





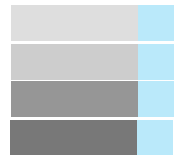


April 2011 BOM – French Braid – approx. 16 ½ “ x 11 ½ “ unfinished

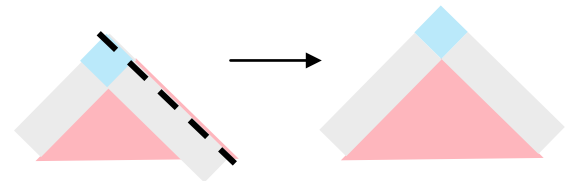
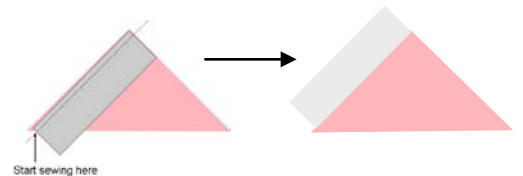
Fabrics:		Cutting Instructions	Colours
Dark braid-run fabric		Two 2 ½ ” x 8 ½ ” strips	<p>This is a very easy block. The challenge is in the fabric selection.</p> <p><u>Braid-run Fabrics:</u> For the braid-run fabrics, choose one colour family: red, orange, pink, violet, green, yellow, blue-green, yellow-green, black, etc. Choose according to your stash. You will need a total of 4 fabrics that shade gradually from light to dark.</p> <p><u>Accent Fabric:</u> The accent fabric marches in little squares vertically up the centre of each braid strip. If you want a calming effect, choose something with a low degree of contrast; if you want something more exciting, choose a stronger or brighter fabric.</p> <p><u>Triangle Fabric:</u> This fabric only appears at the bottom and the top corners of the block. Good choices include solids, florals, mottled, nondirectional.</p>
Medium braid-run fabric		Two 2 ½ ” x 8 ½ ” strips	
Medium Light braid-run fabric		Two 2 ½ ” x 8 ½ ” strips	
Light braid-run fabric		Two 2 ½ ” x 8 ½ ” strips	
Accent Fabric		Four 2 ½ ” squares	
Triangle Fabric		One 8 ¼ “ square One 7” square	

Instructions:

- Using a scant ¼ “seam, with right sides together, sew an accent fabric square to one of each of the braid-run fabric strips. This will result in four 2 ½ “ x 10 ½” accented braid units. Press seams toward the braid-run fabric.
- Keep your accented and unaccented braid-run fabrics together and organized in the order you want them added to the braid. This will result in an easy piecing process.
- Sub-cut the 8 ¼ “square on the diagonal to give two half-square triangles. You will only be using 1 of these triangles. Layout a half-square triangle right side up, with the long side closest to you.

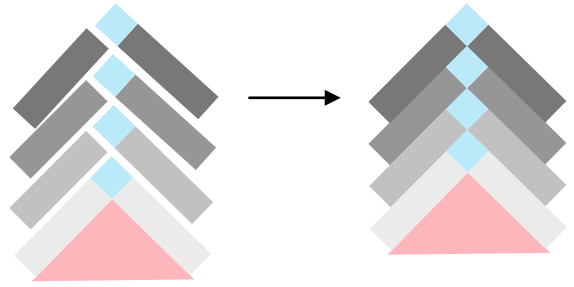


- Place an unaccented 2 ½ “ x 8 ½ “ braid-run strip right side down on the left side of the triangle, matching the 90° angle at the top of the triangle. Pin if you like, rotate the triangle, and sew toward the 90° angle, keeping the braid segment on top. Sew toward the 90° angle. Press the seam toward the newly attached braid segment.
- With the longest side of the triangle closest to you, place a unit made in Step 1 (same fabric as added in previous step) on the right edge of the triangle, with right sides together. The top 90° angle and seam-line should match, and the seam allowances should be facing opposite directions. Start sewing from the top at the 90° angle. Press seam toward the newly attached braid segment.



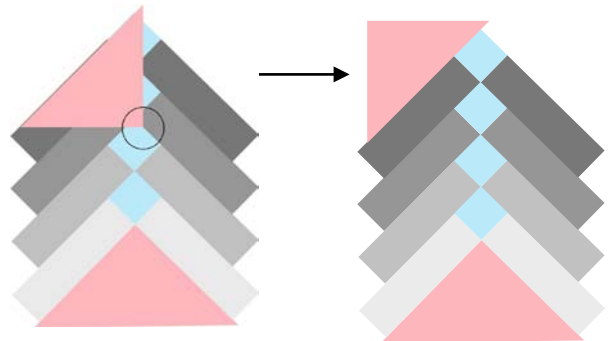
Patchwork Patter – March, 2011

6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 for each braid run fabric.



7. Sub-cut the 7 “triangle fabric square on the diagonal to give two half-square triangles.

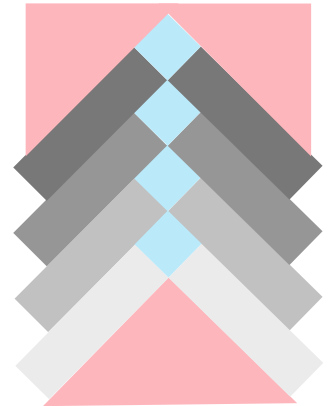
8. Using one of the half-square triangles made in Step 7, placing right sides together, line up its long side with the left side of the top of the braid stip. Leave about $\frac{3}{4}$ “ of the triangle hanging off the top edge of the braid. The 90° angle of the triangle points to the braid seam that is second from the top of the braid. The braid segment is longer than the triangle.



Pin the edges together to avoid stretching the bias; flip the entire unit over so that the triangle is on the bottom and sew. Press the seam toward the triangle.

Repeat for the other half-square triangle made in Step 7, this time adding to the right side of the braid.

9. Press the block, being careful not to stretch the block lengthwise. Begin at the bottom triangle and press toward the top, using a side-to-side motion.



10. **Do not trim your block.** We will leave this for the lucky winner.