

For the Hot August Night Challenge this year, we are all making the same quilt, and using up scraps at the same time! It is an easy, fun, and fast quilt to make. 14" blocks make it a snap! You can make it totally scrappy, or themed in a specific color way. It is based on Bonnie Hunter's "Scrappy Trips Around the World". Full instructions for a 12" block can be found on her blog

<http://quiltville.blogspot.com/2005/06/scrappy-trips-around-world.html>

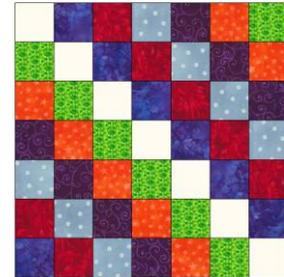
We are making varying her instructions in that we will be adding one light fabric that will go diagonally on each block. This can be the same fabric or color in each block in your quilt, or simply the lightest one in each block but it should be very light.

Materials for one block:

One 2 1/2" by 18" strip of fabric that is the light you chose

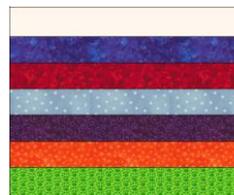
Six 2 1/2" by 18" strips of fabric in different colors

18" is the minimum length needed for the block. If you are using WOF strips, cut the strip in half at the middle and use the second half in another block. If you are using fat quarters, cut 2 1/2" by 18".

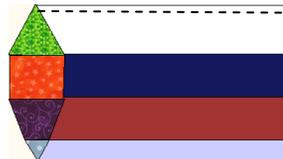


Making the block:

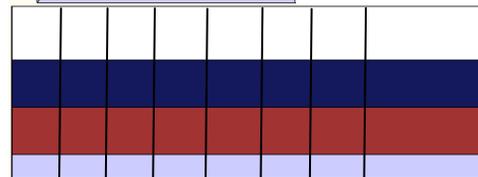
- Starting with the lightest strip you chose, sew them together into a strata of the seven strips. To make the next step easier, always match ends of the fabric at the same edge. It's easiest to press after you have the block together, so don't press. See, easier from the first.



- Fold the strata, right sides together, into a lengthwise tube, and then sew the long edge.



- Flatten the tube, with the seam you just sewed at the top. Cut seven 2 1/2" units from the tube. If you've used WOF pieces, put the leftover tube to one side. Border for your quilt? Beginning of another project?



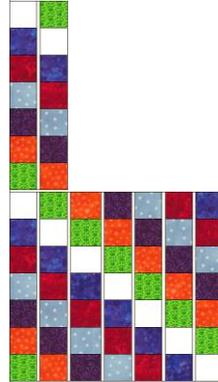
- On the first unit, rip the seam last sewn. Put this down on your table, with the lightest color on the top. For the following steps, think of the strips as though they are numbered 1-7, with the lightest color number 1.



5 On the second unit, rip the seam between fabrics 6 and 7. Put it to the right of the first one, with fabric 7 at the top.

6 On the next unit, rip the seam between fabrics 5 and 6. Put it to the right of the prior one, with fabric 6 at the top. Continue in this manner until color 2 is at the top. Notice fabric 1 creates a diagonal in the block.

7 Sew the units together, alternating the directions of the seams so that they lock. Now it's time to press your block. Depending on the accuracy of your 1/4" seams and your pressing, the block should measure 14 1/2".



Repeat until you have the number of blocks you want to make. Since the block is 14" finished, a three by four arrangement will be 42" by 56; four by six, 56" by 84". You may add borders or not. Now the hard part is deciding how you want to put the blocks together. Some possibilities (of course, your quilts will have many more fabrics than what are shown below):

