

Tumbling Blocks Sunrise ~ Quilt Pattern Created by Leah Day

I've wanted to create a Tumbling Blocks Quilt for years, but I was always intimidated by the way this quilt is traditionally pieced with diamond shapes and Y-seams.

After finding a terrific cutting ruler in a [Quilty Box](#), I discovered you could exchange the lightest diamonds for triangle shapes and piece the Tumbling Blocks design with strip piecing instead. It's faster, easier, and can be pieced entirely by machine with no Y-seams!

Finished quilt size: 16 x 16 inches

Materials

1 Fat Eighth (9 x 21 inch) of solid fabric in Light Gray (A), Medium Gray (B), Yellow (C), and Orange (D)

1 Fat Quarter (18 x 21 inch) of solid fabric in Light Blue (E), Medium Blue (F), Light Green (H), and Medium Green (I)

1/3 yard of Kona Cotton Black (Fabric G)

1/4 yard of Kona Cotton Solid Fabric for binding

Gray 100% cotton piecing thread

[Sidekick Ruler](#) for cutting 60 degree diamonds, triangles, and half triangles

Fabric Preparation and Quilt Piecing Tips

For best results, prewash, starch, and press all fabrics before cutting. Remember to lower your stitch length to 1.5 mm to create a tight stitch. Unless otherwise noted, press all seam allowances OPEN to reduce bulk and make quilting easier.

Cutting Chart

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Fabric A Light Gray | Cut 2 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 16 triangles and 16 half triangles | Fabric F Med Blue | Cut 4 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 38 diamonds |
| Fabric B Dark Gray | Cut 1 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strip into 8 diamonds | Fabric G Black | Cut 7 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 72 diamonds |
| Fabric C Yellow | Cut 2 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 20 triangles | Fabric H Light Green | Cut 2 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 32 triangles |
| Fabric D Orange | Cut 1 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strip into 10 diamonds | Fabric I Med Green | Cut 2 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 16 diamonds |
| Fabric E Light Blue | Cut 6 - 1 1/2 x 21 inch strips - Cut strips into 60 triangles and 16 half triangles | Binding | Cut 2 - 2-inch strips. |

Piecing Instructions

Arrange all the half triangles, triangles, and diamond shapes according to the diagram above. This quilt is pieced in vertical rows. To make the process faster and easier we will chain stitch the pieces together.

Beginning on the bottom row, flip the dark gray and black diamond shapes over the light gray half triangle shapes, right sides together and clip or pin to indicate the edge you will stitch. Keeping the pieces in order from left to right, chain piece all the seams. Do not cut the chain.

Press all the seam allowances open and return the connected chain to your quilt layout. Flip over the light gray triangle shapes over and align with the diamond shapes, right sides together. Clip or pin to indicate the edge you will stitch. Chain piece through all of the rows.

When the rows are complete, give them a final press, then piece the rows together carefully matching the seams. Give your Tumbling Blocks Sunrise quilt a final press and it will be ready for quilting!

