

# Trees Please: Block of the Month

January 2011

## Primitive Button Tree

Unfinished block size: 9 1/2" x 9 1/2"

Finished block size: 9" x 9"

### Materials:

Tree: 4-9 1/2"x1/4" bias strips, 10-24 buttons

Background: 1-9 1/2" inch square

Trunk: Cut 1-2"x9", from brown fabric.

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### Directions for Assembly:

1. Using the pattern provided, trace the trunk onto the back of the brown fabric. Cut out with 1/4" seam allowance. Hand appliqué the trunk to the background fabric. (The trunk can be fused.)
2. Using the diagram as a reference, use the bias strips to make the four willowy branches. Whip stitch the branches in place.
3. Arrange the buttons along the branches in a pleasing pattern. Your buttons will determine how many are needed. Sew in place.

### Embellishment ideas:

1. Use ribbon instead of bias strips.
2. Use wool for the strips for a more traditional tree.
3. Use found objects as buttons.
4. Add a little house under the tree.

