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This is the first of two free patchwork tutorials by Karen Lewis where we'll be making the most of simple fabric strips. You can see more of Karen's designs on Instagram [@karenlewistextiles](#).

## You will need

Print fabrics (red): 1yd total

Background fabric:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd each of nineteen fabrics

Backing fabric: 5yds

Batting: 66in x 88in

Binding fabric:  $\frac{5}{8}$ yd

## Notes

Seam allowances are  $\frac{1}{4}$ in, unless otherwise noted.

Press seams open, unless otherwise instructed.

RST = right sides together.

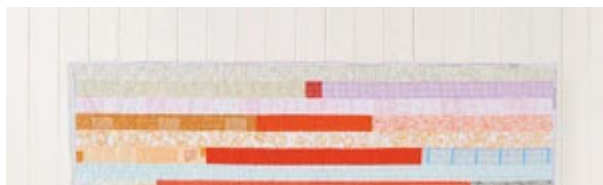
WOF = width of fabric.

WST = wrong sides together.

Fabric provided by Robert Kaufman.

## We used...

Print fabrics are from the Euclid collection by Carolyn Friedlander for Robert Kaufman, along with solids from the Brussels Linen collection also by Robert Kaufman, that Karen screen-printed.





# How to sew an easy strip quilt

## Finished size

58in x 80in

## Cutting out

## Step 1

From the print fabrics cut eleven (11)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x WOF strips. Subcut into:

Three (3)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $38\frac{1}{2}$ in rectangles.

Six (6)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $26\frac{1}{2}$ in rectangles.

Six (6)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ in rectangles.

Four (4)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in squares.

## Step 2

From each of the nineteen background fabrics, cut two (2)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x WOF strips. Sew two matching strips along the short ends, from each set of strips. You will have nineteen long strips.

## Step 3

From the remaining background fabrics, cut at least nineteen (19)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x WOF strips. Subcut the strips as follows, mixing up the fabrics between lengths:

Eight (8)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $28\frac{1}{2}$ in strips

Twelve (12)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $22\frac{1}{2}$ in strips

Twelve (12)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $16\frac{1}{2}$ in strips

Six (6)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $10\frac{1}{2}$ in strips.

## Step 4

From the binding fabric cut eight (8)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x WOF strips.

# Piecing the strips

## Step 5

Sew a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $28\frac{1}{2}$ in background strip to either side of a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in print square. Press seams toward the background. Repeat to make four of these strips.

## Step 6

Sew a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $22\frac{1}{2}$ in background strip to either side of a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ in print rectangle. Press seams toward the background. Repeat to make six of these strips.

## Step 7

Sew a 2½in x 16½in background strip to either side of a 2½in x 26½in print rectangle. Press seams toward the background. Repeat to make six of these strips.

## Step 8

Sew a 2½in x 10½in background strip to either side of a 2½in x 38½in print rectangle. Press seams toward the background. Repeat to make three of these strips.

# Assembling the quilt top

## Step 9

Press your print/background strips in half, widthwise, to mark the centres of each strip.

## Step 10

Arrange your strips with the long background strips, referring to the photo for placement.

## Step 11

Sew the strips together, aligning the centres of the print/background prints with the centre seams of the long background strips. To avoid bowing, sew each strip from the centre outward, making sure to backstitch a few stitches over the centre each time. Press seams toward the background strips.

## Step 12

Trim the excess from the background strips in line with the quilt top.





Easy patchwork striped quilt

## Quilting and finishing

### Step 13

Cut the backing fabric in half across the width. Remove the selvages and re-join the pieces with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ in seam. Press the seam open.

### Step 14

Press the quilt top and backing well. Make a quilt sandwich by placing the backing fabric right side down, the batting on top, then the quilt top centrally and right side up. Baste the layers

together using your preferred method.





## Step 15

Quilt as desired. Karen quilted a horizontal swirly design.

## Step 16

Trim off the excess batting and backing fabric and square up the quilt.

## Step 17

Join the binding strips together end-to-end using diagonal seams. Press the seams open and trim away the dog ears, then fold in half lengthwise, WST, and press.

## Step 18

Sew the binding to the front of the quilt, folding a mitre at each corner, then fold it over to the back of the quilt and hand stitch in place to finish.