

Underground Railroad

Block of the month – April 2025

Bear's Paw Block

The Bear's Paw was a block that told the runaways to literally follow the actual trail of the bear's footprints. The paw prints would lead the people up mountain paths that would eventually lead them to water or food. They would be able to gather additional food supplies with fresh berries. These paths would also lead people to fresh water. Travel in the spring right after the spring rains, when the ground was wet, made following the bear's trail easier. References were given specifically, to the Appalachian Mountain range, closest to the South Carolina area and along the plantations that were owned by slave owners.

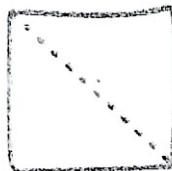
Most certainly, there were bears in these areas roaming the mountain range searching for food after their long winter hibernation.

The Basket Block

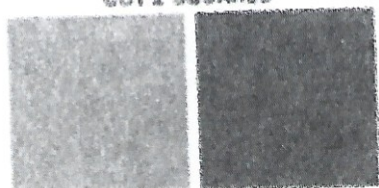
The basket block indicated that now was the time to gather provisions for their journey ahead. Surely, the baskets came in handy while following the bear's paw path to collect berries. One of the ways that provisions were carried was in laundry baskets and sewing baskets.

A story is told about a woman who had a safe house where she hid escapees upstairs. She would carry her laundry baskets up and down the stairs, filled with food. A woman carrying a full laundry basket wouldn't arouse suspicion, even if the clothes hid important supplies. She could transport food to the people waiting in the safe houses while onlookers would see an ordinary woman going about her daily chores.

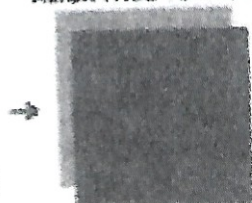
Magic 8 HST



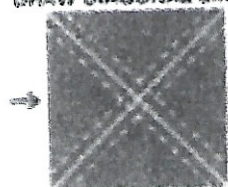
CUT 2 SQUARES



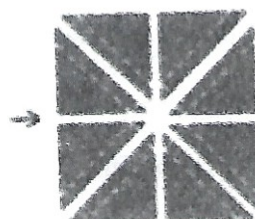
ALIGN FACE TO FACE



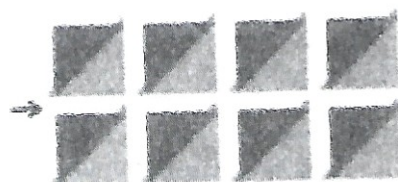
DRAW DIAGONAL LINES



STITCH AT 1/4"



CUT
VERTICALLY,
HORIZONTALLY,
AND DIAGONALLY
CROSSING
THE CENTER



YOU WILL GET 8 HST

$$\text{Cut Square} = (\text{finished HST} + \frac{1}{4}) \times 2$$

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Cut Square	HST
3 3/4"	1"
4 3/4"	1 1/2"
5 3/4"	2"
6 3/4"	2 1/2"
7 3/4"	3"
8 3/4"	3 1/2"
9 3/4"	4"
10 3/4"	4 1/2"
11 3/4"	5"
12 3/4"	5 1/2"
13 3/4"	6"
14 3/4"	6 1/2"
15 3/4"	7"
16 3/4"	7 1/2"
17 3/4"	8"

November - Intermediate 2012

Dusty Trails

Bear Paw

Cutting Instructions are for one 12" finished block:

A -

A1 - Cut eight 2 5/8" squares ~~WAAAA~~

A2 - Cut four 2 1/4" squares - ~~WAAAA~~

A3 - Cut one 2" x 2" square - ~~WAAAA~~

B -

B1 - Cut four 4" squares - ~~WAAAA~~

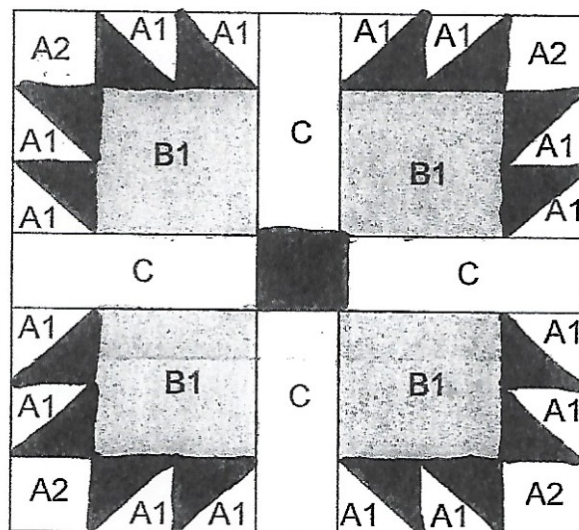
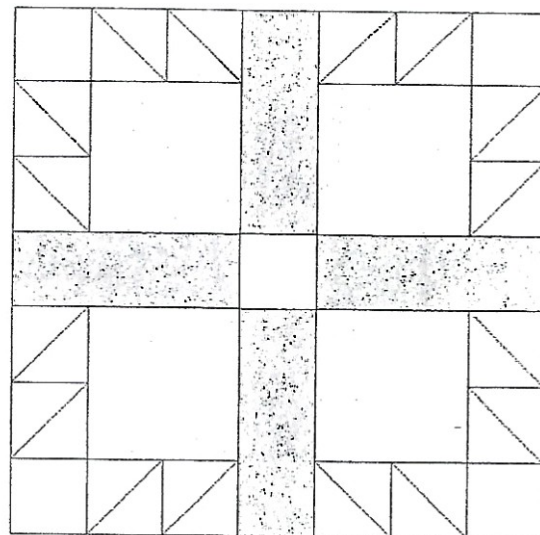
B2 - Cut eight 2 5/8" squares - ~~WAAAA~~

C -

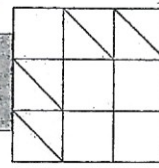
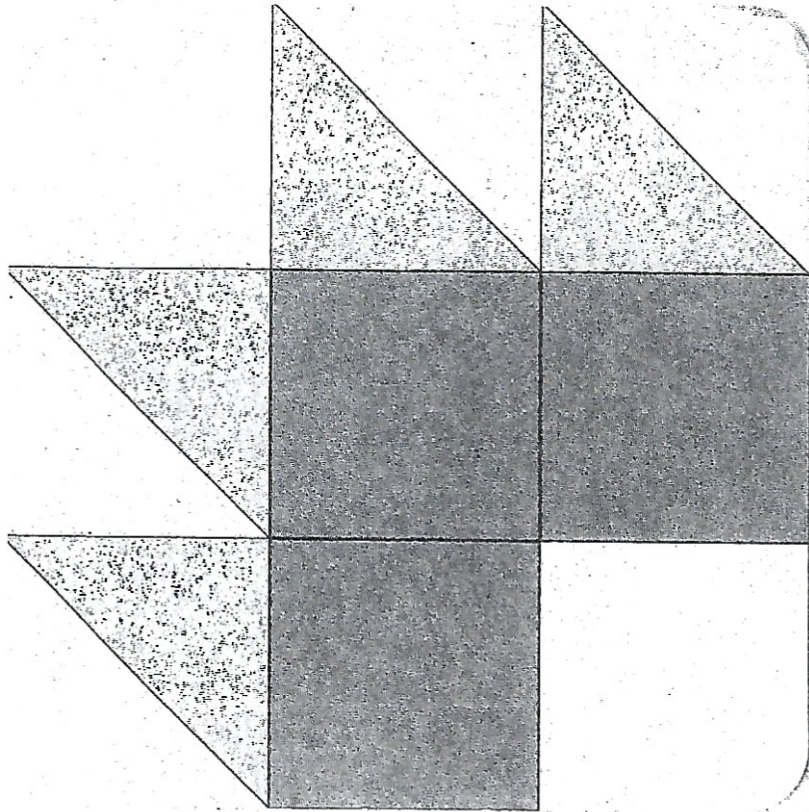
C - Cut four 2" x 5 3/4" rectangles ~~WAAAA~~

Sewing Instructions: Sew with a scant 1/4" seam

- Using your favorite method for making half square triangles make sixteen 1 3/4" finished (2 1/4" unfinished) half square triangles with eight A1 & eight B2 squares. Press seam allowances toward dark.
- Following diagram sew four bear paw blocks together. Finish by sewing sashing between bear paw blocks. Block should measure 12 1/2" unfinished

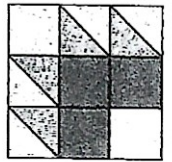
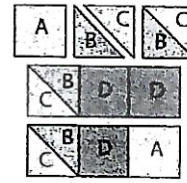
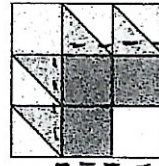


B2



Maple Leaf

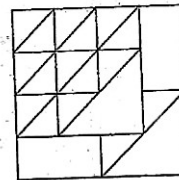
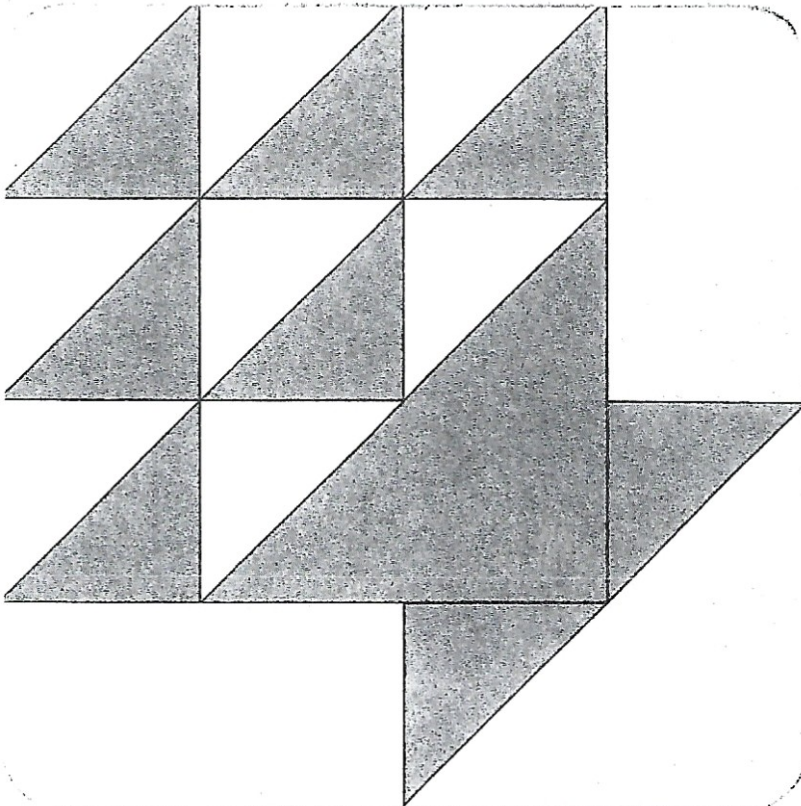
or Bear's Paw



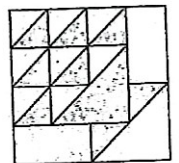
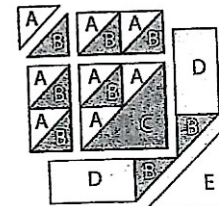
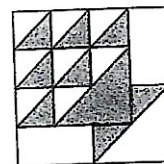
FOR	CUT	NEED	6"	9"	12"	15"	36"
A	2	2	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	12 1/2
B	2	4	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	12 1/2
C	2	4	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	12 1/2
D	3	3	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	12 1/2

12" - Can cut four 4 1/2" blocks or cut one 8 1/2" block which will be 8" when finished.

6" - cut four 2 1/2 blocks or cut one 4 1/2" unfinished for a 4" finished block.



Flower Basket



FOR	CUT	NEED	6"	8"	10"	12"	36"
A	4	8	2 3/8	2 1/2	3 3/8	3 3/8	9 3/8
B	4	8	2 3/8	2 1/2	3 3/8	3 3/8	9 3/8
C	1	1	3 3/8	4 3/8	5 3/8	6 3/8	18 3/8
D	2	2	2 x 3 1/2	2 1/2 x 4 1/2	3 x 5 1/2	3 1/2 x 6 1/2	9 1/2 x 18 1/2
E	1	1	3 3/8	4 3/8	5 3/8	6 3/8	18 3/8