## Slash Your Stash String Quilt Block for January 2016

## Supplies:

1. Use black or dark blue fabric for the center strip sized between $1 \frac{1}{4 \prime \prime}$ to $2 \frac{1}{2 \prime \prime}$ wide
2. Assorted colors of fabric strips $1 \frac{1}{4}$ " to $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " width from your fabric stash
3. Foundation squares $8.5^{\prime \prime} \times 8.5^{\prime \prime}$. You can use thin muslin, newspaper or thin foundation papers. If you use paper, you need to remove the paper from the block when finished, so be careful not to stretch the block.
4. Sewing thread, sewing machine, quilting ruler, rotary cutter and cutting mat

Step 1: Begin by placing one strip of dark fabric face up diagonally across your foundation piece (I used a thin muslin). You need to pin this in place to prevent shifting during sewing.


Step 2: Add second strip of fabric, right sides together, to the center strip. Sew through all layers using a $1 / 4$ " seam allowance. Press to set the seam, open up \& press the top strip open.


Step 3: Add more strips \& press as you go until one side of your foundation is covered.


Step 4: Now add strips on the other side of the block until the foundation square is covered.


Step 5: When the square is completely covered with strips, turn it over and trim strips along the edges of the square. Use your ruler, rotary cutter and cutting mat for this step.


Step 6: This is the finished block. A flat block results when you press all seams as you sew.


Option: For variation, you can cut the block into 4 sections and rejoin the pieces to make a new block. To finish this variation at $8.5^{\prime \prime}$ you will need to cut your foundation blocks $9.5^{\prime \prime} \times 9.5^{\prime \prime}$


