

Picnic

By Mandy Leins of Mandalei Quilts

This pattern is perfect for showcasing a special line you love or using those favorite leftover bits you've been hoarding. Use a single print over and over for an elegant look or a different print for every nine patch for something scrappy!

Finished quilt as pictured approximately 56½" x 56½"

Assumes 40" x WOF

Below yardages refer to color choices in the cover image.

YARDAGE REQUIREMENTS

Periwinkle: 1 yard

Blush: ¾ yard

Salmon: ¼ yard

Navy: ¼ yard

White: ¾ yard

Grey: 1½ yard

Print: ¾ yard total (enough for 128 2½" x 2½" squares)

Olive/cornerstones: ¾ yard

Backing: 3⅝ yards

Binding: ⅝ yard

CUTTING

From Periwinkle Blue, cut:

4 strips 6½" x WOF

From 2 strips, subcut 32 rectangles 2½" x 6½"

Set aside remaining 2 strips

From Blush, cut:

9 strips 2½" x WOF

Subcut 50 rectangles 2½" x 6½"

From Salmon, cut:

2 strips 2½" x WOF

From Navy, cut:

2 strips 2½" x WOF

From White, cut:

2 strips 6½" x WOF

Subcut 25 rectangles 2½" x 6½", and 12 squares 2½" x 2½"

1 strip 2½" x WOF

Subcut 16 squares 2½" x 2½"

From Grey, cut:

17 strips 2½" x WOF

From 9 strips, subcut 136 squares 2½" x 2½"

Set aside remaining 8 strips

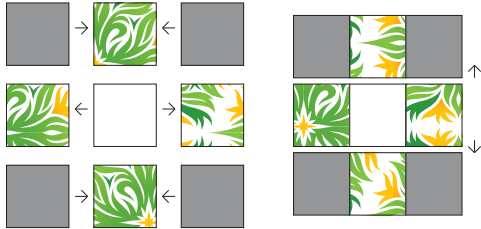
From Print Fabrics:

Each Nine Patch block has 4 print-fabric squares $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$. You will need a total of 32 finished Nine Patches, requiring a total of 128 print-fabric squares.

From Olive/Cornerstone, cut:

4 strips $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times \text{WOF}$

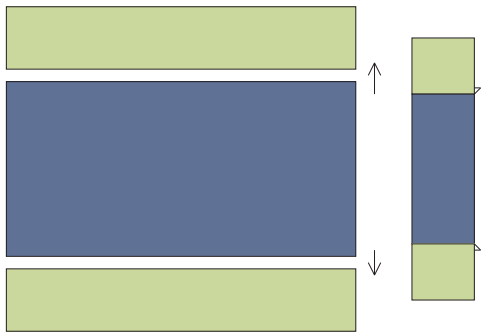
SEWING THE NINE PATCH BLOCKS



Decide if you are going to go full-on-scrappy (4 different prints for each block) or something more calculated (one print per block). When you have decided on your plan, sew 32 nine patch blocks. Press seams as indicated by arrows.

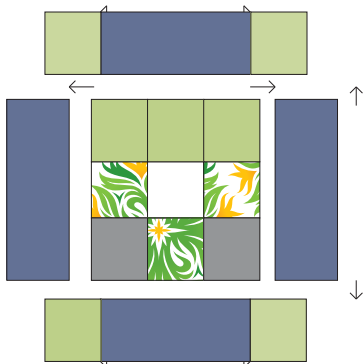
SEWING THE PERIWINKLE BLOCKS

1. Sew and press two strip sets as shown



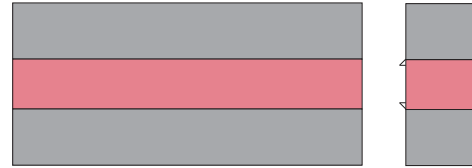
2. Subcut 32 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ as shown.

3. Assemble 16 blocks as shown below. Sew center first, followed by caps with cornerstones. Finished blocks are $10\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10\frac{1}{2}''$.



SEWING THE BLUSH BLOCKS

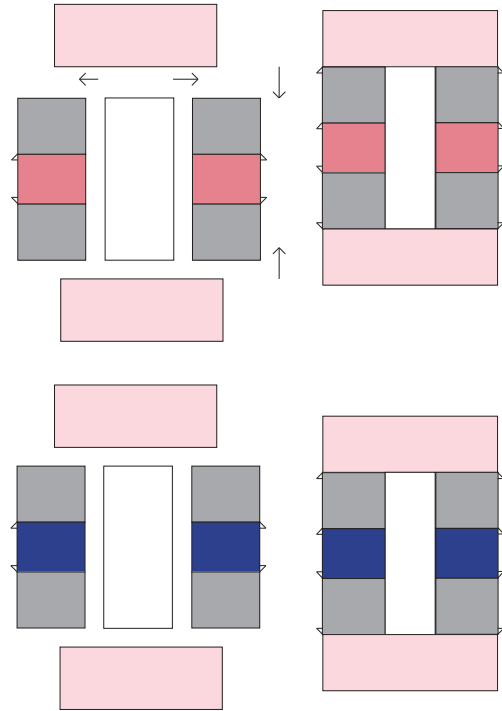
1. Sew and press 2 strip sets of each color combination as shown.



2. Subcut 24 of the navy set $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ as shown.

3. Subcut 26 of the salmon set $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ as shown.

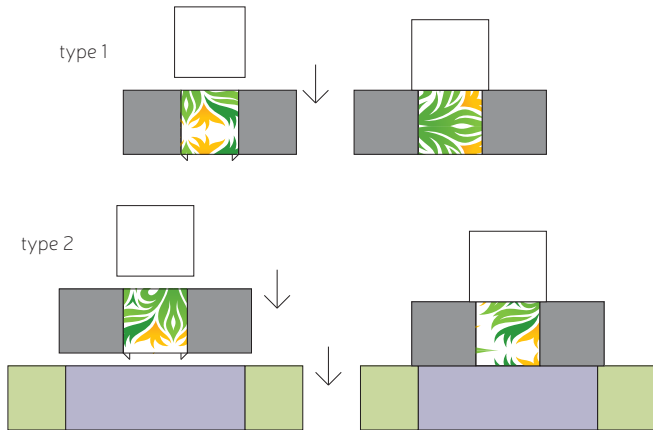
4. Assemble the blocks as shown. Sew center section first, followed by light pink caps. You will need 13 of the salmon set and 12 of the navy set. Finished blocks are $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10\frac{1}{2}''$.



SEWING THE CORNER CAPS

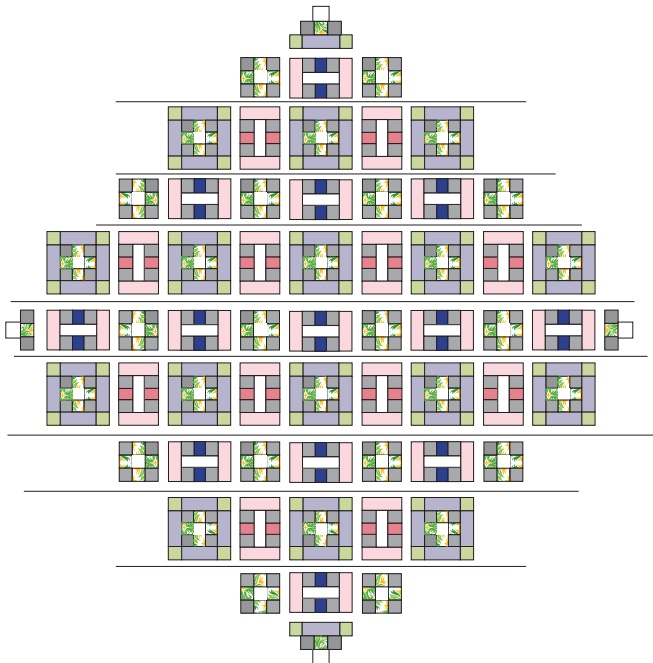
These are the corner caps that will finish off your quilt. They are only partial blocks, so don't be alarmed that they look weird! You'll be trimming them down quite a bit.

Sew and press two of each type, as shown.



LAYING OUT THE QUILT TOP AND JOINING THE ROWS

Lay out the top as shown. This is your chance to swap blocks around for a pleasing distribution of color and pattern!

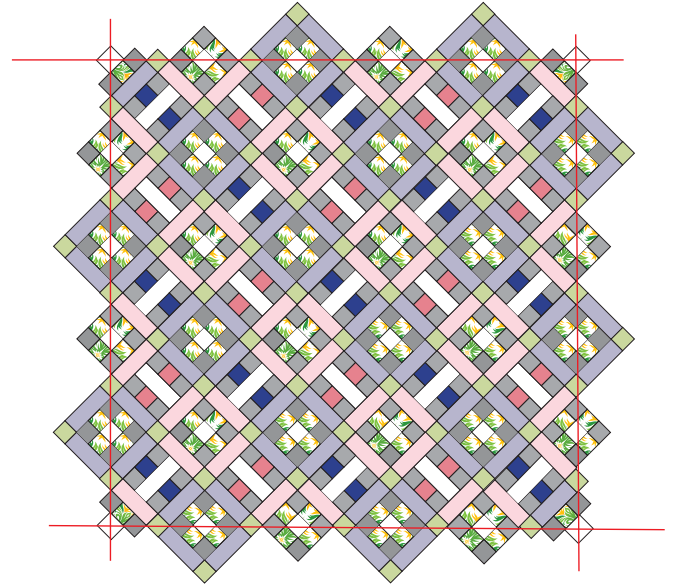


1. Sew the blocks together in each row, then press the seams for each row in alternating directions.
2. Sew the rows together and press the seams to one side.

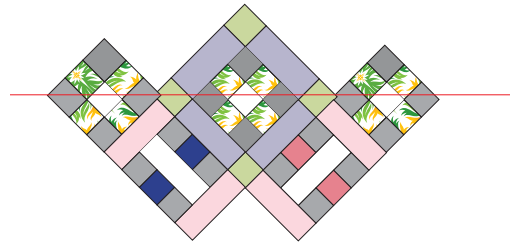
SQUARING UP THE TOP

Your quilt top is nearly finished! I have found that squaring it up using laser levels is by far the easiest way, and you can find a tutorial for that here: <https://mandalei.com/2017/05/21/trimming-quilt-tools-hardware-store/>.

The illustration shows you where the trim lines will be.



When lining up your cutting edge, remember that you want the points to be preserved, so make sure to trim $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the point, not right through it!



QUILTING

If you are making your quilt very scrappy like I did, a simple all-over quilting design may be all you need! If your design emphasizes the interplay between the blocks or uses primarily solid colors, there is the possibility for some interesting quilting. Some options:

- Quilt the navy, salmon, and long white strips with straight lines in the direction of the "woven" design they create.
- Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " or $\frac{1}{2}$ " echo, Stitch inside each of the blush, periwinkle, and cornerstones to create a framing effect.
- Quilt all the background grey fabrics with a small swirly fill
- Stitch in the ditch around all the prints and leave them unquilted so they puff up a bit, which adds a bit of emphasis on those special fabrics.

BINDING

The binding allows for 7 strips to be cut, between 2" and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".