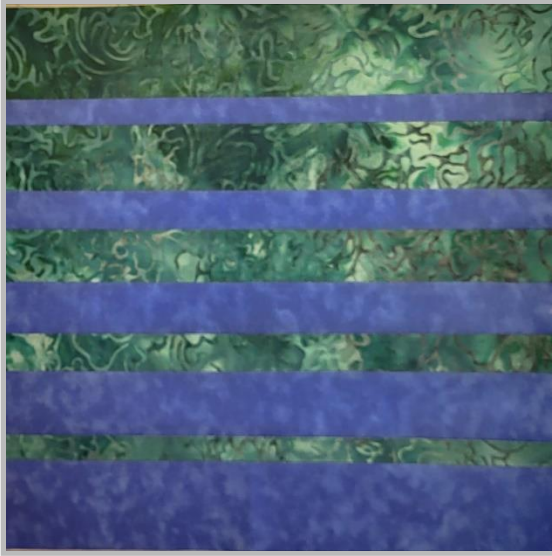


## Underground Blues

By Janine Burke



Here is a perfect block to practice your  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams. Being off by "just a little bit" when multiplied over several seams can add up quickly.

You will be strip piecing contrasting strips together and then cutting them into two blocks. Your block should be  $10\frac{1}{2}$ " square UNFINISHED. Finished Size (once sewn into the quilt) is 10".

For 2 blocks, you will need:

### Fabric/Color

Two contrasting fabrics. One strip of each:

- Strip of 2" x 22"
- Strip of  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x 22"
- Strip of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 22"
- Strip of  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x 22"
- Strip of 1" x 22"

1. Using one of each strip width from two contrasting fabrics, lay out your strips as shown, going from wide to narrow with one fabric, then fabric 2 interspersed from narrow to wide. Take a close look to make sure they are in correct position.
2. Sew together in pairs, pressing seams open. (May press all one direction.)
3. Sew the pairs together, pressing seams open. (May press all one direction.) Take a close look that design looks correct. It is very easy to get this wrong.
4. **Measure the width of your strata. It should measure  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ". If not, please take a closer look at your seams to find where you can make adjustments.**
5. **When you get your pieced strips to measure  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ", cut your strata into two blocks of  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ".** (I like to lay pieced strips on a cutting mat, lining up on a horizontal line and having the left side going to the edge of the mat. Then I use my rotary cutter to cut vertically on the "0" and then the " $10\frac{1}{2}$ "). Then continue without moving and cut at the 21".)

Fig. 1

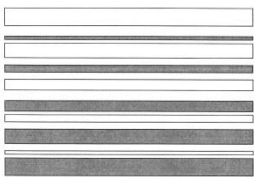


Fig. 2

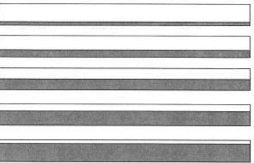


Fig. 3

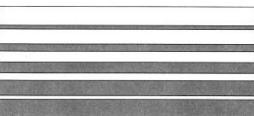


Fig. 5

