PROJECT: Christmas Brights
Large Snowball blocks in a mix of colorful prints make a
festive table runner for a holiday party.

INSPIRED BY: *Winter Wonderland* by designer Jen Daly *(jendalyquilts.blogspot.com)*
QUILTMAKER: Laura Boehnke

FINISHED TABLE RUNNER: 18½×37"
FINISHED BLOCKS: 3¾" square

MATERIALS

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

- □ ½ yard total assorted light prints (blocks)
- □ ⅔ yard total assorted medium and dark prints (blocks)
- □ ⅜ yard cream print (tree rows)
- □ ½ yard total assorted green prints (tree rows)
- □ Assorted brown print scraps (tree rows)
- □ ⅓ yard red print (sashing, border)
- □ ⅓ yard green tone-on-tone stripe (binding)
- □ 1¼ yards backing fabric
- □ 25×43" batting

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.
Patterns are on *pages 4*. To make templates of patterns, see Make and Use Templates on *page 5*.

From assorted light prints, cut:
- □ 96–1½" squares (24 sets of 4 matching squares)

From assorted medium and dark prints, cut:
- □ 24–4¼" squares

From cream print, cut:
- □ 6 of Pattern B
- □ 2 *each* of patterns A and A reversed
- □ 6–1¼×3¾" rectangles
- □ 4–1¼×2⅛" rectangles

From assorted green prints, cut:
- □ 8 of Pattern B

From assorted brown prints, cut:
- □ 8–1×1¼" rectangles

From red print, cut:
- □ 2–2×34" border strips
- □ 2–2×18½" border strips
- □ 2–1¾×15½" sashing strips

From green tone-on-tone stripe, cut:
- □ Enough 2½"-wide bias strips to total 130" for binding

ASSEMBLE BLOCKS

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 assorted light print 1½" square.

2 Align a marked light print square with one corner of a medium or dark print 4¼" square **(Diagram 1;** note direction of drawn line). Sew on drawn line. Trim excess fabric, leaving ¼" seam allowance. Press open attached triangle. In same manner, add matching marked light print squares to remaining corners of medium or dark print square to make a Snowball block. The block should be 4¼" square including seam allowances.

3 Repeat Step 2 to make 24 Snowball blocks total.

ASSEMBLE TREE ROWS

1 Referring to **Diagram 2,** lay out one cream print A triangle, one cream print A reversed triangle, three cream print B triangles, two cream print 1¼×2⅛" rectangles, three cream print 1¼×3¾" rectangles, four assorted green print B triangles, and four assorted brown print 1×1¼" rectangles in two rows.

2 Sew together pieces in rows. Press seams toward cream print triangles and rectangles.

3 Join rows to make a tree row. Press seams in one direction. The tree row should be 15½×4¾" including seam allowances.

4 Repeat steps 1-3 to make a second tree row.

ASSEMBLE TABLE RUNNER TOP

1 Referring to **Table Runner Assembly Diagram,** sew together Snowball blocks in six horizontal rows. Press seams in one direction, alternating direction with each row. Join rows to make table runner center. Press seams in one direction. The table runner center should be 15½×23" including seam allowances.

2 Add red print 1¾×15½" sashing strips to short edges of table runner center. Press seams toward sashing.

3 Join tree rows to short edges of table runner center **(Table Runner Assembly Diagram;** note orientation of treetops). Press seams toward sashing.

4 Sew red print 2×34" border strips to long edges of table runner center. Join red print 2×18½" border strips to remaining edges to complete table runner top. Press all seams toward border.

FINISH TABLE RUNNER

1 Layer table runner top, batting, and backing; baste.

2 Quilt as desired. Nancy Sharr machine-quilted a pebble design in each Snowball block and angular branches in each treetop.

3 Using diagonal seams, sew together green tone-on-tone stripe 2½"-wide strips to make a pieced binding strip. Bind quilt with pieced binding strip.
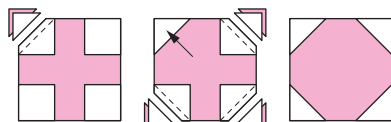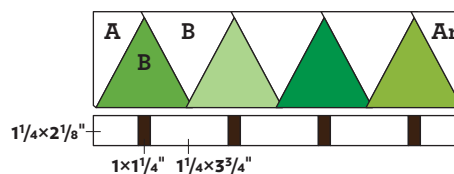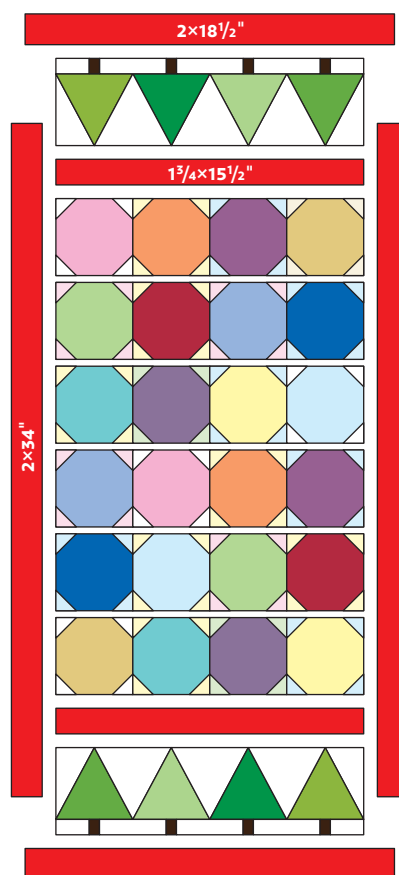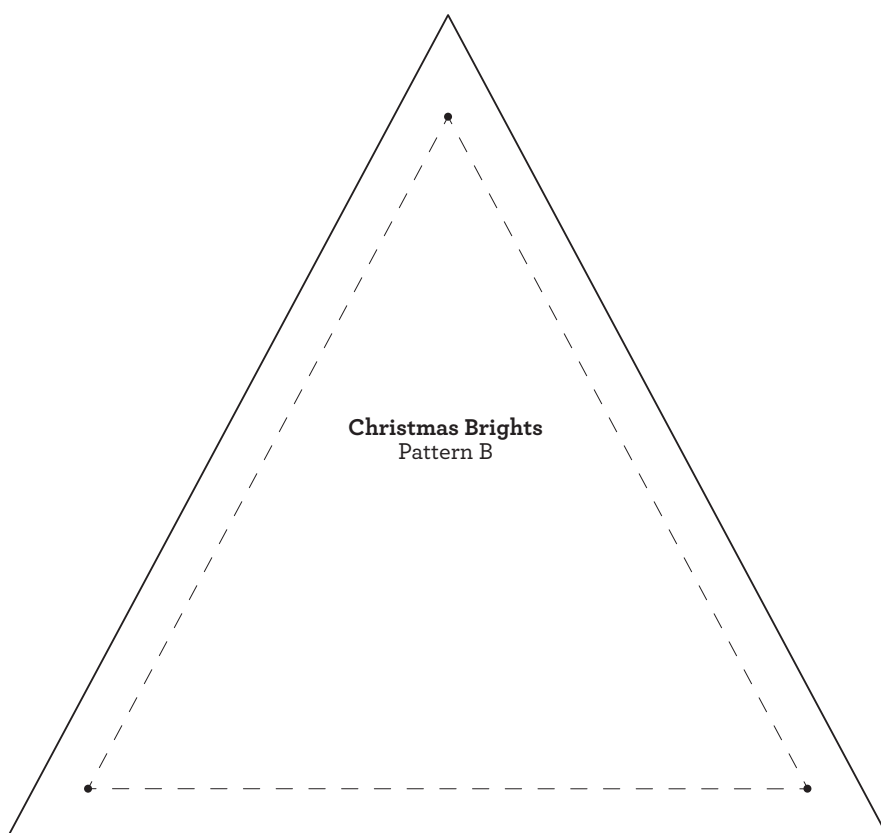
Diagram 1

Diagram 2

A   B   Ar

B

$1^1/_4 \times 2^1/_8$"

$1 \times 1^1/_4$" $1^1/_4 \times 3^3/_4$"

$2 \times 18^1/_2$"

$1^3/_4 \times 15^1/_2$"

2×34"

Table Runner Assembly Diagram

Christmas Brights
Pattern A

Christmas Brights
Pattern B
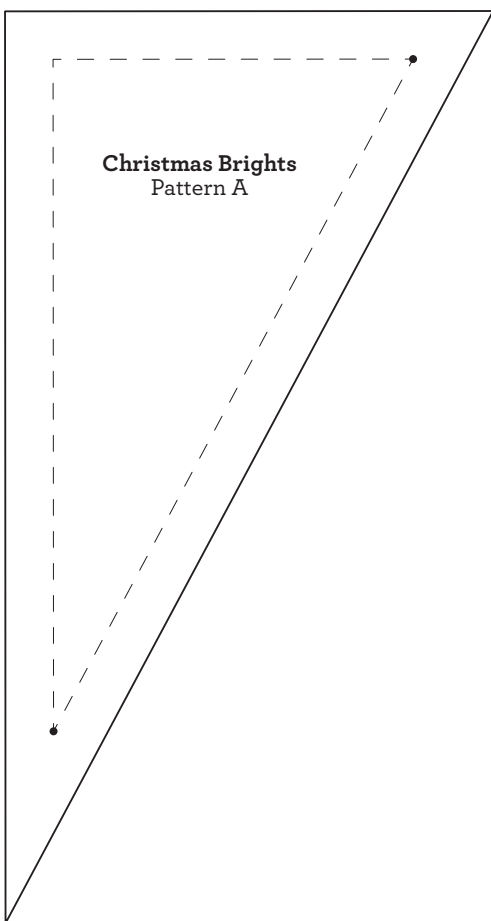
This box should
measure 1".

$\longleftarrow$ 1" $\longrightarrow$

❋ 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 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 ½" away from the previous tracing **(Diagram 1),** trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines ¼" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a ¼" 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.
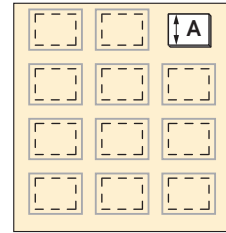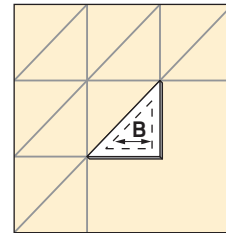

DIAGRAM 1

DIAGRAM 2