

Assembling QAYG Blocks

Quilt Size is 60 x 80

Block size is 10 x 10 inches (10.5 x 10.5 with seam allowances)

Setting is 6 x 8 blocks



QUILT NOTES

- ✦ Blocks are made using the guidelines at this link: <http://www.maryquilts.com/heartstrings-qayg-blocks/>
- ✦ Sashing strips are cut 2.5 inches wide from 2 yards of fabric. Cut them lengthwise and not selvage to selvage. Iron all strips in half right sides out as you would for a double fold binding. It is not necessary to piece them together.
- ✦ Sub-cut (5) 10.5 inch sashing strips for each of the rows. I cut these as I start each row, with scissors and just measure them against the block.
- ✦ Each row will be assembled exactly the same and then will be flipped upside down for the alternate rows. That will create the diamonds where the string blocks come together and the basketweave effect from row to row.
- ✦ Seam allowance was about 3/8 of an inch and a walking foot helps with the bulk of the blocks.

PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

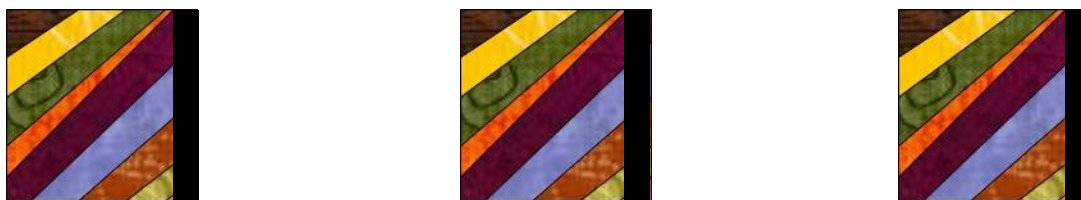
LAY OUT ONE ROW AT A TIME; 6 BLOCKS AND ORIENT EACH PAIR SO THAT YOU ARE FORMING THE TOP OF THE DIAMOND AS SHOWN BELOW.



You will be sewing **wrong** (back) sides together and will be joining each of the pairs below. Lay your sashing strip (in black) on the left side block of each of your pairs with the raw edges aligned with the raw edge of your blocks.



Sew the pairs of blocks together, string sides out, sashing strip on top as shown below using about a 3/8 seam.



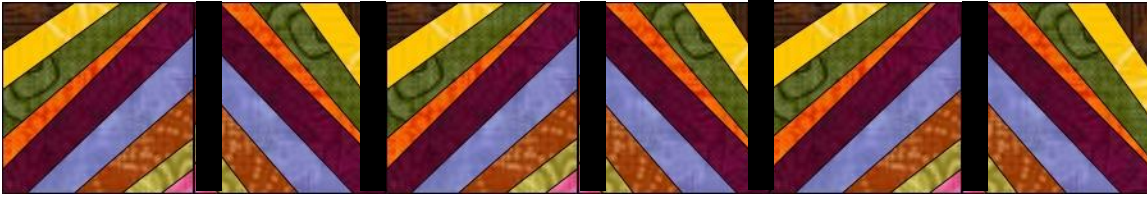
Open up the blocks and iron the sashing strip over the seam and top stitch it to the other block. You now have 3 pairs of blocks joined.



You'll join these sections by sewing the sashing strip to the **right** side block and then ironing the sashing over the seam and top stitching it to the block on the **left**.



You will now have a completed row and the appearance of smaller and larger blocks just by alternating which side of the block you sew the sashing strip to.



Sew the next row in the exact same way and then flip it over and sew a long sashing strip to the top row and iron it over the seam and topstitch it to the bottom row.



Continue in this manner until the entire quilt is assembled.

Note that it is easiest to sew all the rows together in twos, then four, then one final seam to avoid having to handle all the bulk of the quilt as the rows are assembled.

To bind the quilt, take the remain sashing strips and leftovers, piecing as you need to and sew a strip to both sides on the back of the quilt. Rather than folding half of it over as you usually would for a binding, you're going to fold the entire binding to the front and topstitch. This will make it the same width as the other sashing strips.

When you sew the top and bottom border pieces, fold the raw edges over before sewing and then whipstitch that opening down when you're done.

