

Project: 81-Patch Wall Hanging

Plan the Quilt

This quilt uses two fabrics in each block. Five blocks are medium/dark, and four blocks are medium/light which creates a secondary Nine-Patch design.

Want to make a scrappier version of this quilt? Go to page 3 for ideas using multiple fabrics in each block. For a scrappy version, you'll need 729—1¾" squares total (81 for each of the nine—11¼" square-finished blocks).

Materials

- 5—¼-yard pieces assorted dark batiks in purple and blue (blocks)
- 9—¼-yard pieces assorted medium batiks in blue, red, green, orange, and purple (blocks)
- 4—¼-yard pieces assorted light batiks in yellow, pink, and green (blocks)
- % yard blue-and-black batik (border, binding)
- 2½ yards backing fabric
- 46" square batting

Finished quilt: 39¼" square Finished block: 11¼" square

Quantities are for 44/45"-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.

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

Cut Fabrics

From assorted dark batiks, cut:

45—1¾x9" strips (5 matching sets of 9 strips)

From assorted medium batiks, cut:

81—1¾x9" strips (9 matching sets of 9 strips)

From assorted light batiks, cut:

36—1¾x9" strips (4 matching sets of 9 strips)

From blue-and-black batik, cut:

- 4—21/2x42" binding strips
- 2—3x39¼" border strips
- 2-3x341/4" border strips

Assemble Blocks

- 1. Aligning long edges, sew together five matching assorted dark batik strips and four matching assorted medium strips to make strip set A (Diagram 1). Press seams toward assorted dark batik. Cut strip set into five 1¾"-wide A segments total.
- 2. Sew together four matching assorted dark batik strips and five matching assorted medium batik strips to make strip set B (Diagram 2). Press seams toward assorted dark batik. Cut strip set into four 1¾"-wide B segments total.
- Referring to Diagram 3, join five A segments and four B segments to make a block. Press seams in one direction. The block should be 11¾" square including seam allowances.
- **4.** Repeat steps 1–3 to make five dark/medium blocks total.
- **5.** Using assorted medium batik strips and assorted light batik strips, repeat steps 1-3 to make four medium/light blocks total.

Assemble Ouilt Center

- Referring to photo on page 1, lay out five dark/medium blocks and four medium/light blocks in three rows.
- Sew together blocks in each row; press seams in one direction, alternating direction with each row. Join rows to complete quilt top. Press seams in one direction.

Add Border

- **1.** Add short border strips to opposite edges of quilt center.
- 2. Add long border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top. Press all seams toward border.

Finish Ouilt

- Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste. Quilt as desired.
- **2.** Bind with blue-and-black batik binding strips.

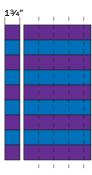


DIAGRAM 1

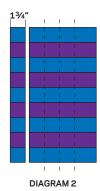


DIAGRAM 3

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It is amazing how just one block can produce so many different looks. If you want to use scraps to make your quilt, here are five additional ways to arrange 81-Patch blocks.



1. Diagonal rows of the same color bring a scrappy block together, even when the fabrics are diverse.



2. Outer rows of dark prints around medium or light prints in the same colors can create a frame. In this case, the quiltmaker chose to frame the block in dark blue and brown.



3. A regular arrangement of colors can result in a woven effect.



4. Pieces of similar value and scale make a subtle checkerboard pattern.



5. A quilt made entirely of blocks in this layout would produce a secondary design.