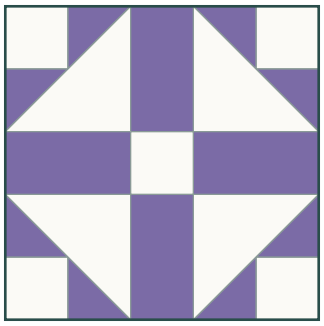
A QUILTPLAN BLOCK PATTERN

# FRENCH PATCHWORK

*Four pieced corners and a plus sign.*



21 pieces, 2 fabrics

An uneven nine-patch: four large pieced corners around a plus sign of rectangles, with a small square at the very center. Each corner is a little square, two small triangles and one big triangle, so the Background makes four large triangles pointing in toward the cross.

**SKILL** Confident beginner

**SEAMS** ¼" throughout

**SIZES** 5", 10", 15" and 20" finished



## Cutting

| Cut, for one block | 5" | 10" | 15" | 20" |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Main: cut 4 squares, for triangles<br>Cut once corner to corner: 8 small triangles. A little big; trimmed. | 2" sq | 3" sq | 4" sq | 5" sq |
| 2 Main: cut 4 rectangles<br>The four arms of the plus sign. | 1½" × 2½" | 2½" × 4½" | 3½" × 6½" | 4½" × 8½" |
| 3 Background: cut 2 squares, for triangles<br>Cut once corner to corner: 4 big triangles. A little big; trimmed. | 3 3/8" sq | 5 3/8" sq | 7 3/8" sq | 9 3/8" sq |
| 4 Background: cut 5 squares<br>Four for the outer corners of the block, one for the center. | 1½" sq | 2½" sq | 3½" sq | 4½" sq |

## Fabric, for one block

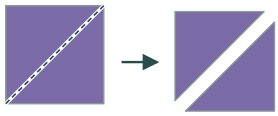
| Buy at least | 5" | 10" | 15" | 20" |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ■ Main | ¼ yd | ¼ yd | ¼ yd | ¼ yd |
| ☐ Background | ¼ yd | ¼ yd | ¼ yd | ¼ yd |

Worked out the way QuiltPlan's shopping list does it: 42" of usable width, 15% for waste, rounded up to the quarter yard. For a whole quilt, place the block in the app and it totals every block for you.

### Good to know

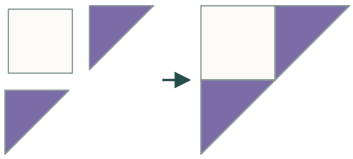
- The small square's inner corner has to land right on the big diagonal seam, or the Main loses its point. Sew with the pieced side on top so you can see it.
- The long edges of the triangles are cut on the bias and stretch easily. Handle them gently and press with an up and down motion rather than sliding the iron.
- **Why these sizes?** At 5", 10", 15" and 20" every piece of this block lands on a ruler line. At other sizes the app still works out the cutting for you.
- **Want a different size or a whole quilt?** French Patchwork is in QuiltPlan's block library. Place it on a quilt and the app gives you the cut list, the yardage and the shopping list for every block at once.

## Sewing it



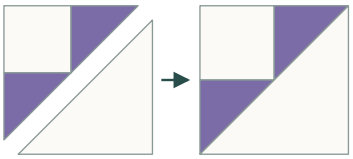
### 1 · Cut the triangles

Cut each 1 square once corner to corner for the small triangles, and each 3 square once for the big ones. Their long edges are bias: handle them by the corners and do not iron them yet.



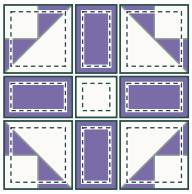
### 2 · Make the pieced triangles

Sew a small triangle to two touching sides of a 4 square, the triangles' square corners level with the square's outer edges, and press toward the triangles. Trim the triangles flush with the square's two outer edges, then trim the long edge with the ruler's quarter inch line on the square's inner corner. Make 4.



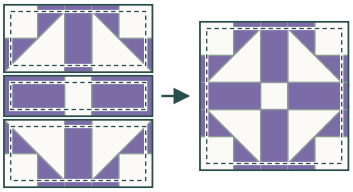
### 3 · Add the big triangles

Crease the middle of the long edges. Sew a big triangle to each pieced triangle, the pieced side on top so you can see the square's corner and stitch right through it. Press the seam open, so the Main does not shadow through the Background. Trim to 2½" for a 5" block, 4½" for 10", 6½" for 15" and 8½" for 20": the ruler's 45 degree line on the seam, the two cut sides measured from the square's outer edges. Make 4.



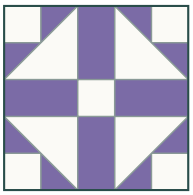
### 4 · Lay it out

Corner units with their small Background squares in the outer corners, a 2 rectangle between each pair, its long side along the block's edge, and the last 4 square in the center.



### 5 · Sew the rows

Sew each row, pressing toward the rectangles: inward on the top and bottom rows, outward on the middle row. The rows' seams then face opposite ways.



### 6 · Join the rows

Nest the seams, pin and sew. Press the long seams toward the middle row. The block measures half an inch more than it will finish.

Main Background