

### Brighter Hopes

#### Block basics:

- As far as I know, this is a brand-new block. If you have seen it before and it has a name, please let me know. The construction method is similar to the Bright Hopes block, so I'm calling it Brighter Hopes.
- Finished block size is 12 1/2" square. (The size when you turn it in, before it is sewn into a quilt.)
- Use whichever neutral thread color makes the most sense.
- All seams are scant 1/4" seams unless otherwise indicated.



#### Choose your fabric:

You need only two fabrics for this block. This is your chance to use fabric with large scale patterns, in bright colors, plus a contrasting solid or tone-on-tone fabric. The contrasting fabric may be lighter or darker than the focus fabric, but should be a definite change in value. You may want to fussy-cut the center square. Bright florals or geometrics will work well. Holiday or novelty fabrics will not work well.

#### Cut the following fabric pieces:

1. Four 3 1/2" by 8" rectangles of the focus fabric.
2. One 3 1/2" square of the focus fabric.
3. Four 2" by 8" rectangles of the solid fabric.

Note: If you have longer lengths of fabric you may cut the strips 32" long instead of 8". Or 16" strips twice if you started with a fat quarter.



#### Construct the block:

Sew the focus fabric rectangles to the solid rectangles. Press toward the focus fabric. Arrange them as shown.

Note: If you have 32" strips, sew them together, then cut into 8" rectangles.



Take the center square and set it on top of the strip to the left, right sides together, and sew together, stopping at least an inch from the end. (This is called a partial seam.) Press to the outside, toward the solid strip.



Sew the top strip to this segment. Press to the outside.



Attach the right strip and the bottom strip the same way.

Fold the bottom strip to the left, and finish sewing the partial seam you started in the beginning.



Open it up and press the seams to the outside.



Here is the final block.

Bring your finished blocks to the guild meeting July 21st to participate in the drawing.

Questions? Suggestions for future blocks? Feel free to email me, Judy Johnson, at  
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