

## **November BOM - Lincoln's Platform**

4 political platform issues were being discussed in the 1860 campaign: A national tariff, the Homestead Act, a transcontinental railroad, & the main issue, slavery. Perhaps that's why this block has 4 sections.

Mary Ann Todd, well educated and well connected, married Abe Lincoln, a struggling country lawyer, in 1842 at age 24. During the early years of their marriage Mary was fairly happy, despite the death of her 3-year-old son, Edward, and her husband's long absences while he campaigned or served in Congress. Her primary roles from 1842-1860 were wife, household manager, and mother to four sons.

She actively supported Abraham Lincoln's political career, offering advice and hosting events. When Lincoln learned that he had won the presidential election of 1860, he reportedly ran home yelling, "Mary, Mary, we are elected ! "



### A FEW FACTS ABOUT MARY TODD LINCOLN

- \* Born in Kentucky, was 4th of 16 siblings and half-siblings.
- \* Moved to Illinois at age 21 to live with her sister Elizabeth Edwards and her husband.
- \* After a tempestuous courtship in which Abe once broke off their engagement, the couple married on Nov. 4, 1842.
- \* Became 16th First Lady on the eve of the Civil War.
- \* She was both praised for refurbishing a dilapidated White House and criticized for spending too much on furnishing it.
- \* Supported the Contraband Relief Association to help formerly enslaved men and women who had fled to Washington.
- \* Suffered numerous tragedies; 3 sons who died in childhood of disease and her husband assassinated before her.
- \* Son Robert, only son to live to adulthood, thought her insane and had her committed to an asylum for 3 months. Her brother-in-law later pled and won the case for release.

This is an unusual block because it is based on a 7 x 7 grid. In order to make it fit our 12" finished parameter, I made a slight alteration to the center sashing size. This block can be made in 2, 3, 4, or 5 colors so lots of room for creativity ! I will be using 4 colors. The last page of the directions has a couple of blank block outlines to test colors.

\* Careful cutting and a scant 1/4 inch seam will be important.\*

### Cutting Directions

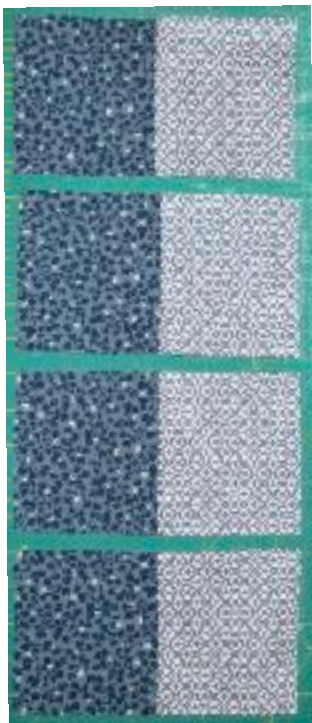
Dark Blue	3 strips 2.25" x 10"
Light Blue	2 strips 2.25" x 10" 4 rectangles 2" x 5.75"
Dark Red	2 squares 4.75" x 4.75" 1 square 2" x 2"
Light red	2 squares 4.75" x 4.75"

### Step 1 - Strip Sets

Make 2 blue 10" strip sets. Set 1 is Dk-Lt. Set 2 is Dk-Lt-Dk. Press both sets to the light blue.

Sub-cut each set into four 2.25" wide sections.

Set 1



Set 2

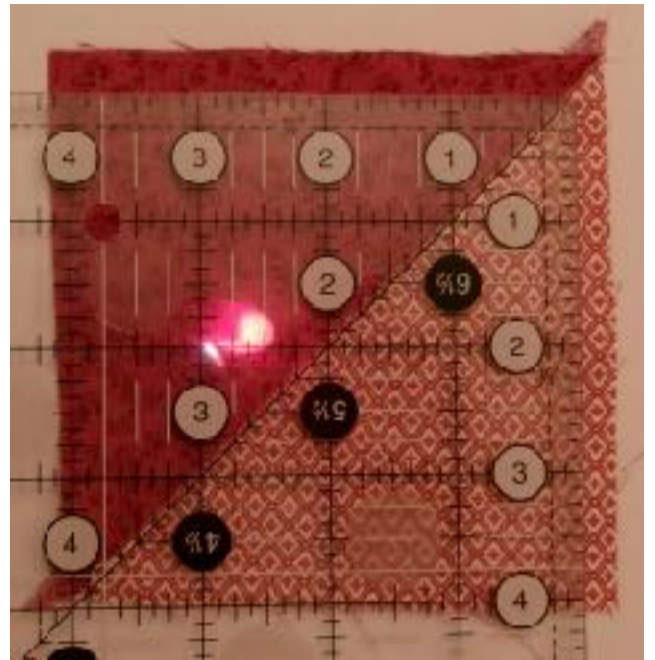


## Step 2 - Half Square Triangles

Draw a diagonal line on wrong side of 2 light red 4.75" squares. Place a light red square over a dark red square, right sides together. Pin and sew 1/4" seam on both sides of the diagonal line.



Cut on drawn line and press to dark red side. Trim each HST to 4".



## Step 3 - Center Sashing

Sew the dark red 2" square between 2 light blue 2" x 5.75" rectangles. Press toward the blue rectangles.





#### Step 4 - Assemble the Corner Units

Sew a HST to a Set 1 piece as shown. Make 4 & press **away** from HST.

Sew a Set 2 piece across the top of the unit as shown. Again, press **away** from HST units. Finished corner units should measure 5.75" x 5.75".



#### Step 5 - Assemble Top & Bottom Rows

Sew a light blue 2" x 5.75" rectangle between 2 corners as shown. Make 2. Press toward light blue rectangles.



### Step 6 - All Together !

Lay out the 3 rows as shown and sew together. Seams should all nest. Press flat and square (if needed) to 12.5".



And your November block is finished ! There are soooooo many color options for this block so pull out your colored pencils and test a couple designs on the blank templates provided.

