## Milano

## by Blair Stocker of Wise Craft Handmade Auriful Designer of the Month for January 2020



Key
$\square$ A Light Gray
B Blue/Gray
C Dark Gray
D Darkest
Gray/Sashing

12 1/2" square block
inspired by the Aurifil Color Builders "Milan Grey" Collection

## Materials Needed

Light Gray A Fabric-
Four strips measuring $1^{\prime \prime} \times 10^{\prime \prime}$
Eight strips measuring 1" $\times 6^{\prime \prime}$
Medium Blue/Gray B Fabric-
Eight strips measuring 1" $\times 8^{\prime \prime}$
Eight strips measuring $1^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime}$

Dark Gray C Fabric-
Eight strips measuring 1" $\times 7^{\prime \prime}$
Eight strips measuring 1 1/2" $\times 4^{\prime \prime}$
Sashing/Border Dark Gray D Fabric
Two strips measuring $11 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
One strip measuring $11 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 9$ 1/2"
Two strips measuring $2^{\prime \prime} \times 9$ 1/2"
Two strips measuring $2^{\prime \prime} \times 121 / 2^{\prime \prime}$

Four 5" squares of foundation paper or inexpensive/thin copy paper.
$5^{\prime \prime}$ or larger square ruler for squaring up blocks (I used my Ruby Ruler ${ }^{\top M}$, available at wisecrafthandmade.com).

## Note-

The four inner squares of the block are sewn directly onto foundation paper. Some knowledge of Foundation Paper Piecing is assumed. Make sure to shorten the stitch length is of your machine to 15-20 stitches/inch.
Stitch using a 1/4" seam allowance throughout.

To make the block:

1. Make the four foundation paper pieced, striped blocks first. To make one block, lay one 1 " $\times 10$ " strip of $\mathbf{A}$ diagonally across the middle of a 5 " square of foundation paper as shown.

2. Place a 1" $\times 8$ " strip of Fabric $\mathbf{B}$ over it, right sides together.

Stitch down directly onto paper.


Press open.

3. Add the 1" $\times 7$ " Fabric $\mathbf{C}$ next, and continue across side of paper, following the same color sequence, and ending with the $11 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{\prime \prime}$ Fabric C strip.


Next, repeat the piecing sequence on the other half of the block as shown.

4. Using a square ruler with a 45 degree line going diagonally through the center, square up the block. Trim the block up to $41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square, keeping the 45 degree line of the ruler always centered over the Fabric A strip in the center of the block. Repeat to make 4 identical blocks. Remove the backing paper from each of these blocks before moving to the next step.

5. Add a 1 1/2" x 4 1/2" sashing strip between two of the blocks positioned as shown below. Repeat with the other two blocks.

6. Add a 1 1/2" $\times 9$ 1/2" sashing strip between the two sets as shown.

7. Add outer sashing strips-

Sew one 2" x 9 1/2" strip to the top and bottom of the unit-


Lastly, sew one 2" x 12 1/2" strip to each side of the unit, to complete the block. The completed block should measure $121 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square.


We would love to see your block! Please post on your favorite social media outlet and tag @blairs and @aurifilthread on Instagram!

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