We’re taking a quick side trip in our “Never Enough Nine-Patch” adventure. Thinking fall colors, we’ll use a background of off-white or tan instead of the white tone-on-tone we are using in the year’s other blocks. Dig into your autumn stash and enjoy making Falling Leaf. A traditional Maple Leaf is off-set in the block, so when you put the blocks together there is a lot of negative space to work with. In this case, negative is a positive!

Finished block is 12-1/2” square, unfinished; 12” square finished. Sew scant 1/4” seams.

Fabric:
Fabric #1: Off-white or tan
A. 1 - 6-1/2” square
B. 2 - 3-1/2” x 6-1/2” rectangles
C. 3 - 4” squares

Fabric #2:
D. 3 - 3-1/2” squares
E. 2 - 4” squares
F. 1 - 1” x 6” strip

Patch Assembly:
1. For the leaf points, place two fabric C right sides together with two fabrics E. Draw a diagonal from corner to corner (green line) and sew a scant 1/4” on either side of the line (red line). Cut on green line. Press to dark. Trim block to 3-1/2” square. Make a total of 4 patches (1b).
Patch Assembly (contd.)

2. For leaf stem, cut one fabric C on the diagonal.

3. Mark the center point of fabric E and each of the triangles (red line in diagram). Match the center point of one triangle and the center of the stem piece (fabric E). Place right sides together. Sew with 1/4” seam. Press to E (stem).

4. Match center point of second triangle (red line) with the center point of the stem. Place right side together, pin. Sew 1/4” seam.

5. Back of patch will look like this.

6. Front of patch will look like this. Trim patch to 3-1/2” square.

Block Assembly

7. Following the green arrows, sew the leaf patches in rows as shown on the right, using 3 piece D, 4 piece 1b and piece 6.

8. Sew the top leaf row and piece B together. Sew the bottom leaf rows together.

9. Sew the top leaf piece to A and the bottom to the other piece B.

10. Sew the halves together.

11. Your **Falling Leaf** block is complete.

You might decide to set the blocks in a planned scattered effect as shown here. Have fun!