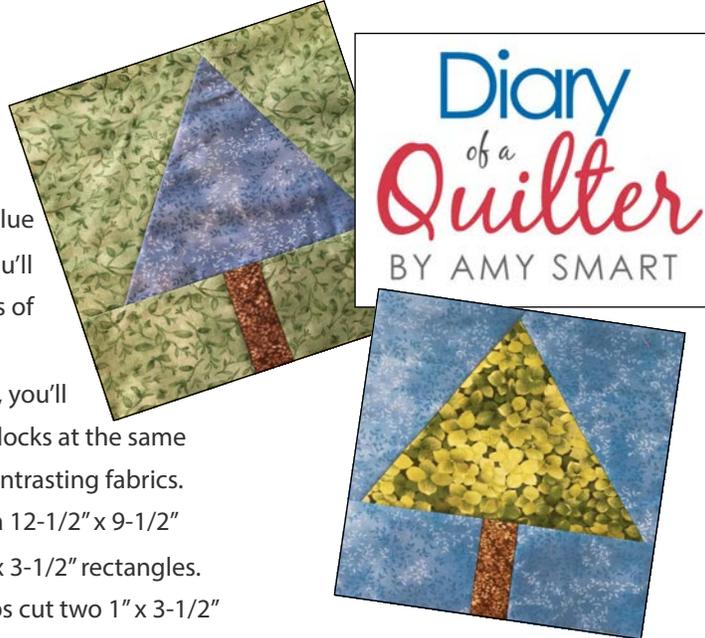# Patchwork Tree Block Tutorial

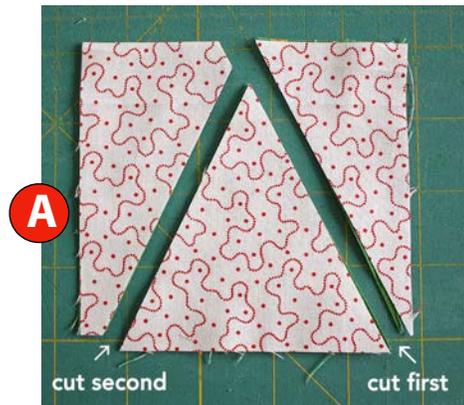Choose a variety of greens in different shades and scales, to create interest and depth. Pair the greens with blue background prints. You'll also need a few scraps of brown for the trunks.

Using this method, you'll be making two tree blocks at the same time. First pick two contrasting fabrics. From each fabric cut a 12-1/2" x 9-1/2" square and two 5-½" x 3-1/2" rectangles. From the brown scraps cut two 1" x 3-1/2" rectangles.

Fabric Requirements for 2 blocks

2 contrasting pieces 12-1/2" x 9-1/2"

2 pieces 5-1/2" x 3-1/2"

2 pieces 5-1/2" x 3-1/2"

2 trunks 1-1/2" x 3-1/2"

A. Stack the two 12-1/2" x 9-1/2" squares on top of each other, with both right sides facing up. Using a ruler and a rotary cutter, cut one side of your tree shape. Pull the right side away and make a second diagonal cut to create a triangle tree shape. Keep these pairs together, if you are mass-cutting your blocks at once. You can cut all of your pairs the same way (such as 60 degree triangles) or you can cut each pair slightly different by cutting the triangles at different heights, angles, etc. It's fun to give the trees a little bit of personality and make them all different. This project is very 'improv' inspired, so have fun experimenting!

B. Using the original pair of squares, mix the blue sides with the green 'tree' and the green side triangles with the blue 'tree'. Lay the contrasting 'tree' triangle, right sides together and sew it to the left-side triangle. (Your first seam will always be the line of your second cut.) Make sure that the top tip of the 'tree' triangle extends 1/4" beyond the top edge of the side triangle and sew a 1/4" seam. Open up 'tree' piece and press seam allowance to one side.

C. Sew the second side-triangle to the other side of the 'tree' triangle. Again, make sure the top triangle extends a 1/4" beyond the top edge of the pieced block. Press seam to one side. Square-off the top edge of the block and the bottom edges of the background triangles so that they are even with the 'tree' bottom.

D. To add the trunk, sew the brown 'trunk' piece in between the two coordinating background prints. Press seams toward the brown. Sew the trunk unit to the bottom of the tree unit. The trunk unit might be wider than the tree unit. That's okay — just center the trunk under your tree and sew it in place.

Then trim the block to the final size of **11-½" x 11-½".**

A

cut second   cut first

B

place top corner of 'tree' 1/4" past the edge of the background (see arrow)

C

C

leave 1/4" for seam allowance

D