

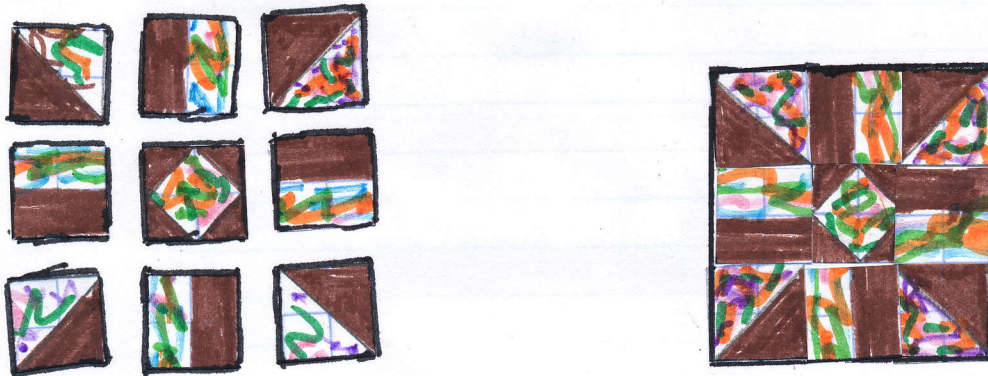
Empire Quilters Block of the Month May, 2022 MEXICAN TILE

The Mexican Tile is a classic 9 patch block. This month it is again modified to include a square set on point in the center and a different method for cutting and piecing. You will need only two 10 1/2" squares: one bright with multiple colors and one tan, buff, or soft lxxxxx brown in a tone-on-tone small print or solid.

- Sew the two 10 1/2" squares together with a 1/4" seam on all sides. X cut, press to the bright side, align the diagonal, cut overlapping 2 1/2" strips, sew the rectangles into stripe square patches, re-press two of the 2 1/2" HST, and sew center mini-block with the bright fabric in the center. This will result in four 4 1/2" HST patches, four 4 1/2" striped square patches, and one 4 1/2" mini-block patch with the bright fabric in the center. (See instructions for the March 2022 BOM, MODIFIED FRIENDSHIP STAR for specifics)



- Assemble the nine patches as shown below into a Mexican Tile block measuring 12 1/2". When these blocks are set together edge to edge, they look like a floor of Mexican Tiles.



- AN ADDITIONAL PIECE OF ADVICE: When making a quilt using fat quarter fabrics, cut two 10 1/2" squares across the 21" side of the fat quarter. This leaves a 7 1/2" by 21" piece available for the border design. **OR** The 7 1/2" by 21" piece can be cut and sewn into an additional 10 1/2" square of the fabric which makes half of an additional block for the quilt. This still leaves a 4" by 10 1/2" piece to use in a border accent. Three blocks rather than two blocks with the same colors in a quilt top give many more options for an interesting design. Using the extra pieced block option makes it quicker and less expensive to gather the fabrics needed for the quilt top.