

## It's a String Thing! Block of the Month for December 2012

### December block - - - Scrappy neutrals - - mix of creams and whites

String piecing is addicting and fun. See the basic tutorial on the web, or ask Denise for a printed copy.

Cut foundation paper at **9" square**



There is **NO** Center Accent strip:

All strings: **Scrappy Neutrals...a mix of creams, whites. If it reads as a cream or white, prints are OK!**

After pressing, trim your square to **8 ½ " square**.

**Make 4 for 1 set to exchange at the meeting.**

#### Basics and Hints:

- Use a larger needle (14 or 16)
- Shorten your stitch length
- Draw a line down the diagonal of your square, and center the first strips on it before stitching
- Press your seams as you go to keep your blocks from curling and getting wonky
- 4 blocks make a set..... for every 4 blocks your name goes in one time.
- Try to use enough variety of strings that you don't repeat strips within each foundation.
- Vary the width of your strings for more movement and texture in your blocks
- Your blocks **do not** have to be identical or matched sets.... The scrappier the better!
- A little starch or "best press" will help control any stretching after the paper is removed.

### **Possible setting ideas for this block:**

- Like a 4 patch to form an **X** or a Diamond
- Stich into 4 patches and then add a sashing in another accent color
- Cut in half across the accent strip.... And piece with a solid triangle to form a pinwheel block

Have fun! I stitched all four of my blocks in about 2 hours, and that included cutting the foundation papers and removing the papers and trimming my blocks.

See you at the December meeting! If you have any questions, please call me or send me an email.

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