

Seymour Quilters Guild Block of the Month - May 2026

Card Trick Block (which is set on point)

Fabric Requirements: Note that the colour selection for my block is for purposes of showing the block orientation. Please choose your own four colours, plus a background.

Colour 1 (Purple):

Cut (1) 2½" x 2½" square

Cut (1) 2½" x 4½" rectangle

Colour 2 (yellow):

Cut (1) 2½" x 2½" square

Cut (1) 2½" x 4½" rectangle

Colour 3 (teal):

Cut (1) 2½" x 2½" square

Cut (1) 2½" x 4½" rectangle

Colour 4 (orange):

Cut (1) 2½" x 2½" square

Cut (1) 2½" x 4½" rectangle

Background (white on white background):

Cut (4) 2½" x 2½" squares

Cut (2) 8½" x 8½" for setting triangles



Step 1 (making the centre four patch block):

Take 1 each of your **colour** 2½” x 2½” squares and make the 4 patch block for the centre.

Step 2:

Take your purple 2½” x 4½” rectangle and sew it to the side of your 4 patch with the matched 2½” x 2½” purple square.

Take your teal 2½” x 4½” rectangle and sew it to the opposite side of your 4 patch matched up with the 2½” x 2½” teal square.

Step 3:

Take two of your 2½” x 2½” white squares and sew one to each side of your yellow 2½” x 4½” rectangle. Repeat with the remaining two white square and sew one to each side side of your orange 2½” x 4½” rectangle.

You will then sew the yellow/white to the side with the yellow square in the 4 patch, making sure to match the seams. Repeat sewing the orange/white to the opposite side of your 4 patch matching with the orange square in your 4 patch.

This block should measure 8½” x 8½”.

Assembly of Block:



Step 4 (setting the block on point):

Since my version the the Card Trick block uses 2½” squares and 2½” x 4½” rectangles, you will need to set the block on point so that it gives the illusion that it is spinning.



To set this block on point:

Take your two 8½” x 8½” white background and cut each once diagonally.

Place one triangle RST on top of your Card Trick Block and sew to one side. Repeat for the other side.

Place the other two background triangles to the other sides of your Card Trick Block and sew the sides. Press.

You will now square up this block to 12½” x 12½”. There will be plenty of room to square up nicely. I left a little over ½” from each of the corners.

The unfinished block will be 12½” x 12½” (which will be a 12” x 12” finished block).

This block was very easy to piece together. You may even consider using just two colours for the block.

Original design of the Card Trick block

The Card Trick block is from the 1970’s and was designed by Jeff Gutcheon. It was featured in McCall’s Needlework and Crafts magazine, and made with an hourglass block, 4 tri-colour blocks and 4 HSTs. There are lots of tutorials to make his version of the block. You would not need setting triangles to set the block on point if you decided to make his version of the block.

Happy Quilting!

Susanne Dickenson