

# Urban Owls

May 4, 2024

Houses!



Ok, let's talk about the houses. My blocks are not finished...Yikes- Sorry! After getting the first house done, I don't love the applique bird. I am going to change out the body fabric for something a little more bold. The second house has some issues too 😊 I was working with this amazing swirl background and trying to keep the colors flowing. I need to replace some of the second house backgrounds to make it match better. It probably won't matter to anyone but me, but the color change is making me crazy. So, my applique flowers are not on there yet.

The pattern has cutting instructions for each house and a diagram for each. The house diagram shows the finished (once it's all sewn together) sizes for each piece. Keep that in mind if you are cutting directional fabrics and using the diagram for cutting. You will have to add seam allowance to those. If you are just using the cutting instructions don't worry about it. **I think there is an error on the pattern.** I could not be mathing correctly, but on house two it says to cut the background side pieces to 16.5". My house came out to 17". I would cut them to 17.5". I'm not sure where the discrepancy is since we are not sewing these blocks to the quilt yet. I would also give your grass an extra inch in width. If you have to trim it down after it's sewn in, fine. But again without knowing where the size issue is I would err on the side of caution.

These blocks are fun to make. The windows give an opportunity to add fun things to your quilts. My house on the right is all Tula kitties in the windows, the house on the left is Tula animals. They were so much fun to pop into my quilt.



Here are my pieces for house 2. (The technique is the same for both, I am only showing house 2) I fussy cut my roof and chimney, my animals and a little bit on my house fabric. (house 1 is more directional than this one)

The houses are made with straight piecing. Follow the diagram and put the house together in rows.



Row 1 (bottom)



Row 2 un-pieced



Row 2 pieced



Together with house sashing.



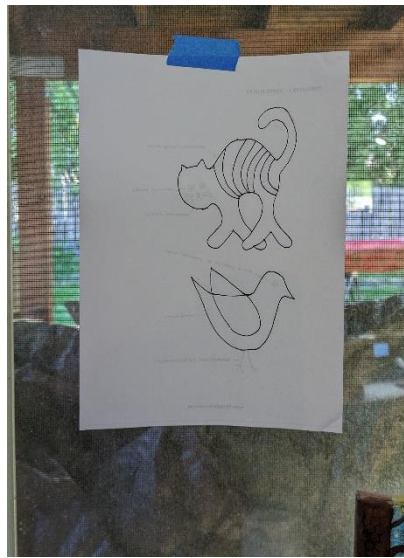
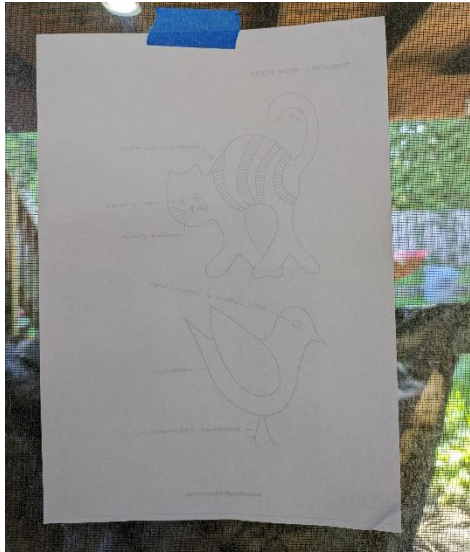
Roof and sky/chimney rows added





This was my house with the 16.5" sides on it. Again, I am not sure if the mistake was in my piecing or in the block sizing, but I added 17.5" sides and trimmed to my block. I am adding wider grass to make up any difference if needed.

Now we are working on applique. We have already gone over how to do the stems and flowers in class one. If you need a refresher, please refer back to those tutorials. I used fusible for my applique method. I had to reverse the image and to do that I taped my paper to a window with the wrong side facing me. I traced on the backside over the lines so I had a reversed image to then trace to my fusible.

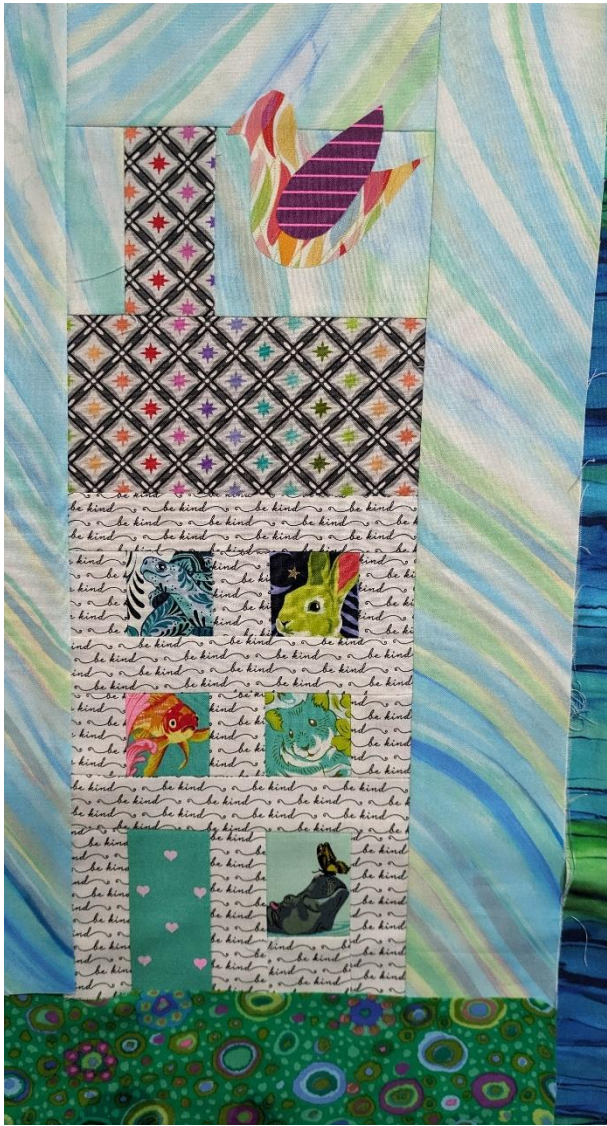


Now I can iron the fusible to the fabric of my choice and place onto my blocks. I used wool for the cat and flat cotton for the bird.





She is literally laying on my block with a cat house on it....what a great helper.



You can see that the bird fabric gets lost in the background. I thought there would be enough contrast but it wasn't until I put it up there that I realized it wouldn't have the effect I wanted. I will have the finished block at the in person meeting and I+ will be in our Quilters Corner facebook group.



This one will also be fixed before class and pictured in our group. Quilting is such a process and I can't leave that sky that crazy 😊

Have fun everyone!



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