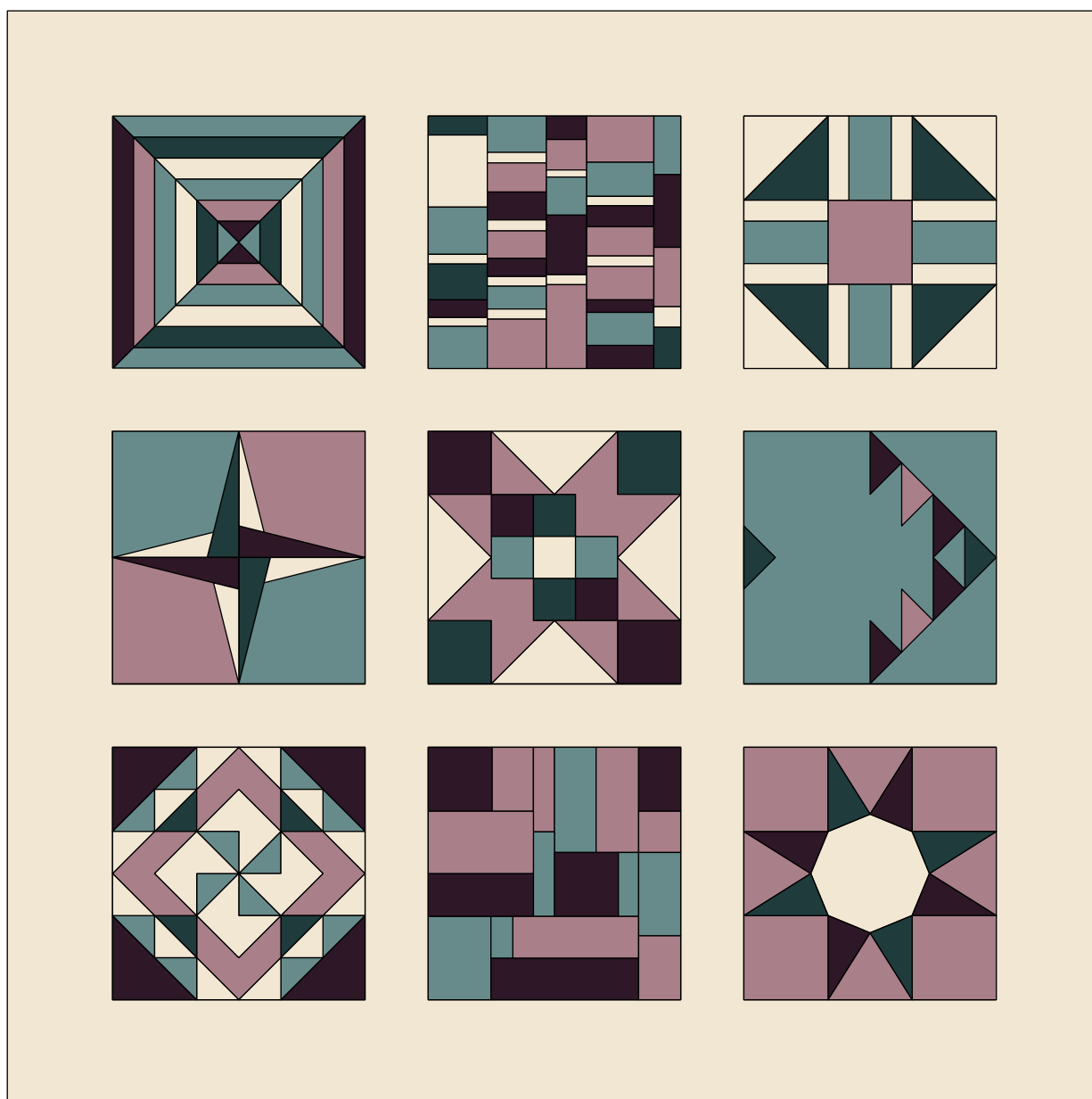




Birthday Block of the Month Finishing



Congratulations!

Over the last nine months, we have sewn together, learned new techniques, shared incredible quilt documentation tips, and now we're finishing a quilt together! The staff and board of the Quilt Alliance wants to thank you for joining us on our 30th anniversary adventure. We are excited to start another year of exciting programming, focused on quilt documentation, next year and we hope you'll continue to join in as we celebrate all quilters and their stories.

Cutting Instructions

Fabric	Cut	Quilt Colors Art Gallery Fabrics PURE Solids
Color 1	Not used	Evergreen
Color 2	Not used	Swimming Pool
Color 3	6 - 3" x 12 1/2" strips (small sashing) 2 - 3" x WOF (large sashing) 2 - 5 1/2" x WOF (sides) 3 - 5 1/2" x WOF (top and bottom)	Creme de la Creme
Color 4	Not used	Sweet Fig
Color 5	Not used	Cabernet

NOTE: The sample quilt for this project uses Color 3 as the background color. If you'd prefer to use a different color or even a new sixth color for the background, simply follow the cutting directions listed above with any fabric you'd like!

Notes:

- Cutting instructions assume that width of fabric (WOF) is 42". To finalize the quilt, there are some strips that are 42" precisely. If your WOF is shorter than 42", you may need to cut a scrap of additional fabric and piece it to the end of the strip using a horizontal seam.
- The fabric requirements for our Block of the Month are very generous to accommodate variation between quilters in this block.
- Once the quilt top is complete, follow your favorite basting tutorial to pin or spray baste the quilt. Quilt as desired at home, or send the top and back to a longarm quilter if preferred.
- In the intro PDF in March, we noted that you'll need 1/2 yard of fabric for your binding. Cut that fabric into six 2 1/2" x WOF strips and sew them together in your preferred method. Hand or machine bind the quilt.
- Remember that you do not need to follow the block layout shown on the cover of this pattern! Arrange the blocks in any order you like. If you used different colors or chose printed fabrics, your blocks may look more balanced or pleasing in a different order.
- If this is your first time basting a quilt, you can find a useful and free [tutorial here](#).
- For a tutorial on binding a quilt, [click here](#).

Assemble the Rows

1. Lay out the nine blocks in the order you'd like to piece them, creating a 3 x 3 square of blocks. Starting with the top row, piece the row as follows: Block, small sashing, block, small sashing, block. Press each piece of small sashing towards the quilt blocks. You can arrange the blocks in any order you'd like.

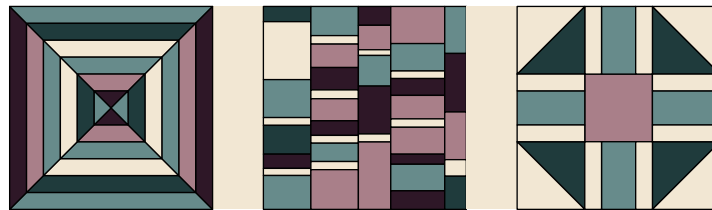
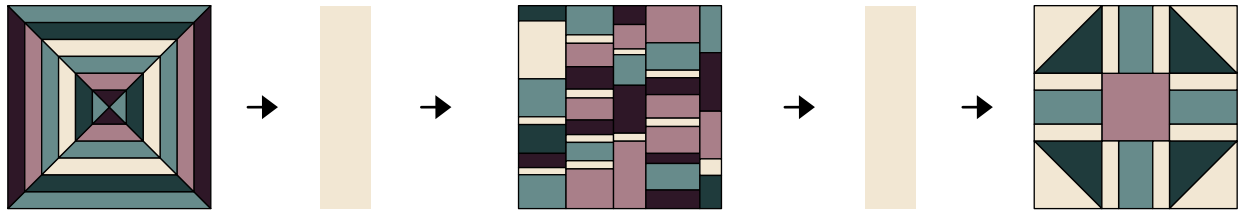


Diagram 1

2. Repeat with all three rows until they look like Diagram 2 below.

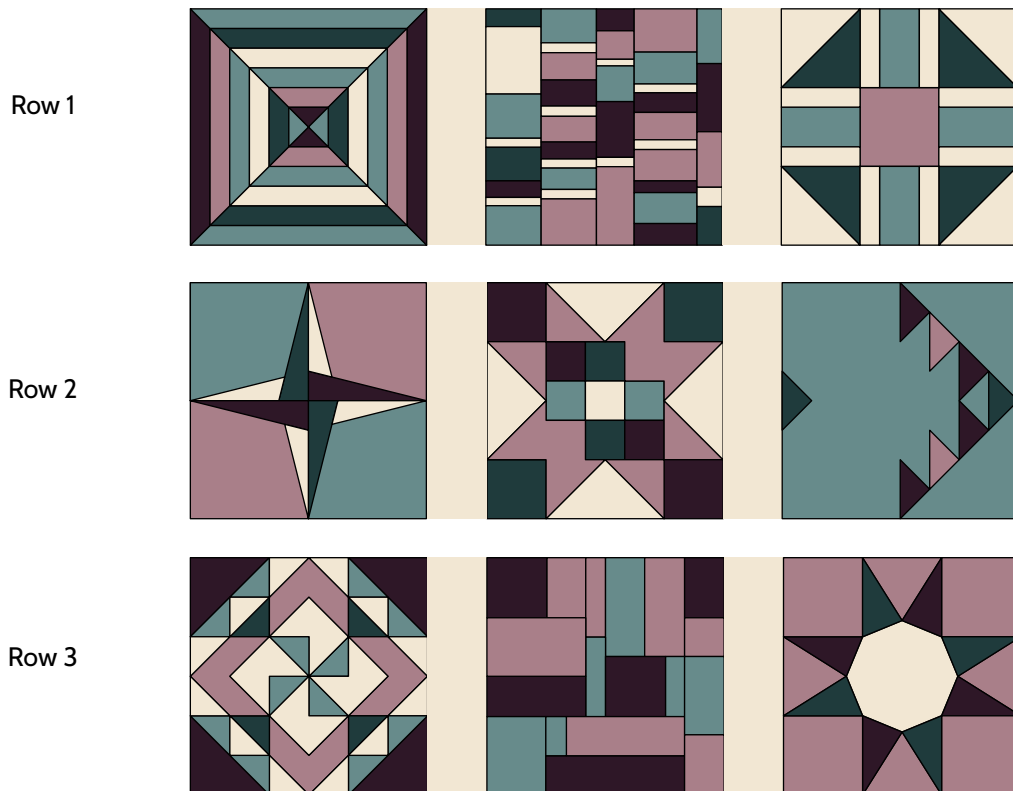


Diagram 2

Sew the Rows Together

3. Sew the top row to one large sashing strip. Press towards the blocks. Sew the second row to the other side same large sashing strip as shown in Diagram 3. Press towards the blocks. Repeat with the second large sashing strip until you have sewn all three rows to large sashing strips as shown in Diagram 4.

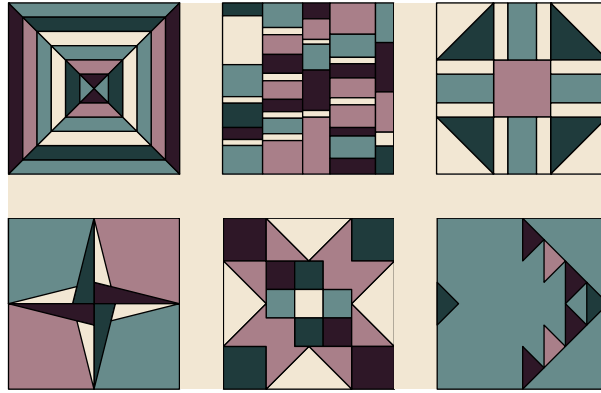


Diagram 3

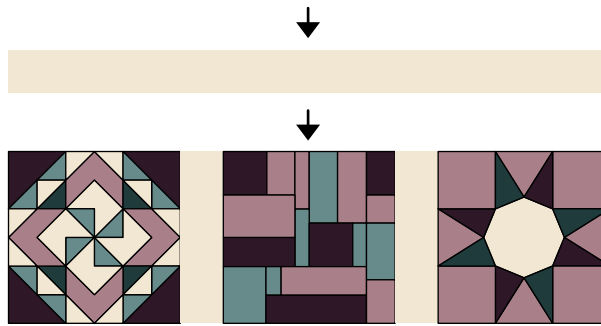
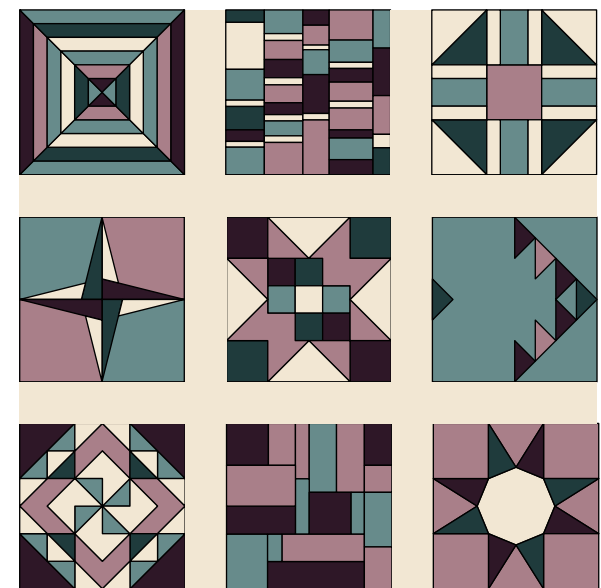


Diagram 4



Add the Side Borders

4. Sew one side border to each side of the quilt as shown in Diagrams 5 and 6. Press towards the blocks,

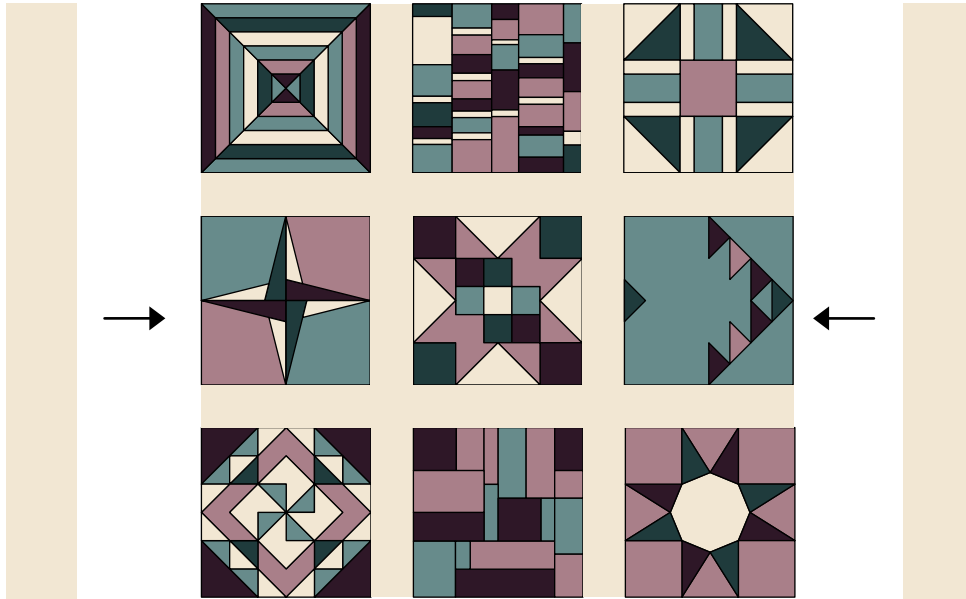


Diagram 5

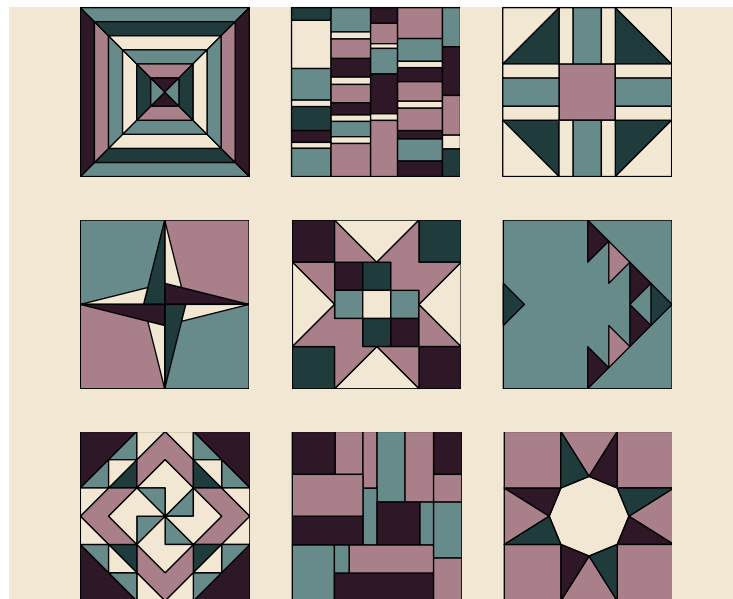


Diagram 6

Add the Top and Bottom Borders

5. Sew the three top and bottom border strips together using a vertical seam. Sew the top borders to the top of the quilt and trim the excess. Sew the remaining border strip onto the bottom of the quilt, as shown in Diagram 7 and trim the excess. Press towards the blocks.

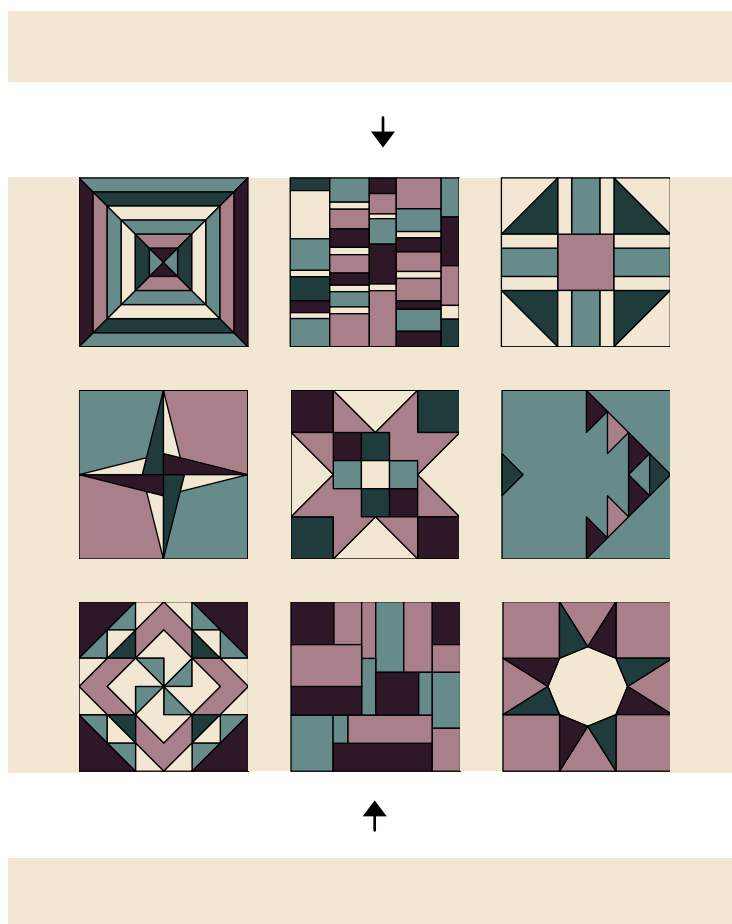


Diagram 7

6. Your Quilt Alliance Birthday Block of the Month quilt top is complete!

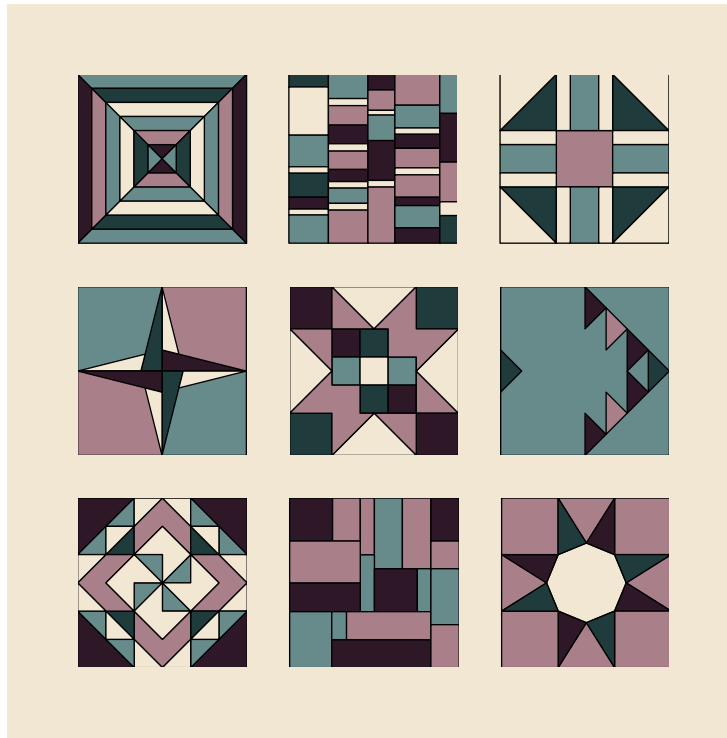


Diagram 8

Share your completed Quilt Alliance Birthday Block of the Month quilt or quilt top on social media! Be sure to tag [@quiltalliance](https://www.instagram.com/quiltalliance) and use the hashtag [#QuiltAllianceBOM](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/QuiltAllianceBOM). We can't wait to see and share your finished quilt!

Email a photo of your completed quilt top to blockparty@quiltalliance.org — all members who finish the entire top will receive one free year of Quilt Alliance membership as our thanks for celebrating with us!