

LIBERATED CHAIR BLOCKS

Inspired by Kathy Peters' (Marquette, MI) quilt named "Table Scraps"
As seen on page 122 of Gwen Marston's book, *Liberated quilting II*

Phyllis Small's Chair Block



7" X 9" approx..

Construction Instructions:

1. This is a 2-color block. High contrast makes the chair easier to see. Prints and close values cause chairs to blend in with the background. The first step is to choose the fabrics for your block and the color scheme of your quilt. Next decide on the style of your chair and sketch it or copy a picture.
2. The thickness of the legs determines the size of your chair. For my example I made the legs and background pieces 1" wide and 4" to 5" long (they get trimmed later).
3. The block is made in 3 sections (or more if you decide to get fancy): the legs, the seat, and the back. Piece the leg section by sewing 4 legs to 3 background pieces, and press. Note that pressing toward the legs gives them a 3-dimensional effect. They pop outwards.
4. Next you are ready to add the seat. Again I used a 1" strip. Sew the seat to the top of the leg section, press and trim.
5. The back in my example has 3 slats, 3 background sections and 2 sides. The slats are cut 1" wide, the background a little narrower, and the sides are cut 1" wide. The length is determined by the width of your leg section (obviously it must be narrower than the seat). Sew the slats together, press and trim, then add the side pieces, press and trim. Finally, add background to one or both sides of the back of the chair before sewing it to the bottom section, giving you a right facing chair, a left facing chair, or a front facing chair.
6. Finally, add more background to the sides, top, and bottom of the chair to make the block the size you need.
7. For variety I made many different styles and sizes of chairs. In my quilt I even added blocks that were printed from chair photos I took. Try adding commercial "chair" fabric to your quilt. I used some of this fabric to make greeting cards. And I used a very small chair block in one corner of a placemat.