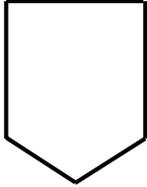


## 2015 – 2016 GLHQ Block of the Month Challenge

### General Instructions

#### How the BOM Challenge works

Each month the flag pattern and technique will be different, most will be inspired by the previous month's Guild speaker and be themed for the season. Each month the block will finish the same size (5 1/2" x 7 1/2") and shape – like this –



and will use the same hanging method- just simple buttonholes. We'll use ribbon to weave through the buttonholes to hang all of the flags together at the end. By June, you'll have made 7 flags and have a "sampler banner" to display. Since each pattern will be reflective of the season – for example October/Halloween, February/ Valentine's Day, May/Spring – those of you that want a more "coordinated" group of flags (rather than totally scrappy) you should think about incorporating the same color in all of your flags each month.

Each month's pattern and directions (pdf file) will be on the GLHQ website [www.glhq.org](http://www.glhq.org) under "Activities" and then "Block of the Month 2015-2016."

Additional FUN – We will be running an optional "BLOTTO"–

This is voluntary. So consider making a 2<sup>nd</sup> flag and submit it and your name into a drawing for all of the flags turned in that month. Imagine having your name drawn to take home a special occasion banner of that month's pattern showcasing the creativity of our guild members! FUN.

Please consider making two and joining the BLOTTO fun– one you keep and one you bring to Guild – and enter the drawing for ALL of the submitted flag blocks that month.

I hope you have fun creating these little flags!

## 2015 – 2016 GLHQ Block of the Month Challenge

### General information about the flag pattern

All sewing is with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, unless specified.

Every flag will finish 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 7  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long including the "flag point" at the bottom. All of the sewing and most of the embellishment will be done before trimming to the final size and shape. Typically, the first cut will be to create an unfinished 6" x 8" rectangle- before making the point at the bottom. In some months, the starting material will be a bit larger because we'll be piecing the fabric or doing applique or embroidery so we will need to start with a larger piece and then trim it to size at the end. Don't worry, each month's instructions will let you know when to start with a larger piece of fabric.

Here's the Basic Flag Pattern: Keep a copy of these instructions to reference when making the final cutting and sewing steps to create the flag shape each month.

### Basic Flag Assembly Instructions:

Cut 6" x 8" rectangle of your Front fabric. Each month the Front will be cut to this size after you've completed the design.

Cut 6" x 8" rectangle of fabric for Back

Cut a rectangle of very thin batting or medium weight nonwoven interfacing. Thinner is better for this project since we want less weight.

Instructions:

1. Determine what will be the top and the bottom of your flag Front. On wrong side (WS) of the front, determine the center bottom by folding in half in the long dimension (8") and mark the center. On WS of front, measure up 2" from the bottom and mark this dimension on both sides of your flag. Draw lines from the 2" marks to the marked center point at the bottom. This will be the cutting lines to make the flag point.
2. Layer front and back right sides together (RST) and layer batting on top of wrong side (WS) of Back. You are going to sew and turn this inside out, so make sure that the Front and Back pieces are RST before cutting.



3. Cut along the 2 lines you marked to create the bottom flag point.
4. Sew around the perimeter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance) and leave a 2" opening on the top or one side for turning.

5. Cut the batting very close to the seam to reduce bulk and square off the corners/point to reduce bulk at the points.
6. Turn inside out, pushing out the corners and points. Close the opening, I used 2 sided fusible since I top stitched around the entire flag at the end.

**Basic Hanging Method Instructions: Buttonholes** 😊

We'll weave ribbon or binding through buttonholes at the top to hang the flags together. So if it has been a long time since you've made a buttonhole, practice on a scrap first. All of the buttonholes will be  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long and be located in the same place on each flag, so all of the flags will hang the same.

1. Measure  $\frac{3}{8}$ " down from the top on each side and  $\frac{3}{8}$ " in from each side of the finished flag.
2. Make a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long buttonhole parallel to the 2 long sides of the flag.

This basic pennant pattern can be found in Fons and Porter's Quilting Celebrations Fall 2015 special magazine, but notice our flag has different dimensions 😊 !

Flag Banner Shape Unfinished dimensions (not to scale).

6" unfinished

