

How to make a 4.5" Four Patch Block

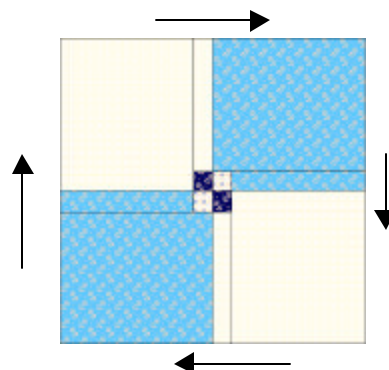
One block: Cut two 2.5" squares from a light print fabric
Cut two 2.5" squares from a dark print fabric

Pair up your dark/light squares – stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance
Press your seam allowance to the dark fabric
Position your stitched pairs as shown

Now you are looking at the wrong side of the block with the seam allowances pressed in a Four Patch Spiral. Arrows indicate the direction of the spinning seams

How to press in a FPS? Carefully open the first seam sewn in the center seam's seam allowance with a seam ripper – do not cut the threads in the second seam's SA -- instead of cutting pull them open

As you press as shown in the diagram, the seams will spiral and a small four patch will be duplicated on the wrong side where the four seams come together --- No bulky center !



Want to make a lot of Four Patch Blocks just alike?

Strip Piece!

If your washed fabric measures at least 42" WOF (width of fabric selvedge to selvedge)

You should get 16 2.5" segments from each WOF strip

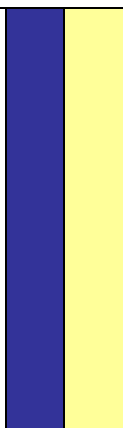
Lay your dark and light print fabric (right sides facing each other) on your cutting mat.

Cut Two WOF strips 2.5" wide.

Stitch the length of your strip sets with a 1/4" seam allowance

Carefully press the seam allowances to the dark fabric.

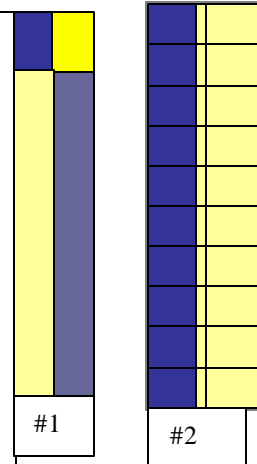
Long strips are notoriously easy to distort when pressing!!



If you are extremely careful, it is possible to position these two 42" long sewn strips so your seam is matching. Light fabric is facing dark --- #1 diagram shows the two strip sets paired up face to face offset a tad so you can see the face of the underneath strip set.

now cut 2.5" segments down the length of the strip - they are already paired and ready to sew the center block seam.

#2 diagram illustrates the wrong side of a long strip set with the seam allowance pressed to the dark fabric – segments cut ready for the next step.



Want to make 2 identical Four Patch Blocks at one time?

Part 1: Two patch unit – Start with pairs of dark and light 5" squares right sides facing each other – Sew 1/4" side seams
Cut sewn squares in half at 2.5" in from cut edge - Press to the dark fabric

Part 2: Four patch unit – Pair the sewn units right side together reversing the values so that light touches dark and dark touches light. Again, sew side seams – then cut the sewn unit in half.
Press your seams to achieve a Four Patch Spiral

You now have sewn 2 two patch units into 2 four patch blocks!

