

Oregon - Fifty-Four Forty or Fight

Fifty-Four Forty or Fight refers to the border between Oregon and British Canada. This was before Washington and Oregon split. It was also the campaign slogan for James Polk when he ran for President in 1844. You see the original of this block at www.quilterscache.com but theirs is a 12 inch block. The instructions are good but the measurements are not correct for our 9 inch blocks.

Supplies -

10 blue 2 in squares

10 white 2 in squares

4 white 3 1/2 in squares

4 red rectangles 4 x 2 1/2 inches

Cut two rectangles diagonally from top left to bottom right. Cut the other 2 from top right to bottom left. Fold the white 3 1/2 in squares in half and make a mark 1/4 in from the bottom edge on the fold. Draw a line from upper left to that mark and another line from upper right to that mark as shown in the first picture below. Place one red triangle that was cut from upper left to lower right face down on that line and sew on the line. Press it back toward the left edge. It will spill over - don't worry we will trim it later. Now take one triangle that was cut from upper right to lower left and sew it to the other line. I found it was easiest to place the triangle on the reverse side from the line, pin it, then turn it over and sew on the line. Press the second piece back. Turn the piece face down and trim to the size of the white.



Make five 4 patches. Sew all the blue squares to each of the white squares. Press open. Turn 5 pairs upside down and sew the pairs together. Press open.



Put the block together as shown and press.

