

June 2024 - Block of the Month

Drunkard's Path-Under Ground Railroad



Materials Needed: (Cutting mat, 5 1/2" square ruler, 8-9" circle template (can use a plate), rotary cutter, thread, and iron)

To make 2 Drunkard's Path blocks, you will need:

1. One each of 12" dark and light squares
2. One 11 1/2-inch square of light fabric
3. One 11 1/2-inch piece of Misty Fuse® or fusible of your choice. Misty Fuse® has a nice hand, but Heat n' Bond Light® works just fine.

Instructions:

1. Bond fusible web to back side of dark fabric, centering it. Do not remove paper.
2. Mark center of the dark fabric by drawing diagonal lines on the paper, or using a pin to find center.
3. Using the template, you have selected, trace a circle on the paper. Carefully cut the circle out using the small rotary cutter. A rotating cutting mat is very helpful.



4. Set the circle you have cut out aside. Place a light square right side against the fusible on the back of the dark square, so that the right side is visible through the "window." Fuse in place.



- Find the center of the other light square by folding on the diagonal and placing a pin at the center. Do the same with the dark circle. Center the dark circle on the right side of the 2nd light square and check that the sides are equidistant from the edges of the square.



- Set up your sewing machine to do a narrow blanket stitch. This could be a 2 mm (or 2.5 mm) width and 2mm length. Adjust the stitch so that the straight side will be at the edge of the circle and the blanket stitches will point to the center of the circle. If your machine has a mirror image function, use it. Otherwise, you may need to sew clockwise on one piece and counterclockwise on another. Whatever you do, the pattern should look consistent. Stitch around the circles.



- Trim each square to make sure it is exactly 12 inches square. Cut 12-inch squares into four 6-inch squares. Then take your square ruler and line it up on the diagonal, with the quarter circle at the center, and trim the sides to exactly 5 1/2 inches.



- Assemble your pieces in an arrangement that pleases you, using alternate light and dark backgrounds or just one color. I recommend pressing seams open and do use a 1/4-inch seam. The block should be approximately 10 inches and can be trimmed to 10 inches to match our other blocks.