



It's a Pressing Issue

12 ½" unfinished

Designed by Karen Thurn

[Tu-Na Quilts, Travels, and Eats](#)

Use piecing, embroidery, and hand stitching to create this delightful block of an iron that is pressing a 9-patch quilt.

Fabric Selection

This block could be made from fabric scraps or yardage.

Approximate Fabric Needed:

Background: 6" x 31"

9-Patch Quilt:

Fabric A: 5" x 10"

Fabric B: 5" x 10"

Shell: 3 ½" x 11"

Handle: 4" X 5"

Soleplate: 1 ½" x 10"

Spray Button: 1 ½" x 1"

Spray Head: 2" X 2"

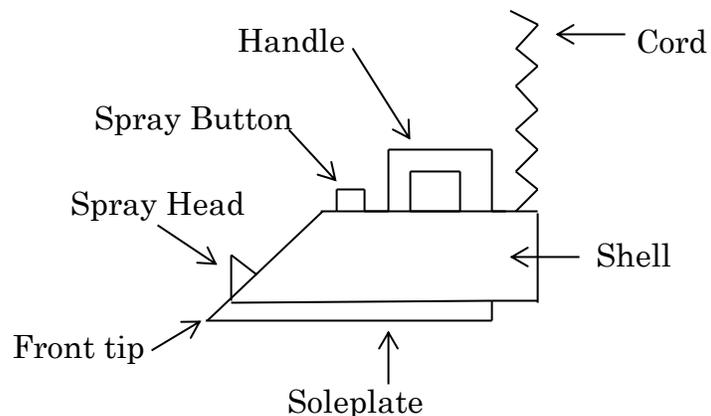
Additional materials needed:

22" Rick Rack

Embroidery Thread

Hints:

- Set stitch length to 2.0 - 2.5.
- Unless noted, use an accurate ¼" seam allowance to give you the right size of finished units. Check it to be sure.
- Unless noted, follow arrows → on pictures for pressing directions.
- Check out Tu-Na's Tried and True Easy Guide to Fabric and Color Selection for Quilt Blocks [Lesson One: Let's Take the Wheel for a Spin](#) to help guide your color choices and [Lesson Two: Variety is the Spice of Life](#) to guide your fabric selections.
- Cut your pieces accurately. See [Tu-Na's Tried and True Easy Steps to Making Accurately Pieced Blocks](#) for suggestions.
- See [Tu-Na Quilts: It's a Pressing Issue](#) for more information on making this block pattern, helpful pressing and ironing hints, and on the Sew Let's QAL.





Cut one of each of the following pieces unless noted.

Background:

- 7" x 6"
- 5 ½" x 1"
- 4" x 4 ½"
- 3 ½" x 3 ½" *
- 3" x 2"
- 2 ½" x 6 ½"
- 2 ½" x 3"
- 2 ½" x 1"
- 2" x 1"
- 1 ½" x 3"
- 1 ½" x 1 ½" *
- 1" x 1"

9-Patch Quilt

- Fabric A: Cut 3 – 1 ½" x 10" *
- Fabric B: Cut 3 – 1 ½" x 10" *

Shell:

- 7" x 3"
- 3 ½" x 3 ½" *

Handle:

- 4" x 1"
- Cut 2 – 1" x 2"

Soleplate

- 8 ½" x 1"
- 1 ½" x 1 ½" *

Spray Button:

- 1 ½" x 1"

Spray Head:

- 2" x 2"

* = larger than needed allowing for easier sewing and trimming

Let's Get Sewing!

1. Make each of the following units and then set them aside.

Front Tip



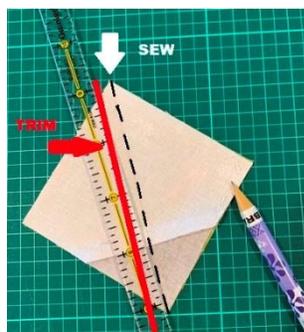
Draw a line diagonally from corner to corner on the wrong side of the 1 ½" background square. Place this piece on the 1 ½" soleplate square with right sides together. Stitch on the line. Trim seam to ¼" and press open. **Trim to 1" square.**

Spray Head



Draw a line diagonally from corner to corner on the wrong side of the 2" square spray head piece. Place this piece with right sides together on the bottom left corner of the 3 ½" background square. Sew on the line.

Trim seam to ¼". Press seam open and **trim piece to 3 ½" square** as pictured to the right.



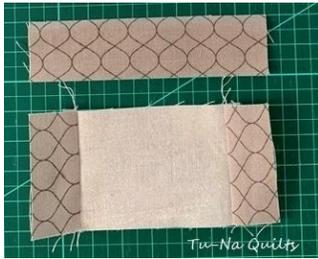
Draw a line diagonally from corner to corner through this Spray Head piece. Lay this piece with right sides together on the 3 ½" square shell piece. Sew on this line (as shown in the black broken line on the picture). Trim seam to ¼" (as shown in the red solid line on the picture).



Press seam toward spray head piece. **Trim to 3" square.** This piece is over size so you can choose how large you make the spray head. Just align the diagonal line on your ruler with the seam line and slide your ruler to make your spray head as large or small as you like.

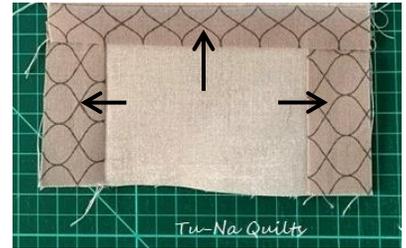


Handle



Sew a 1" x 2" handle piece to each side of the 2" x 3" background piece.

Sew the 1" x 4" handle piece to the top of this unit.



2. Make each of the following sections then set them aside.

9-Patch Quilt



Sew a Fabric B piece lengthwise between two Fabric A pieces. Press seams toward center as shown by the arrows.



Then sew a Fabric A piece lengthwise between two Fabric B pieces. Press seams away from center.



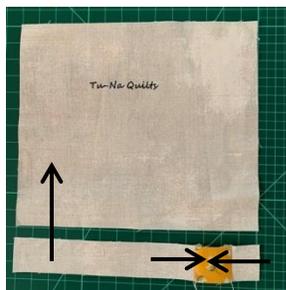
Cut each of these strips into six 1 1/2" x 3 1/2" pieces.

Alternate the ABA and BAB strips. Sew the rows together creating a 9-patch. Make four 9-patches.



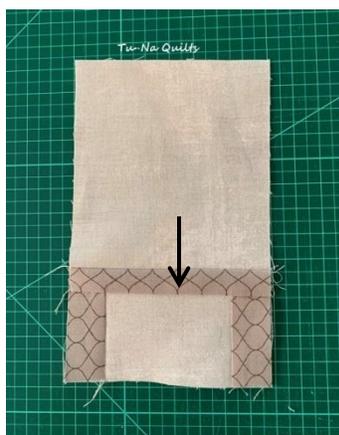
Then stitch the four 9-patches together. This row should measure 3 1/2" x 12 1/2".

Spray Button



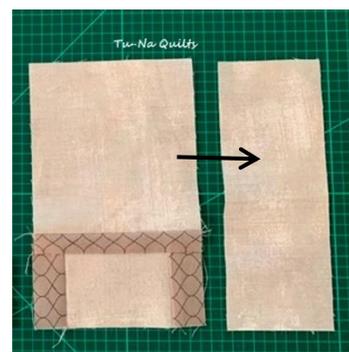
Sew the 1" x 1" background square to the 1 ½" x 1" spray button. Sew the 1" x 5 ½" background piece to the spray button piece and then sew the 7" x 6" background piece to the top of this unit.

Handle



Sew the 4" x 4 ½" background piece onto the handle unit previously sewn in step 1.

Sew the 2 ½" x 6 ½" background piece onto the right side of this handle section.



Shell with Spray Head



Sew the 2 ½" x 3" background piece onto the left side of the spray head.



Sew the spray head onto the left side of the 3" x 7" shell piece and then sew the 1 ½" x 3" background piece onto the right side of this shell piece.

Soleplate



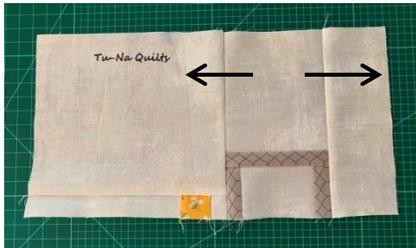
Sew the 2" x 1" background piece onto the left side of the Front tip piece previously sewn in step 1.



Then sew the long soleplate piece (8 ½" x 1") onto the front tip. Sew the 2 ½" x 1" background piece onto the right of this unit.

Putting It All Together

Lay out all the sections and sew them together.



Sew the spray button section onto the handle section



Sew the soleplate section onto the 9-patch section.

Sew the spray head/shell section onto the soleplate section.



Position the rick rack to the right of the handle. Baste it within the seam allowance (as shown in red in the picture).

Sew the spray button/handle section onto the shell section completing the machine sewing on the block.

Plugging It In



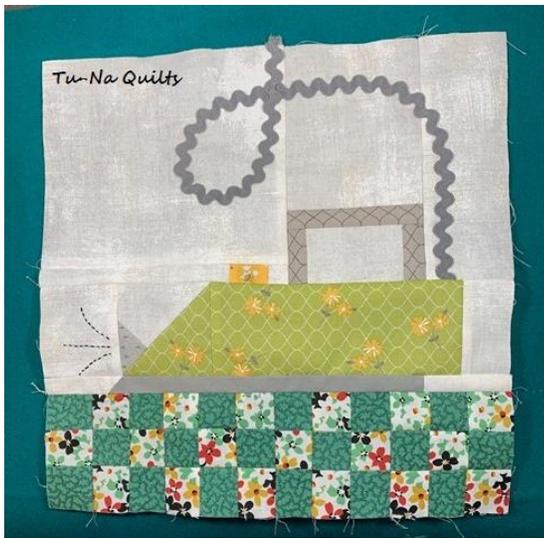
Arrange the rick rack as you desire. Pin (or use fabric glue) and hand stitch in place.

To Spray or Not to Spray? (Good question-Do you?)



Add water spray by using an erasable fabric pencil to draw three lines coming from the spray head. Using the embroidery thread, sew running stitches.

Now onto some pressing matters!



This pattern was
Designed for the
Sew Let's QAL.



2019

About Tu-Na

Learn more about me on my blog, [Tu-Na Quilts, Travels, and Eats](#). You will find stories, photographs, and inspiration regarding the things I enjoy doing: quilting, traveling and eating (actually cooking and baking but that didn't sound good in the title). If you enjoy what you read and would like to receive notifications of my next published post, please consider subscribing to follow using one of the three ways available on my blog's sidebar or at the end of the post on mobile phones: email, WordPress, or Bloglovin.

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