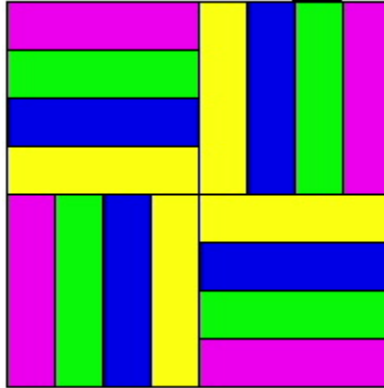


Block of the Month - May 2003

Rail Fence



Description:

The Rail Fence Block is made from equal width strips that are sewn together and then cut into blocks. The smaller block units may be either pieced by strip piecing and then cutting the blocks or by cutting strips the length needed for the small blocks and then sewing them together. This pattern teaches how to strip piece the block.

Fabric Requirements for one block:

Yellow: Focus Fabric, one strip 2" wide by 27" wide

Blue: Coordinating Color 1, one strip 2" wide by 27" wide

Green: Coordinating Color 2, one strip 2" wide by 27" wide

Fuchsia: Background, one strip 2" wide by 27" wide

Cutting and Piecing:

1. Cut a strip 2" wide by 27" long from each of your four fabrics. Be sure to **not** include the selvage in 27" measurement or you may not have enough length to cut the four blocks needed.
2. Sew the long edges of the four strips together in the order shown above. Press the seams to one side of the strip set. The width of the finished strip set should be 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
3. Cut 4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " blocks from your strip set. Sew the blocks together into pairs forming the two rows of the final block. Remember to alternate the direction of the blocks as shown above.
4. Sew the two rows together to form the final block. Press the seams so the block will lie flat. **Tip:** Alternate direction of the seams to make it easier to put the rows together.

Skills to Learn/Reinforce:

Strip Piecing