

# Happy String Flowers

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Comfort Quilt – 62” by 74” (158 cm by 188 cm)

**The border is included in these measurements.**

This quilt was donated to a charity auction.



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**Comfort Quilt – 62” by 74” (158 cm by 188 cm)**  
**The border is included in these measurements.**

The quilt is constructed with strings of fabric but not the traditional string blocks.

I don't have a stash of strings. I cut some from FQs and yardage. I cut 1”, 1.5”, 2” and 2.5” wide strips. I needed 7” strips for the flowers and 6.5” strips for the outer border and leaves.

I did not use a muslin foundation to sew the strings. Part of the design makes this very bulky and hard to deal with.

The decision to make your quilt scrappy or not is entirely up to you.. it is your quilt.

My quilt is scrappy and controlled scrappy.

You will be sewing your strips together and then trimming to the necessary sizes. This way you won't have to worry about a perfect ¼ inch seam and problems working with skinnier strips or strips that are not an even width.

## **Fabric Requirements:**



I used a scrappy selection of Hawaiian fabrics and batiks.

### **Outer Border Fabric:**

Approximately (150-175) strips in 6.5" by varying widths of 1" to 2.5"

### **Choose one of these for your corners in the Outer Border:**

**Squares:** (2) Background 8.5" square and **OR**

**HSTs:** (2) 8.5" colored squares **OR**

**Smaller Triangle in the corner:**

(4) 7.5" Background Squares and (4) 5.5" squares colored fabric

### **Background Fabric:**

3 yards

### **Flower Petals and Centers Fabric:**

Approximately (150-160) 7" strips in varying widths of 1" to 2.5"

(6) 2.5" squares for flower centers.

### **Leaves and Stem Fabric:**

Approximately (12-15) 6.5" strips in varying widths of 1" to 2.5"

(6) Stems that are 2" by 11"

**Cutting Directions:**

It is a good idea if you keep your cut fabric organized in little plastic bags. Please label your bags A through D.

**Baggie A – Outer Border – Colored Fabrics:**

1. Approximately (150-175) 6.5” strips of varying widths (1” to 2.5”).
2. **Corners**  
(4) 7.5" colored fabric squares for the corners. **OR**  
(2) 8.5” squares for half square triangles. **OR**  
(4) 5.5” squares for the smaller triangle option.

**Baggie B - Background Fabrics for Inner Borders, Outer Borders, Sashing and Cornerstones**

1. Corners of Outer Border  
(4) 7.5" background fabric squares for the corners. **OR**  
(2) 8.5” squares for half square triangles. **OR**  
(4) 7.5” squares for the smaller triangle option.
2. (14) 2.5" by 12.5" rectangles for Outer Border
3. (8) 2.5" by 6.5" rectangles for Outer Border
4. (36) 5.5" squares background fabric for Outer Border
5. (2) 1.25” by 48” rectangles for top and bottom Inner Border.
6. (2) 1.25" by 59" rectangles – sides of Inner Border.
7. (8) 2" by 27.5" rectangles (vertical sashing)
8. (12) 2" by 14" rectangles (horizontal sashing)
9. (6) 2” squares contrasting fabric cornerstones.

**Baggie C – Background fabrics for flowers, leaves and center medallion assembly:  
Plus contrasting fabric cornerstones.**

1. (28) 4.5" squares (for flowers and leaves)
2. (66) 2" by 6.5" rectangles (for flowers and leaves and flower medallion assembly)
3. (12) 2” by 14” rectangles for assembly of flower medallion

**Flower Petal Fabric:**

**Baggie D**

Enough 7" strips of varying widths (1" to 2.5") to create (24) 7" (unfinished size) squares. (approx. 150-160) 7" strips.

**Flower Center Fabric:**

**Baggie D**

(6) 2" squares

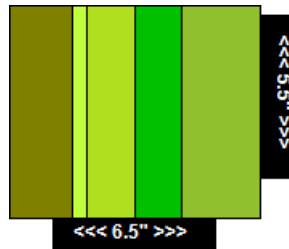
**Leaves and Stem Fabric:**

**Baggie D**

1. (1) 2" by 11" rectangle
2. Approximately (12-15) 6.5" strips of varying widths (1" to 2.5").

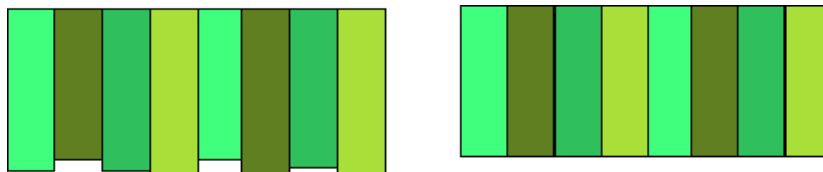
**Borders – Use 6.5" strips from Baggie A.**

1. (8) units approx 7" by 6.5".  
The two strips on the outer edge are slightly wider.  
You want to make sure you have enough for a quarter inch seam after trimming.
2. Press all seams to one side. Use spray starch or sizing if it is too stretchy.
3. Trim each unit to 6.5" by 5.5". (8) Units.



4. **Make (14).** Sew strips from Baggie A together.  
Each unit should be approximately 6.5" by 13".  
Make sure you have slightly wider strips on each end so that you have enough for a seam allowance after trimming.  
You don't have to worry about perfect 1/4" seams if your units measure at least 13" across.  
Press all seams to one side. Use spray starch or sizing if it is too stretchy.

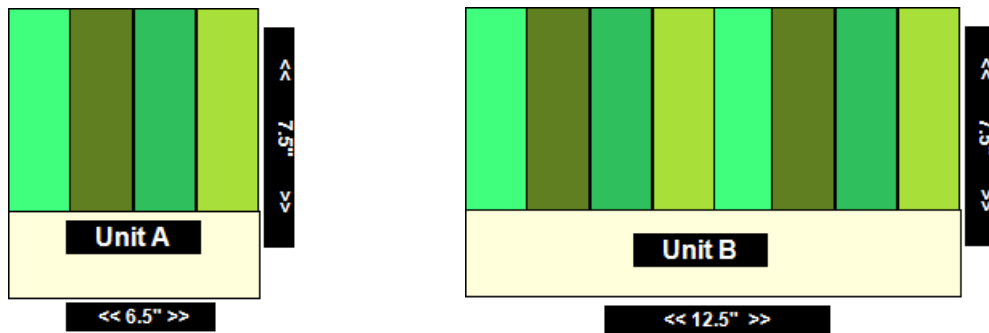
**Trim each unit to 5.5" by 12.5".**



- Adding to the String Border Units  
 Baggie B  
 (14) 2.5" by 12.5" rectangles  
 (8) 2.5" by 6.5" rectangles

- Sew the 2.5" by 6.5" background strips to each of the (8) 6.5" by 5.5" units.  
 Press to the background fabric.  
**Unit A measures 6.5" by 7.5". (8) Units.**

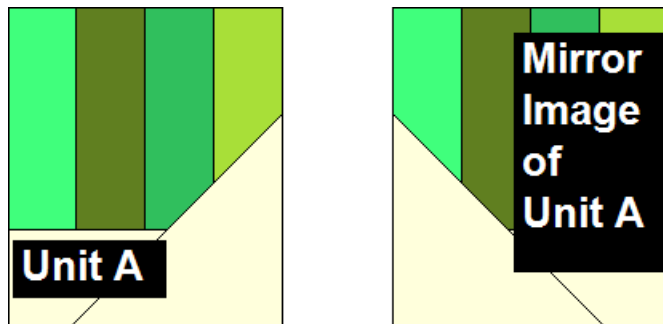
Sew the 2.5" by 12.5" background strips to each of the (14) 12.5" by 5.5" units.  
 Press to the background fabric.  
**Unit B measures 12.5" by 7.5". (14) Units.**



- Baggie A (36) 5.5" squares background fabric.  
 Draw a diagonal line through the back of each.
- Sew (4) of this unit and (4) of the mirror image.  
 Sew your square with the diagonal line to the bottom RIGHT CORNER.  
 Trim a 1/4 " seam.

**Special Pressing Directions**

When the triangle is on the **RIGHT** press the seam to the triangle.  
 When the triangle is on the **LEFT** (Mirror Image units)  
 press to the colored fabric.

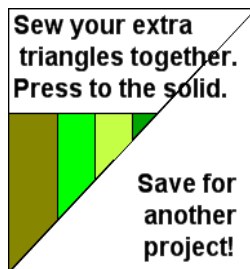
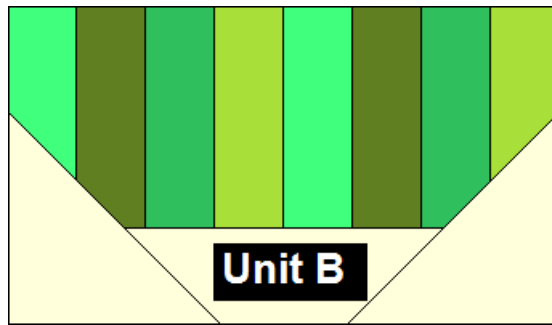


9. Gather your (14) Unit B pieces.

Sew your square with the diagonal line to the bottom right corner.  
Trim a 1/4 " seam.

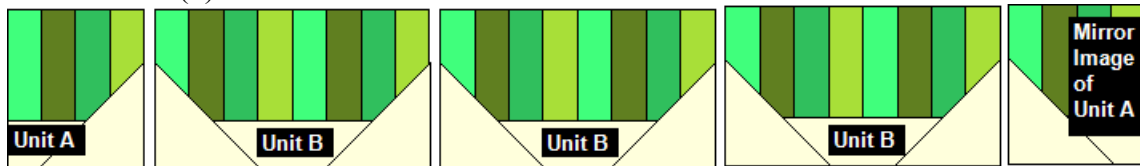
### Special Pressing Directions

On the **LEFT** side press the seam to the colored fabric.  
On the **RIGHT** side press the seam to the triangle.



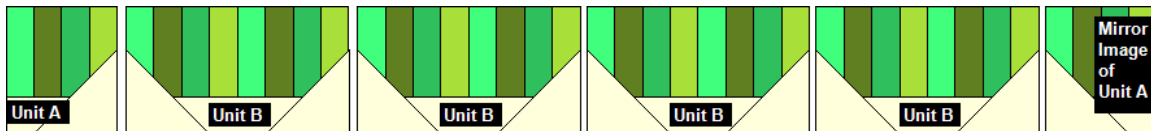
4. **TOP and BOTTOM borders.**

Sew (3) of Unit B together.  
Sew a Unit A on the left side and the mirror of A on the right side.  
Press to either side. Triangle seams should nest.  
Make (2).



5. **SIDE borders.**

Sew (4) of your Unit B pieces together.  
Sew a Unit A on the left end and the mirror of Unit A on the right end.  
Nest the triangle seams.  
Press in either direction.  
Make (2) of this unit for the Side Borders.



## Making (6) String Flowers

Each flower will measure 14" unfinished (13.5" finished).

### Background Fabric:

Baggie C

(24) 2" by 6.5" rectangles

(16) 4.5" squares (Draw a diagonal line through the back of each square.)

### Flower Petal Fabric:

Baggie D (Flower fabric)

Approximately (150-170) 7" by variable width strips in your flower fabrics.

Widths are (1" to 2.5" wide).

### Flower Center Fabric:

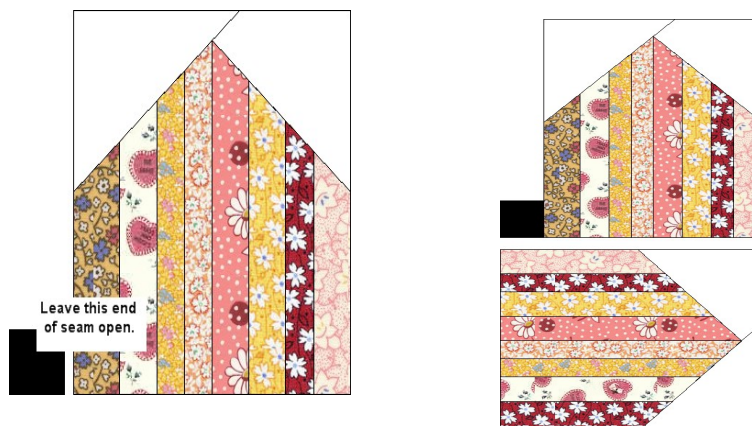
Baggie D

(6) 2" squares

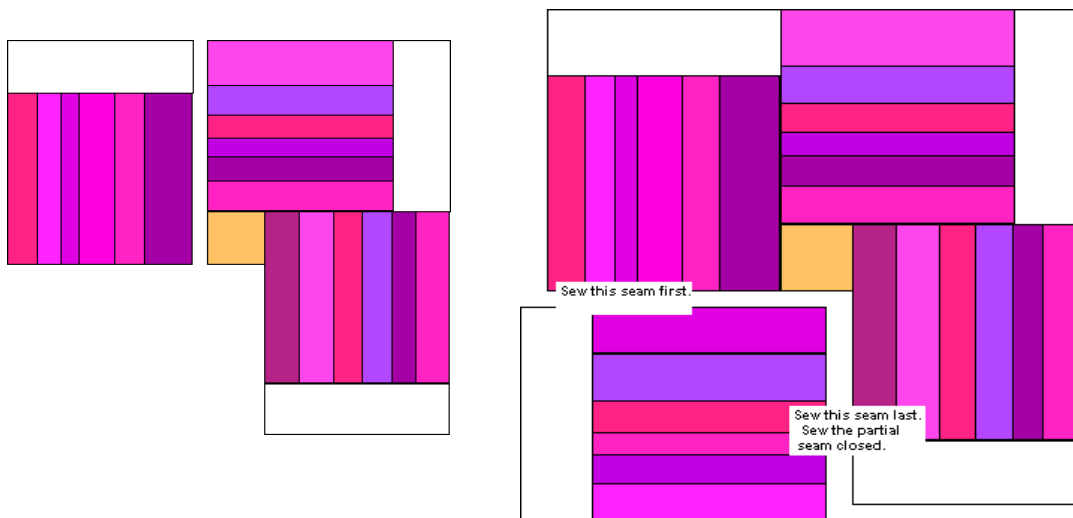
1. Sew the 7" strips of flower fabric together to make (24) 7" squares. Please add wider strips on the outside because you will be trimming these down. There are (4) of these squares per flower. Press with seams going in either direction. Use starch if necessary to stabilize your fabric.

Trim all (24) to 6.5" square.

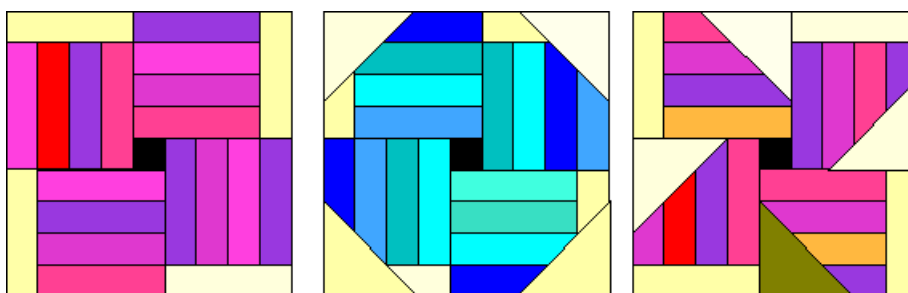
2. Sew a 2" by 6.5" strip of background fabric to the end of each of the (24) squares. Press to the background fabric.
3. Sew one flower petal to the 2" flower center square using a partial seam.
4. Sew petal #2 to petal #1. Press to petal #2.



- Sew petal #3 to petal #2. Press to petal #3.  
 Sew petal #4 to petal #3. Press to petal #4.  
 Sew petal #4 to petal #1. Complete the partial seam. Press to petal #1.



- (3) Different flower styles. Pick the ones you like. You need (6).



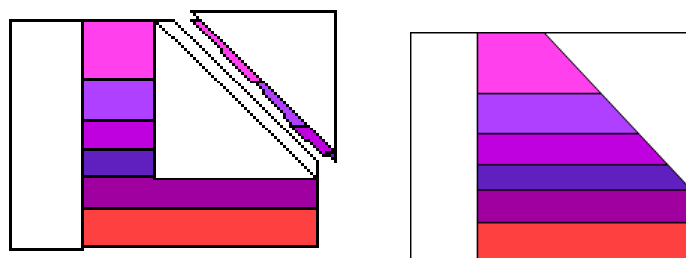
For the **second flower style** -

Make the first flower style and then sew triangles on the corners.

Take (4) of the 4.5" background squares with the diagonal line on the back.

Sew on the line. Trim the 1/4" seam. Press to the triangle.

For the **third flower style** – Sew the triangle onto each petal before sewing the petals into a flower. Sew the petals into a flower just as you did for the first flower. You can make one of these triangles green if you like.



## Making (12) Leaves

### Background Fabric:

Baggie C

(12) 2" by 6.5" rectangles

(12) 4.5" squares – Draw a diagonal line on the back of each square.

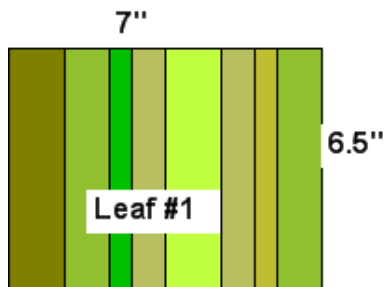
### Leaves and Stem Fabric:

Baggie D

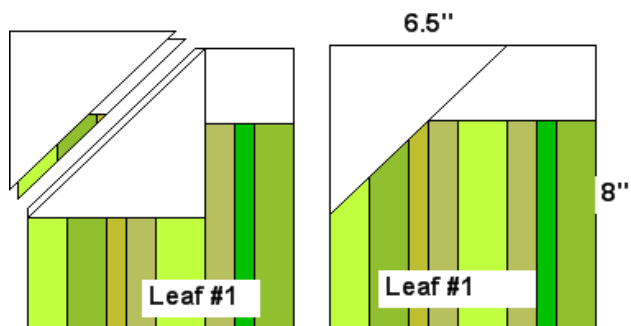
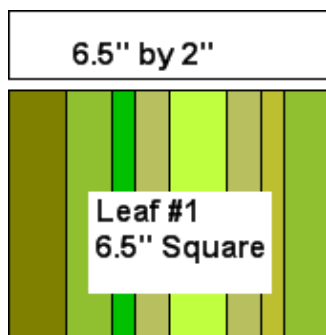
(72) strips approximately 6.5" by 1" to 2.5" (widths can vary)

### Directions for Leaf #1 - Make (6):

1. Sew green strips together from Baggie D to make (6) 7" by 6.5" rectangles. Make sure the end strips are a little wider. Press seams to one side. Use spray starch if necessary to stabilize fabric. Trim to 6.5" square.

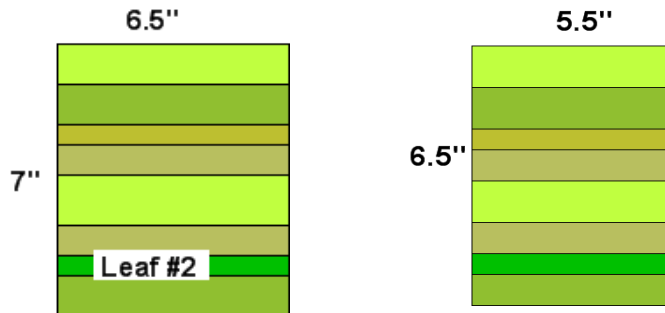


2. Sew a 6.5" by 2" background strip to the end of Leaf #1 as shown in the diagram. Press to the background strip.
3. Sew a 4.5" square to the corner of each leaf as shown. Sew on the line. Trim a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Press to the triangle. Repeat for 6 leaves.

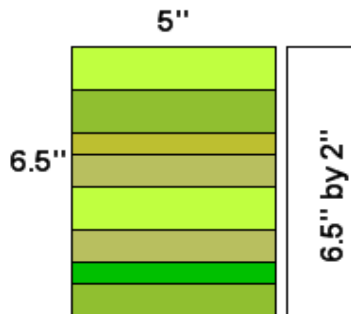


## Directions for Leaf #2 - Make (6):

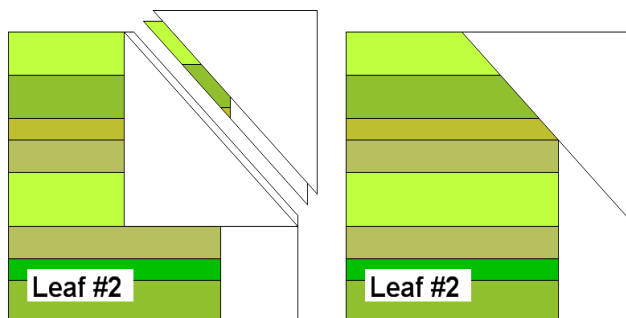
1. Sew green strips together from Baggie D to make (6) 7" by 6.5" rectangles. Make sure the end strips are a little wider so you have a seam allowance after trimming.  
Press seams to one side.  
Use spray starch if necessary to stabilize fabric.
2. Trim leaf to 6.5" by 5.5"



3. Sew your 2" by 6.5" background strip to the side of Leaf #2 as shown in the diagram. Press to the background strip.



4. Sew a 4.5" background square to upper RIGHT corner of Leaf #2 as shown in the diagram. Sew on the diagonal line.  
Trim leaving a 1/4" seam.  
Press to the triangle. Sew extra triangles together to save for another project.



## Completing Your Flower Blocks

You will be making (6)

### Background Fabric:

Baggie C

(30) 2" by 6.5" rectangles

(12) 2" by 14" rectangles

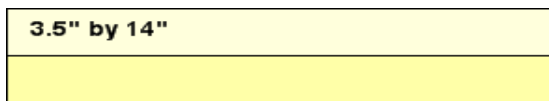
### Leaves and Stem Fabric:

Baggie D

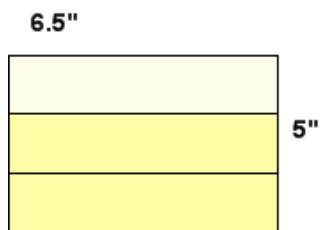
(6) 2" by 11" rectangles

### Directions for all (6) flowers.

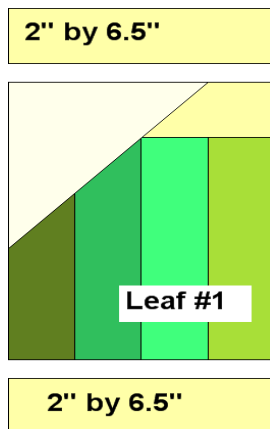
1. (12) of your 2" by 14" rectangles of background fabric from Baggie C. Sew (6) pairs. Press to either side. Unit measures 3.5" by 14".



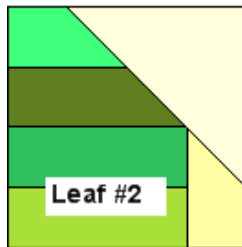
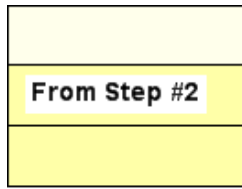
2. (18) of your 2" by 6.5" rectangles of background fabric from Baggie C. Sew together in sets of (3). Press to either side. (6) units.



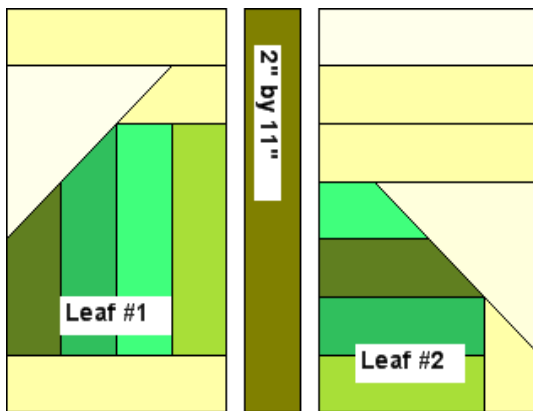
3. Take (12) of your 2" by 6.5" rectangles of background fabric from Baggie C. Sew one to the top and one to the bottom of each Leaf #1. Press to the rectangles. (6) Units.



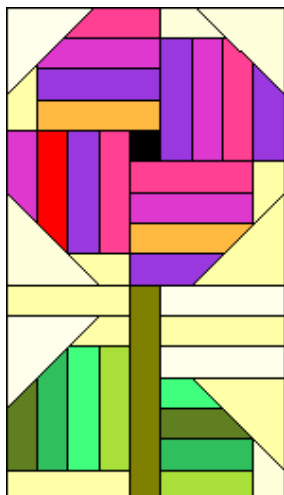
4. Sew the Step #2 units to the top of the Leaf #2 units.  
Press to the rectangles. (6) Units.



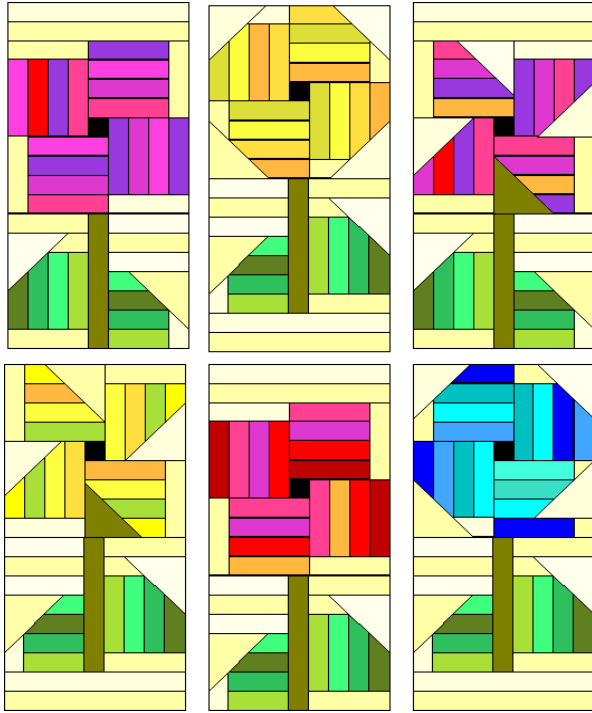
5. **Final Assembly** (Make 6). (6) 2" by 11" stems from Baggie D.  
Sew Leaf #1 Unit and Leaf #2 Unit to stem per diagram.  
Press to the stem. (6) Units.



6. Sew each flower to a stem unit. Press to the stem unit. (6) Units.

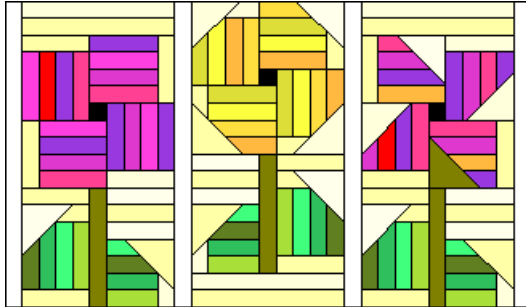


7. (6) rectangle pairs from Step 1.  
Arrange your flowers.  
Sew a rectangle pair on alternating bottom and top of the flower units.  
See diagram.



## Sashing and Inner Border

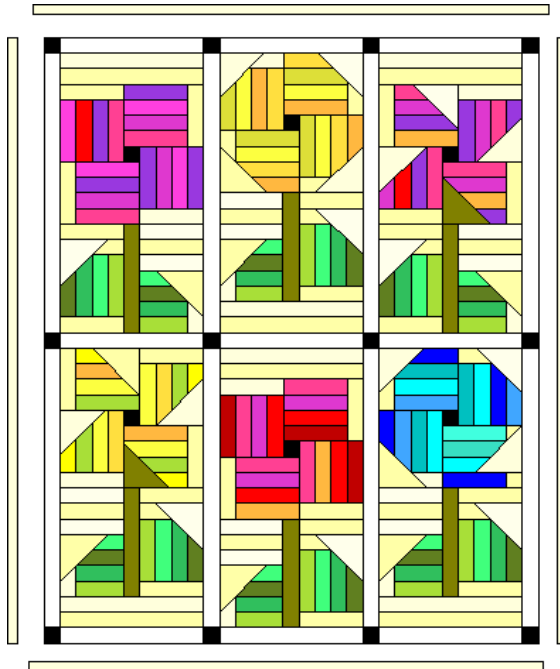
1. Baggie B (8) 2" by 27" rectangles of background fabric.  
Join blocks with vertical sashing strips.  
Press to the sashing strips. Make (2) rows.



2. Join rows together with horizontal sashing.  
Baggie B - (12) 2" squares (cornerstones)  
Baggie B - (12) 2" by 14" rectangles background fabric.  
Sew (3) sashing strip rows. See diagram.  
Press to the sashing strips.

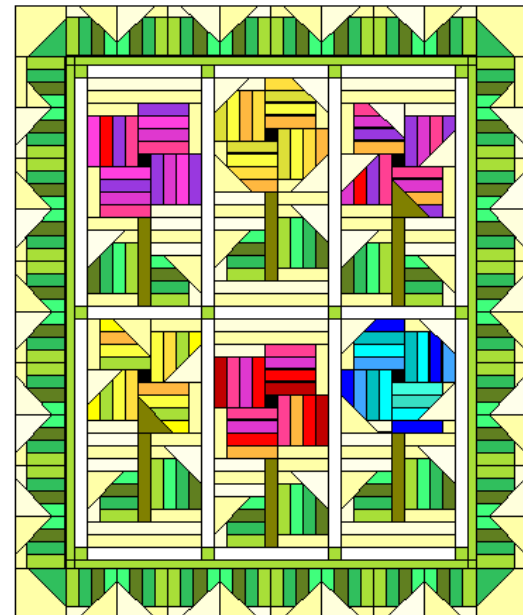
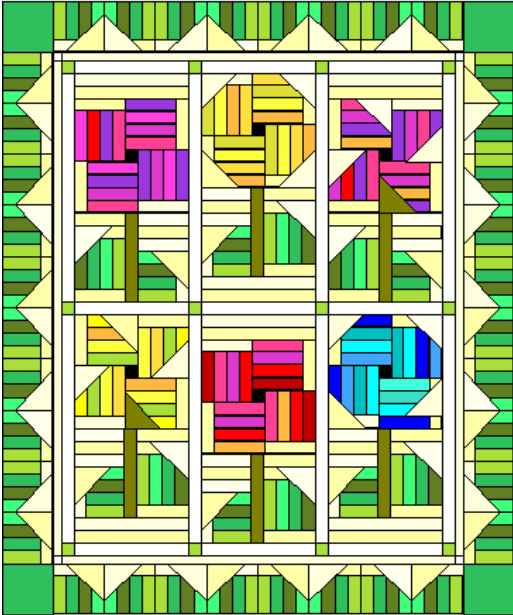
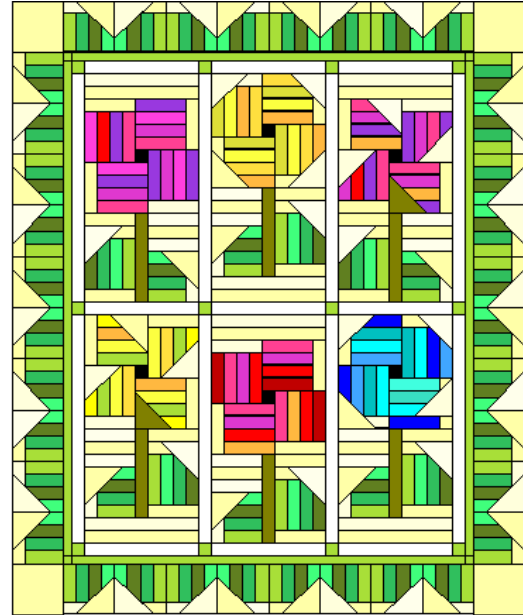
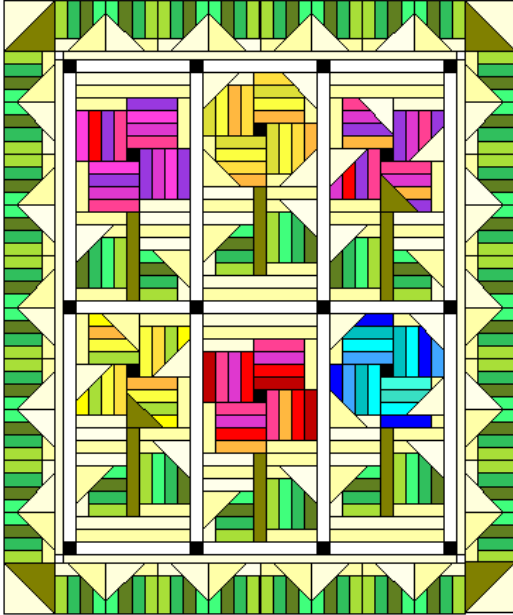


3. Sew block rows and sashing strip rows together.  
Press to the sashing strip rows.
4. Add Sides of Border #1. Press to the borders.  
Add Top and Bottom of Border #1. Press to the borders.



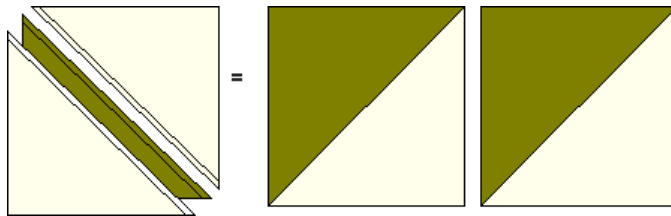
**Choose your Border Setting:.**

Here are some different looks to help you decide. You can also make up your own look.

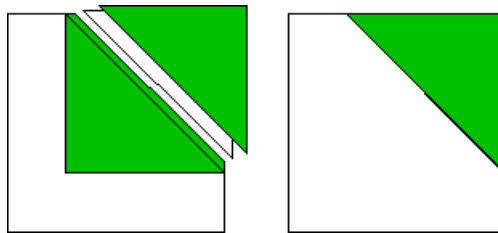


### Choose your Corners:

1. Half Square Triangle Corners:  
Baggie C – (2) 8.5” squares background fabric  
Baggie A - (2) 8.5” squares colored fabric  
Make (4)  
Draw a diagonal line through the back of the light fabric.  
Place a light and dark square RIGHT sides together.  
Sew a 1/4” seam on either side of your drawn line.  
Cut on the drawn line.  
Press to the dark.  
Trim to 7.5” square



2. Smaller Triangle Corners:  
Baggie (C) – (4) 7.5” background squares  
Baggie (A) - (4) 5.5” squares colored fabric  
Draw a diagonal line through the back each colored square.  
Place a light and dark square RIGHT sides together.  
Sew on the drawn line.  
Trim 1/4” seam.  
Sew extra triangles together for another project.  
Press to the dark.  
Trim to 7.5” square.



### Final Assembly:

- Step #1: Sew corners to top and bottom borders. Press to the border.
- Step #2: Sew side borders to your quilt. Press to the outside border.
- Step #3: Sew top and bottom borders. Press to the outside border.