

Coos Sand 'n Sea Quilt Block of the Month Basic Techniques Hints

Press and lightly starch fabric.

Do not handle until cool and dry.

PRESS on firm gridded surface. (Try gingham or woven stripe fabric.)

Stitch length setting 10 Standard or 2.0 Metric.

No back stitching needed.

Stitch quality should be the same top and bottom.

Thread machine with Presser Foot all the way up.

Check to see if bobbin is in correctly.

If it looks weird on top check bobbin. Make sure thread is in tension slot.

Hold thread tails when you start stitching.

Thread

Light, medium, or dark gray color works for almost all fabrics

Make sure thread is "sewing machine" thread and not "quilting" thread.

Sewing machine needle is generally size 80/12 universal tip

Not every machine takes the same type of needle.

1/4 inch seams

Type of fabric and thread may change needed seam size

1/4" presser feet do not work. Seams need to be slightly narrower.

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Cut 3 strips of different fabrics each 2 1/2" x 7"

Sew with scant 1/4" seam

Check with a seam gauge all the way to the end of the block.

Center strip should measure exactly 2" wide

(Check width in several different spots)

Adjust width of seam to get exact center strip width

Trim to a 6 1/2 Square. (Rail Fence block or Piano Key border)

Marking seam width on machine with "Post it Notes" or tape

Sew straight all the way until the end of the block is at back of Presser Foot.