

# “9-Patch Over-Under” Mystery Quilt

By Susan C Druding

## Part one-Introduction and Fabric Options

It's a full-sized quilt of approximately 94" x 94". I say "approximately" because you can alter the border choices at the end if you wish to make it larger or a little smaller. The minimum size for the quilt (with no borders at all) is 81" x 81".

This is an EASY quilt. If you are an experienced quilter, you'll find it fun and fast. If you are a beginning quilter, you'll easily be able to do it with simple quilt-sewing skills. The finished look will be more complicated than a simple 9-patch (...therein lies the mystery...).

**NOTE:** To make a smaller wall quilt version of this 9-Patch Mystery is easy, working in a smaller scale of 4.5" blocks instead of 9" blocks. If you wish to do this, purchase approximately half of the fabric required. The final size will be approximately 42" x 42".

## Fabric Choices

Essentially, this is a 3-Fabric quilt; but, it'll be more interesting looking if you can choose to make it slightly scrappy by using several fabrics instead of just one for the "Dark" and "Light" choices. I suggest you choose your fabrics in the order shown, choosing a print first.

### Choosing the PRINT Fabric:

**(need 1 ¾ yards of minimum 40" wide fabric)**

You first choose a medium to large patterned fabric – it should be multi-color in its print (not just 2 colors). A big, bold floral, an African print, or a bold fish print? You want to choose a print that has a large enough pattern that a 3-inch square area looks different when moved around the fabric surface. To test this, take a piece of cardboard or file folder material and cut a 3" x 3" hole in it in the center. Move it around on the fabric – you want to see a different "look" in the different square areas. You do not want to see the same little calico area under all the openings. Hopefully, you'll choose a fabric with at least 4 to 5 colors in the print and more is OK.

### Choosing the DARK Fabric:

**(need 4 yards of minimum 40" wide fabric, can be 2 to 4 different fabrics that look the same color from a distance)**

This is the fabric you will use in the largest amount in the quilt. Pick a rich color that goes with your print. You might choose a "hand-dyed" look or a batik-y look. You may want to use a small tone-on-tone print. If you can choose 3-4 fabrics that from a distance read as a similar dark color, this is good and use them instead of just one fabric.

### Choosing the LIGHT Fabric:

**(need 3 ½ yards of minimum 40" wide fabric, can be scrappy as described above for Dark fabric)**

You need a light or medium-light fabric which will go with the other two. Again, a mottled fabric or 2 to 3 fabrics which look almost the same color from a distance will be more interesting than a solid fabric.

**If making the smaller sized quilt, you will need half the required yardage of the larger size:**

**Print: 1 yard**

**Dark: 2 yards**

**Light: 1.5 yards**

I have estimated on the generous edge for fabric quantity – you will have some fabric left over, but you will use some in the borders, too.

You will be strip-cutting all of the fabric, so it should be ironed.