

Wonky RWB Rails

Quilt Size 54x72

Block size is 9 inches finished (9.5 inches with seam allowances)

Setting is 6x8 blocks

Optional versions with border creates a quilt size of 63x81



CUTTING NOTES

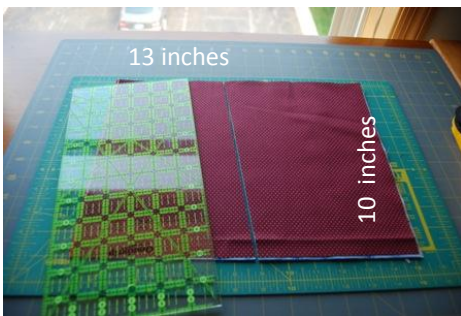
- ✂ I cut my rectangles 10 x 13 inches which leaves a rather small area for squaring up the block – if you prefer a more oversized block before squaring – increase the rectangle to 10.5 x 13 inches.
- ✂ You will cut a total of 48 rectangles from Red, blue, and white fabrics. For my white fabrics I used a variety of red and blue prints on cream/white/beige backgrounds.
- ✂ I used two reds, two blues, and two prints in each block.

RAIL FENCE BLOCKS

Choose 6 rectangles making sure that there is enough contrast between all 6 fabrics.



Line up fabric as shown below and make a single angled cut near the center of the rectangle.



Make 4 other angled cuts for a total of 5 cuts through all 6 layers – 2 on each side of the first cut.



Starting with the 2nd piece move the top fabric to the back of the stack, move the top 2 fabrics on the 3rd piece to the back, the top 3 fabrics on the 4th to the back, the top 4 fabrics on the 5th to the back and the top 5 fabrics to the back on the 6th piece.

You will end up with a different fabric in each position as shown below.



Being careful not to mix up these sections and working from the left to the right sew piece 1 to piece 2; piece 3 to piece 4, piece 5 to piece 6.



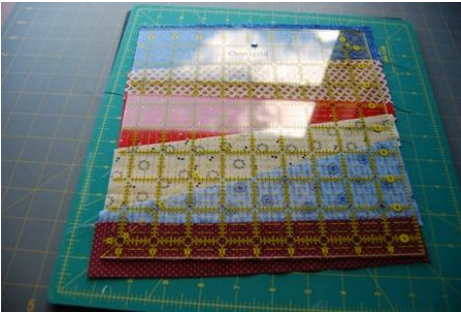
Now sew 1-2 to 3-4 and then sew 1-2-3-4 to piece 5-6. I do NOT iron these blocks until I'm finished sewing all 6 blocks. I just toss them on the floor as I finish each one.



Iron all seam allowances up.



Trim blocks to 9.5 inches – I used my 9.5 inch square ruler which makes it nice and easy.



I trim a small amount from the right and top side and then flip the block over and trim to 9.5 inches.



Here is your finished block.



Assemble Rail Fence Blocks into groups of 4 as shown in this next drawing. The strings are rotated vertically in blocks 1 and 4 and horizontally in blocks 2 and 3.



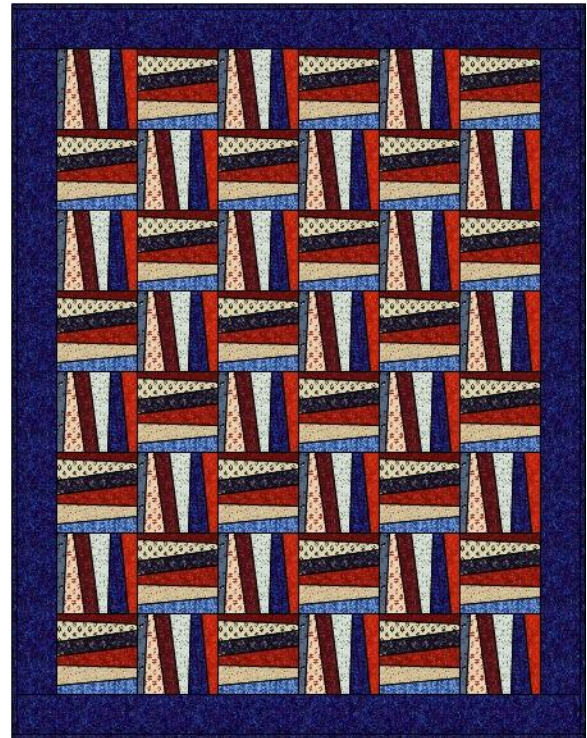
ASSEMBLE TOP

Layout the above rail fence sections into 3 rows across and 4 rows down and sew together.

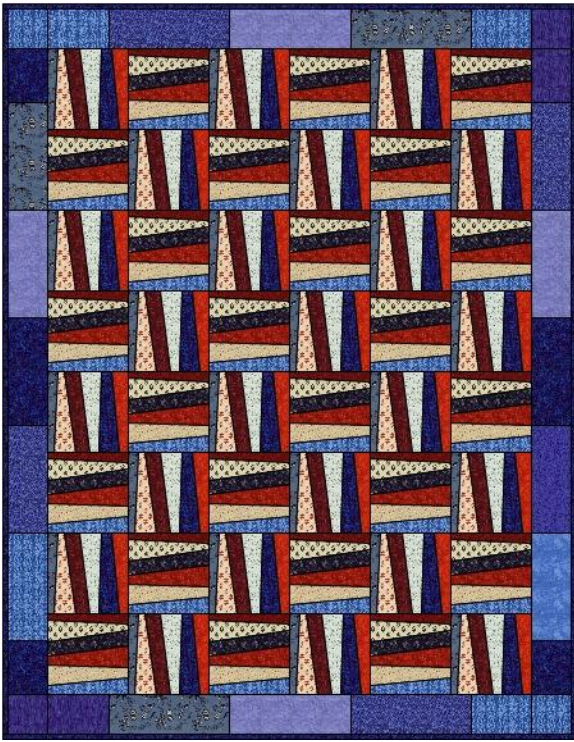
At this point you can decide whether to add a border or to leave the top as is without one.

BORDERS

Option 1 is to add a blue border that is cut 5 inches wide.



Option 2 is to add a pieced border from various blue fabrics used in the quilt that are cut into rectangles. My quilt shown on the next page uses rectangles that are cut 5x6.5 and 5x12.5 but you may use any measurement you wish.



This technique of making blocks is shown in a variety of books, the first quilt I made using it was from a book called [Cut Loose Quilts](#) by Jan Mullen .

Since then, I've seen this technique in Gwen Marston's book [Liberated Strings](#) and in the [Karla Alexander](#) Stack the Deck books.

Should you want more detailed instructions or ideas for other wonky quilts I recommend all the above books.

You can see my first quilt based on a quilt in Jan Mullen's book here: [Fish Rails](#)

I'm also currently using a similar method for my current [Wonky Tree](#) quilt.