

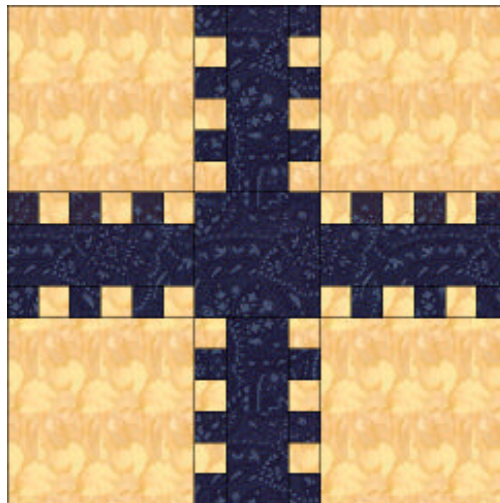
CrossWay Quilt.

by Jennifer L. Schmidt

Block #1

Embattled Cross

In the sixteenth century, a son's birthorder began to appear on family heraldry/coats of arms. These "cadence signs" included the battlement-like squares which adorn the basic cross on this quilt block. Reflecting the strength of an embattled fortress, and coupled with the spiritual (and political) power of the Cross, the cadence mark on this quilt block also signified the strength of the first-born son.





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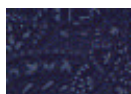
Block Construction (makes a 12" finished block)

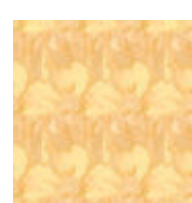
- Dark squares/rectangles represent the cross fabric. Light squares represent background fabric.
- This block requires you to sew with a scant (a little less than) 1/4" seam allowance. Consistency is the key for this block to come out to the correct size.


1. **Cut--**


 24 squares, measuring 1.25" x 1.25" unfinished


 4 rectangles, measuring 2" x 5" unfinished

 1 square, measuring 3.5" x 3.5" unfinished

 4 squares, measuring 5" x 5" unfinished

 24 squares, measuring 1.25" x 1.25" unfinished

2. **Chain sew** the 1.25" squares into 24 pairs of cross fabric/background fabric, as shown here. —> 

3. **Sew** three of these pairs together to create 8 strips, each consisting of six alternating cross/background fabric squares, as seen here. (I'll call this Unit A)—> 

4. **Sew** one Unit A (a six-square strip) to each long side of each cross fabric rectangle. Be sure both Unit A's on each rectangle march in the same direction. That is, there is a cross fabric square across from a cross fabric square, a background fabric square across from a background fabric square, etc. (Please see illustration.) If you have consistently used a scant 1/4" seam allowance, these small squares should align themselves automatically across from each other. I'll call this new section Unit B.



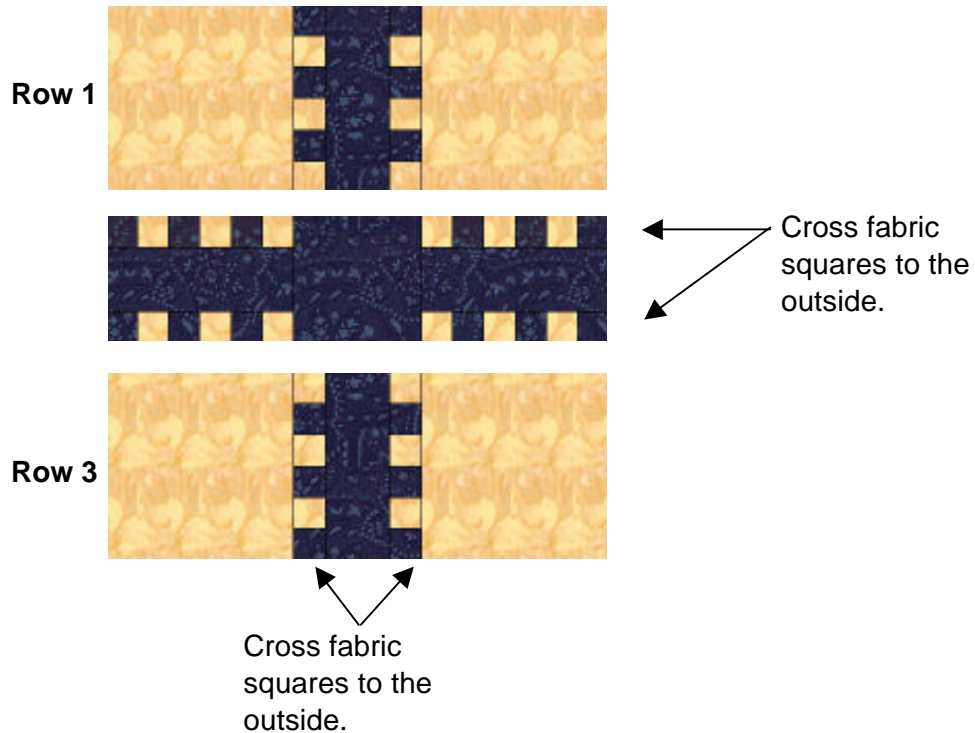
Correct Unit B



Incorrect Unit B

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5. **The rest** of the block is constructed like a nine-patch block. (Please refer to the illustrations below.) In the **first row**, sew a 5" background square to each long side of one Unit B (5" square/Unit B/5" square). For the **second row**, sew a Unit B on opposite sides of the 3.5" cross fabric square (Unit B/3.5" square/Unit B). Be sure that the outermost, small, cross fabric squares in the Unit A's are along the outsides of the row, NOT against the 3.5" square. The **third row** is constructed like the first row, but flip Unit B around so that the cross fabric squares of the Unit A's will be to the outside of the block, not against 3.5" square when rows 2 and 3 are sewn together. Sew the rows together.



References

Liungman, Carl G. *Dictionary of Symbols*. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 1991.

Wenzer, Edward. "Some Crosses and Their Forms".



I had fun creating this pattern & instructions and hope to pass that creative excitement along by sharing the design with you. It is for your personal or non-profit use. You are welcome to share the pattern and instructions with your friends as long as you include where you found it (my website address) and who designed it (my name). Also, if you're having difficulty with the instructions, please email me. I'll be glad to help you however I can.-- Jennifer L. Schmidt

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