Countdown to Christmas Holly Sprig

🥕 MODERATE

Hello lovely Moda Bakers! I'm Nicola Dodd from <u>CakeStand Quilts</u> and I'm so happy to be sharing a block in the Countdown to Christmas. I hope you've been enjoying the Bakeshop's unique advent calendar: hasn't it been wonderful to be treated to a new block every day? So much less fattening than chocolates!!

My block is inspired by a traditional sprig of Holly. We are lucky to have lots of beautiful Holly bushes in our garden which I cut every year to decorate the house: it wouldn't be Christmas without it.

If you want to make a whole bunch of Holly Sprigs I have some ideas at the end of this post!

## INGREDIENTS

(1) 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" square and (1) 2" square of light green fabric\* {Confetti Metallic Ombre in Lime}

(1) 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" square and (1) 2" square of dark green fabric\* {*Confetti Metallic Ombre* in Lime}

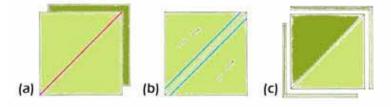
(2) 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" squares of red fabric {*Vintage Holiday* Olivia in red}

(2) 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 3" pieces, (4) 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 2" pieces and (1) 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" square of white fabric {Bella Solid 98}

## INSTRUCTIONS

Please read through the pattern before you begin, assuming a 1/4" seam allowance and a fabric width (WOF) of 42". I would always recommend making a test block.

1. Mark a diagonal line on the back of the light green  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square and pin - right sides together - to a dark green  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "square (a). Stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from each side of your marked line (b), cut along that line and press the two Half Square Triangles (HSTs) open towards the dark green fabric. You can press your seam open if you prefer.



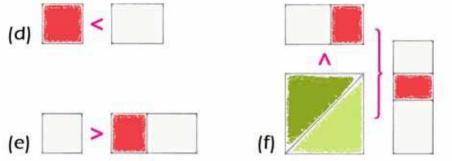
12/7/2017

Original Recipe can be found at www.modabakeshop.com

Recipes are sometimes altered to correct errors. Please ensure that you have downloaded the most recent Printer Friendly Version before starting your project. If you find a mistake in this pattern, please contact <u>modabakeshop@unitednotions.com</u>.

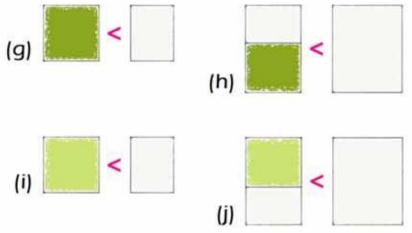
2. Trim the HSTs to 3" square (c). {I do this by marking a 3" square where the 45° degree line meets the corner of my ruler with washi (low tack) tape.}

- 3. Join a 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 2" white piece to a 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" red square (d), pressing towards the red. MAKE 2
- 4. Join the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " white square to one of the Berry units (e), again pressing towards the red.

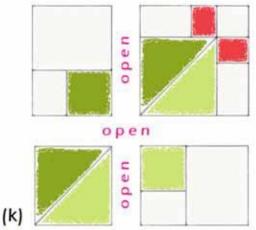


5. Join the Berry units to one of the HSTs - the top first and then the side - taking care with the placement (f) and pressing as directed (>).

6. Join a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2" white piece to a 2" dark green square (g), then join a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3" white piece (h), taking care with the placement.



7. Repeat step 6 with the 2" light green square REVERSING THE PLACEMENT (i & j).



8. To assemble the block, join the three pieced units and the remaining HST in two rows of two (k), pressing the seams open.

## YIELD

One 61/2" square block (6" finished size when sewn into your project).

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If you decide to make a bunch of Holly Sprig blocks, the asymmetrical design creates some interesting effects. I combined four to make a pretty Christmas Wreath and there's a fun tutorial for the cushion I made with my blocks on my blog, <u>here</u>. Make a few more and they can frame a table runner - which re-imagines my <u>Gothic Gatehouse</u> block as a gingerbread cottage - or be used in vertical bands on a classic strippy quilt. I'm looking forward to seeing how you use yours, so be sure to come and say hello on <u>Instagram</u> and share what you're sewing this winter!



With the warmest of wishes for a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year,

Nicola xx {cakestandquilts.com}

This is an original pattern not intended for sale.