

Welcome to This Week's Challenge: Nine Patch & Plus Blocks

We're starting the challenge with my favorite quilt blocks, the Nine Patch and it's close cousin, the Plus (or Cross) Block. This beloved block can be tricky to quilt, but not for the reasons you might think.

Since it's pieced on a grid with simple squares, the design possibilities are endless! Sometimes, deciding between so many different options can be difficult.

The good news is that once you settle on a design, the quilting is usually fun and quick thanks to the reference points that the seams create.

This Week's Challenge:

Quilt the Nine Patch and Plus blocks on the challenge quilt with the quilting designs of your choice. You can use the designs demonstrated in the video or create your own variations.

Nine Patch Blocks: Design #1

This design is a little curvy and a little geometric, all while showing off the different prints in your quilt block.

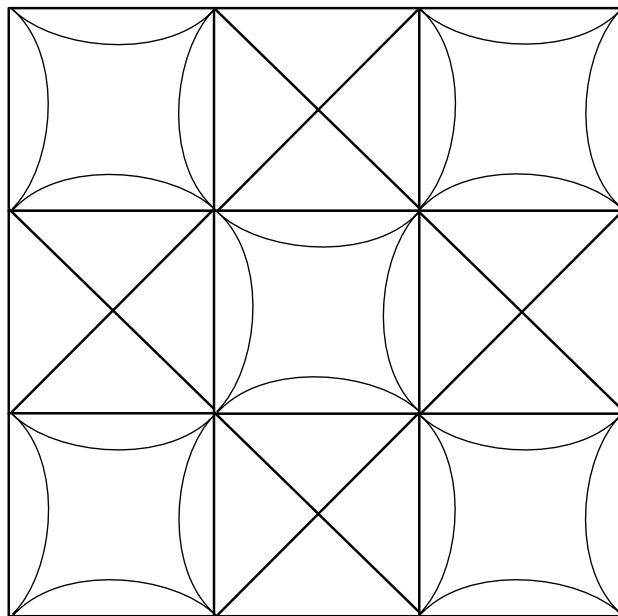
Perfect For:

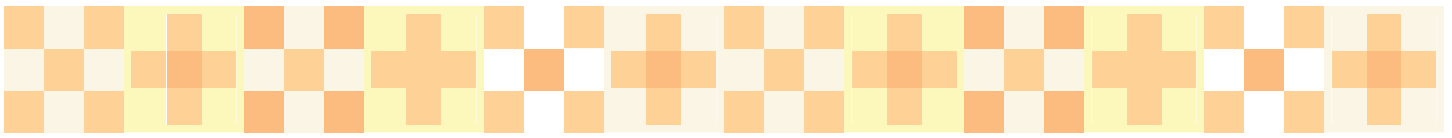
Blocks made with 2 different fabrics. The contrasting designs will help them stand apart just a bit.



Additional Tips:

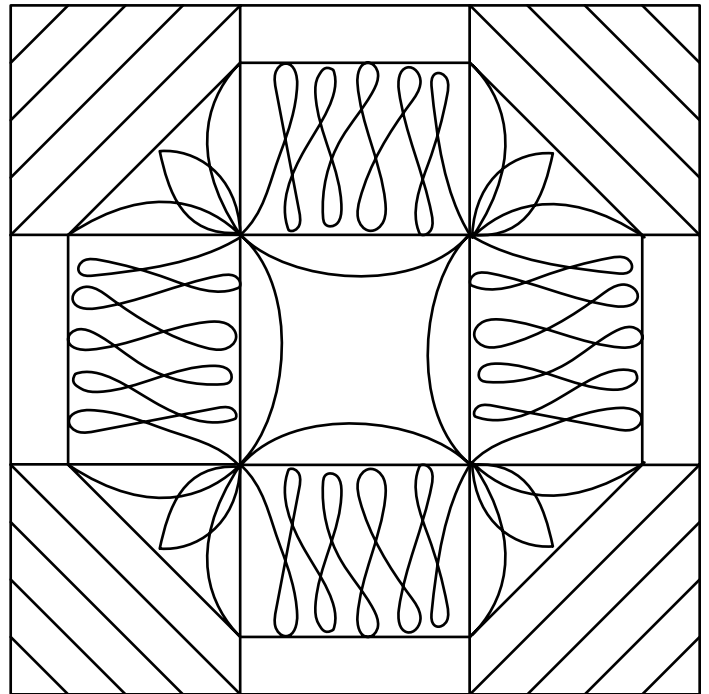
- Make this design fit blocks of all sizes by adding echo lines inside of the curves.
- Traveling along the seams of the block will allow you to quilt the block without stopping.





Nine Patch Blocks: Design #2

Connect the dots to turn your blocks in a different shape, especially if the center fabric is the focus or if you don't have a preferred print in the block.



Perfect For:

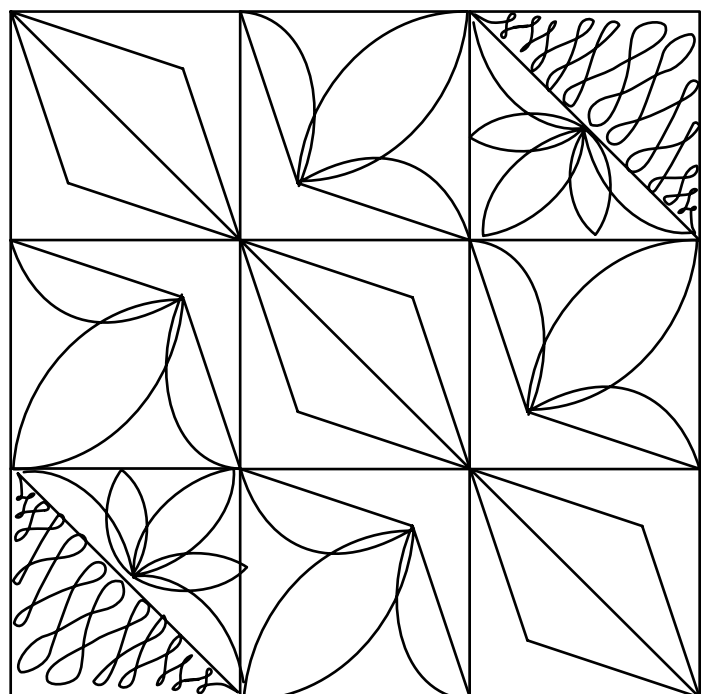
- Nine patch blocks of all sizes or blocks that might not have the best pieced corners.

Additional Tips:

- Try different designs in the spaces to create your own variations
- Add even more straight echo lines to make larger blocks easier to manage.

Nine Patch Blocks: Design #3

Create a directional design by quilting the block in sections. This helps create a secondary pattern with the quilting and enhances the overall quilt pattern.

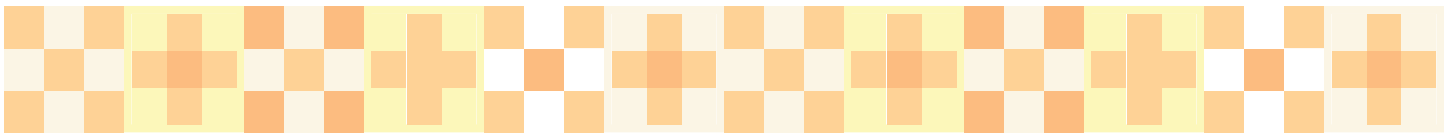


Perfect For:

- Nine patch blocks that are a part of bigger arrangement, such as Irish Chain blocks and sampler quilts.

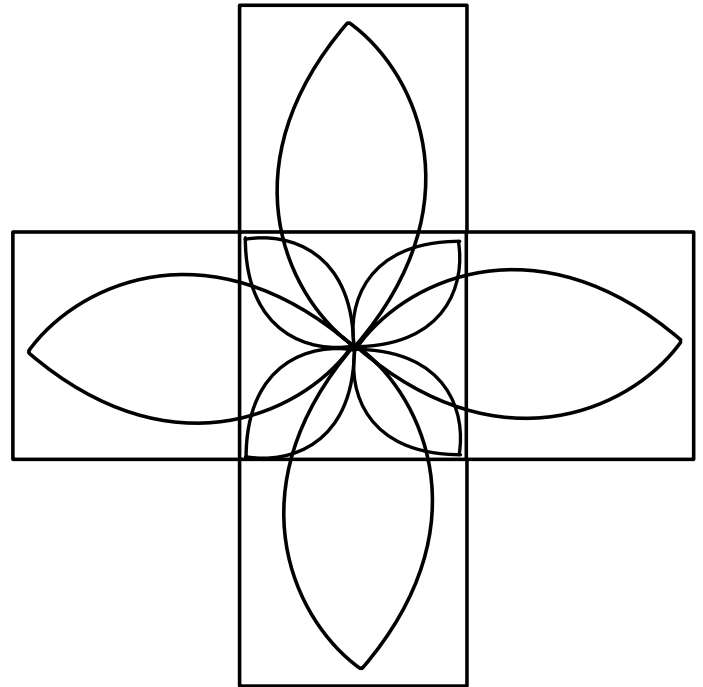
Additional Tips:

- Try different designs in the spaces to create your own variations.
- Both sides of the block don't have to be quilted the same.



Plus Blocks: Design #1

Give the continuous curve quilting design a little twist to create a design that will pull your eyes to the center of the block.



Perfect For:

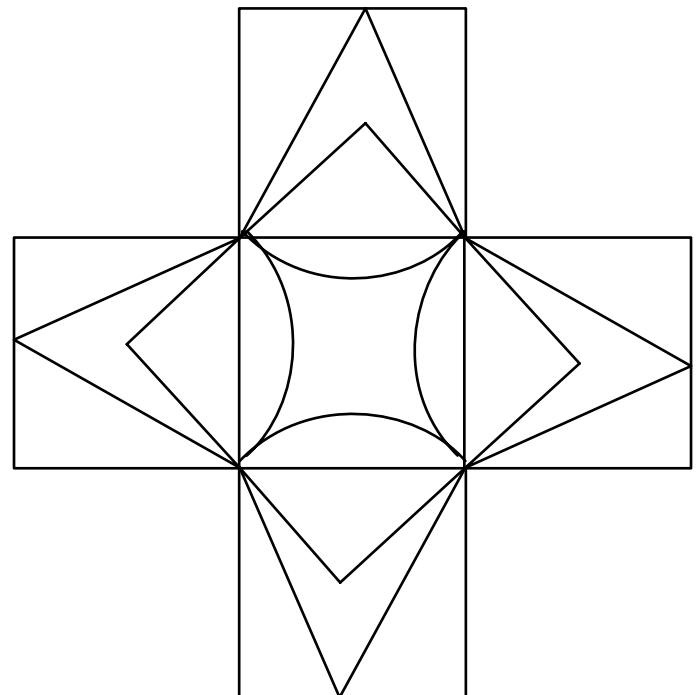
- Plus blocks that are pieced with the same fabric.
- Plus blocks in a range of sizes.

Additional Tips:

- For larger Plus blocks, add more curves.
- Echoing around the outside helps separate the block from the filler.

Plus Blocks: Design #2

Dot to Dot quilting and plus blocks go together like peanut butter and jelly! Use the corners of the block as reference points to quilt this design without marking.

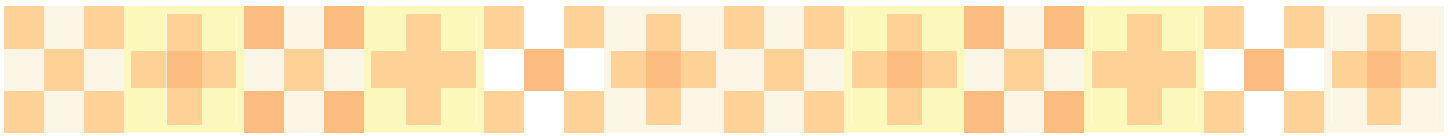


Perfect For:

- Plus blocks of all sizes or blocks with perfectly pieced points.

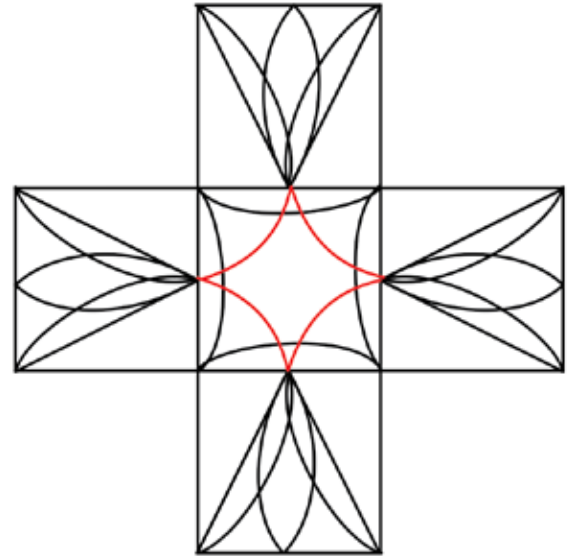
Additional Tips:

- If you don't have a ruler, quilt the lines curvy instead of straight.
- Add more echos to fill in larger blocks.



Plus Blocks: Design #3

Connect the dots to turn your blocks in a different shape, especially if the center fabric is the focus or if you don't have a preferred print in the block.



Perfect For:

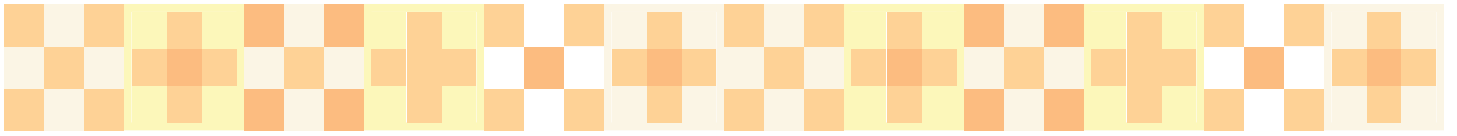
- Nine patch blocks of all sizes or blocks that might not have the best pieced corners.

Additional Tips:

- Try different designs in the spaces to create your own variations
- Add even more straight echo lines to make larger blocks easier to manage.

Design Placement





Create Your Own
