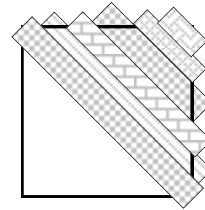
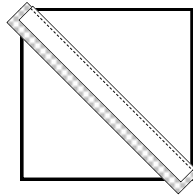
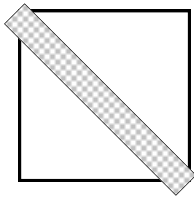


# String Quilt

This scrap quilt uses an old technique called string piecing, in which strips of fabric cut into different widths are sewn onto a foundation fabric, creating a simple design, and simple to make, too. Yardage is not given; but if you do not have scraps, purchase about 1/8 to 1/4 yard of several different fabrics totaling about 6 yards. You will use 5 yards muslin or other fabric for your foundation for a twin/full size quilt. (If using muslin, pre-wash first.)

1. Cut muslin (or something similar) into 7" squares. 120 will be used for a twin/full. (9" or 10" muslin squares may be cut for an alternate size block)
2. Cut your scrap fabrics into strips ranging from 1¼" to 2½" in width. You may find a few 3" wide strips will come in handy for corners. Length of strips may vary – 3" on up.
3. Lay a strip of fabric diagonally across center of muslin square, *right side up*.
4. Lay a second strip on top of first, *right sides together*, raw edges together and sew; flip over and repeat this process to corner, keeping strips parallel; press the seams as you go. Then do other side of square.



5. When finished, press the pieced square with iron.
6. Turn over onto your cutting mat with muslin face up and square up 6½". (Using a 6½" to 9 ½" square ruler helps a lot.) Take care to cut a perfect square.
7. When four of these are made, sew them together with ¼" seams to make a 12½" block (12" finished block). See pics. Press seams open as you sew these blocks together. Continue piecing blocks to make the size you want as described below. This is so much fun you won't want to quit!



Lay out the 12½" blocks on floor and sew blocks together for the size quilt you desire using the suggestions below.

**Baby quilt:** 3 blocks\* x 4 blocks is 36" x 48"; with 2" border it is 40" x 52". You will need 1/3 yard for border and 1/3 yard for binding. Cut 4 strips 2½" x WOF for border. Piece together with bias seams, then sew to sides, then top and bottom of quilt.

**Throw quilt:** 4 blocks\* x 5 blocks will give you a 48" x 60" quilt. With 4" border, 56" x 68". Cut 7 strips 4½" x WOF (1 yard border fabric). 5/8 yard binding, 4 yards backing (3½ yds. if seam runs crosswise).



**Twin/Full:** 5 blocks\* x 6 blocks make a 60" x 72" quilt. With 5" border, 70" x 82". Cut 8 strips 5½" x WOF (1¼ yard border fabric).  
2/3-yard binding, 5 yards backing.

**Queen:** Keep going! 6 x 7 blocks\* (82" x 94" with border), 7 x 8 blocks (94" x 106" with border). 1½ to 2 yards border fabric, cut strips 5½" wide.  
7/8-yard binding, 6 yards backing for 82" x 94" quilt.

Sew border to sides, then top and bottom of quilt. Cut batting and backing, quilt or tie as desired, and bind. *Border is optional! My quilts do not have borders. It will make your quilt larger if you don't want to make more blocks.*

\*'Blocks' refers to the 12½" unfinished block made up with the four 6½" string pieced foundation blocks.

Other helpful tips or suggestions on ways to use these blocks:

- ◆ Cut your fabrics up into strips of varying widths and lengths – just pull from a pile as you sew.
- ◆ *Don't worry about perfection in keeping strips straight on the muslin*, but do keep the *stitching* lines straight with the *strips*, not curvy. However, you may want to place strips uneven deliberately, but keep stitching lines straight.
- ◆ Put the 12" blocks together with sashing for a variation.
- ◆ Begin with larger muslin squares, trimming to 8" or 9".
- ◆ Perhaps leave out batting – just put a layer of flannel or an old sheet between quilt top and backing.
- ◆ Instead of quilting, the quilt could be tied using pearl cotton if desired.
- ◆ Lay blocks out on point to see if you might like to sew them together that way; then cut setting triangles for the edge of the quilt before sewing borders on.



Notice how the strips are not always lined up straight. This gives more of a vintage look. Also, seams do not usually line up. This reduces bulk as well as giving the design some character.

Please note: the quilt sizes and measurements above are only guidelines. Use any size muslin base and trim to the size you want.



Designed by Susan Thorup