

Langley Quilters' Guild Block of the Month – March 2003

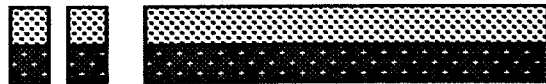
The block for this month is a very old one, called **Thrifty**. It is a **9-patch**, using **4-patch** blocks in the corners.

Instructions are given for a 9-inch finished block. **Colours** used are a medium to dark clear **blue** for the dark, and a light to medium clear **yellow** for the light. One fat quarter of each colour, or .2 of a meter of each, will be enough for two blocks. Use good quality cotton, preshrink, and check for colourfastness. All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

To make two blocks:

1. *From each colour:* cut one strip 2" x **WOF** (width of fabric)
Cut one strip 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x **WOF**
2. From the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strips: cut 8 blue squares (4 for each block) 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Cut 2 yellow squares (one for each block) 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3. Sew the yellow 2" strip to the blue 2" strip, right sides together. Press towards the blue.

4. Cross-cut this strip into 16 2" pieces.



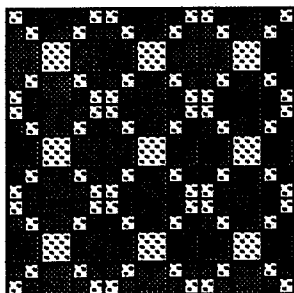
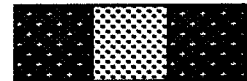
5. Sew pairs of the blue/yellow sections together to form a 4-patch. Make eight of these units. Press seams to one side. These units should now measure 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



6. Now lay the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares and 4-patch units out as shown. Be sure to turn the 4-patch units so that the yellow makes an "X" through the block. Sew together in rows, pressing seams towards the blue.



7. Join the three rows together, forming a 9-patch. This time, press the seams out, towards the 4-patches. This will make it easier to join the blocks together into a quilt. The block should now measure 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



Joined to form a quilt, this block resembles an Irish chain.