## ROCKY ROAD to DUBLIN - $121 / 2 / 2$ (Unfinished)



Even though this looks like a complicated diagonally pieced block, it's just another 9 patch made up of simple building blocks using dark, background and 1 medium fabric. Small squares and HSTs are sewn into 4 patch and shaded HST units and then all are sewn together in rows.

## Assembly

Once again lay out all your pieces. This is especially important when you have a lot of smaller pieces making up each of the 9 units required to complete this block. This is my layout.


I will list the steps numerically to create all the individual units in this block and will give you pressing instructions that work for me in order to have nested seams as well as less bulk. Sew all seams a scant $1 / 4$ ".

1. Piece 4 small HSTs using dark and background. Press to dark. Trim to $\mathbf{2 1 / 2 "}$ square.
2. Use these 4 HSTs to make $2 \times 4$ patches - upper left and lower right, by first sewing a square to an HST and pressing to the HST, then sewing these units together to make the final 4 patches. In order for seams to nest as we continue to create our block, press the long cross seam in the upper left unit towards the top and press the bottom right unit's centre seam towards the bottom. (I am stating the directions as the block is layed out above) Trim units to $41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square.
3. Piece the upper right, centre and lower left 4 patch units. Press the individual 2 patches to the dark and your completed 4 patch unit in whichever direction you would like as these seams do not nest anywhere. Trim units to $41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square.

The final step will be to make the shaded HSTs.

1. First make the pieced portion of the HST. Sew a dark triangle (short side) to the side of a $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ background square. Make 4. Press to the dark.
2. Take the 4 units from step 1 and add a dark triangle (short side) to the adjacent side of the background square (as laid out above) to create 4 larger triangles. Press to the dark.
3. Add the medium colour large triangle to these 4 units to create a shaded HST. Press to the medium fabric triangle away from the pieced portion of this unit. Trim unit to $41 / 2$ " square.

Lay out your block so that your 9 units are in the correct placement order and orientation.

Sew the units into 3 rows. Press rows 1 and 3 toward the corner 4 patch units and row 2 toward the centre 4 patch unit. Sew the 3 rows together to complete your block. I think I will press these long seams open to alleviate some of the bulk but as always, please feel free to press in whatever direction works for you.

Trim your finished block to $121 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square. Wow, good job...Rocky Road to Dublin done!!

We have now completed half of the blocks and most of the fillers that make up our 2021 BOM quilt top!

