

Westerville Quilt Guild – America 250! Quilt (the Ohio version)

MONTH	THEME	BLOCK
JANUARY	OHIO FIRSTS	OHIO STAR
FEBRUARY	OHIO WORKS	MONKEY WRENCH
MARCH	OHIO ENTERTAINS	ART SQUARE
APRIL	OHIO MOVES	PROPELLER
MAY	OHIO CREATES	FLIGHTS OF FANCY
JUNE	OHIO OUTDOORS	OHIO TRAILS
JULY	OHIO GATHERS	PICNIC BASKET
AUGUST	OHIO GOES TO THE FAIR	STATE FAIR
SEPTEMBER	OHIO PLAYS	PINWHEEL VARIATION
OCTOBER	OHIO GROWS	CORN AND BEANS
NOVEMBER	OHIO SERVES	SAWTOOTH STAR
DECEMBER	FUTURE OHIO	BRIGHT HOPES

MAY: OHIO CREATES - “FLIGHTS OF FANCY QUILT BLOCK”

Ohio has a rich literary history, producing acclaimed authors across genres, including Toni Morrison, Sherwood Anderson, Rita Dove, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and R.L. Stine. Famous writers with Ohio roots include Erma Bombeck, Zane Grey, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and James Thurber. The state is also known for comic creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, who created Superman.

Ohio has produced numerous influential visual artists, ranging from Ashcan School painter George Bellows and designer Maya Lin to multimedia artist Mark Mothersbaugh. Other notable Ohio-born artists include impressionist painter Alice Schille, muralist Howard Chandler Christy, and mixed-media creator Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson.

Notable Ohio-Born Authors

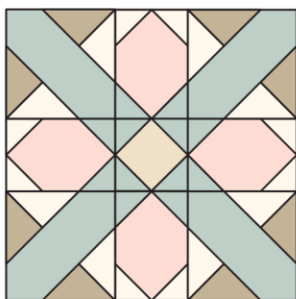
- **Fiction/Literature:** Toni Morrison (Lorain), Sherwood Anderson (Camden), Romulus Linney (Philadelphia, raised in OH).
- **Children’s/YA Literature:** R.L. Stine (Columbus), Dav Pilkey (Cleveland), Virginia Hamilton (Yellow Springs), Jacqueline Woodson (Columbus), Angela Johnson.
- **Poetry:** Mary Oliver (Maple Heights), Rita Dove, Paul Laurence Dunbar (Dayton), Nikki Giovanni.
- **Humor/Journalism:** James Thurber (Columbus), Erma Bombeck (Dayton).
- **Sci-Fi/Fantasy:** Roger Zelazny, Andre Norton (Cleveland), Nnedi Okorafor (Cincinnati). **Literary Contributions**
- **Children's Literature:** Ohio has a strong legacy in children's literature with creators like Denise Fleming, Will Hillenbrand, Loren Long, and Oge Mora.
- **Fantasy & Sci-Fi:** Several award-winning authors, including Nnedi Okorafor and Andre Norton, hail from Ohio.
- **Diverse Voices:** The state has produced significant African American authors such as Toni Morrison and Nikki Giovanni.

Here are notable visual artists born in Ohio:

- **[George Bellows \(Columbus\)](#):** A renowned realist painter known for his energetic, gritty depictions of urban life in New York City.

- **[Maya Lin](#) (Athens):** Designer and sculptor who designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C..
- **[Mark Mothersbaugh](#) (Akron):** Visual artist, musician, and co-founder of Devo, known for his paintings, prints, and sculptures.
- **[Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson](#) (Columbus):** A celebrated artist whose work featured painting, sculpture, and complex mixed-media pieces exploring African American life.
- **[Alice Schille](#) (Columbus):** A prominent American watercolorist known for her Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings.
- **[John Henry Twachtman](#) (Cincinnati):** An influential Impressionist painter.
- **[Jim Dine](#) (Cincinnati):** A pop artist associated with paintings, sculptures, and mixed-media installations.
- **[Charles E. Burchfield](#) (Ashtabula County):** Known for his watercolor landscapes and nature scenes.
- **[Howard Chandler Christy](#) (Morgan County):** A famous painter and illustrator.
- **[David Hostetler](#) (Ohio):** A sculptor known for working with wood.
- **[Robert Henri](#) (Cincinnati):** A painter who led the Ashcan School.
- **[Clara Driscoll](#) (Tallmadge):** A glass designer who led the women's glass-cutting department at Tiffany Studios

Project: Flight of Fancy



Block Assembly Diagram

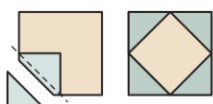


Diagram 1

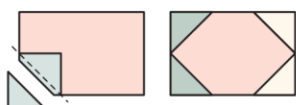


Diagram 2



Diagram 3

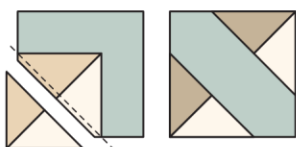


Diagram 4

Materials

- Light tan print, green print, pink print, cream print, and dark tan print scraps

Finished block: 9" square

Cut the Fabrics

From light tan print, cut:

- 1—3½" square

From green print, cut:

- 4—5" squares
- 12—2" squares

From pink print, cut:

- 4—3½x5" rectangles

From cream print, cut:

- 4—3⅞" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for a total of 8
- 8—2" squares

From dark tan print, cut:

- 4—3⅞" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for a total of 8

Assemble the Block

1. For accurate sewing lines, use a quilter's pencil to mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of the green print 2" squares and the cream print 2" squares.
2. Align a marked green print 2" square with one corner of the light tan print square (Diagram 1; note the placement of the diagonal line). Stitch on the marked sewing line; trim the seam allowance to ¼". Press the attached triangle open. Align a second marked green print 2" square with the opposite corner of the light tan print square; stitch, trim, and press as before. Sew a marked green print 2" square in each of the remaining corners of the light tan print square to make a center square.
3. Align a marked green print 2" square with one corner of a pink print rectangle (Diagram 2).
4. Stitch on the drawn line. Trim the seam to ¼"; press the attached triangle open.
5. Using a quilter's pencil, mark a diagonal sewing line on the wrong side of the triangle-squares perpendicular to the seam allowances.
6. With right sides together, align a marked triangle-square with one corner of a green print 5" square (Diagram 4; note the placement of the diagonal line). Stitch on the marked sewing line; trim the seam allowance to ¼". Press the attached triangle open. Align a second marked triangle-square with the opposite corner of the green print square; stitch, trim, and press as before to make a dark tan/cream/green unit. Repeat to make a total of four dark tan/cream/green units.
7. Lay out the center square, four green/pink/cream units, and the four dark tan/cream/green units in three horizontal rows (Block Assembly Diagram). Sew together the pieces in each row. Press the seam allowances in one direction, alternating the direction with each row. Then join the rows to make a block. Press the seam allowances in one direction.

JUNE: OHIO OUTDOORS – EXPLORING OHIO’S NATUATL RESOURCES

“OHIO TRAILS BLOCK”

From Lake Erie, to its 76 state parks, to its miles of biking and hiking trails, Ohio has no shortage of beautiful outdoor spaces to explore and appreciate.

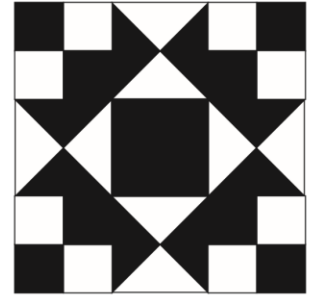
Key Outdoor & Nature Themes (June 2026)

- **[Ohio Trails & Tales](#)**: Statewide trails highlighting historical and natural stories.
- **[Lake Erie to Ohio River Trail](#)**: A new trail featuring seven distinct themes focusing on connecting the lake to the river.
- **[Natural Resources & Geology](#)**: Programs include Ohio's Heritage Trees, Geology of Ohio, and a geological walk through time.
- **[ODNR Legacy Festival](#)**: Scheduled for July 4, 2026, to celebrate Ohio's outdoor heritage.

Nancy's Notions®

Free Quilt Block Pattern

Block 3: Ohio Trail



Use one light and one dark fabric.

Instructions:

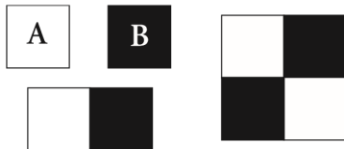
Read instructions before beginning the project. All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{4}$ " unless otherwise stated.

1. Cut fabrics:

- Eight squares $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " (light) – A
- Eight squares $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " (dark) - B
- Two square $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " (light) - C
- Two square $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " (dark) - D
- One square $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " (dark) - E

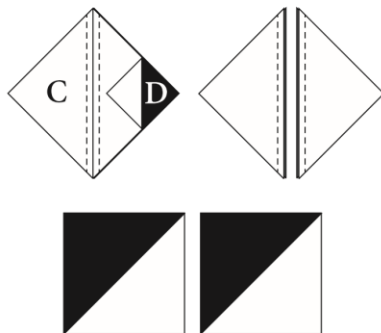
2. Create 4-patch block:

- Sew two light A squares and two dark B squares together into a unit, as shown; press toward B. Sew the units together to create a 4-patch and press seam either open or one direction. Make four blocks.

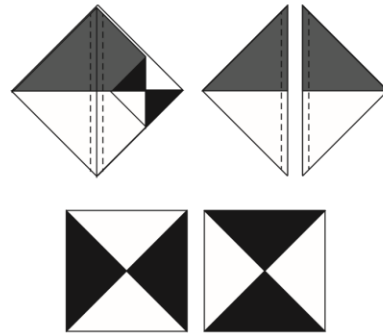


3. Create hour glass blocks:

- Draw a diagonal line, corner to corner, on the wrong side of one light C square and place on one dark D square. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam on each side of drawn line. Cut in half and press toward D. Make four half squares triangles.

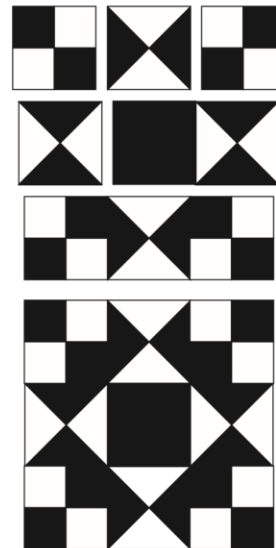


- Draw a diagonal line, corner to corner, on the wrong side of one C/D half square triangle made above and placed on second C/D with right sides together and opposite fabrics facing each other. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam on each side of drawn line. Cut in half and press seam either open or to one side. Make 4 hour glass blocks.



4. Create block:

- Layout 4-patch, hourglass, and E squares, as shown. Sew into rows; press each row in opposite direction. Sew rows together (press seams open) to create the Ohio Trail block measuring $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



JULY: OHIO GATHERS – Ohio’s Homecoming & Picnic

“PICNIC BASKET BLOCK”

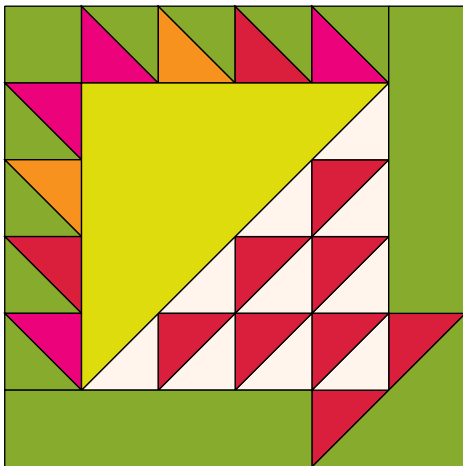
Throughout the month of July 2026, 200+ communities across Ohio will gather for food, fun, and friendship to celebrate our freedom, honor our nation’s history, and observe Ohio’s contributions to America over these past 250 years and beyond.

Join us for this signature Ohio’s Homecoming & Picnic event at the Ohio Statehouse, Ohio Theater, and the Columbus Commons!

Celebrate the United States’ semiquincentennial – its 250th birthday! – with a day of fun, food, and reflection as America 250-Ohio, in partnership with the City of Columbus, Ohio Statehouse, Ohio History Connection, Columbus Symphony, Columbus Commons, and CAPA, hosts a Signature Homecoming & Picnic event from 11 am to 10 pm Saturday, July 4 at the Ohio Statehouse, Columbus Commons, and the Ohio Theatre.

Activities and performance are **FREE**; however, registration is required for the Columbus Symphony Celebrates America concert.

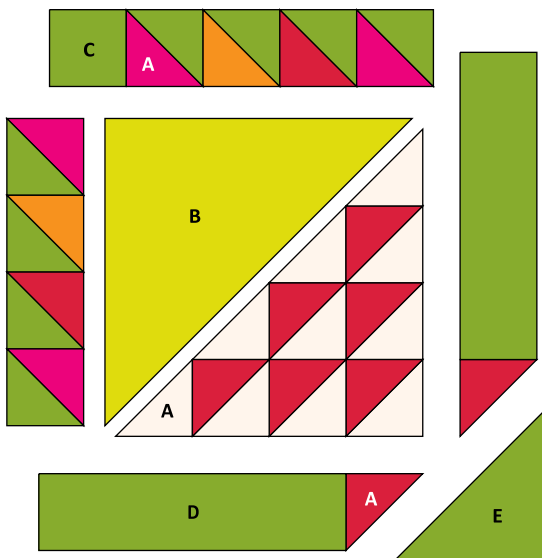
Picnic Basket



Fabric and cutting requirements for each Picnic Basket block:

Red, orange, and pink	Scraps	8 A
Cream	9" x 12" scrap	10 A
Green	6" x 28" scrap	8 A, 1 C, 2 D, 1 E
Lime green	9" x 9" scrap	1 B
Red	6" x 12" scrap	8 A

Picnic Basket 12" block



Picnic Basket Piecing

Rotary Patch sizes

A = 2 7/8" square cut in half diagonally

B = 8 7/8" square cut in half diagonally

C = 2 1/2" square

D = 2 1/2" x 8 1/2" rectangle

E = 4 7/8" square cut in half diagonally

Follow the piecing diagram to join the patches in the order shown. **TQL**

Source: AQS -

<https://www.americanquilter.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/AQS-Free-Pattern-Picnic-Basket.pdf>

AUGUST: OHIO GOES TO THE FAIR – “STATE FAIR BLOCK”

Established in 1850 in Cincinnati, the Ohio State Fair is one of the nation's oldest, evolving from a three-day agricultural exhibition into a massive annual exposition. Following a nomadic start, it settled permanently in Columbus in 1874 (at the current Expo Center site in 1886). Key milestones include the first butter cow (1903) and being the first fair with electric lights (1896).

Early History and Nomadic Years

- **1849/1850:** The first fair was planned for 1849 but was delayed due to a cholera outbreak. The inaugural fair was held in October 1850 at Camp Washington in Cincinnati.
- **Nomadic Phase (1850–1874):** To accommodate farmers across the state, the fair moved to various cities, including Cleveland, Dayton, Newark, Sandusky, Zanesville, and Toledo.
- **Settling in Columbus:** Columbus began hosting the fair regularly in 1874, initially at Franklin Park, before settling at its permanent location on East 17th Avenue in 1886.

 Ohio State Fair +3

Key Milestones and Traditions

- **Electricity (1896):** The Ohio State Fair was the first in the nation to use electric lights.
- **The Butter Cow (1903):** The iconic butter cow and calf sculpture was introduced, adding a "surprise" sculpture annually starting in the 1960s.
- **All-Ohio State Fair Band (1925):** The acclaimed band began performing in 1925.
- **OHIO Gate (1966):** The signature "OHIO" gate was constructed at the 11th Avenue entrance.
- **War Interruption:** The fair was canceled between 1942 and 1945 due to the use of the grounds by the U.S. War Department for aircraft repair and storage during WWII.

 Ohio History Connection +1

The Fair Today

- **Location:** The Ohio Expo Center and State Fairgrounds in Columbus.
- **Evolution:** The event has grown to over 12 days, featuring concerts, the All-Ohio State Fair Band and Youth Choir, large agricultural competitions, and diverse food vendors.

AUGUST: STATE FAIR QUILT BLOCK

Sourced from: <https://fabric406.com/blogs/fabric406-blog/how-to-sew-the-traditional-state-fair-block-a-free-quilting-tutorial>

Fabric Requirements for a 12" Finished State Fair Block:

- Light/White: 2 - 1.5" x 2.5" rectangles, and 2 - 1.5" x 4.5" rectangles
- Medium Light: 4 - 2.5" x 4.5" rectangles
- Medium 1: 8 - 2.5" squares
- Medium 2: 8 - 2.5" squares
- Dark 1 - 2.5" x 4.5" rectangles, and 8 - 2.5" squares
- Dark 2: 1 - 2.5" square

Sewing Directions:

Center Unit:



Step 1:

Sew the two Light/White 1.5" x 2.5" rectangles to opposite sides of the Dark 2.5" square as shown in the picture below.



Step 2:

Press the seam allowances away from the Dark 2.5" square.

Step 3:

Sew the two 1.5" x 4.5" rectangles to each side of the Step 2 unit as shown below.



Step 4:

Press the seam allowances away from the center of the unit.

Corner Units:

Step 5:

Using two each of the Medium 2.5" squares, sew together a basic [Four Patch](#) unit. In the picture below you can see that the squares are sewn into two rows and the seam allowances are pressed toward the Medium/Aqua Print squares.



Step 6:

Now sew the two rows together and press the seam allowance to one side as shown below.



Step 7:

Repeat Steps 5 and 6 for a total of four Corner units.

Flying Geese Units:

Step 8:

Next, sew together a Flying Geese patch using a Light 2.5" x 4.5" rectangle and two Dark 1 2.5" squares.



You can find a detailed tutorial using a no-trim method for making Flying Geese at <https://fabric406.com/blogs/fabric406-blog/how-to-sew-a-basic-flying-geese-block>.

In the picture on the left you can see the first four steps.

Step 9:

And here you can see the last four steps.



Step 10:

Sew a Dark 1 2.5" x 4.5" rectangle to the Step 9 patch as shown in the picture below.
Press the seam allowance toward the Dark/Aqua rectangle.



Step 11:

Repeat Steps 8 through 10 for a total of four Flying Geese units.

Putting It All Together:

Step 12:

Lay out the Center unit, the four Corner units, and the four Flying Geese units as shown in the picture below. From here the block goes together like a typical [Nine Patch](#) quilt block.

You will need to rotate the Corner units so that your seam allowances will nest together nicely. You can see how that looks in the Step 14 picture.



Step 13:

Sew the units into three rows as shown on the right.

Step 14:

Press the seam allowances away from the Flying Geese units as shown below.

Step 15:

To complete the block, simply sew the three rows together and ...

Step 16:

Press the seam allowances away from the center of the block as shown in the picture at the right.

