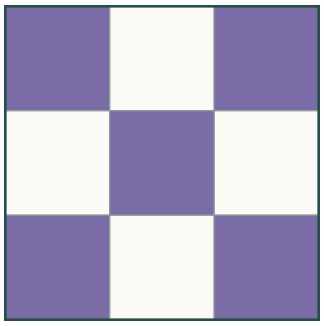
A QUILTPLAN BLOCK PATTERN

NINE-PATCH

Nine squares, and corners that meet.



9 pieces, 2 fabrics

Nine squares in three rows of three, one fabric at the corners and the center and another between them. It is the first block many quilters ever sew, and the one that teaches the two things every other block needs: an accurate quarter inch seam and seams that nest so the corners meet.

SKILL Beginner

SEAMS ¼″ throughout

SIZES 6″, 9″, 12″ and 15″ finished



Cutting

Cut, for one block	6″	9″	12″	15″
1 Main: cut 5 squares The four corners and the center.	2½″ sq	3½″ sq	4½″ sq	5½″ sq
2 Contrast: cut 4 squares The middle of each side.	2½″ sq	3½″ sq	4½″ sq	5½″ sq

Fabric, for one block

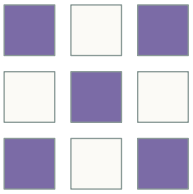
Buy at least	6″	9″	12″	15″
Main	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd
Contrast	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd

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

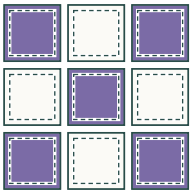
- Prefer your seams pressed open? It works, but the seams no longer nest, so pin every corner.
- Sew a test row first and measure it: three squares should come out the finished size of one row plus half an inch. If it is short, the seam is a little too wide.
- **Why these sizes?** At 6″, 9″, 12″ and 15″ 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?** Nine-Patch 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



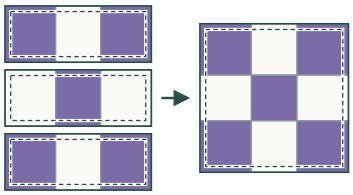
1 · Cut the squares

Cut five (1) squares for the corners and the center, and four (2) squares for the sides. Each is 2½″ for a 6″ block, 3½″ for 9″, 4½″ for 12″ and 5½″ for 15″, half an inch more than it will finish.



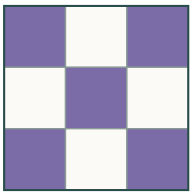
2 · Lay them out

Three rows of three: a (1) square at each corner and in the center, a (2) square in the middle of each side. Check it against the picture before you sew.



3 · Sew the rows

Sew each row with a quarter inch seam. Press the top and bottom rows toward their corner squares, and the middle row toward its center square. Every seam then points toward the Main, and the rows' seams face opposite ways where they meet.



4 · Join the rows

Lay the middle row on the top row, right sides together, and slide the seams until they butt against each other: they nest. Pin there and sew. Add the bottom row the same way and press the long seams toward the middle row. The block measures half an inch more than it will finish.

Main Contrast