Going in Circles

100”x114”

To make the quilt pictured:

This quilt is made up of one block – 13.5” (before sewing into the top) and looks like this:
You need:

- 3 3/8 yards of dark/medium blues
- 5 3/4 yards of light blues
- ½ yard of red
- 2 yards of white or off white
- 2 7/8 yards of various blues for piano key border – cut into 2.5”x6.5” strips
- 5/8 yards of dark blue for inner border
- 3/4 yard of your color choice for the binding. I am going to make a scrappy binding.

Cut:

For Block:

For this quilt you will need 42 blocks:

Totals given are for one block – for entire quilt is shown in parenthesis ( ).

From light blue

- 1 - 3½” square (for center of block – make sure it is dark enough to contrast with the white which will be next to it) (42)
- 8 – 2 ½”x 3 ½” rectangles (336)
- 8 - 1½”x 2½” rectangles (336)

From white:

- 4 – 2½” squares (168)
- 6 – 1½”x 3½” strips (252)

From red:
- 2 – 1½”x 3½” strips (84)

From medium to dark blues:
- 12 – 1½”x 3½” rectangles (504)
- 4 – 2½” squares (168)
- 4 – 1½” squares (168)

For sashings and cornerstones:
From light blue:
- 71 – 2”x 13½”

From medium or dark blue:
- 30 – 2” squares

Borders will be dealt with later under “How to make this quilt”

**How to make these blocks:**

First of all, I did strip piece where I could. If you are using “up” your small scraps, it may not be possible as they might not be big or long enough to strip piece. But I do not like working with the smallest pieces as individual pieces such as the 1½” squares. I tried to always strip piece those segments.

I literally worked from the inside out.

Make the center section first: I treated it as if it were an entire finished block: and made all 42 centers before going on to the outer section of the block.

1. Sew a white 1.5”x 3.5” strip to a blue 1.5”x3.5” strip. Make 4.

2. Add a blue/white segment to either side of the light blue 3.5” square center. Keep the white next to the light blue!!!!!!!
3. Add a white 2.5” square to each side of the remaining two blue/white segments you made in number 1.

4. Add these two segments to the top and bottom of the center section. Make sure your white is next to the light blue center block!

These now measure 7.5” square.
Now we will make the outer sections:

5. First, make 8 sections with a 2.5” x 3.5” light blue and a 1.5” x 3.5” medium/dark blue
Like this:

You can vary the medium/dark blues. Just make sure they don’t have a lot of white in them. I can tell when I look at my top that there are places that I could have done better. This will make the circle effect.

6. Now make 2 with a white 1.5”x3.5” strip in the middle of two of those and 2 with a red strip in the middle like this:

7. Sew a medium/dark 2.5” square to a light 1.5”x2.5” light rectangle like this:

8. Sew a 1.5”x2.5” light blue strip to a medium 1.5” square like this:

Note: I dislike working with 1.5” squares, so I did this with strip piecing – even with a bunch of short pieces, just to make it easier. I cut as long as I could 2.5” light piece of blue and a 1.5” medium/dark blue as long as I could find and sewed them together on the long end and then cut off 1.5” segments to form the piece I needed. That way I didn’t need to deal with individual 1.5” squares.

Sew together a light blue 2.5” strip to a dark/medium blue 1.5” strip
Cut off at 1.5” intervals to get your pieced segment. This is "strip piecing"
9. Sew one of your previously made segments to the center piece that you created. Like this:

10. Take your remaining made pieces and made a segment that looks like this:
You will make one with a red strip in the middle and one with a white strip in the middle

And
11. Now attach these pieces to the block that you have created so far:

You need to make 42 blocks for this quilt. Make them all the same - meaning, make sure the red and white in the outer sections are in the same placement. You also need to make sure the center is not a directional print as these blocks will be twisted all different directions as you lay out your quilt.
How to make this quilt:

1. Using this diagram, place your blocks carefully.

For now ignore the borders, and sew your rows together. I used 6 13.5” blocks across and 7 rows. Put a sashing strip in between each block. (cut previously)

Make a row of sashing and cornerstone blocks like this:
Then add the next row

It looks like this:

Keep going until it is the size you wanted. I made mine 7 rows.

2. **Add borders:***
   A. **Navy blue/dark border:** They are slightly different to get you the finished sizes you need so that the piano key border will fit right.
      - Cut 2 – 1¾” x 100 ½” strips (piece as needed to make the length) Add to sides
      - Cut 2 – 1 ½” x 88 ½” (piece as necessary for length). Add to top and bottom
   B. **Piano key border:**
      Cut strips of fabric – 2.5”x6.5” (I chose that, truthfully, because I have a nice ruler that is that width and it is easy for me to cut) – 44 for top and 44 for bottom and 102 for the sides. Total of 190 strips. I used a lot of my labels inside the back yoke of men’s shirts.
      Cut 4 – 6.5” squares for the corners
      Sew 51 of the 2.5”x6.5” rectangles together along the 6.5” length until it is a very long piece. Attach to the side. Repeat for the other side.
      Sew 44 of the 2.5”x6.5” strips together along the 6.5” length and add the 6.5” squares to each end of this long strip. Once finished press and attach to the top of the quilt. Repeat for the bottom. See above diagram and photo of finished quilt if you do not understand this.

C. **Press** well.
D. **Sandwich,** using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer.
E. **Quilt** as desired. I used loops.
F. **Bind,** using whatever method you wish.

**Congratulations! Your quilt is finished!**

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Photo section of the piano key border: You can see I used the labels for some of them.