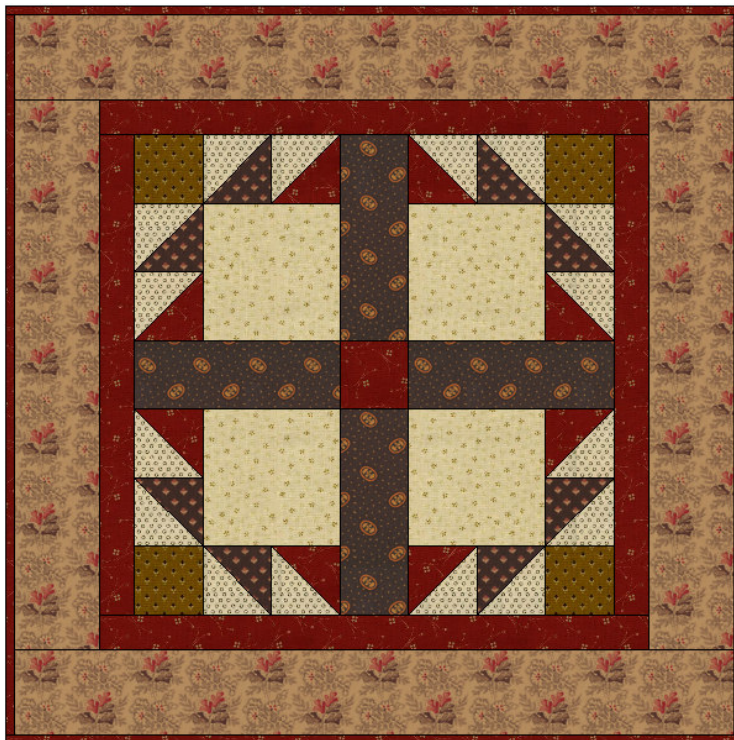


# ◈ Quilt a Month Challenge – September ◈

## *Doves in the Window Quilt*

By Kathleen Tracy



Finished block: 14" x 14"

Finished quilt size: 21" x 21"

The Quilt a Month Challenge for September is called Doves in the Window. Many of you commented on the small quilt that I posted on my blog last month, made from a large block using red and brown prints, so I decided to go with that idea for this quilt – a different large block using those same colors. The plain blocks are perfect for using a small stencil to show off your quilting if you enjoy hand quilting. Since I just made a red and brown quilt, I am going to use different colors to make mine. It's still a work in progress (I am cutting today as I write this) and I can't wait to see how it turns out. As always, if you do not like the red and brown scheme, make it in your favorite colors.

### **Materials:**

Scraps of red, brown and gold prints

1/4 yard of a tan print for outer border

Assorted scraps of light prints or shirtings for background

3/4 yard of a print for backing

1/8 yard of a different light print or shirting

27" x 27" piece of thin cotton batting

1/8 yard of a brown print

1/4 yard of a red print for inner border and binding

## Cutting:

From the assorted light print scraps, cut

8 squares,  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ "

From the other light print, cut

4 squares,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

From the brown print scraps, cut

4 squares,  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ "

From the other brown print, cut

4 rectangles,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ "

From the red print scraps, cut

4 squares,  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ "

1 square,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "

From the gold print, cut

4 squares,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "

From the red print, cut

2 strips,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ " for the inner border

2 strips,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $16\frac{1}{2}$ " for the inner border

3 strips,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 42" for the binding

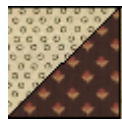
From the tan print, cut

2 strips, 3" x  $16\frac{1}{2}$ "

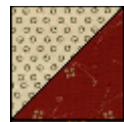
2 strips, 3" x  $21\frac{1}{2}$ "

## Make the Block:

1. Draw a diagonal line across the back of each of the  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " light print squares. Layer these on top of a red or brown  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " square, right sides together. Sew  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the drawn line on both sides. Cut on the line. Make 16 half-square triangles.



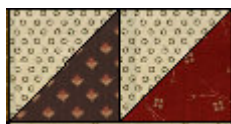
Make 8 brown



Make 8 red

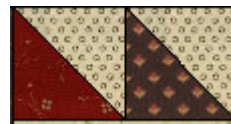
2. Sew the half-square triangles together into 2 units as shown.

Unit A



Make 4.

Unit B



Make 4.

3. Sew one of Unit A together with a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " gold print square. Make 4.



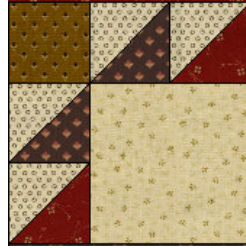
Make 4.

4. Sew the Unit B pieces together with the 4 1/2" light print squares as shown. Make 4.



Make 4.

5. Sew the units from steps 3 and 4 together to make the "Dove" unit.



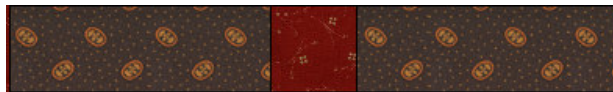
Make 4.

6. Sew 2 "Dove" units together with a 2 1/2" x 6 1/2" brown print rectangle.



Make 2.

7. Sew the remaining 2 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangles to both sides of a 2 1/2" red print square.

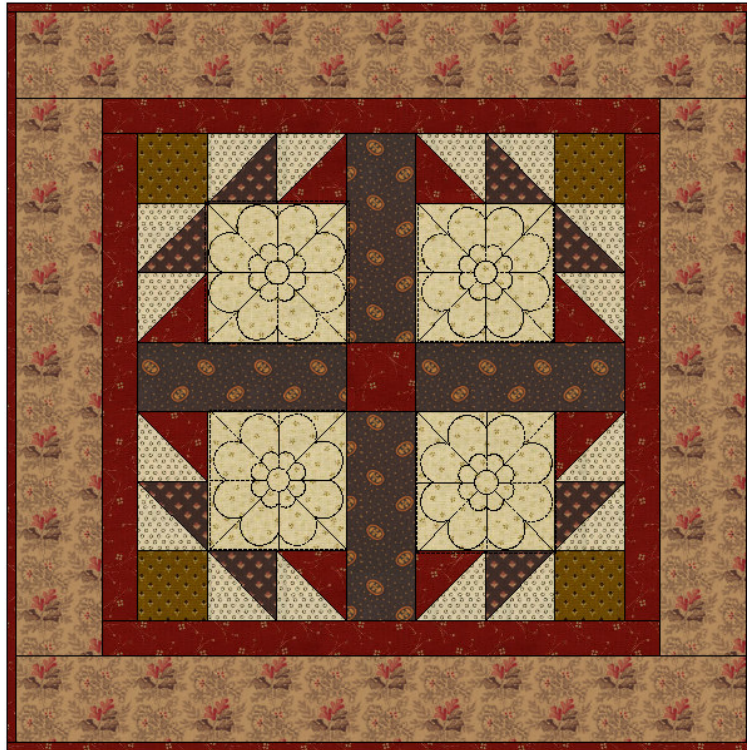


8. Sew the "Dove" units together with the rectangle strip to make the block.



**Add the Borders:**

1. Sew the 1 1/2" x 14 1/2" red strips to the side of the quilt top. Sew the 1 1/2" x 16 1/2" red strips to the top and bottom of the quilt top.
2. Sew the 3" x 16 1/2" tan strips to the sides of the quilt top. Sew the 3" x 21 1/2" tan strips to the top and bottom of the quilt top.

**Finish the Quilt:**

1. Layer your quilt top with batting and backing. Baste the layers together and then try hand quilting a simple quilting design – perhaps Xs through the blocks or maybe quilt something special in the plain blocks using a small stencil. Try using a contrasting colored thread to make your stitches stand out.
2. Bind your quilt using your preferred binding method. For less bulk, I like to use a 1 1/4" single-fold binding for my small quilts.





If red and brown are not "your colors," use your imagination and come up with another winning color combination. Make it scrappy. Make your "windowpanes" light instead of dark. How about making it in orange and black for Halloween or red and green for Christmas? The most fun I sometimes have in making these small quilts is in the planning and in the playing around with my fabrics. I hope you have fun too.

