

Piecemaker's Quilt Guild September Challenge: Split 9-Patch Quilt

These directions are for making a classic quilt block, the split 9-patch. The fun of this design is the arrangement of the blocks, and playing with color and value. For our September challenge, the guild's creativity will be on display at the September show-and-tell when we look at different quilts using the same block. In order to receive a participation prize in September, please sign up by June!

The split 9-patch block is composed of 3 dark squares, 3 light squares, and three half-square triangles* with light on one side and dark on the other. The block can be sewn together in one of two ways:



The first choice you must make is the desired block size (or sizes!). To make 6" finished blocks, you should start with 2.5" squares and 2.5" (unfinished) half-square triangles. To make 9" finished blocks, start with 3.5" squares. To make 12" finished blocks, start with 4.5" squares. And so on.

If you are keeping your quilt, make it as big or as small as you wish, but please make **at least 9 blocks** for the September challenge. If you are making a quilt to donate to comfort quilts, we have provided enough fabric for (at least) the following:

	6" Blocks	9" Blocks	12" Blocks
Blocks needed	48	20	12
Setting arrangement	6x8	4x5	3x4
Finished size	36"x48"	36"x45"	36" x 48"
Size of starting squares	2.5"	3.5"	4.5"
Number of dark squares to cut	144	120	36
Number of light squares to cut	144	120	36
Number of half-square triangles *	144	120	36

*The half-square triangles can be made using your favorite method. One method is to cut a light square and a dark square, both 2 7/8" (for 2" finished size) 3 7/8" (for 3" finished size) or 4 7/8" (for 4" finished size). Lay these two squares on top of each other, and cut across the diagonal. Sew along the two diagonal seams and you will have two completed half-square triangles. The finished half-square triangles should be the same measurement as your light squares and dark squares.

Your blocks can be scrappy or all the same. You can use 12 different fabrics (6 light and 6 dark) in each block, or fewer. Play with it and have fun!