

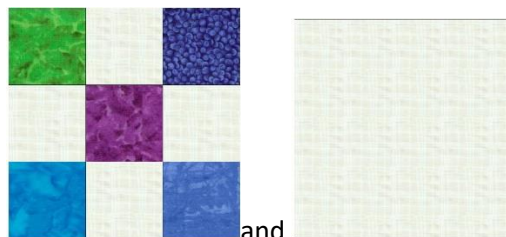
Irish Chain Fancy

94½" x 103½"



Becky Tillman Petersen www.quiltedtwin.com

This center of the quilt is made up of two blocks which are 5" before being sewn into the top:



and

To make the quilt pictured:

You need:

- 8 ½ yards of various blues, greens and purples 2" strips.
- 8 3/8 yards of a light background fabric
- About ½-5/8 yard of fabric for the binding.

Cut:

Block 1 – 9 patch block:

Cut 2" strips of various blues, greens, purple. I used scraps and my strips were not all width of fabric pieces. This diagram shows how to strip piece. If you do not understand the idea behind strip piecing, check out my tutorial here. <https://www.quiltedtwins.com/new-blog/2017/9/1/strip-piecing-tutorial?rq=strip%20piecing>

Note: press towards the darker fabrics: Use ¼" seams throughout.

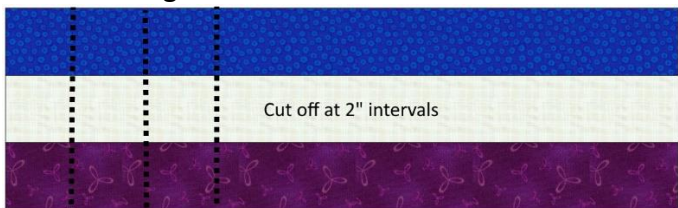
Strip set 1:

Sew 2 greens, blues, purples strips to a light strip.



Press towards the dark.

Cut off 2" segments:



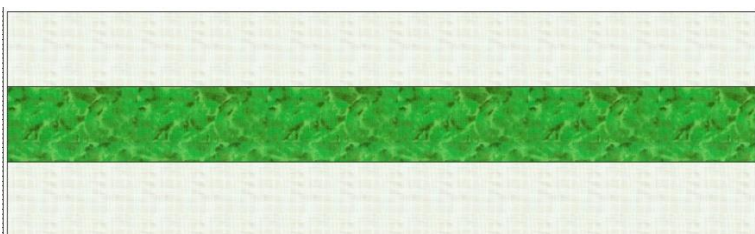
Resulting segment:



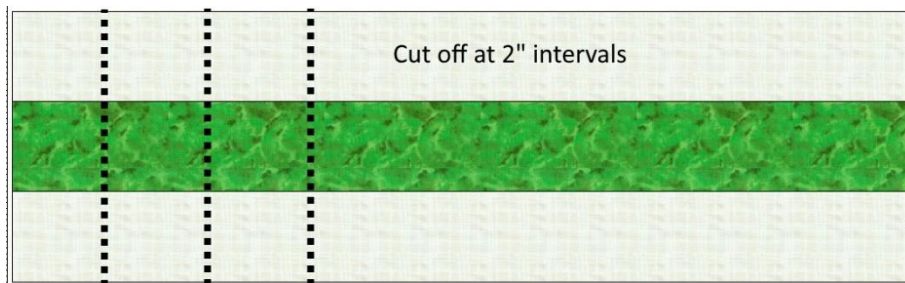
You need 264 such segments for this size quilt. (256 for the blocks in the center plus 8 for the blocks in the border.)

Strip set 2:

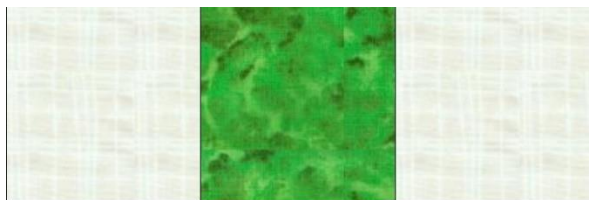
Sew two 2" white strips to a 2" green, blue or purple strip



Cut off 2" segments like this:



Segment looks like this:



You need 132 segments for this size quilt. (128 blocks for the center and 4 for the border effect.)

Block 2 – plain block:

From light:

- Cut 127 5" squares

Borders will be dealt with later on how to make this top – but you will need additional light and colorful fabrics for making additional border blocks

Construct blocks:

For the 9 patch, using previously cut off segments as described above, construct your 9 patch blocks.



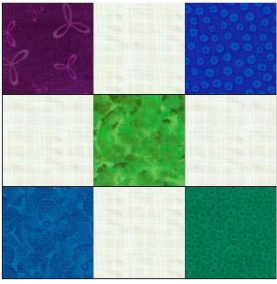
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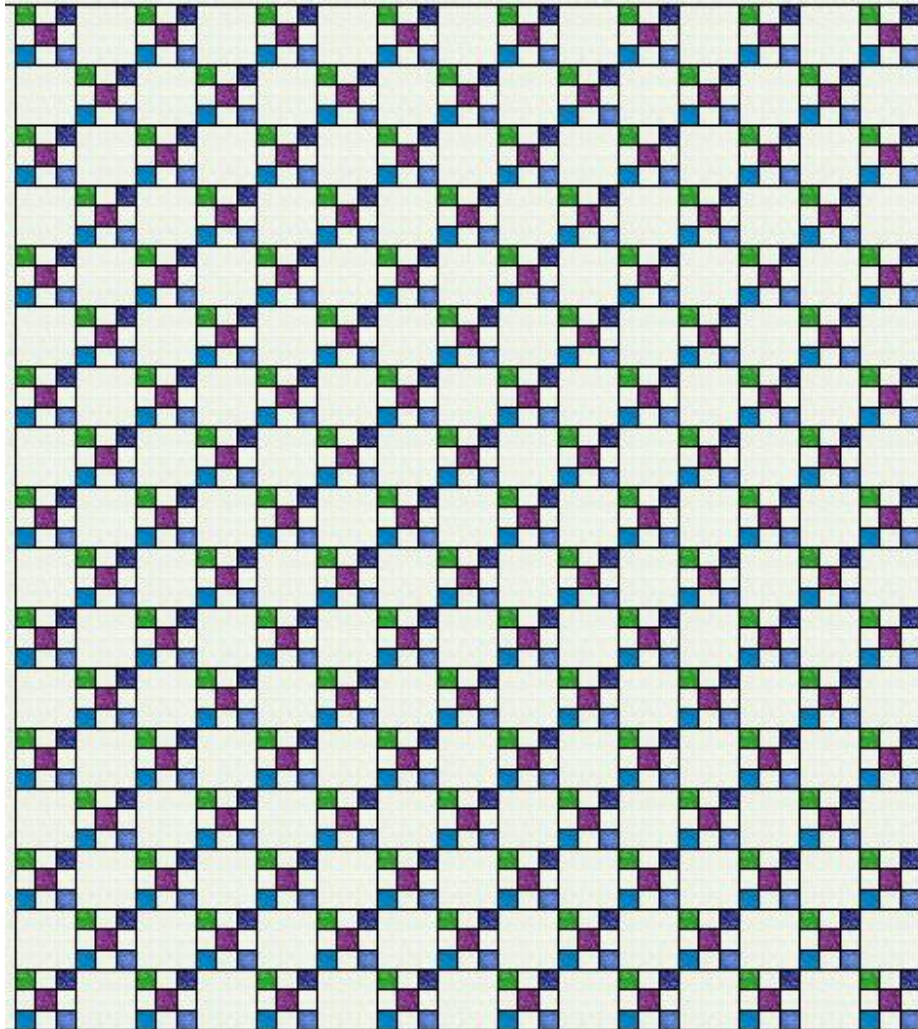
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They will be 5" at this point.
Make 128 9 patch blocks.

How to put together this quilt:

- 1. Make blocks as described above.**
- 2. Using this diagram, place your 9 patch blocks with every other plain block.**



- 3. Sew your top together in rows.**
- 4. Add borders: (For these pieces, piece as necessary to get the length you need)**
 - A. First border: light:**
 - Cut 2 – 2" x 77" – attach to sides
 - Cut 2 – 2" x 71" – attach to top and bottom

B. Second border – a set of three strips plus corner blocks

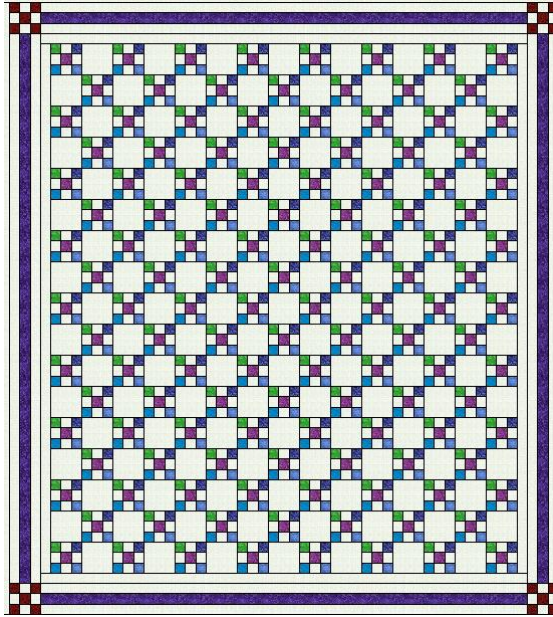
- Make a set of 3 strips (use 2" width) – light, colorful, light, which is comprised of 2" strips which is now 80" long. Attach to the sides



- Make a set of 3 strips (use 2" width) as above, which is now 71" long.
- Attach a 9 patch to each end of this second set of strips.



- Attach the whole strip to the center of the quilt. It now looks like this:

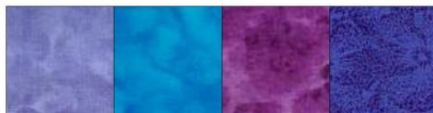


C. Third border – light:

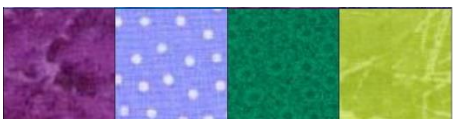
- Cut 2 – 2"x89" – attach to the sides:
- Cut 2 – 2"x 83" – attach to the top and bottom

D. Fourth border: strips of squares - you will need a total of 248 little strips of 4 sewn together-

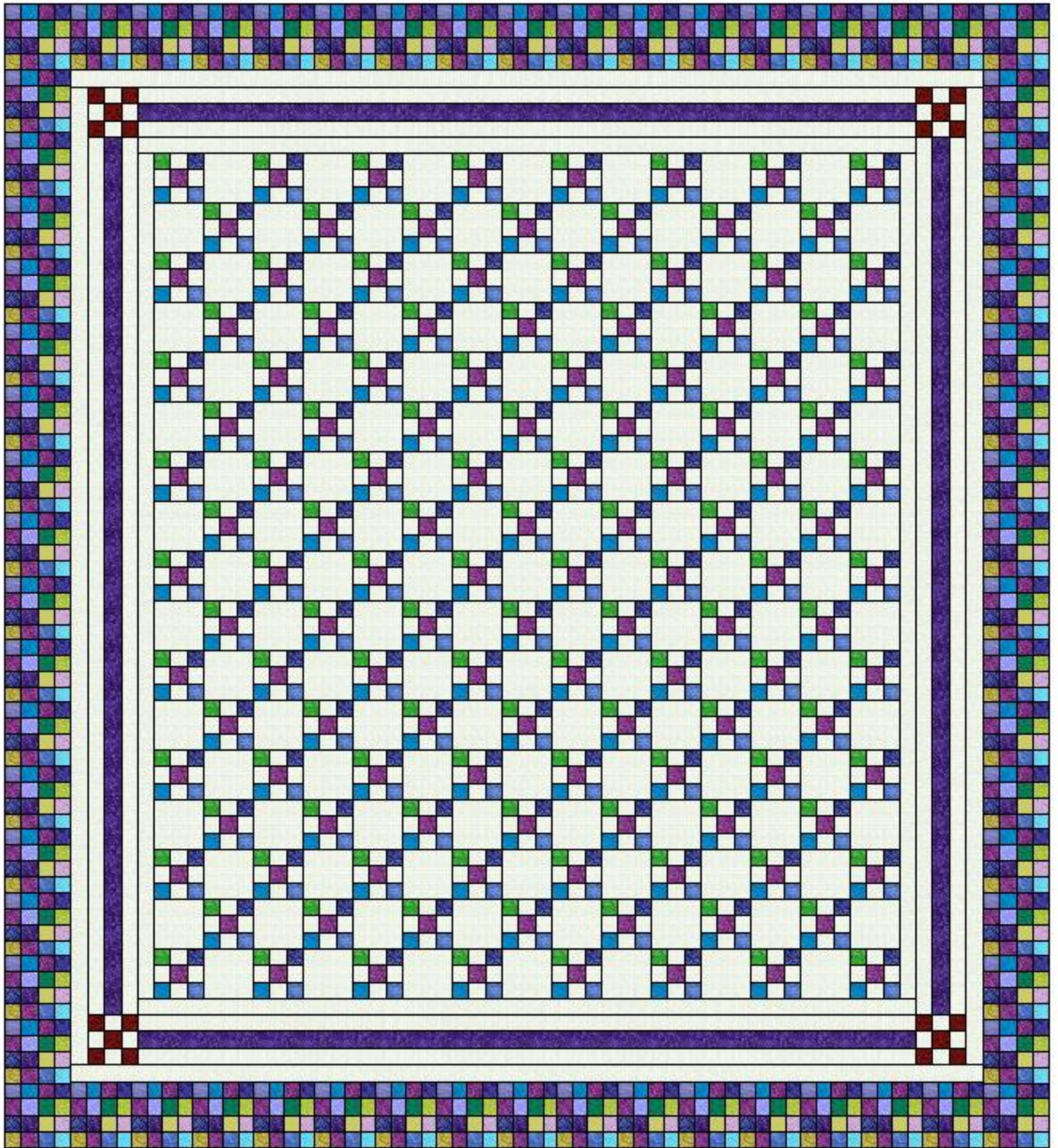
Using all your scraps in these colors and strip piecing if at all possible, to speed up the process, make little segments like this: They use 2" squares and are now 6.5" across. For the two sides, you will need 61 of these strips - for a total of 122. Sew 61 all together in a row and attach to each side.



For the top and bottom – make another 63 for each side (126 total) strips in various colorways like this:



Sew 63 in a long strip together and attach to the top and bottom like this:



5. **Press well.**
6. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
7. **Quilt** as desired. I did straight line quilting following the edges of the blocks.
8. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish.

Congratulations! Your quilt is finished!

Enjoy!

Note when laying out an Irish chain quilt, start and end with a chain block for the best effect. This means, your layout needs to use “odd number” increments – 3x3, 3x5, 5x7, 7x9, 9x9, etc. This will “finish off the chain and look the nicest.”

