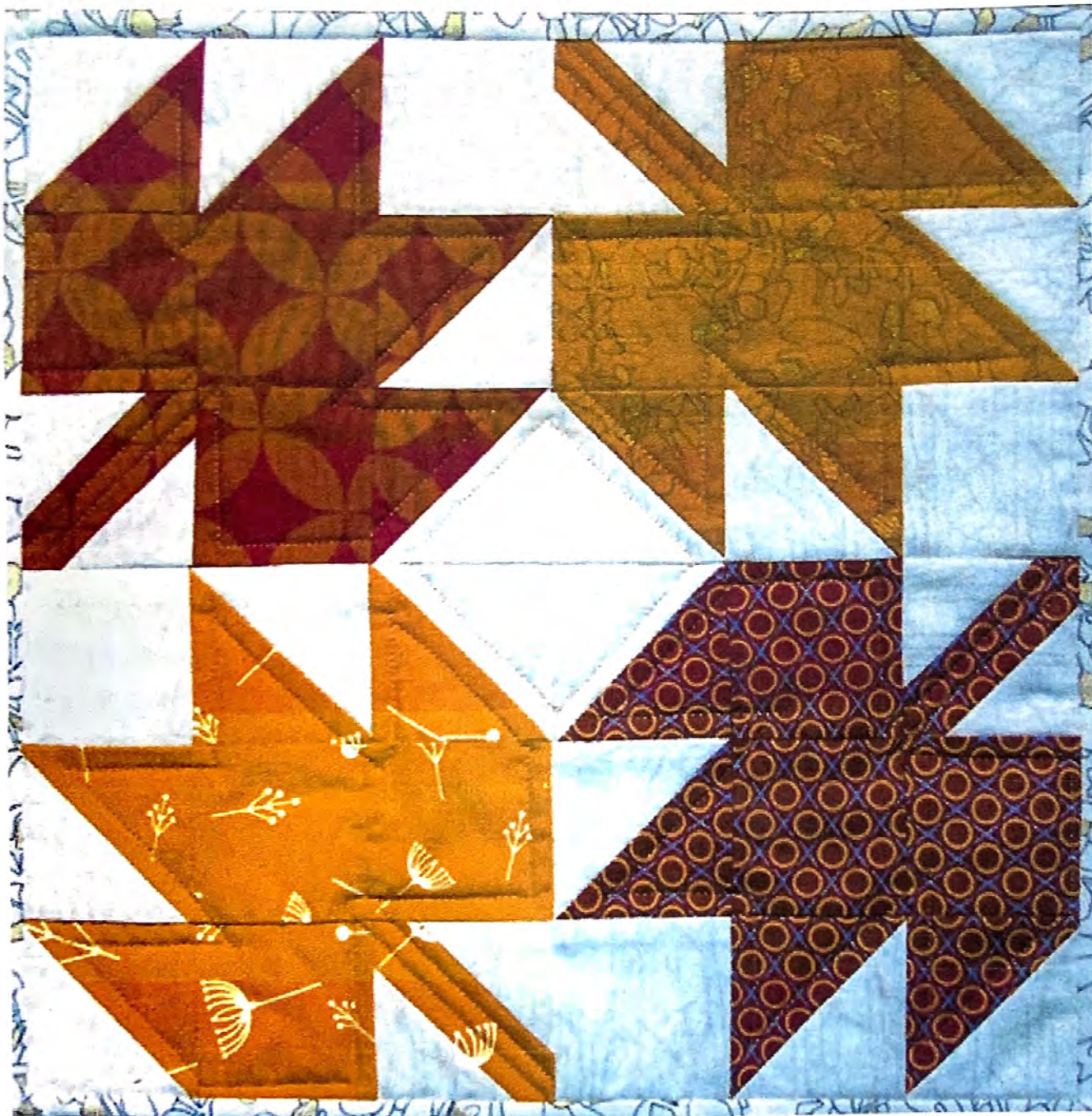


Falling Leaves Mini Quilt Block

A cute little fall block that is quick and simple to make. Use your scraps for the leaves. Less than a yard of fabric will complete the background, backing and binding.

The leaves can be laid out in any direction. The pattern can easily be scaled to be table runner, tablecloth, wall hanging or small throw.

Falling Leaves Mini Quilt Block is adapted from Heather Kojan's Maple Mini Tutorial.



Supplies:

Print fabrics:

4 each of at least 6 ½" x 8 ½" or a 3 ½' x 18" strip

Sub-cut into: (2) 3" squares

(4) 2 ½" squares

Background fabric:

(1) fat quarter or ¼ yard

Sub-cut into: (8) 3" squares

(4) 2 ½" squares

(8) 2" squares

Binding: (2) 1 ¼" x width of fabric

Backing fabric: one square 15" x 15"

Batting: one square 15" x 15"

Use ¼" seam allowance throughout.

Finished size: 13" x 13"

Make half-square triangles:

Take each of your background 3" squares. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the background fabric from one corner to the opposite corner (I like to use a mechanical pencil). Pair each with a print 3" square. Place squares right sides together. Stitch a seam ¼" away from each side of the drawn line. Cut on diagonal line to create 2 half-square triangle units. Press seams towards darker fabrics. Trim to 2 ½" square.

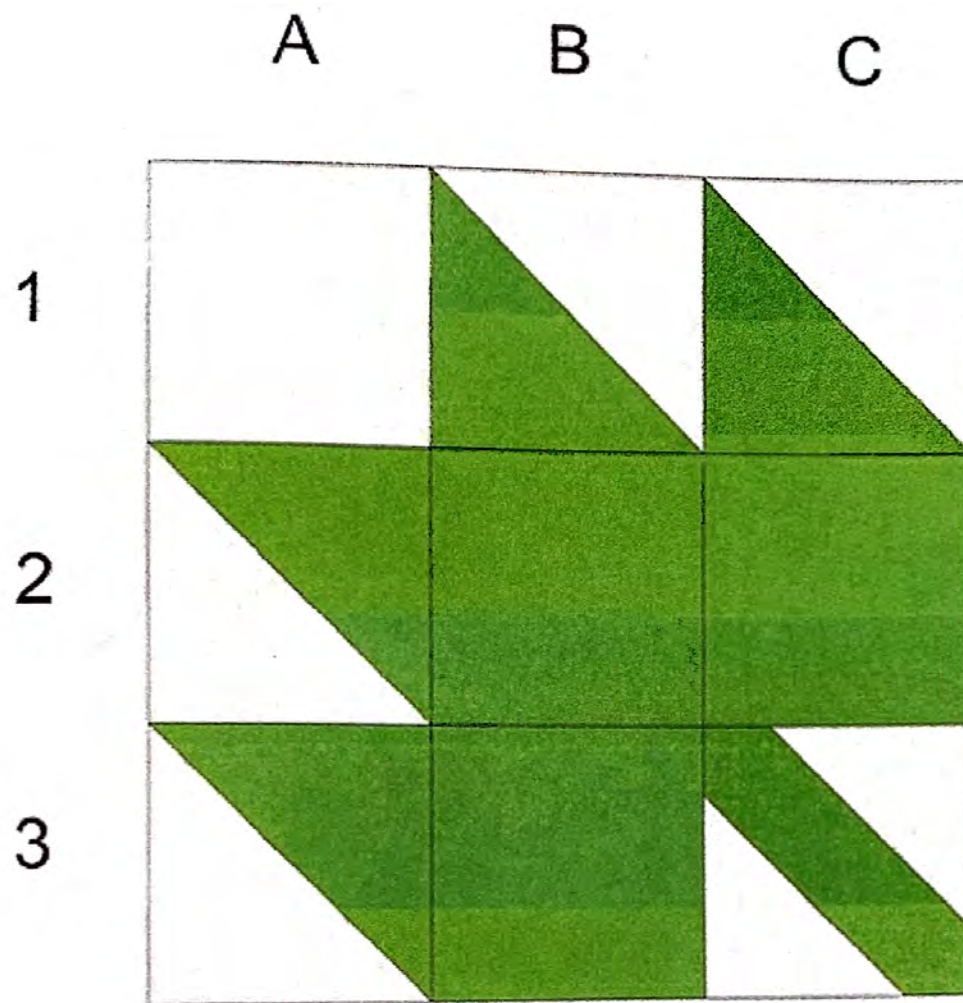
Repeat for remaining squares. You should have 4 half-square triangle units of each print/background combination.

Make the stems:

Take (1) 2 ½" square of print fabric and (2) 2" squares of background fabric. On each of the background fabrics, draw a diagonal line from one corner to the opposite corner. Place one background square on your print square, right sides together, matching up the corners. Stitch on drawn line.

Press background away from print fabric. Place second background square in the opposite corner. Stitch on drawn line. Press background fabric as before. You can trim the extra background/print fabric ¼" away from the seam if desired. Repeat for remaining 3 stem units.

Lay out your pieces as shown below. Stitch together columns A and B. Add column C. Press resulting rows 1 and 3 in one direction, row 2 in the opposite direction. Stitch rows 1 and 2 together, nesting the seams as you go. Add row 3. Press.



Arrange your 4 maple leaf blocks as shown in the sample. Feel free to change the orientation of the leaves as you wish.

Quilt as desired. I did straight-line stitching, following the lines of the leaves.

Make binding:

On mini quilts, I'll often do single-fold binding. To do this, I join binding strips on the diagonal. On one long edge, press a seam $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the wrong side of the fabric. This edge will be folded to the back of the quilt. Sew the binding to the quilt top as usual, matching the raw edges. Turn the binding to the back of the quilt and hand stitch the binding to the back.