

## MYSTERY IN MIDDLEBURGH

### January Clues

#### The special cut

(Demo at January meeting repeat demo at February sit & sew as needed)

**KEY Print type/color:** 10" blocks **35 blocks (24 blocks)**

\*✂️ **ROTARY CUTS:** See below for ♥ Rainbow / # Scrapy

① Starch/ sizing the fabric keep shape by hindering stretching when cutting & sewing.

There are sewing guide templates included to complete this step more easily.

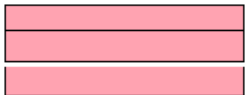
See Marcy Jo at the meeting to receive the template or e-mail her at [llamamom@nycap.rr.com](mailto:llamamom@nycap.rr.com)

OR Print out one (Set your printer margins to 0.5" all sides) use the 1" square guide for accuracy.

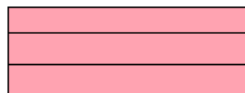
#### Cutting Instructions

#✂️ **Scrapy cut:** 35 (24) strips of each color  $3\frac{1}{4}" \times 9\frac{1}{4}"$  then cut each across the bias from top right to bottom left corner for a total of 70 (48) patches  $\frac{1}{2}$  light and half dark.

✂️ **For a whole pieces of fabrics:** Use fabric D and E as follows: With the fabrics pressed with sizing or starch lay one on top of the other and fold in half and square together for straight edge. Keep the fabrics cuts together on the cutting mat. Do not stack the patches after cutting; instead keep them in place. If you must gently slide them away a bit for the next cut; lining each back up again side to side for the next step.

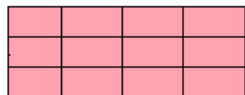


1. Cut **9 (6)** strips  $3\frac{1}{4}"$  x the width of each fabric D & E



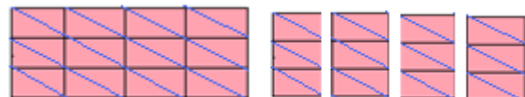
**Keep them lined up side by side**

2. Starting from the non-fold side of the fabric, with the edge straight and selvages cut away, cut:  $9\frac{1}{4}"$  across the width = 4 strips from each width wide strip



**Keep them lined up side by side**

3. Cut diagonally from the top left corner to the bottom right corner across each rectangle.



#### Final patches



The bias edge is the seam edge at the top of the template.

#### Sewing Instructions

There are right and left sides and they will line up on the template either right side up or down, so no need to count or concern over lefts and rights.

1. Keeping the template next to the sewing machine: lay one "D" fabric patch right side up first; then lay the other "E" fabric patch, back side up; (right sides together & visa versa for the opposite side).

2. Line patches to match the template. It is more important that the patches line up at bottom points of the template than at the top.

→ You may wish to pin the patches or tack with glue at the top (seam). You can mark the ¼" seam line if you wish, but it is really not necessary. (I use little dots of glue).

3. Insert the patches under the pressure foot of the machine lining up the ¼" seam mark. Be careful not to stretch this bias seam as you sew.

→ You may also wish to trim the pointed ends off seam edge of the triangles (~1/8 inch); it only gets in the way when sewing.

→ If you chain stitch the patches just remember to sewn a bit beyond the "point" of the patch and raise the pressure foot each time you start a new patch to assure the tip does not fold over or bunch up.

4. Press seam to darker fabric careful not to stretch fabric while pressing.

5. Trim dog ears and square to finished size: 9¼" x 3"

## **NOW THAT WAS MUCH MORE FUN THAN YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE; WAS IT NOT?**

### **Treat Creamy Hot Cocoa** 4 servings

1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder

1/2 cup light cream

3/4 cup white sugar

Mini marshmallows

1 pinch salt

1 teaspoon extract: almond, vanilla, orange,

1/3 cup boiling water

raspberry or mint.

3 1/2 cups milk

1. Combine the cocoa, sugar and pinch of salt in a saucepan. Blend in the boiling water.
2. Bring to an easy boil while stirring. Simmer and stir for about 2 minutes. DO NOT scorch.
3. Stir in milk and heat until very hot.
4. Remove from heat and stir in extract which can be divided into ¼ teaspoon & added to each cup for individual taste.
5. Divide between 4 mugs and top with the cream and marshmallows. (Home cooking)