

New Hampshire

The northeast corner of the United States has lots of mountains and is well known for winter skiing. Delectable Mountains seemed a good block for New Hampshire. This block gets its name from a passage in the 1678 book, "Pilgrim's Progress", by John Bunyan. He talks about a "Christian and Hopeful journey from the City of Destruction (earth) to the Delectable Mountains in order to reach the Celestial City (heaven)".

This block can be a bit challenging so be patient with it. It's well worth the effort. You can use Delectable Mountains for blocks, rounds around a center panel or borders. so it's a very versatile block.

Every piece is cut $6 \frac{3}{8} \times 5 \frac{3}{8}$ inches. Sounds weird doesn't it? The odd size is because you have only one diagonal seam, adding $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to the top to bottom measurement, but you have 2 internal seams in addition to the diagonal one going from side to side which adds $1 \frac{3}{8}$ inches to the width needed.

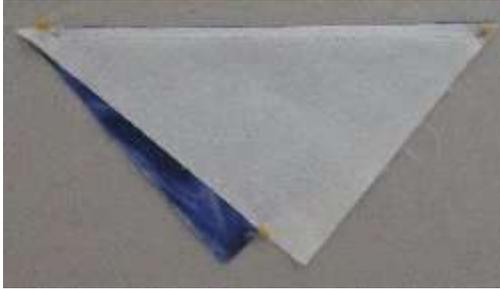
If you want to make this block later in a different size, start with the finished size you want to make. Add $\frac{7}{8}$ to the top to bottom measurement and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch for each internal seam plus $\frac{7}{8}$ inches to the width. If you are making a block that finishes to 10 inches square with 4 'mountains' (3 internal seams), you will start with a $10 \frac{7}{8}$ ($10 + \frac{7}{8}$) inch x $12 \frac{3}{8}$ ($10 + \frac{7}{8} + 1 \frac{1}{2}$) inch rectangle.

You will need 2 white, 1 red and 1 blue rectangle. The blue and one white will be cut diagonally from lower left to upper right. The red and the other white will be cut from lower right to upper left.

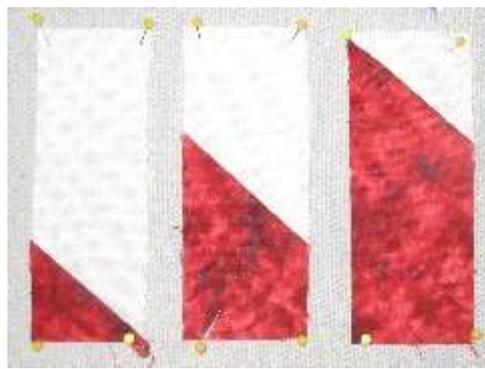


Put the blues with the white you cut with the reds and put the reds with the other set of whites. Yeah, it's confusing but hang in there!

Lay one white and one blue together as shown below and sew along the long side. Do the same with the other white and blue set, then the reds and whites. Notice that the lower points do not match. This is correct!



When you open the pieces, you should have 5 x 6 inch rectangles like the blue/white shown below. Cut these into three 2 inch sections and reverse the left and right pieces like the red/white below. This will be those 2 internal seams mentioned above.



Now sew the 3 pieces together forming your 5 inch square mountains.



Put 4 squares together to form the Delectable Mountain block. You can alternate the colors as shown. If you want all blue at the top and all red at the bottom, you will need to make 2 sets of blocks cutting one blue and one red from lower left to upper right. and one of each from lower right to upper left.

