Ribbon Stars ‘n Keys
Quilt finishes at 56”x70” (before being quilted and washed)

To make the quilt pictured:

**You need:**

- 3½ yards of various shirting fabrics for stars and piano keys
- 2 1/8 yards of white for background
- ¼ yard of gray for cornerstones
- ½-5/8 yard of fabric for the binding.

This quilt consists of only one block plus a piano key border: It looks like this: I originally saw this “ribbon star” block on a MSQC tutorial on you tube but Jenny said it is an old block.
It measures 12½” x 12½” before sewing together into the quilt. Use ¼” seam allowances throughout.

**Cut:**

For each block: (This quilt is made up of 12 blocks.)

I cut them out individually since I was using up shirts as this is a memory quilt. I tried to use a variety of colorways.

From white/cream:
- 12 – 2 ½”x 2 ½” squares
- 4 – 2 ½”x 4 ½” rectangles

Color 1 shirting:
- 4 – 2½” x 2½” square

Color 2 shirting:
- 4 – 2½” x 4½” strips

Color 3 shirting:
- 4 – 2½” x 6½” strips

For sashings for entire quilt:
From white:
- 31 2½”x12½” strips

For cornerstones for entire quilt:
From gray shirting:
- 20 2½”x2½” squares

Borders will be discussed separately under “How to construct this quilt”.

**Construct blocks:**

The blocks will finish at 12½”x 12½”.

1. Starting with your white 2½” square, add Color 1 2½” square
2. Add your white – 2½”x4½” strip this unit:

3. Add your Color 2 2½”x4½” strips to the side

4. Add your Color 2 2½” x 6½” strips to the bottom like this:
5. “Snowball” both the Color 2 and the Color 3 strips like this using a white 2½” square.

Place the white square on top of the colorful strips and sew on the diagonal as indicated:

Press white towards the outside. Finished block will look like this: (To me it looks like a slanted tulip.)

Make 4 identical such blocks. These block sections finish at 6½" x 6½".
Then, sew all four block sections together into one larger block like this:

It should finish at 12½” x 12½”.

Make 12. Try to make a variety of color combinations for more variety if that is your “thing”. I did it this way because I was using up strips from my father’s shirts.

**How to make this quilt:**

1. **Construct your blocks.**
2. **Place blocks as in this diagram.** Ignore the borders for the moment. Use the floor or a design wall to help place the colors so that the blocks are in a pleasing arrangement to your eye.
3. **Sew the blocks together** as per the layout - 3 blocks wide and 4 blocks down. When you put them together, put a 2½” x 12½” sashing strip between each block. Between each row, prepare a strip of sashing, cornerstone, sashing, cornerstone, etc. and attach it to the row above. Use the diagram to help you.

4. **Attach borders.**
   - **First white/cream border:** Cut strips of fabric 1½”xWOF (6, depending on your width of fabric). Sew together in long pieces. Lay across the middle of the quilt to fit. Cut. Sew on the sides. Repeat for the top and bottom. (You need this little border in order to make the piano key border come out evenly.)
   - **Piano key border:**
     Cut 4 – 5½” x 5½” squares for the corner squares.
     Cut 106 2½” x 5½” strips of fabric from your shirtings. Sew 30 together as per diagram above for the sides. Make 2. Attach to the sides. Sew together 23 strips as pictured in the diagram for the top and bottom. I used a roughly light/dark/light arrangement of the strips. Attach, sewing on 5½” squares to each end of these strips before attaching to the quilt top and bottom.

5. **Press well.**

6. **Sandwich,** using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer.

7. **Quilt** as desired. I did hearts and loops in an all over design. (This is the quilt I’m planning on keeping for myself from my dad’s shirts.)
8. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish. I machine sew my bindings attaching to the back and bringing to the front and sewing on from the front.

Congratulations!

Your quilt is finished!

Enjoy!

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P.S. My quilt measures 53” x 65” after quilting and washing.