sew a 6.5 rectangle across the top of the unit. Again, press towards the rectangle. Corner unit should measure 6.5 x 6.5.



STEP 5 - Assemble

Lay out the 4 sections as shown and sew together as a 4-patch.



Give it one more press and you're all done. Easy & beautiful !



**** There is actually a Hayes Corner in Ohio,
the home state of Lucy and Rutherford ****

