

Rainbow Hearts



Show off your color crush with this cheerful rainbow-of-colors quilt. If using all the colors isn't your jam, try creating an ombre effect, by using only cool or only hot colors for your pieced hearts.

Designed and pieced by Cornelia Gauger; machine quilted by Karen Burns of Compulsive Quilting

FINISHED QUILT: 31½" × 41½"

FINISHED BLOCK: 10" × 10"

Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric.

21 precut strips, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 42"$, of assorted bright tone on tones for blocks, cornerstones, border, and binding

$1\frac{3}{8}$ yards of white solid for setting triangles, sashing, and border

$1\frac{3}{8}$ yards of fabric for backing*

$38" \times 48"$ piece of batting

*Or piece your backing from leftover $2\frac{1}{2}"$ strips.

Cutting

From each of 2 bright tone-on-tone strips, cut:

1 strip, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 10"$ (2 total)

5 squares, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ (10 total)

1 square, $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{1}{2}"$ (2 total)

From each of 19 bright tone-on-tone strips, cut:

1 strip, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 15"$ (19 total)

1 strip, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 10"$ (19 total; 1 is extra)

1 square, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ (19 total; 5 are extra)

From the remainder of each of 2 bright tone-on-tone strips, cut:

1 square, $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{1}{2}"$ (2 total)

From the white solid, cut:

1 square, $15\frac{1}{2}" \times 15\frac{1}{2}"$; cut the square into quarters diagonally to yield 4 triangles

2 squares, $9\frac{3}{8}" \times 9\frac{3}{8}"$; cut the squares in half diagonally to yield 4 triangles

3 squares, $7" \times 7"$; cut the squares in half diagonally to yield 6 triangles (1 is extra)

1 strip, $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 42"$

3 strips, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 42"$; crosscut into a total of:

1 strip, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 15"$

4 rectangles, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4"$

22 squares, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$

2 strips, $2" \times 42"$

4 strips, $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 42"$; crosscut into a total of 12 strips, $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}"$

Making the Blocks

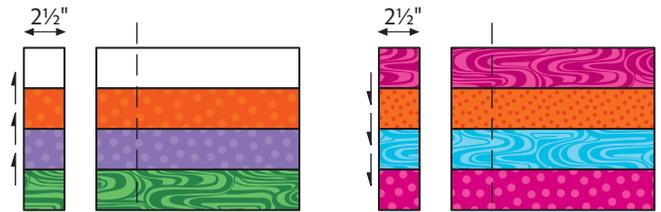
Press the seam allowances as indicated by the arrows, or as otherwise instructed.

1. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of a white $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square. Layer the square on a bright $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square, right sides together. Sew on the line. Trim $\frac{1}{4}"$ from one side of the line and press. Repeat to make five half-square-triangle units using one bright color and five with a different bright color.



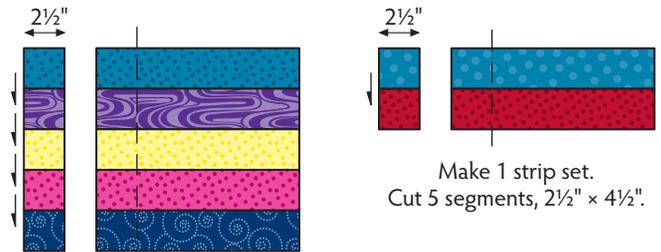
Make 5 of each unit,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.

2. Create strip sets from the 19 bright $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 15"$ strips and one white $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 15"$ strip as shown. Cut each strip set into five segments, $2\frac{1}{2}"$ wide.



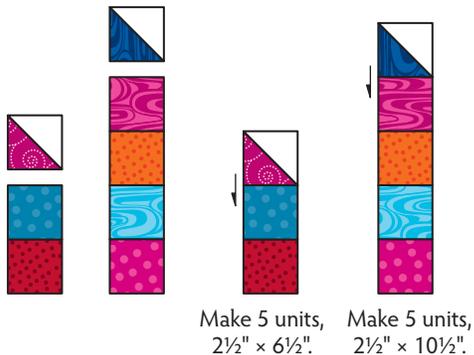
Make 1 strip set.
Cut 5 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$.

Make 1 strip set.
Cut 5 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$.

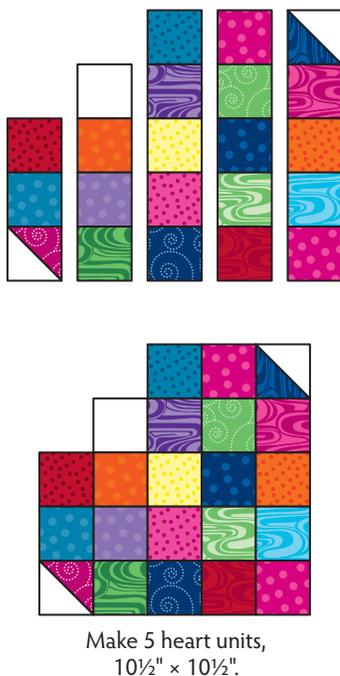


Make 2 strip sets.
Cut 10 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}"$.

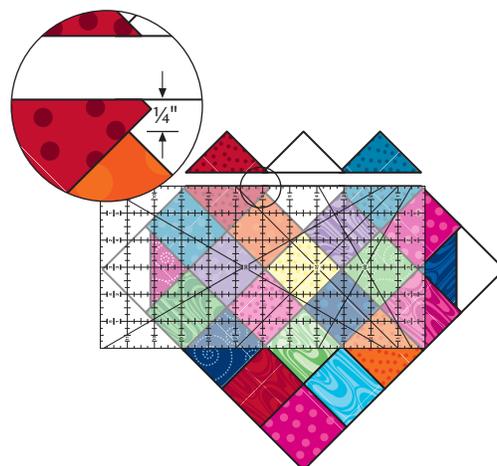
3. Sew matching half-square-triangle units from step 1 to one end of each two-square segment, angling the triangle seam as shown. Sew the remaining half-square-triangle units to the four-square segments, angling the triangle seam as shown.



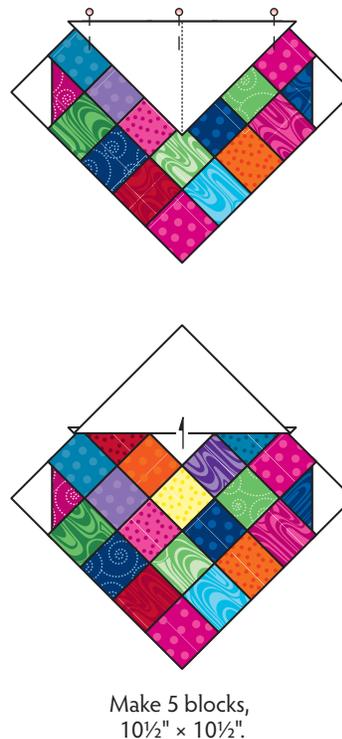
4. Arrange the units from steps 2 and 3 as shown and sew them together to make the heart portion of the five blocks. Cornelia arranged the segments so all the blocks are identical. The seam allowances should butt for easy seam matching.



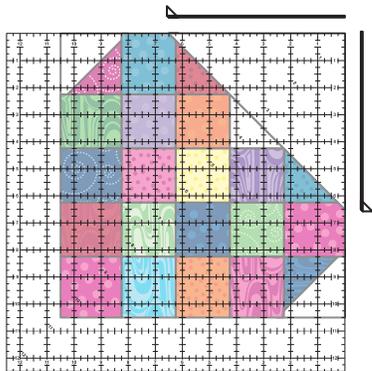
5. Line up the $\frac{1}{4}''$ line of a ruler along the junction of the squares on the top part of the heart and trim the squares as shown.



6. Find the center point of the top of the heart and the center point of the long side of a white 7" triangle. Pin the centers and ends and sew. The ends of the triangle will extend past the heart. Sew with the pieced side on top so that you can make sure you're sewing directly over the points on the top row of the hearts. Be careful not to stretch the fabrics as you sew the bias edges together. Make five blocks that are $10\frac{1}{2}''$ square. (You'll have one white triangle left over.)

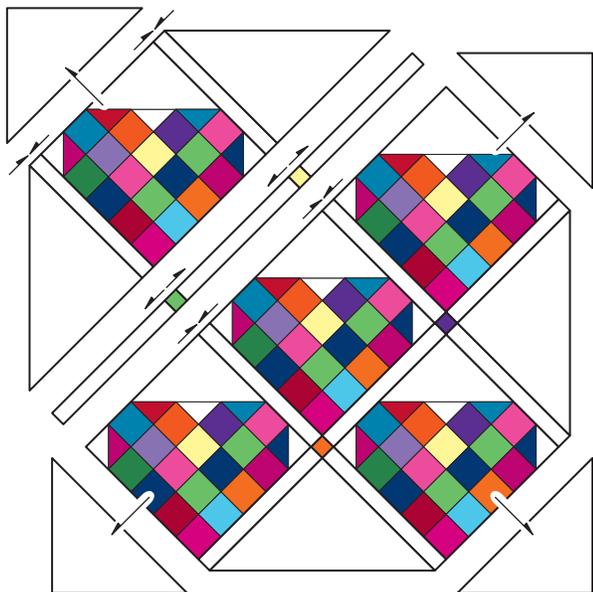


7. Trim each block to $10\frac{1}{2}$ " square. The white triangles were cut slightly oversized to give you some wiggle room.



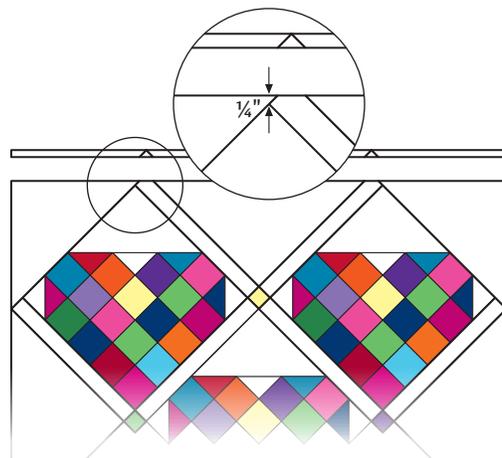
Assembling the Quilt Top

1. Arrange the blocks, 12 white $1\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $10\frac{1}{2}$ " sashing strips, four bright $1\frac{1}{2}$ " squares for cornerstones, four white $15\frac{1}{2}$ " side setting triangles, and four white $9\frac{3}{8}$ " corner setting triangles. Sew the pieces together into rows, and then sew the rows together. Press the seam allowances open or in the directions shown.



Quilt assembly

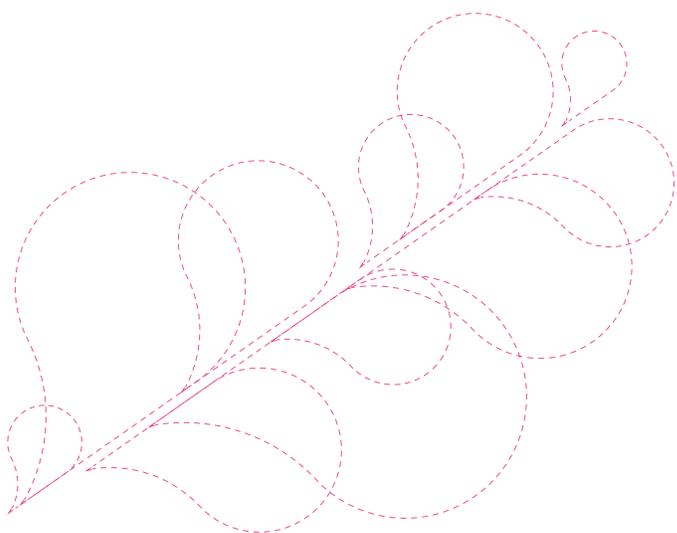
2. Line up the $\frac{1}{4}$ " line of your ruler at the intersections of the top white triangles as shown and trim. Trim only the top edge of the quilt, not the sides or the bottom.



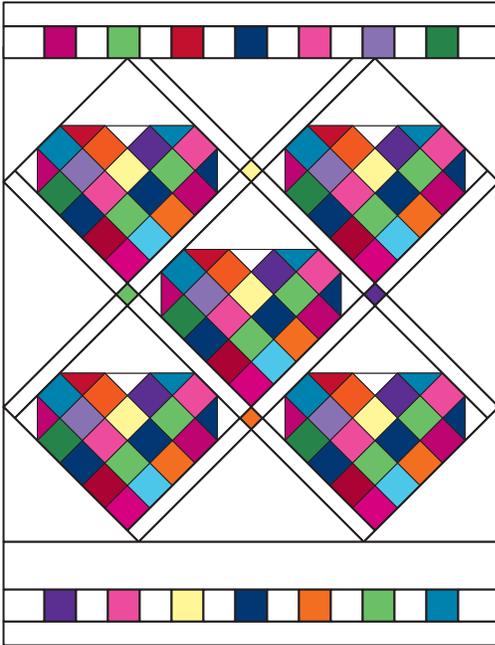
3. Measure the width of the quilt top through the center. Cut the white $3\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 42" strip to this measurement and sew it to the bottom of the quilt top as shown in the adding the borders diagram on page 5.
4. Join seven bright $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares and six white $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares as shown. Sew a white $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 4" rectangle to each end to make a border unit that is $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 33". Sew a white 2" \times 42" strip to one long side of the border unit. Press the seam allowances toward the white strip. Make two borders that will be trimmed in step 5.



Make 2.



5. Measure evenly from the center of the middle bright squares to cut each border's length to the measurement from step 3. Sew the border units to the top and bottom of the quilt top. Press. Square up the sides of the quilt top.



Adding the borders

Quilting and Finishing

1. Layer and baste your quilt, and quilt!
2. Using the bright $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10''$ strips, prepare double-fold binding. Sew the binding to the quilt.



Custom quilting of swirling feathers fills the white background areas, while heart-shaped feathered wreaths, stitched with variegated thread, fill the colorful hearts.