Floating Frames

Top finishes at 81.5” x 97.5”

To make the quilt pictured:

You need:

- 3 3/4 yards of various bold/bright colors for frames
- Approximately 4 ½- 5 yards of low volume scraps in order to cut 1080 2” squares.
- 3 ½ yards of white for sashing
- ½-5/8 yard of fabric for the binding. (I used scrappy 2.5” strips.)
**Cut:**

**For one frame block you need:**

From the bold solids:

- 2 - 1.5” x 7” (I went through my 1.5” scrappy strips bag and chose out dark colored strips, but cutting is a good option if you don’t have a bag of 1.5” strips)
- 2 - 1.5” x 5”

From low volume scrappy fabrics:

- 9 – 2” x 2” squares out of the low volume scrappy fabric.

**For the sashing:**

From white:

- 132 - 2” x 7” strips
- 13 – 2” x 82” (you will have to piece the length)

**Construct blocks:**

(This quilt is made up of one type of block plus sashing.)

This is what the block looks like: It will finish at 7” x 7” as an individual block. It will be 6.5” after sewn into the quilt. (The numbers on the diagram show “after finishing in the quilt” measurements.)
How to make this quilt:

1. **Construct your blocks.**
   The finished block will look like this and should finish at 7” x 7” before you sew them all together.
   (This one is sewn into the quilt top already)
How to make one block:
A. Make a 9 patch out of 9 of your low volume squares, using normal construction techniques and a ¼” seam allowance. The 9 patches should measure 5”x5” at this point. If you do not know how to construct a 9 patch, please “google” it. Further editions of this pattern may demonstrate this with pictures. This edition does not.
B. Sew 1.5”x5” strips to opposite sides of your 9 patch. Press. I usually press towards the darker fabric if possible.

C. Sew 1.5”x7” bold strips to the top and bottom of your block. Press. (It should now look like a finished block but without any sashing.)

2. Make 120 of these blocks, using various bold colors as the frames.
3. Sew the 1.5” x 7” white sashing strips to the sides of the blocks as in this picture. Press.
4. Lay out the blocks in a pleasing arrangement as to color placement.

5. Sew the strips together as you have planned. Sew one more sashing strip to the left side of the first block so that the strips of blocks look like this (with sashing on both ends of the long strip of blocks).
6. Take your long sashing strips (2” x 82”’) and sew to the top of each row of strips of blocks until all are attached. Then sew those rows together until the whole top is together.

Make sure you match up the edges of your blocks as best as you can so that they appear straight. I drew a kind of crooked line showing the edges of the blocks that you should line up. I use pins—not a marker, though, to help me line them up.

Here’s a nice youtube video demonstrating this if you don’t know what I’m talking about.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSBUVro0wFc

Here’s a diagram of the finished quilt
And my finished top:
7. Press well.
8. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
9. **Quilt** as desired. I did an overall meander/stipple

It's that easy!!!!

Your quilt is finished!

Enjoy!

© 2016 Becky Tillman Petersen