## The Basket Block

Throughout history, in all cultures, the basket has had a daily presence in a women's life. It is no wonder that the basket block has been used in quilt patterns over the centuries. The varieties of ways we use baskets in quilts are endless; from baskets with handles to those without, appliqued with fruits and flowers or various pieced basket patterns... Although we no longer use baskets in our everyday lives to carry vegetables, flowers, and other goods, we still use them as containers for gifts, decorative arrangements and to piece into our beloved quilts.

Block 2 in the mystery quilt is a basket block...Use the instructions below, or create your favorite 9.5 inch basket block.

## Basket/Cake Stand



Choose your fabrics

- Light fabric for background (1)
- Dark fabric for the stand (2)
- Medium or dark for the points (3)
- Light or medium (4)

This block is made out of half square triangles

To cut proper right triangles that include the $1 / 4$ " seam allowance, cut the squares $7 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ larger than the finished size

Cut $153 / 8^{\prime \prime} \times 53 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ square from each of fabrics 2 and 4 Draw a diagonal line down centre and sew on each side of the line. Cut on the line to get two 5 " $\times 5$ " half square triangles.

Cut the following $31 / 8^{\prime \prime} \times 31 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ squares .....Three from fabric 1 (light), one of fabric 2 (dark) and two of fabric 3 (points)

Assemble four half square units of fabric 1 and 3 , and two half square units of fabric 1 and 2 . Size should be $23 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 23 / 4^{\prime \prime}$.

Cut 6 squares of fabric 1 (light) $23 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 23 / 4$ "
Assemble per the block diagram. 9.5 inch block

