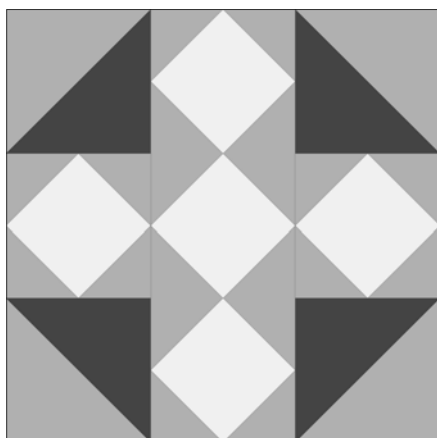




Women of the Bible PATTERN

# Block 34: Queen of Sheba



Fabric needed for one block & Cutting instructions		
Dark	Fat 1/8th yard or scrap (2) 5-7/8" squares, cut once diagonally	
Medium	Fat 1/4 yard or scrap (6) 3-3/8" squares, cut once diagonally (2) 5-7/8" squares, cut once diagonally (1) 6-1/4" square, cut twice diagonally	  
Light	Fat 1/8th yard or scrap (5) 4" squares	

As King Solomon's power and control grew, his control of the land route between Arabia and Egypt and introduction of sea trade both threatened caravan travel and trade with Arabia. Sheba relied heavily on spice and incense trade, and it's Queen knew that she must make an ally of King Solomon. The beautiful queen traveled to Solomon's court with a large caravan packed with gifts for the king: gold, spices, precious stones and wood for King Solomon's temple.

The Queen of Sheba was very confident of her allure, and first tested the King's wisdom before continuing her relationship with him. She questioned him with hard questions and riddles. "And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings which he offered at the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her." **1Kings 10:4-5**. The New Oxford Annotated Bible Revised Standard Version. 'No more spirit in her,' translated, meant that he took her breath away. It is quite possible that the Queen of Sheba and King Solomon became lovers. That would not be out of the ordinary, as King Solomon had many wives and concubines.

The nature of their relationship is not fully described in the Bible, but other historic references indicate that she returned to Sheba with a child. The bible does tell us, however, that the King gave Sheba all that she asked for before she returned to Sheba.

The Queen of Sheba was a confident leader. She knew what was best for her country, and sought and achieved an alignment with King Solomon, establishing trade routes with Egypt. What makes some women confident, effective leaders while others remain more timid, happy to stay in the background? Is it nature or nurture? Or a combination of both?

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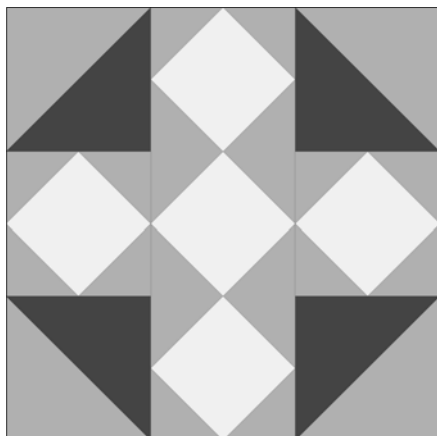
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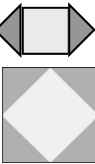






# Block 34: Queen of Sheba



Pattern for a 15" finished block—All seams are 1/4".  
Pressing directions are indicated.

## Instructions:

1. Create the half-squares by stitching Dark triangles to large Medium triangles along the long side. Press seams toward the Dark triangles. Make (4) units. 
2. Stitch (2) square-in-a-square blocks by stitching the smallest Medium triangles to (2) opposite sides of (2) Light squares, overlapping the edges approximately 3/8". Press to the outside. Stitch (2) Medium triangles to the other sides of the square, again, slightly overlapping the edges. Press to the outside. Make (2) units. 
3. Create the side rows by stitching the half-square units from Step 1 to each side of a square-in-a-square unit from Step 2, as shown. Press toward the half-square blocks. Make (2) rows. 
4. The center row is pieced in diagonal strips using Light squares and small & medium Medium triangles. Begin at the bottom, by stitching a small Medium triangle to the lower right side of a Light square. Press toward the Medium triangle. Stitch a second small Medium triangle to the left side of the square and a medium-sized Medium triangle to the upper right side of the square, as shown. Press toward the Medium triangles. Make (2) units. 
5. Piece the next diagonal strip by stitching a Medium triangle to the lower left side of a Light square and a Medium triangle to the upper right side of the Light square as shown. Press toward the Medium triangles. 
6. Stitch the three diagonal strips from Steps 4-5 together, matching seams. Press seams open. 
7. Stitch the rows together, as shown above. Press seams open.

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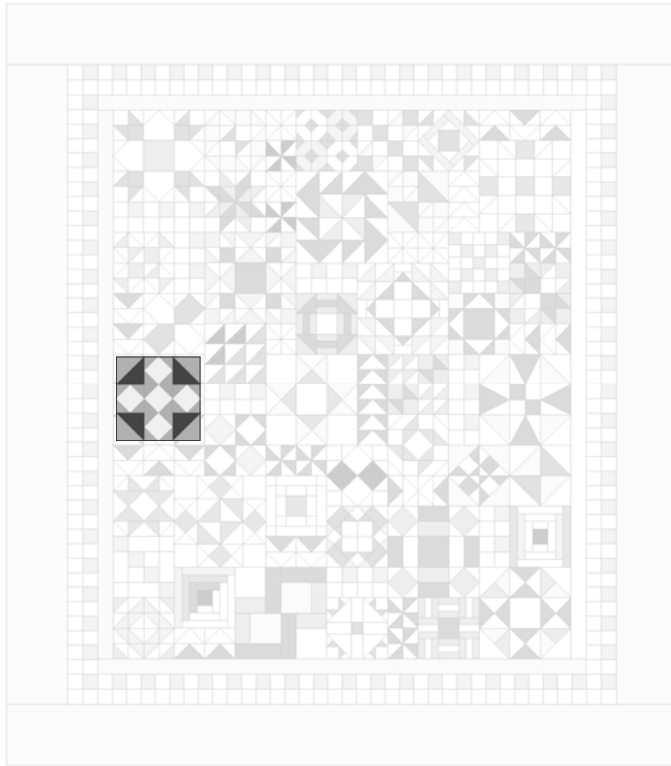
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# Block 34: Queen of Sheba



Finished 15"

Five Diamonds represents the Queen of Sheba and the treasures that she delivered to King Solomon.

The space below is provided for your personal reflection.

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