

## Virginia Reel

This block comes from the [www.quilterscache.com](http://www.quilterscache.com) but it is listed as Snail's Trail. It is also known as Monkey Wrench, and in Virginia it is the Virginia Reel from the square dance of that name. The size had to be changed to the 9 inches we are making. All templates for your 9 1/2 inch block (9 inches finished) are attached, along with a diagram of the finished block which you can use for paper piecing if you decide to construct the block that way. This template will also help you place your triangles in the right order.

All measurements listed include your 1/4 inch seam allowance and so do the templates.

### Supplies –

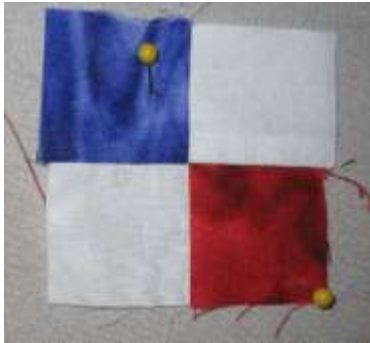
Cut 2 – 1 3/4 inch squares of white, and one each of red and blue.

Cut 1 red, 2 white and 1 blue triangle of each size – templates are included for cutting these. You can cut these 1/4 inch larger if you wish to be on the safe side.

When you print your templates, please make sure the test square is a 1 inch square.

### Construction –

You will have to start with a 4 patch made with the 1 3/4 inch squares for the center of your block. Press and trim to 2 1/4 inches square.



Using the smallest of your triangles from the 2 1/2 inch template, start the rounds around the 4 patch as shown below. Here is round 1. After round 1, the square should be 3 5/8 inches square. Sew the 2 opposite sides then press them open before sewing the last 2 opposite sides.



Continue around the block counter clockwise using the  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inch template matching the red, white and blue to create the swirl as shown below. After round 2, the square should be 5 inches square.



Use the  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inch template pieces next for round 3. The square should now be  $6\frac{7}{8}$  inches square. And finally the  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inch template pieces which should give you a  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inch square block.

If you wish you can paper piece this block. Attached is the paper piecing template. Paper piecing instructions are also on the website. If you are not familiar with it, please refer to their instructions. We will have a paper piecing class later.

**1"**  
**test sq**

2 ½ inches

3 ¼ inches

Cut 1 red, 1 blue and 2 white of each triangle

4 ¼ inches

5 ½ inches

