



When I found out my dear friends Nicole and Marty were getting married I knew I had to make them a wedding quilt. Their wedding colors were festive and bright: yellows, reds and pinks so I knew what colors I would use, but I didn't know what the design would be. One day I was walking around my parent's Berkeley, California neighborhood and I saw the most beautiful quilt hanging on a wall through someone's window (I was admiring their garden, swear I wasn't just walking around peeping in windows!) and was inspired to make this quilt.

MATERIALS



To make a 75-inch by 84-inch quilt:

- Twenty to Thirty 1/4 yards of quilt weight fabric in a spectrum ranging from bright pink to pale yellow
- 3 yards of a neutral Background Fabric. We used Kona Cotton in color Snow (Please Note: Kona Cotton is no longer available. Try using Spectrum Cotton in Raw Oats!)

PREPARE FABRICS

- Wash, dry and press all fabrics.
- Divide the 1/4 yards equally into four sections, so that the colors gradually lead into one another along a spectrum as in the picture above (the pinks gradually transition into the oranges etc)

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- *Group A: Bright Pink to Orange*
 - *Group B: Orange to Bright Yellow*
 - *Group C: Bright Yellow to Medium Yellow*
 - *Group D: Medium Yellow to Pale Yellow*
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CUT FABRICS



Cut the colorful 1/4 yards and Background Fabric as explained below. Keep the prints in spectrum order as pictured above:

- Group A: Cut 25 pieces 12.5-inches X 3.5 inches long. (Note: As you can see above I didn't use an equal amount of each fabric. The ones I really liked I used more of. There are no rules as long as you have 25 pieces).
- Group B: Cut 25 pieces 12.5-inches X 3.5- inches
- Group C: Cut 25 pieces 12.5-inches X 3.5- inches
- Group D: Cut 22 pieces 12.5-inches X 3.5- inches
- Background Fabric: Cut 96 pieces 12.5-inches X 3.5-inches

The cutting is the most tedious part of this project, I promise! I recommend cutting the colorful prints one day and then the Kona Cotton on another day in order to keep your sanity!

PREPARE FOR PIECING

Make sure that your cut fabric groups (A, B, C, and D) are organized so that it is clear to which group is which. It is also important that the colors of each group are all going the

- Group A should be arranged so the bright pink pieces at the top of the stack and the orange pieces are on the bottom.
- Group B should have orange on the top and bright yellow on the bottom.
- Group C should have bright yellow at the top and medium yellow at the bottom
- Group D should have medium yellow on top moving to pale yellow at the bottom.

PIECE VERTICAL STRIPS

Follow the piecing guide below to piece the 25 vertical strips. I pieced my quilt by pinning and sewing one vertical strip at a time so that I wouldn't get confused about the color order while sewing, but you can organize your piecing however you feel comfortable. Always take the top piece from the specified color group as you work your way down the vertical strip.

All seams should be sewn with a 1/4-inch seam allowance.

Keep the strips in order once you piece them. If you want to be extra organized you could write the strip's number on its edge with an [erasable fabric marker](#).

A = a piece from Group A

B = a piece from Group B

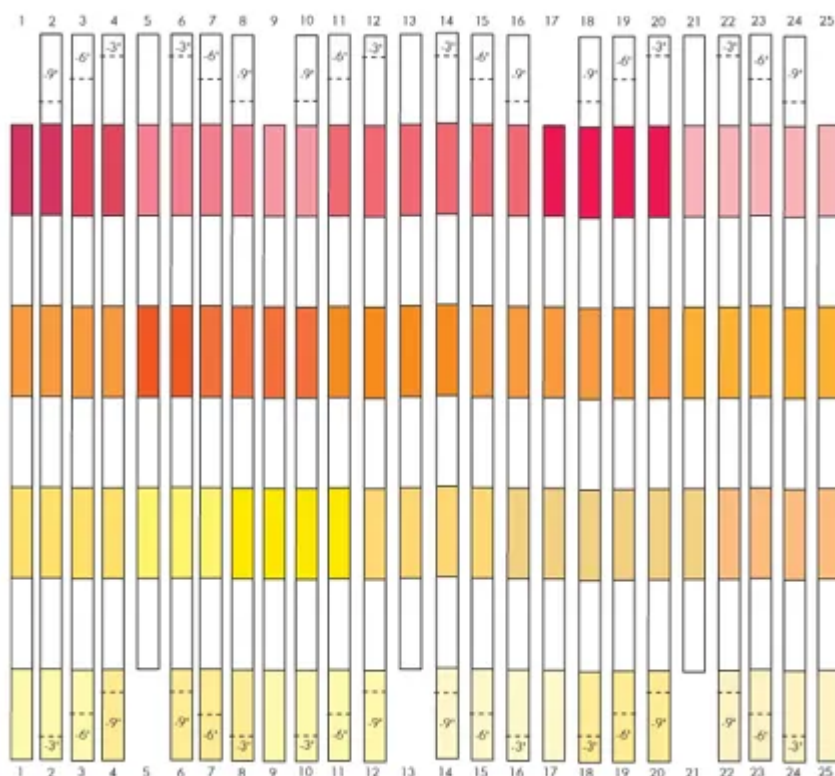
C = a piece from Group C

D = a piece from Group D

White = Background Fabric

(Please Note: The following section contains a detailed image to help you with the cutting process but we've found it useful for use in the piecing process too! You can download it [here](#) and use it as a guide for checking off each strip after it's been pieced!)

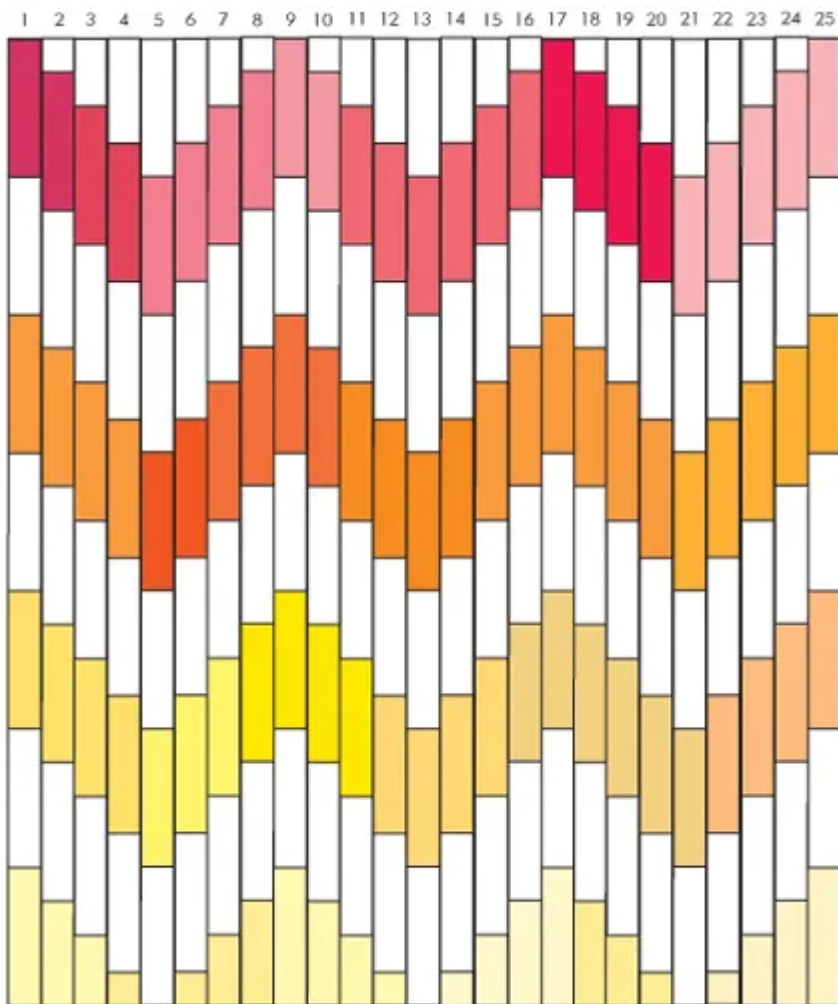
CUT VERTICAL STRIPS



Cut the tops and bottoms of the vertical strips as shown in the diagram above. (For example: strip 2 cut 9-inches from the top and 3-inches from the bottom). Please note that some of the strips are not cut. [Download and print the cutting diagram](#) so that you can reference the measurements more clearly. Remember to keep the strips oriented so that Group A is the top and Group D is at the bottom.

After you are done cutting the strips they will all be the same size and you'll be ready to sew the top together!

SEW TOP



When piecing long strips like these with a lot of horizontal seams you may find that some your strips are a bit longer than others. This is a common situation and nothing to worry about, you can compensate for any difference by pinning. Begin by carefully aligning the corners and edges of your strips. Place pins at each corner and then another in the center then place a pin between each pin. Continue adding pins between pins until your pins are about 2-inches apart.

Sew all seams with a 1/4-inch seam allowance.

Sew strips 1-8:

- Sew strip 1 to the left hand edge of strip 2, keeping both strips are oriented with Group A fabric at the top and Group D fabric at the bottom.
- Sew 1-2 to 3
- Sew 1-2-3 to 4
- Sew 1-2-3-4 to 5
- Continue in this manner through strip 8, set aside.

Sew strips 9- 17 as above, set aside.

Sew strips 18-25 as above, set aside.

Sew the first panel (strips 1-8) to the second panel (strips 9-17). Double check that you're sewing strip 8 to strip 9 and going in the correct order. Then sew the last panel (strips 18-

you can see the cool zig zag design!



QUILTING AND BINDING

Knowing myself and knowing that I only had a year to get this present to Nicole and Mart decided to leave the quilting to the experts! I sent my finished and pressed quilt top, along with a backing fabric and a binding fabric, to a long-arm quilter. They did the quilting by “stitching in the ditch” along the long edges of the strips, using an off-white thread. The quilter I used is no longer in business (sad!), but an internet search will definitely turn up some options for you!