BQ5 Missouri
Quilt Pattern

RED, SAGE & IVORY / 20-BLOCK CONSTRUCTION GUIDE



54" x 67 1/2"	13 1/2"	4 x 5
NOMINAL FINISHED SIZE	FINISHED BLOCK	BLOCK LAYOUT

Illustrated cutting, piecing and finishing instructions, with full-size paper foundations for the diagonal corner units.

The quilt at a glance

A faithful layout study with independently calculated cutting and piecing instructions.



Supplied reference photograph

LAYOUT

4 blocks across x 5 rows

NUMBER OF BLOCKS

20

FINISHED BLOCK

13 1/2" x 13 1/2"

UNFINISHED BLOCK

14" x 14"

FOCUS SQUARE

9" finished / 9 1/2" cut

SEAM ALLOWANCE

1/4" throughout

Project measurement	Inches	Approx. metric
Nominal finished quilt	54 x 67 1/2	137.2 x 171.5 cm
Top before quilting and binding	54 1/2 x 68	138.4 x 172.7 cm
Backing and batting minimum	63 x 77	160.0 x 195.6 cm

What is verified, and what is reconstructed

The BQ5 reference is by Debbie Bowles / Maple Island Quilts (MIQ825). The published block and center sizes support this scale. Rail widths, corner geometry and the piecing sequence here are reconstructed from the supplied images; they are not the original pattern instructions. The arithmetic and diagrams were checked, but this version has not been sewn as a test quilt.

Plan your fabrics

Buy for 40" usable fabric width after removing selvedges. Yardages below include the generous corner blanks used in this guide.

Fabric or supply	Amount for this version
A - Assorted focus prints	20 squares, each at least 9 1/2" square. Twenty 10" precut squares work well.
L - Ivory / light frame	2 1/4 yd (2.06 m), including corner blanks
D - Black / very dark frame	2 yd (1.83 m), including corner blanks
Binding, separate from D	5/8 yd (0.57 m); cut eight 2 1/2" x WOF strips
Backing, 40" usable width	4 1/2 yd (4.12 m); two 77" lengths
Batting	At least 63" x 77" (160 x 196 cm)
Other supplies	Thread, rotary cutter, ruler, iron, removable paper, pins and a sewing machine

Match the photograph with contrast

- Red and burgundy focus prints
- Charcoal botanical focus prints
- Sage and pale green focus prints
- Ivory frame / black outer rails

Use varied red, green and charcoal prints for the large squares. Keep the ivory fabric consistently light and the dark rails consistently dark so that the broken-frame and pinwheel effect remains clear.

Focus-fabric alternatives

One print: 1 1/2 yd yields twenty 9 1/2" squares at 40" usable width. Assorted prints: ten fat quarters can yield two squares each, if their usable dimensions allow. Buy extra for exact motif placement.

Cut once, label everything

Every CUT measurement below already includes 1/4" seam allowances. WOF means width of fabric; use at least 40" usable width.

ID / fabric	Cut size, inches	Per block	For 20 blocks
A - Focus	9 1/2 x 9 1/2	1	20
L1 - Light, right rail	3 1/2 x 6 1/2	1	20
L2 - Light, lower rail	9 1/2 x 3 1/2	1	20
D1 - Dark, upper rail	2 x 6 1/2	1	20
D2 - Dark, short rail	2 x 3 1/2	1	20
D3 - Dark, bottom rail	11 x 2	1	20
L - Corner blanks	6 1/2 x 5	2	40
D - Corner blanks	6 1/2 x 5	2	40

Finished corner units

Make twenty C1 units measuring **5" wide x 3 1/2" high unfinished**, and twenty C2 units measuring **3 1/2" wide x 5" high unfinished**. Each uses one light blank and one dark blank. Use the foundations on page 11.

A simple strip-cutting plan

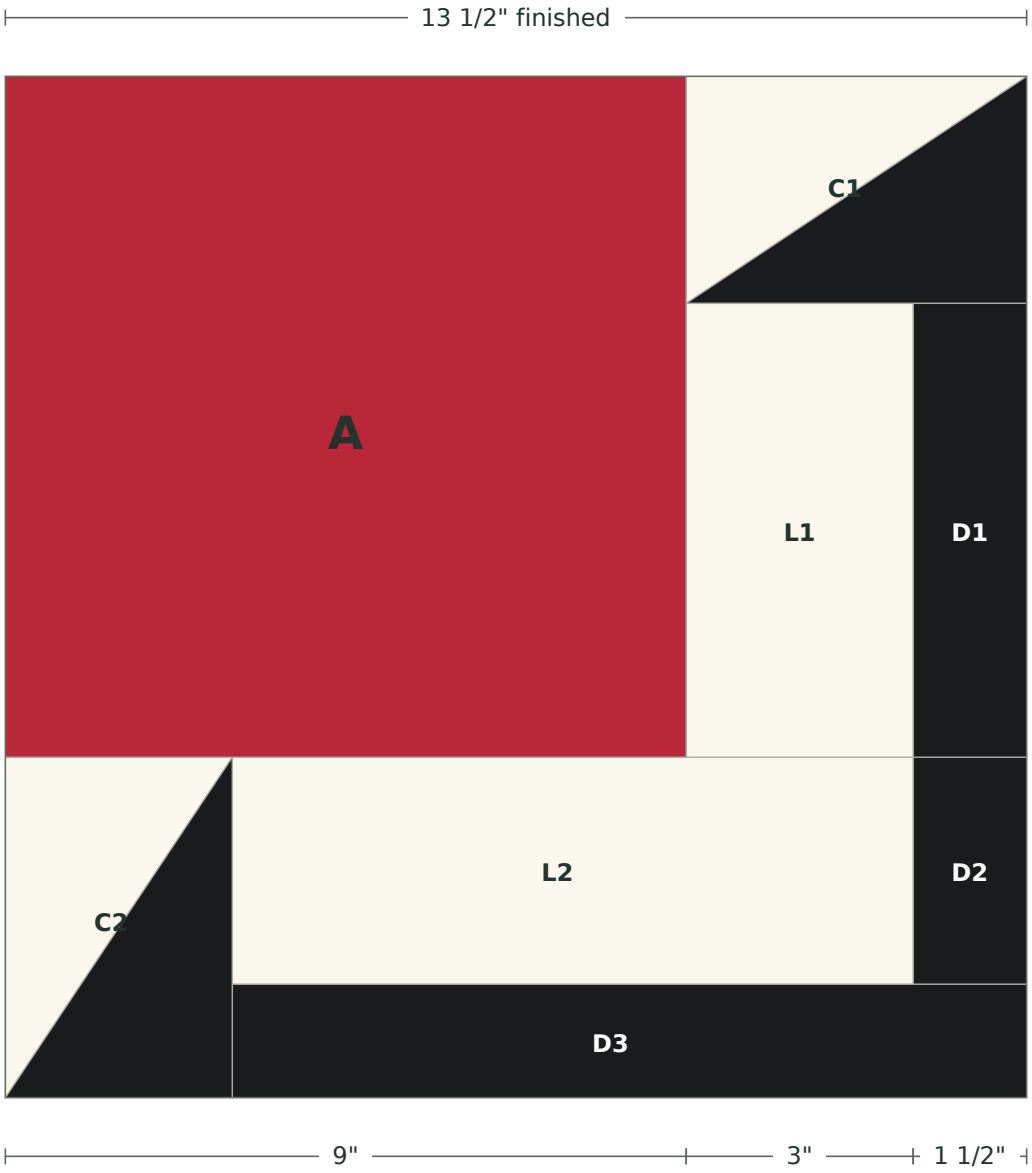
Light: seven 5" x WOF strips, six corner blanks from each; five 3 1/2" x WOF strips, four L2 rectangles from each; four 3 1/2" x WOF strips, six L1 rectangles from each. Total fabric length: **66 1/2"**.

Dark: seven 5" x WOF strips, six corner blanks from each; seven 2" x WOF strips, three D3 rectangles from each; four 2" x WOF strips, six D1 rectangles from each; two 2" x WOF strips, eleven D2 rectangles from each. Total fabric length: **61"**.

The strip plan produces a few spare pieces. Keep all pieces labelled; the long dark strip is D3, not D1.

One block, eight components

The base block has its focus square in the upper-left corner. This drawing shows FINISHED dimensions; use page 4 for cutting sizes.



The frame is 4 1/2" wide overall

It consists of a 3" finished light rail and a 1 1/2" finished dark rail. C1 finishes at 4 1/2" wide x 3" high. C2 finishes at 3" wide x 4 1/2" high. Their diagonals pass through the corners of the finished rectangles.

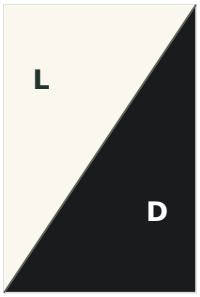
Thin internal lines show the construction joins in this guide. These added joins keep all piecing straight and avoid partial seams.

Make the diagonal corners

Make 20 C1 units and 20 C2 units. The fabric front of BOTH units must have light at upper left and dark at lower right.



C1 - fabric front



C2 - fabric front

1. **Print and check the scale**

   Print page 11 at 100% / Actual size. Disable Fit, Shrink and Scale to printable area. The calibration square must measure exactly 1" x 1". Print 20 copies of that page.

2. **Start on the fabric side of the paper**

   Place a dark blank behind section 1, right side facing away from the paper. It must cover the complete dark section and extend at least 1/4" beyond the diagonal sewing line.

3. **Add the light fabric**

   Fold the paper back along the sewing line; trim the dark fabric 1/4" beyond the fold. Place the light blank right sides together with the dark fabric, aligning a straight raw edge with that trimmed edge. Dry-fold the light piece to check that it will cover section 2 and every outside cutting edge.

4. **Sew, press and trim**

   Sew through the printed diagonal line with a short stitch, about 1.5-1.8 mm. Extend the stitching to the outer cutting boundary. Press the light fabric open. Trim through paper and fabric on the solid outer rectangle; retain the 1/4" outside seam allowance.

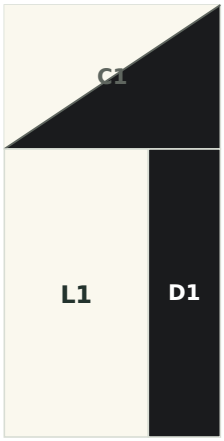
The printed foundation is a BACK VIEW. Turn it over to check the fabric front against the diagrams above. Keep the paper in place until the unit is attached to its neighbouring pieces.

Build the right wing and bottom band

Sew with an accurate 1/4" seam. Press before checking each unfinished measurement. Drawings below are not cutting templates.

1. Right wing

Join L1 to D1 along their 6 1/2" edges, with the dark strip on the right. The pair measures **5" x 6 1/2"**. Sew C1 across the top, light at upper left. The wing measures **5" x 9 1/2"**.



5" x 9 1/2" unfinished

2. Bottom band

Join D2 to the right end of L2 along the 3 1/2" edges. The pair measures **11" x 3 1/2"**. Add D3 along the bottom to make a rectangle measuring **11" x 5"**. Add C2 to its left end. The complete band measures **14" x 5"**.



Check before batch sewing

Make one right wing and one bottom band first. Their light and dark edges should form the continuous L-shaped frame shown on page 5.

Finish and rotate the blocks

All 20 blocks use the same construction. Rotate completed blocks to create the photograph layout.

1. **Add the right wing**

   Join the right wing to the right edge of A, matching the 9 1/2" edges. The upper section must measure **14" wide x 9 1/2" high**.

2. **Add the bottom band**

   Join the bottom band beneath the upper section along the 14" edges. The block must measure **14" x 14" unfinished**. Press seams toward the darker fabric where practical; press open at bulky joins.

3. **Remove paper and check**

   After the corner edges are secured in seams, remove the paper carefully without stretching the bias. Check that opposite raw edges are parallel and the block is square. Do not trim below 14".

Orientation key - where the focus square sits



UL

0 degrees

Make / place 6



UR

90 degrees clockwise

Make / place 4



LR

180 degrees

Make / place 4



LL

270 degrees clockwise

Make / place 6

For directional prints

If every motif must face upright in the finished quilt, plan each focus square for its final block rotation before sewing. Check the arrangement on a design wall first.

Follow the photograph

Place the focus squares and rotate the blocks as shown. All blocks are joined directly; there is no sashing or added outer border.



Block rotations by row

Row	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
1	UL	LL	UL	LL
2	UR	LR	UR	LR
3	UL	LL	UL	LL
4	UR	LR	UR	LR
5	UL	LL	UL	LL

UL = upper left; UR = upper right; LL = lower left; LR = lower right. These codes describe the position of the large focus square, not the diagonal corner.

Join, quilt and bind

The layout measures 54" x 67 1/2" in finished block dimensions. The assembled top, with outside seam allowances, measures 54 1/2" x 68".

1

Sew five rows

Sew four blocks across in each row. Every row should measure **54 1/2" wide x 14" high**. Recheck the focus-square positions before sewing. Press alternate row seams in opposite directions, or open if the corner units become bulky.

2

Join the rows in order

Join rows 1 through 5, matching the block boundaries without stretching the diagonal corner units. The top should measure **54 1/2" x 68"**. Its width is 4 x 14" minus six 1/4" allowances; its height is 5 x 14" minus eight 1/4" allowances.

3

Prepare the backing and batting

Cut two backing panels, each 40" usable width x 77" long. Join the long 77" edges using a 1/2" seam, then trim the joined backing to at least **63" x 77"**. Use batting at least the same size. This provides more than 4" beyond each edge of the unquilted top.

4

Baste and quilt

Press the top and backing. Layer backing wrong side up, batting, then the top right side up. Baste from the center outward. Quilt to suit the fabrics, keeping within the batting manufacturer's maximum spacing. Straight or gently curving lines work well with the geometric frame.

5

Bind the edges

Join eight 2 1/2" x WOF binding strips with diagonal seams. Press the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Square the quilt while preserving the outside block seams, attach the double-fold binding with a 1/4" seam, miter the corners and secure it to the back.

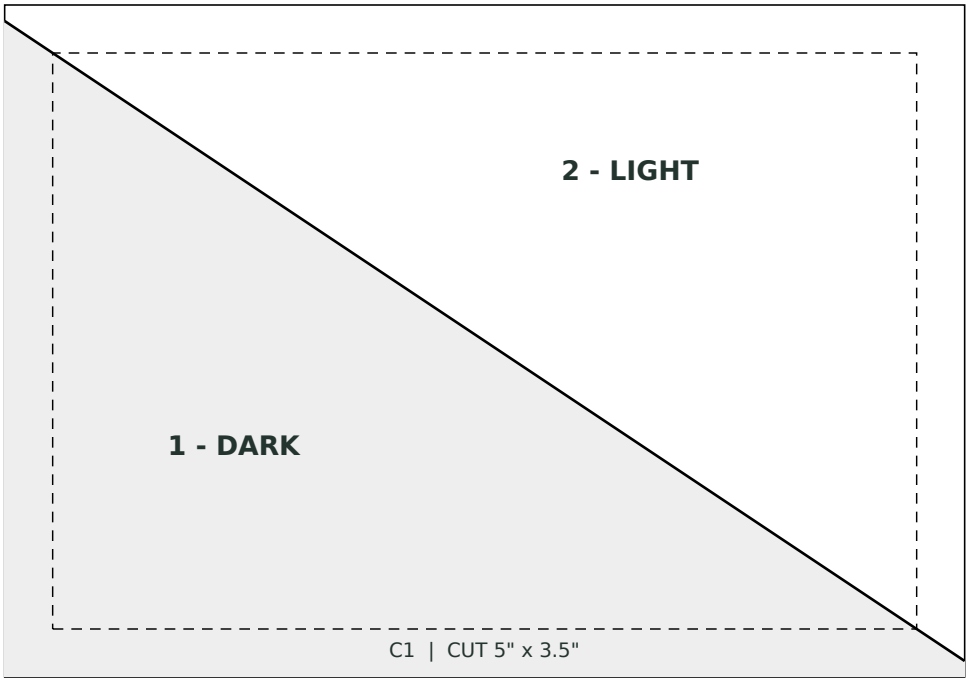
Reference and use of this guide

BQ5, Debbie Bowles / Maple Island Quilts, MIQ825; designer's public size listing: mapleislandquilts.com/miq-patterns/all-miq-patterns/. Photo supplied by the user; maker and photographer unconfirmed. This is an independent image-based construction guide with new diagrams and wording, not an official Maple Island Quilts or Missouri Star publication.

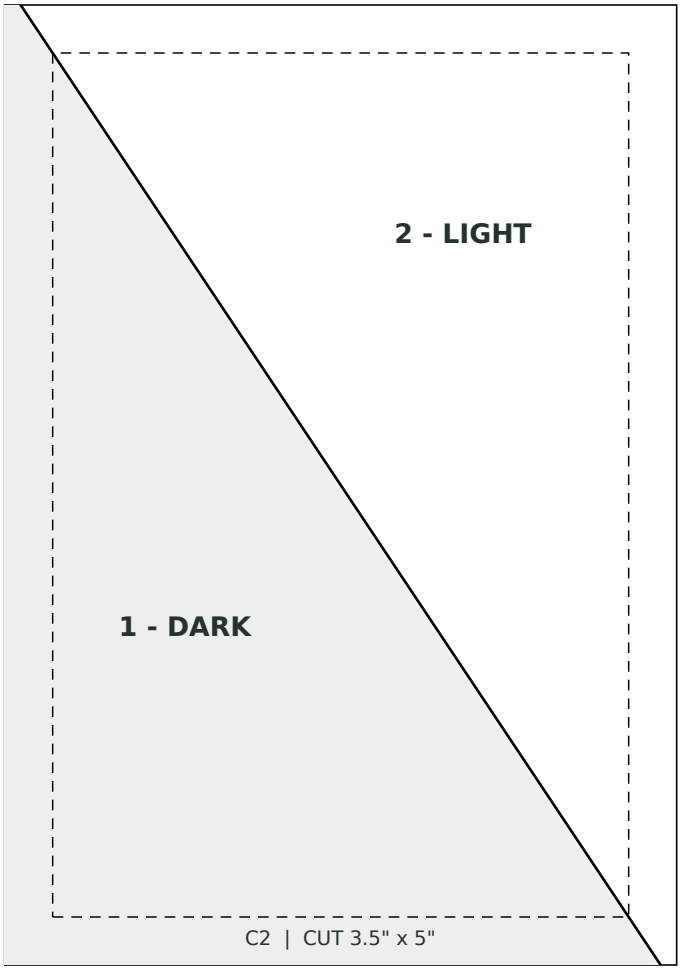
Full-size corner foundations

PRINT AT 100% / ACTUAL SIZE. Do not Fit or Shrink.

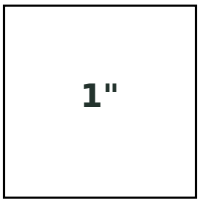
C1 - BACK VIEW | 4 1/2" x 3" finished



C2 - BACK VIEW | 3" x 4 1/2" finished



SCALE CHECK



Each side = 1 inch / 25.4 mm

Solid outside rectangle: cut here.

Dashed inside rectangle: finished unit boundary; do not cut here.

Solid diagonal: sew here.

1/4" outside seam allowances are included. Place fabric behind the printed paper. After flipping to the fabric front, light is upper left and dark is lower right.