

2016 Quilt Along with The Piecemakers Row 6 - Canada Geese in Flight

Flying Geese tutorial thanks to Connecting Threads. (http://www.connectingthreads.com/tutorials/Flying_Geese-Make_em_fast-two_methods_D15.html) Now for our favorite quick method that yields 4 flying geese blocks with no waste!

You will need: five 6 3/4" squares of colour; twenty squares of background fabric 3 7/8"; one strip of background fabric 3 1/4" x WOF (subcut into eighteen 1 1/2" x 3 1/4" and eight 2 1/4" x 3 1/4" rectangles). *In the tutorial the light and dark fabrics are reversed from the actual end result. You will need a total of 17 Flying Geese blocks.**

Start with the light fabric (these are your geese colours). Determine what size you want your finished flying geese unit and add 1 1/4". We are making a 5 1/2" finished flying geese unit. $5\ 1/2" + 1\ 1/4" = 6\ 3/4"$ square of the light fabric. Cut one of these to yield 4 flying geese units.

Now the dark fabric (this is your "sky" or background fabric). Determine the finished height of your flying geese unit and add 7/8". Our finished height is 3", so $3" + 7/8" = 3\ 7/8"$ squares. Cut four of these to yield four flying geese units.

1. 		2. 	Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of all of four dark squares. Lay two of the dark squares RST on the larger light square, as shown. Note, the dark squares will overlap slightly in the middle.
3. 	Stitch 1/4" away from the marked line, through all the layers, as shown. Repeat on both sides of the marked line.	4. 	Cut on the marked line and you'll have two units.
5. 	Press the seam allowance to the darker fabric. Repeat for both units.	6. 	Set one unit aside for a moment. Lay one of your remaining squares RST on one unit. Note how it is lined up on the light fabric corner and will hang over slightly on the side with the dark triangles. Stitch 1/4" away from the marked line and repeat on the other side of marked line.
7. 	Cut on the marked line.	8. 	Press the seam allowance to the darker fabric and you'll have 2 finished Flying Geese blocks. Repeat with the other unit that you set aside and you'll have 4 Flying Geese blocks!

tip: Before piecing these blocks together, square up to 3 1/4"x6" (ensure that you keep 1/4" above the point of the geese) and trim off all the "tails" and "ears". It's also a good time to remeasure and square up your block to see if your 1/4" seam allowance is accurate. If you don't trim off the little parts that stick out, your sewing machine needle could create a bump in the seam when it hits those areas.

Now our geese are "flying" so you need to add 1 1/2" rectangles to every other Flying Geese block. And a 2 1/4" block to each end of the alternating Flying Geese blocks. See sample below.



