

Constructing the block, cont:

For the **Side** units, sew together 1 **Beige** 1 1/2 by 3 1/2-inch rectangle, 1 **Red** 1 1/2 by 3 1/2-inch rectangle, and 1 **Blue** 1 1/2 by 3 1/2-inch rectangle; press the seams in one direction. Repeat with remaining 1 1/2 by 3 1/2-inch scraps for a total of **4 Side** units.

Make 4 **Side** units that measure
3 1/2-inch square

Blue
Red
Beige

Assemble the block in three rows following the diagram on page 2 paying careful attention to the placement of each unit. Sew the 2 1/2-inch top and bottom border strips in place, trimming to fit; press to the border strips. Repeat with the remaining 2 1/2-inch border strips for the sides of the block, trimming to fit. Press to the border strips. Your block should measure slightly more than 12 1/2-inches; use your 12 1/2-inch square ruler to center and trim your block.

Erik's tips:

This block enjoys a straight-forward construction and the unit sizes are frank. Each of the units should measure 3 1/2-inch square before they are sewn together to make the block. If you find they do not, make the necessary changes. Sewing the **Corner** units in two steps helps keep the bias edges stable. If you have trouble sewing in two steps, cutting each 4 1/4-inch twice on the diagonal (where the drawn lines would be) results in the same pieces.

This block was purposely made smaller with a 'courthouse step' style border added to bring it to the full dimension; a style we have used before since a 12-inch finished square would result in measurements that would be tedious to cut.

You may trim the finished block to 12 1/2-inches square now, or wait until you are ready to assemble the rows of the quilt later during the project.

Your finished block will measure 12 1/2-inches (unfinished), *once trimmed*.

Notes about our (very slightly modified) London Roads Block:

The London Roads Block (Ladies' Art Company 1897) has a few slight variations that we found during our research. Each block has the slant at the corner that eventually forms an arrow. Some variations we found have only one fabric (**Beige** in our design) in the corner and some are split like ours. We kept the two piece **Beige** piece in the spirit of our scrappy quilt; 2 3 7/8-inch squares, cut once on the diagonal will also work.

We wanted to keep the arrows visible, so we made ours **Red**, do not hesitate to play with your scraps and move them around for different results! If you want an arrow on each side, you will need to make one extra set of 4 1/4-inch squares to get the points you need and you will have pieces leftover. We decided not to have the typical four arrows, since some London roads are one-way, two-way, and impassable; just take a good look at our block!

Have fun making this block! We used a different scrap for each of our 1 1/2 by 3 1/2-inch rectangles...it was fun to experiment with the design and we hope you agree.