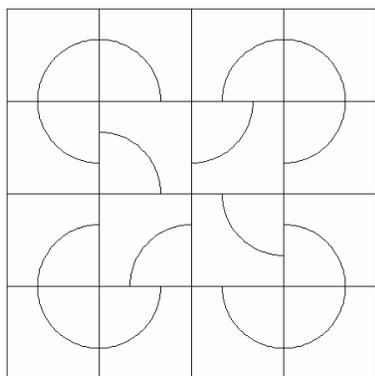


Fool's Puzzle

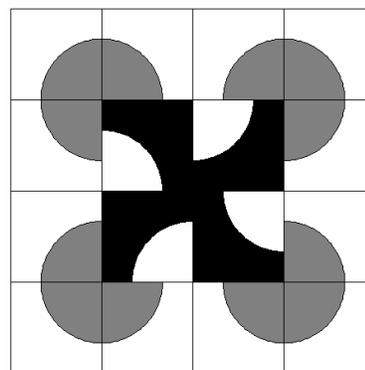
The BOM is a 12 inch block.
(12 ½ inch edge to edge)

The Fool's Puzzle block is a variation on the Drunkard's Path block which was first documented in 1898. Strangely, the Drunkard's Path block became a quilt in demand as a fundraiser for the Temperance movement, usually done in the blue and white colours representing the movement. Often, the name of the quilt would be changed as it was not considered appropriate for a movement devoted to eliminating all alcohol. Other names for the Drunkard's Path are Robbing Peter to Pay Paul, Oregon Trail, Wanderer's Path, Old Maid's Puzzle, Boston Trail, Solomon's Puzzle, and many more, although a lot of these other names were shared by other blocks as well. This particular block is also known as Wonder of the World, Canadian Puzzle, Happy Thought and I wish you Well.

Drunkard's path quilts were also used as signals on the Underground railway helping escaping slaves find routes and safe houses. The idea of the quilt made from the block being "never travel in a straight line". Superstition also followed Drunkard's path blocks - you never let your sons play or sleep under a Drunkard's path block for fear that he would take up drinking in later life. Nothing was said about the daughters!

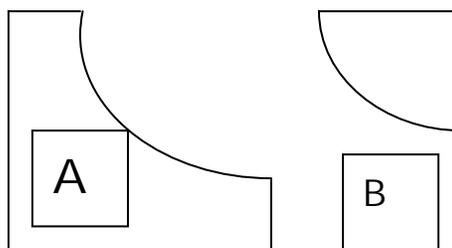


Colour the block on the left with your own colour choices to help with the placement of the pieces.



Drunkard path squares are traditionally made with templates, although there are new rulers out that you can also use. Another way that the block is done these days is to invisibly applique a circle onto a square of fabric, then cut the square into four pieces.

For the 10 inch block, you can use a 2 ½ inch Drunkard's path template, while the 12 inch block uses the 3 inch template, and the 20 inch block uses a 5 inch square. It is easiest to work with strips that are the size of the templates:



For the traditional template method, cut initial strips:

| Finished block size | | | 10 inch block | 12 inch block | 20 inch block |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Temp-plate | No of pieces | 10 1/2 inch edge to edge | 12 1/2 inch edge to edge | 20 1/2 inch edge to edge |
| Background | A | 12 | 3 inch strip | 3 1/2 inch strip | 5 1/2 inch strip |
| Background | B | 4 | 1 1/4 inch strip | 2 1/2 inch strip | 4 inch strip |
| Dark | A | 4 | 3 inch strip | 3 1/2 inch strip | 5 1/2 inch strip |
| Medium | B | 12 | 1 1/4 inch strip | 2 1/2 inch strip | 4 inch strip |

To piece the curve, either use a curve master foot on your machine, or pin the two sections together at each end and at the centre. With the A side on the bottom, gently sew round the curve using your hands to ease it slowly. Try it – it's fun!

For the Appliqued whole circle version you will need:

| finished Size | 10 inch block | 12 inch block | 20 inch block |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Edge to edge | 10 1/2 inch | 12 1/2 inch | 20 1/2 inch |
| Background – 3 squares | 6 inches | 7 inches | 11 inches |
| Background – 1 circle | 2 1/4 radius | 2 1/2 inch radius | 3 3/4 inch radius |
| Dark – 1 square | 6 inches | 7 inches | 11 inches |
| Medium – 3 circles | 2 1/4 inch radius | 2 1/2 inch radius | 3 3/4 inch radius |

Find the centre of your squares and line them up with the centre of your circles. Turn under 1/4 inch all around the circle and applique it on the machine with an invisible stitch or by hand. Fold the squares in half and cut on the fold, then on the quarter fold. You will now have the units you need to assemble the Fool's Puzzle.

Or you can applique the quarter circles onto the squares using the quarter circle template, on 3 inch squares for the 10 inch block, and on 3 1/2 inch circles if you plan to complete the 12 inch block.

For the Bali sampler quilt – this is a 20 inch block.

If you have any problems, please don't hesitate to call Lyn at 421-1357 or come to the Drop-In on Saturday, October 30th at 1133 Pipeline Rd. Coquitlam.