

PATTERN  
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## PROJECT: Play on Words

A child will enjoy a quilt made from alphabet-theme novelty prints and basic shapes.

INSPIRED BY: *Indigo Illusion* from designer Kristin Esser ([kristinesser.com](http://kristinesser.com))

QUILT TESTER: Colleen Tauke



**FABRICS** are from the Alphabet Soup collection by Northcott ([northcott.com](http://northcott.com)).

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**FINISHED QUILT:** 36½×45½"  
**FINISHED BLOCKS:** 9" square

### MATERIALS

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- ☐ ⅝ yard *each* white polka dot, blue print, and orange print (blocks, inner border, outer border)
- ☐ ⅓ yard red print (blocks)
- ☐ ¼ yard *each* green print and multicolor stripe (blocks)
- ☐ ⅓ yard white alphabet print (blocks)
- ☐ ½ yard binding fabric
- ☐ 2½ yards backing fabric
- ☐ 45×54" batting

### CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

Patterns are on *page 4*. To make templates of patterns, see *Make and Use Templates*, *page 5*.

To speed the cutting process, you can rotary-cut the pattern pieces using EZ Quilting Tri-Recs acrylic tools (*feedsacklady.com*). If you're using these tools, refer to the manufacturer's instructions for cutting triangles.

**From white polka dot, cut:**

- ☐ 12–3⅞" squares
- ☐ 24 of Pattern B

**From red print, cut:**

- ☐ 12–3⅞" squares

**From green print, cut:**

- ☐ 6–2×21" strips

**From multicolor stripe, cut:**

- ☐ 6–2×21" strips

**From blue print, cut:**

- ☐ 2–3½×39½" outer border strips
- ☐ 2–3½×36½" outer border strips
- ☐ 12–3½" squares

**From orange print, cut:**

- ☐ 2–2×36½" inner border strips
- ☐ 2–2×30½" inner border strips
- ☐ 24 *each* of patterns A and A reversed

**From white alphabet print, cut:**

- ☐ 24–3½" squares

**From binding fabric, cut:**

- ☐ 5–2½×42" binding strips

### ASSEMBLE BLOCK A

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

**1.** Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each white polka dot 3⅞" square.

**2.** Layer a marked white polka dot square atop a red print 3⅞" square. Sew together with two seams, stitching ¼" on each side of marked line (**Diagram 1**). Cut pair apart on drawn line; press open to make two triangle-squares. Each triangle-square should be 3½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 24 triangle-squares total.

**3.** Sew together a green print 2×21" strip and a multicolor stripe 2×21" strip to make a strip set (**Diagram 2**). Repeat to make six strip sets total. Cut each strip set into four 3½"-wide segments for 24 segments total.

**4.** Referring to **Diagram 3**, lay out four triangle-squares, four 3½"-wide segments, and a blue print 3½" square in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows; join rows to make Block A. The block should be 9½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make six A blocks total.

### ASSEMBLE BLOCK B

**1.** Referring to **Diagram 4**, sew together an orange print A triangle and a white polka dot B triangle. Add an orange print A reversed triangle to make a star point unit. The unit should be 3½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 24 star point units total.

**2.** Referring to **Diagram 5**, lay out four star point units, four white alphabet print 3½" squares, and one blue print 3½" square in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows; join rows to make Block B. The block should be 9½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make six B blocks total.

### ASSEMBLE QUILT TOP

**1.** Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, alternate A and B blocks in four rows. Sew together blocks in rows. Press seams toward A blocks.

**2.** Join rows to make quilt center. Press seams in one direction. The quilt center should be 27½×36½" including seam allowances.

**3.** Sew orange print 2×36½" inner border strips to long edges of quilt center. Add orange print 2×30½" inner border strips to remaining edges. Press all seams toward inner border. The quilt center should be 30½×39½" including seam allowances.

**4.** Sew blue print 3½×39½" outer border strips to long edges of quilt center. Add blue print 3½×36½" outer border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top. Press all seams toward outer border to complete quilt top.

### FINISH QUILT

**1.** Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste. Quilt as desired.

**2.** Bind with binding strips.

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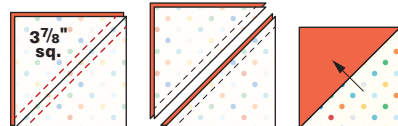


Diagram 1

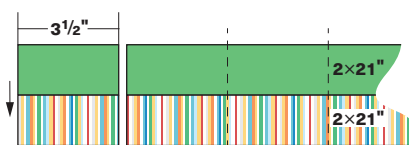
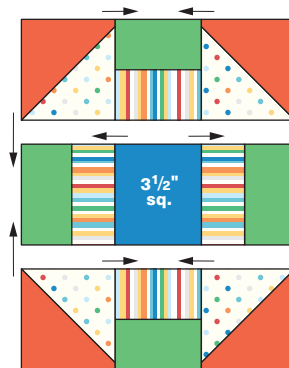


Diagram 2



Block A  
Diagram 3

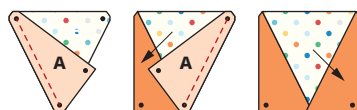
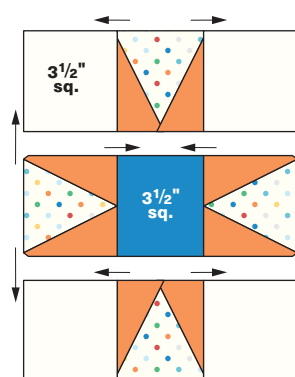
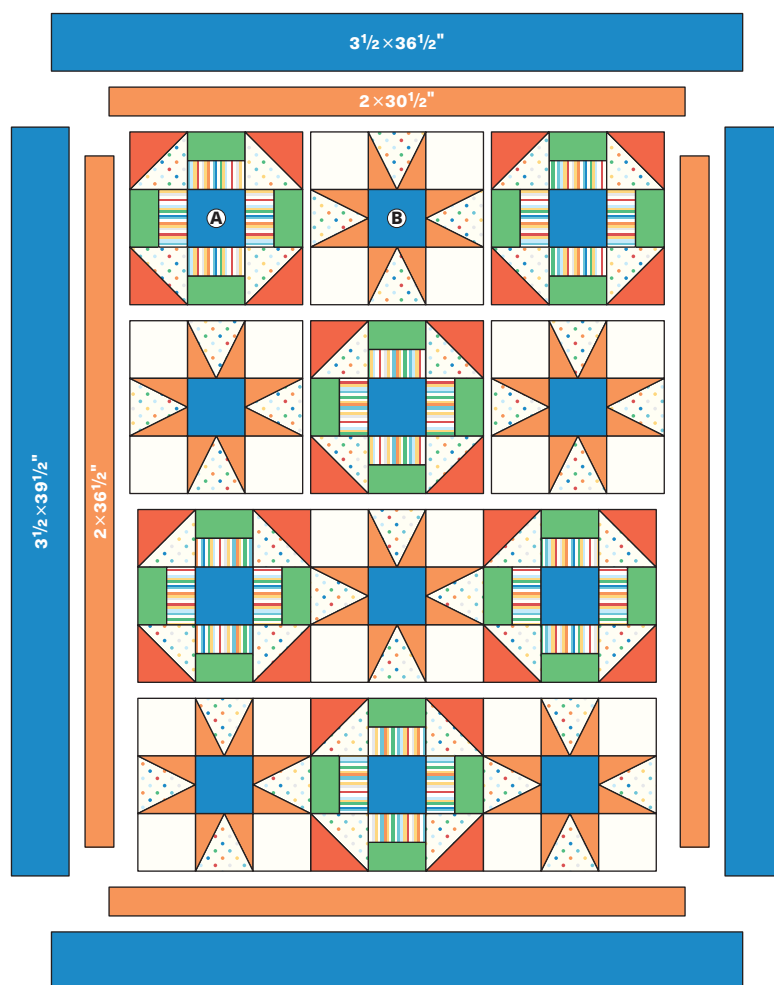


Diagram 4



Block B  
Diagram 5



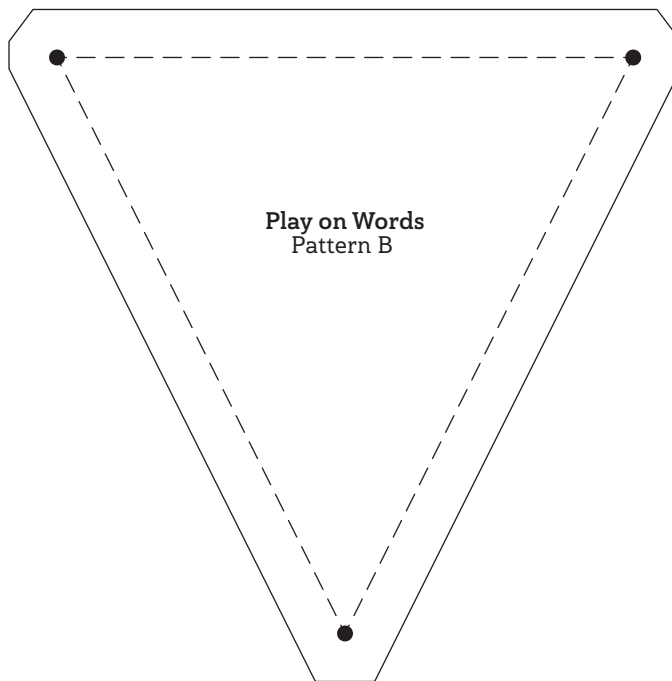
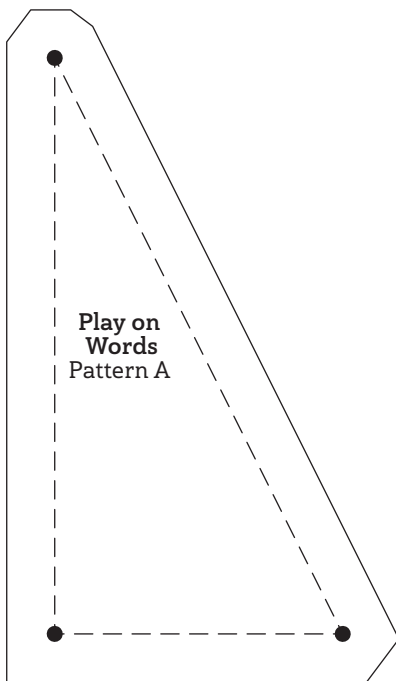
Quilt Assembly Diagram

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This box should  
measure 1".

← 1" →

**\* NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable PDF, set Page Scaling preference to None to print patterns at 100%. Do not use Shrink to Fit or Fit to Printable Area.



## MAKE AND USE TEMPLATES

### MAKE TEMPLATES

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

### USE TEMPLATES

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least 1/2" away from the previous tracing (Diagram 1), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines 1/4" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a 1/4" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a 3/16" seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (Diagram 2); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

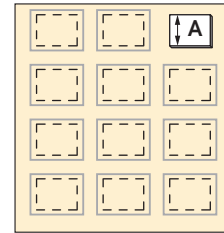


DIAGRAM 1

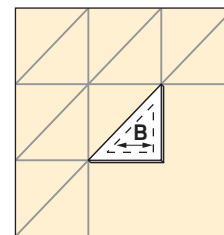


DIAGRAM 2