

DISAPPEARING 9 PATCH VARIATIONS (D9P)
by Bonnie Broders for Mothertown Quilters, February 11, 2025

D9P idea started using 5" charms and using scraps with the basic 9 patch block, then cutting and re-arranging it into a new pattern. I used 5" squares unless otherwise noted.
I suggest following computer links to videos before making these blocks.
Very helpful.

"IRISH CHAIN VARIATION"

Simple 9 patch with one step, two cuts, flip and re-sew. (5" squares)

Hint: put a solid block in the center as it will lead the eye to follow the "Chain"

Makes a 13" block (13 1/2" unfinished)

A great pattern for donation quilts!

Setting these 13" finished blocks in rows noted below will give you the following size quilts.

Sizes are without adding borders, although a 3-4" border gives it a nice finishing touch.

Setting blocks in rows of 4 across and 5 down makes a 52" wide by 65" long quilt (need 20 blocks)

5	5	65"	x	65"	(25)
5	6	65"	x	78"	(30)



"IRISH CHAIN GEM VARIATION"

Continue from "Irish Chain Variation" above, make 4 more cuts on diagonal, re-arrange and re-sew.

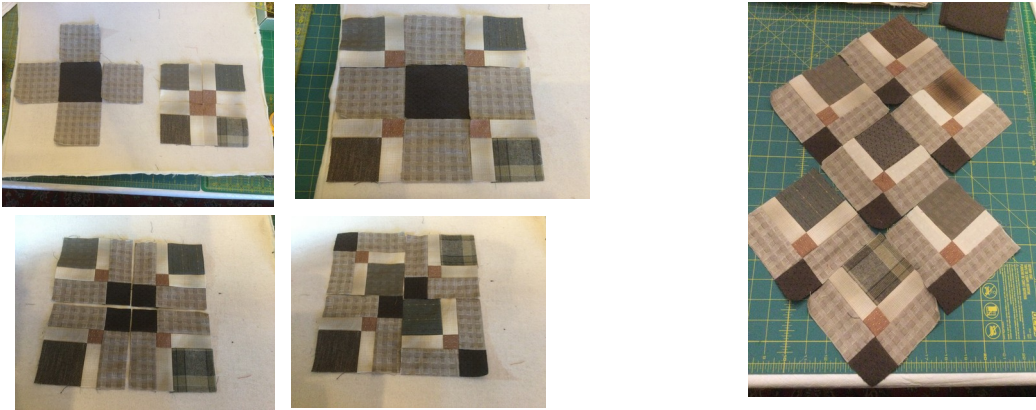
This "sprinkles" the fabrics around a bit more in the finished block for a more complex look.

Makes a 9" block (9 1/2" unfin.) 6" squares make an 11 1/2" block (12" unfin.)



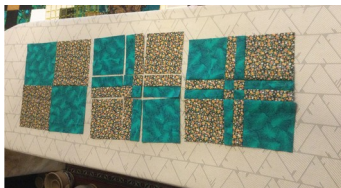
“DOUBLE IRISH CHAIN, DD9P”

Starts with a 9 patch, using 3” squares. Make two cuts as D9P above, pull the four blocks to the outer corners and fill openings with five 4” squares. Re-sew into a new 9 patch. Make two cuts again, as D9P above. Use these as four individual blocks (5” finished 5 ½” unfinished) or re-arrange into a larger finished block and re-sew. Makes a 10” block (10 ½” unfin.)



“WOVEN 4 PATCH”

This starts with a 4 patch using 2 squares each of two different colors. Make 4 cuts approximately 1 ¼” from each of the four sides of the center. Re-arrange and re-sew. 5” squares make an 8” finished block (8 ½” unfin.)



“MODERN D9P VARIATION’ TABLE RUNNER

Start with larger squares, 7” – 7 ½”, sew into two 9 patches. I used 7” squares making a runner measuring 15” x 44”.

Make three or four 45° cuts across the 9 patch blocks to make strips.

Re-arrange these strips into a rough rectangle. You may need to sew a small section onto another to make longer strips. Hint: be careful of all the bias edges!

Cut a complimentary fabric into ¼” strips and place them between the pieced strips. Sew the runner together. Trim, quilt and bind!

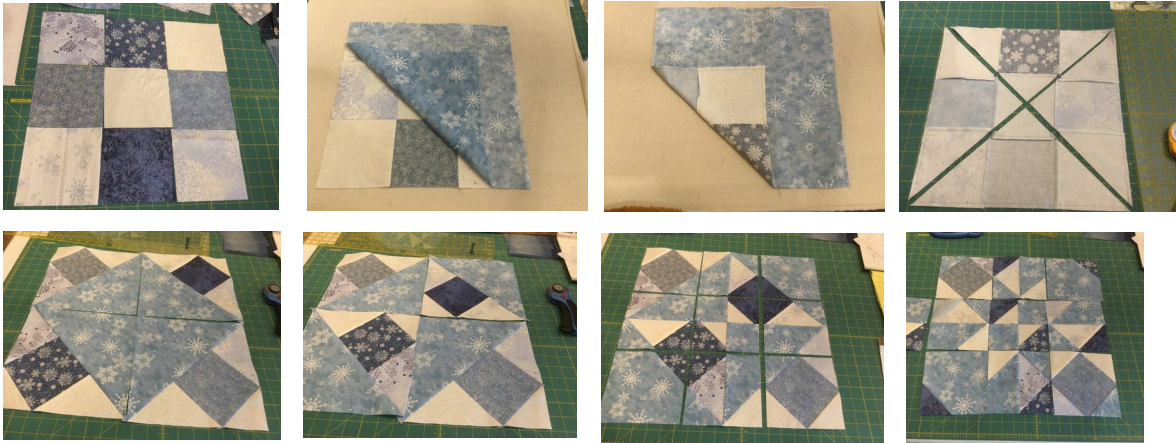


“DISAPPEARING 9 PATCH – STAR VARIATION”

This pattern starts with a 9 patch block. Measure the 9 patch block and layer the 9 patch block right sides together with a solid fabric block measuring the same size. (Approx. 13-14”) Sew around all four sides. Make two cuts corner to corner. Open, press and arrange into an hourglass. Sew the four blocks together and cut the new block into 9 equal squares. Slight trimming OK to make easier math.

Re-arrange into a star pattern and re-sew. Makes a 16” block (16 ½’ unfin.)

Use the pictures to help guild the arrangement of colors in the 9 patch to amplify the star points.



“STAR VARIATION “ USING A LAYER CAKE

Layer two 10” squares right sides together and sew around all four sides. Cut corner to corner, open and proceed as for the Star variation above. Makes a perfect 11” finished block (11 ½” unfin.)



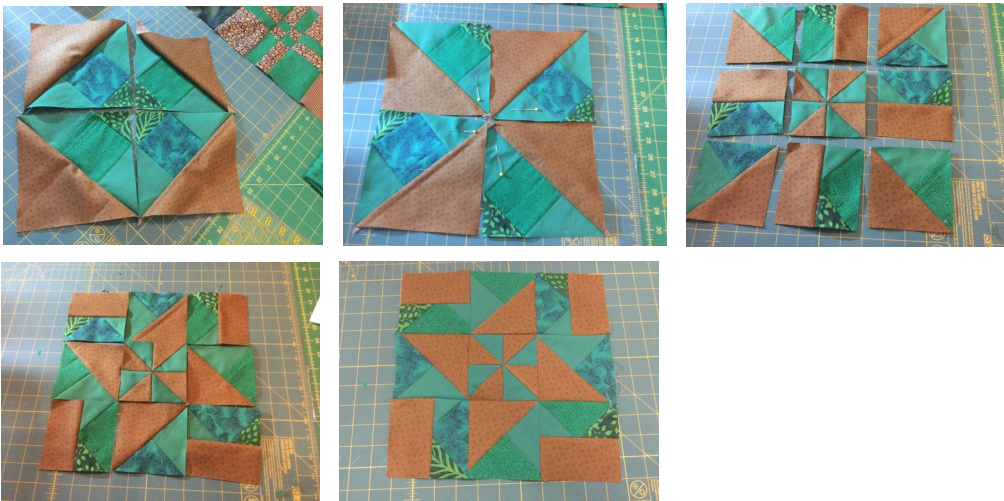
“DISAPPEARING 9 PATCH PINWHEEL VARIATION”

Proceed as with the Star Variation, but after sewing around the four sides and cutting corner to corner, arrange into a pinwheel block instead of the hourglass. Again, proceed sewing and making cuts as in the Star Variation except for the final arrangement of the nine squares.

I found the many variations amazing. I show the Friendship star here, but follow the link for many more variations such as the Churndash, Arrows, Keyhole, Chain Links and more!

This version as in the Star Variation make a 16” finished block (16 ½” unfin.)

I have also made this block with 3 ½” squares which make a nice 10 ½” finished block (11” unfin.)



Friendship Star Pattern



Churndash Pattern



Quilt Utilizing Woven And Friendship Star Variations

TIPS WHEN MAKING THE DISAPPEARING 9 PATCH BLOCKS AND QUILTS

Make a sample block to verify the sizes for the finished block.

Press seams open to help eliminate bulk.

Many of the cuts create bias edges. Careful when sewing not to stretch the fabrics. Using a spray stabilizer like “Best Press” will help.

When you add sashing and borders, sew with the sashing/border on top. The feed dogs naturally take up the “stretch” in the blocks.

When appropriate, you can trim the blocks as you recut to make the measuring easier. Careful with points and ¼” seam allowances.

Even in scrappy quilts, I organize fabrics and colors to compliment each other. I call it organized scrappy, rather like Bonnie Hunter!

Using pre-cuts that have pinked edges, remember to measure from the outside of the points!

When cutting apart the blocks, place your mat at the end of the table. This will make it easier to move around to reach the various cutting directions. Alternately, move your mat with the block on it carefully. You can also use a turntable mat if you have one.

LINKS TO THE INFORMATION ON MAKING THE D9P BLOCKS BELOW.

There are many, here are a few.

<https://www.afewscraps.com/2014/07/double-disappearing-nine-patch-improved.html>

<https://leahday.com/blogs/free/disappearing-9-patch>

<https://www.patchworkposse.com/disappearing-9-patch-quilt-block-criss-cross-cut/>

<https://cathyrush.blogspot.com/2014/06/disappearing-4-patch-variation.html>

<https://www.missouriquiltco.com/>

<https://youtu.be/PB1sOVCFbKs?f>

<https://youtu.be/BAYNIkTmhgg?f>

<https://quiltsocial.com/2-disappearing-9-patch-blocks-make-1-modern-table-runner/>

<https://teresadownunder.com/2020/03/08/16-blocks-that-start-as-pinwheels/>

<https://youtu.be/xXggafOP230?f>