

January Block of the Month - Job's Tears

Welcome to 2025 ! I hope you had a joyful holiday season and are ready for a new block that is easy to make & has no points to match ! Something to get us all back in the swing of things.



This can be a 3 or 4 color block. The sashing and center squares are good spots for scraps you may have. The unit we're focusing on this month is the Corner Beam (CB). This is a great unit that can be used so many ways ! I will be making this block with 4 colors; 2 for the CB, and 2 for the sashing.

CUTTING DIRECTIONS

For the corner beam

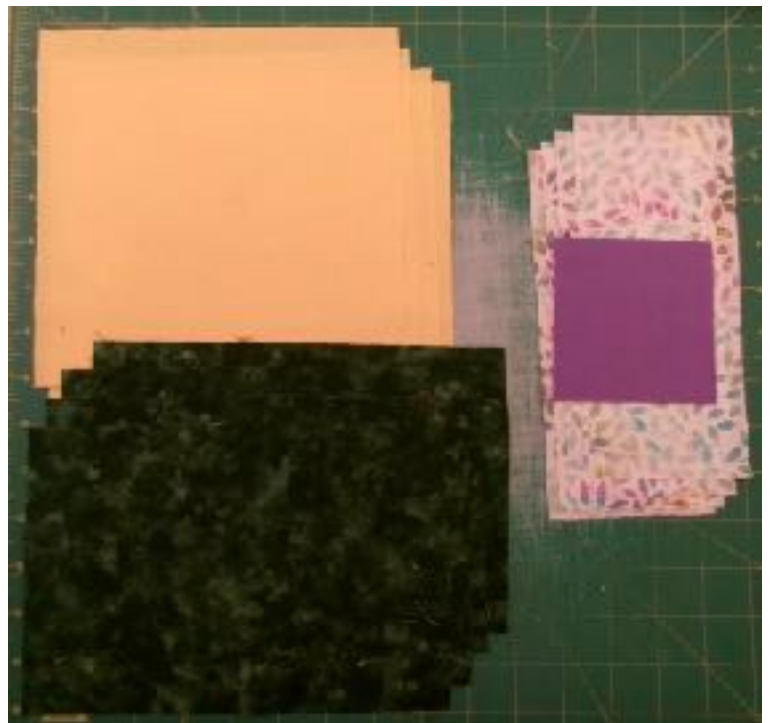
Color 1 (yellow) - four 8" squares for the "beam"

Color 2 (green) - four 6"x 9" rectangles for side triangles

For the sashing

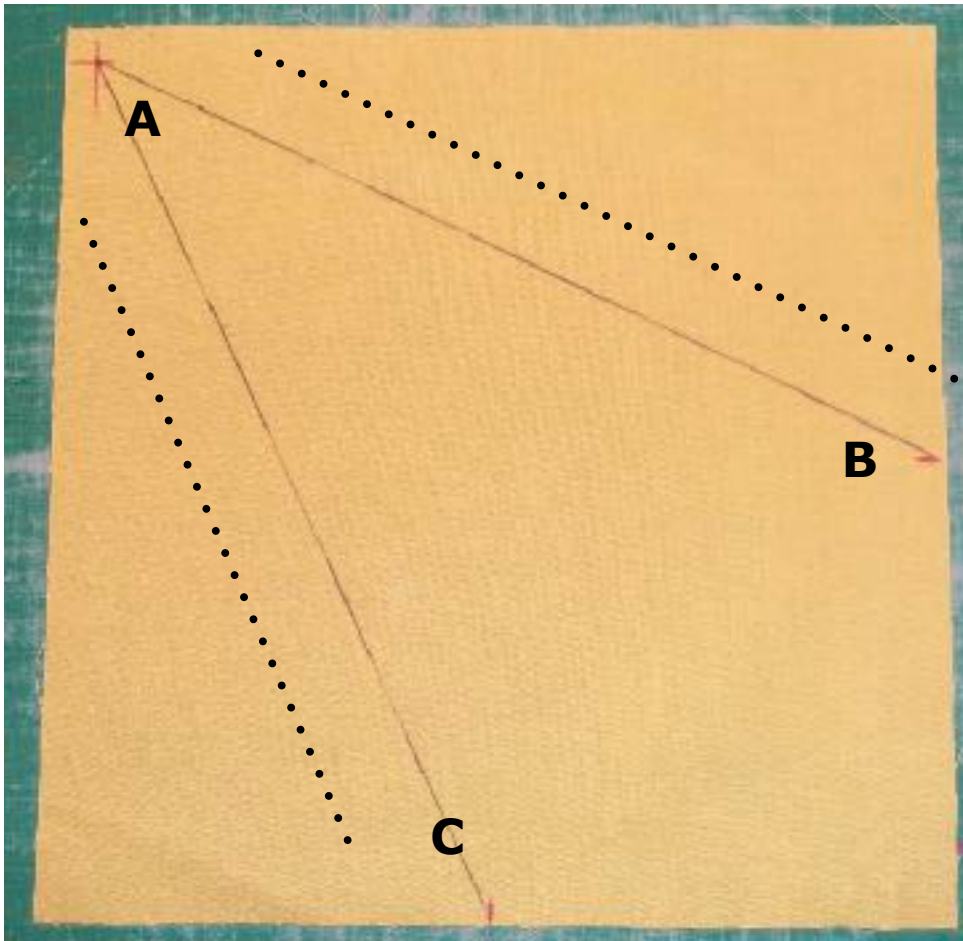
Color 3 (background) - four 3.5" x 8" rectangles

Color 4 (purple) - one 3.5" square



Corner Beam Units

To make the "beams", study the picture below as you follow the directions for marking the yellow square.

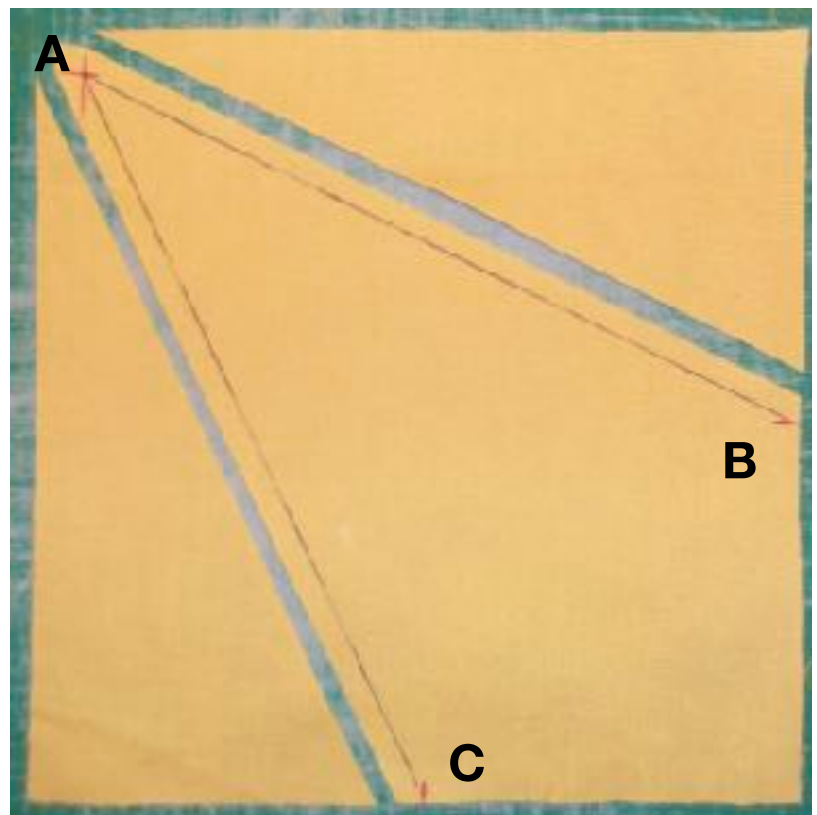


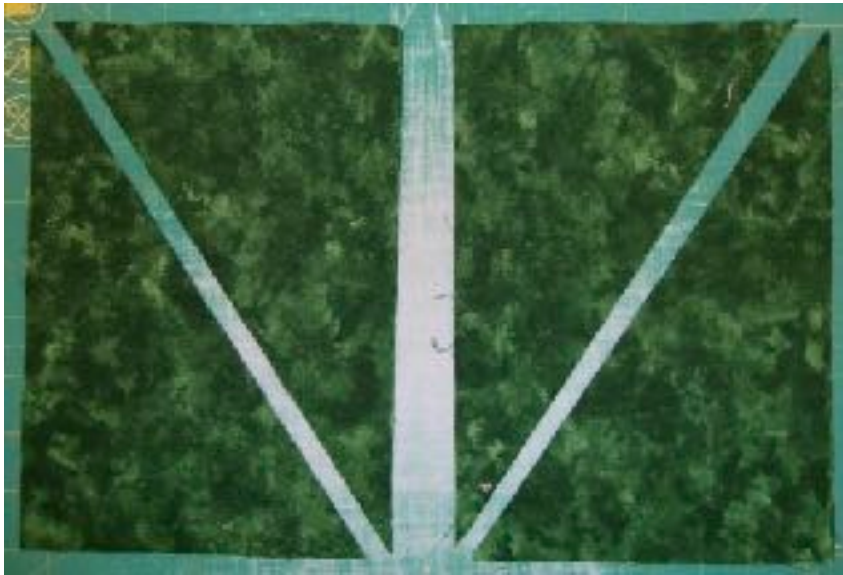
1. On the wrong side of an 8" square, measure and mark a corner where the 1/4" seams would intersect. (Point A)

2. Measure and mark 4" along the sides from the opposite corner. (Points B & C).

3. Draw one line from A to B. Draw a second line from A to C. These will be your **seam** lines.

4. With your ruler, measure 1/4" on the **outside** of the seam line and trim fabric. (Dotted lines). Repeat with remaining 8" squares.

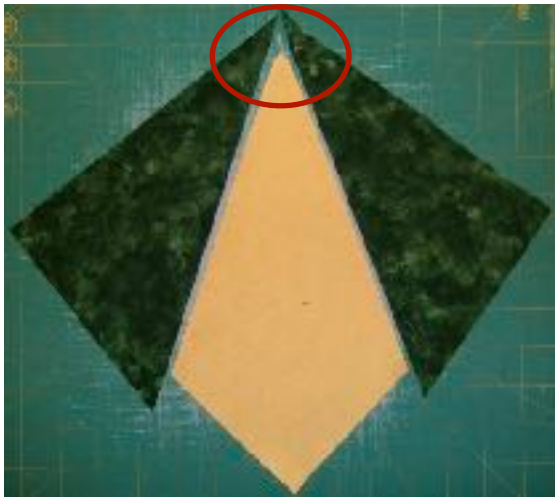




Now for the side triangles. Please note that each "beam" needs 2 triangles that are mirror images of each other so cutting direction will matter.

Arrange the 6" x 9" rectangles as shown, right sides facing up. Cut two rectangles from upper left corner to bottom right corner.

Cut the two remaining rectangles from lower left corner to upper right corner. You will use 1 triangle from each set to complete your Corner Beam unit.



Now let's put it together. Lay out the 3 pieces as shown. Note that all the thin points come together at the top.

Flip one triangle over so it is RST with the beam. It will be oversized so center as best as you can. Add a couple of pins to hold it in place. Sew with the beam fabric on top so you can follow your sewing line.



Press towards the side green triangle.

Now lay the second triangle along the other side of the beam, pin, and sew along your drawn sew line. Press towards the triangle.

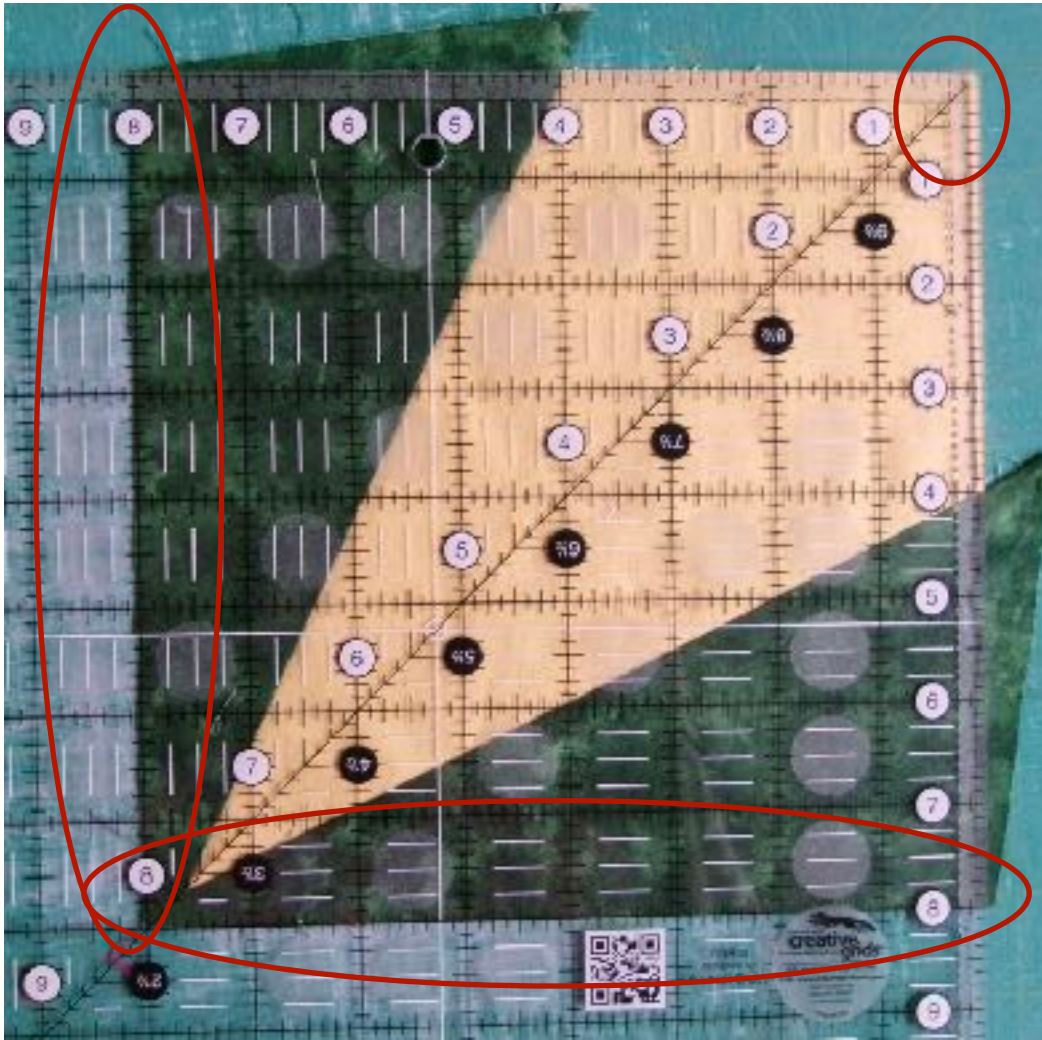
Time to square up/trim the side triangles. The unit will trim to 8" square, the size of the original yellow square.



Line the 8" horizontal & vertical lines of your ruler along the corner of your original square. The diagonal line of the ruler



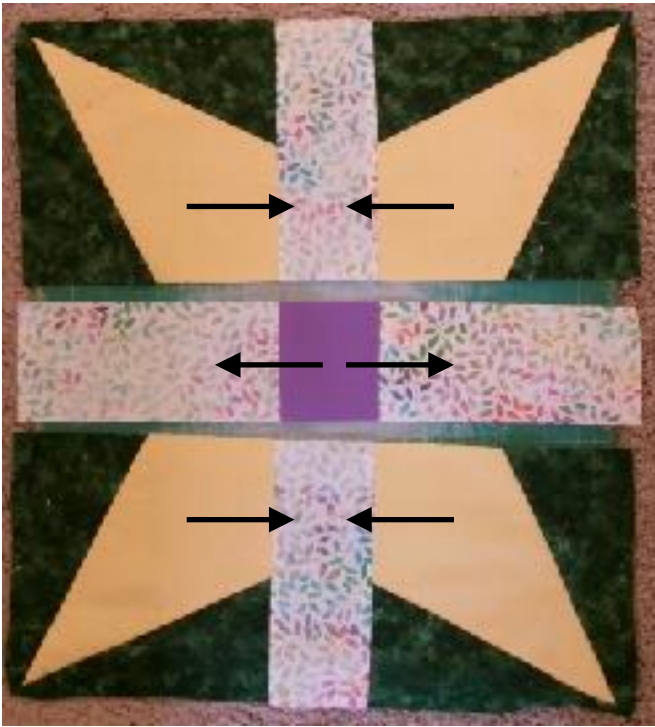
should pass through the point of the beam. Trim the top and side. Rotate the unit, align the 8" ruler lines and the diagonal line. Trim the top and side. Repeat steps to make 4 CB units.



ASSMBLEY

The hard part is all done. Now we assemble the pieces as a regular 9-patch block. Lay out the CB and sashing pieces as shown. WATCH THE DIRECTIONS OF YOUR BEAMS. They should all be "beaming" towards the center.





Sew a sashing piece between the Corner Beams for the top and bottom rows. Press towards the sashing.

Sew a 3.5" x 8" sashing strip to either side of the center 3.5" square. Again, press towards the sashing.

Now sew the 3 rows together. The seams will nest nicely and no points to match up !

Give it all a final press. TA DA !! Your Job's Tears block is all done. Don't forget to send a photo to Joey Strait or bring your completed block to our next meeting.

