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# Simple Pinwheel

DESIGNED AND MADE BY PAM ROCCO

Single and double pinwheel designs are popular, but to Pam Rocco of Santa Cruz, California, the triple pinwheel offers many possibilities, too. Like the other pinwheel designs, the finished block appears to spin and it's just as easy to make.



When making *Simple Pinwheel*, Rocco made a few triple pinwheel blocks that differed in value and arranged them with a few single pinwheels in a checkerboard design. One of the pinwheels was too small, so she added light green strips to bring it up to the right size. She left two squares blank that she said should have had pinwheels in them; instead she made them dark green solid squares so they'd stand out.

The pinwheels rotate in both directions, adding movement, and a little pinwheel in the lower right-hand corner gives the whole composition a spin. The quilt is simple, but unexpected details keep your eye moving.

You can read Rocco's full column, "Words to Quilt By," in the October/November 2014 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*. *Simple Pinwheel* was machine quilted by Linda Barbin of Hollister, California. ▶

### MATERIALS AND CUTTING

Requirements are based on 40" fabric width. Borders are cut crosswise and pieced. Borders are the exact length required plus seam allowances. Pattern has been simplified for ease of construction.

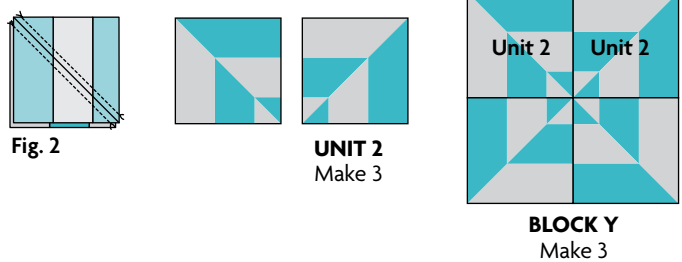
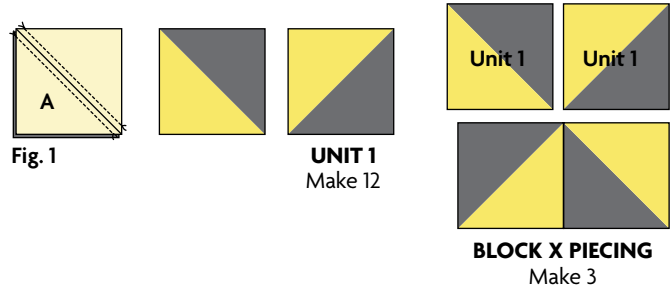
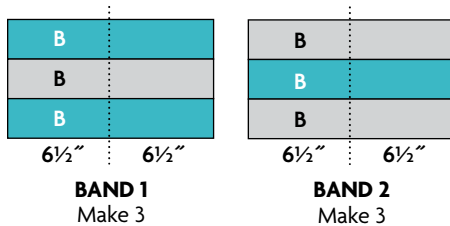
**BLOCK SIZE:** 11" **QUILT SIZE:** 44" x 66"

MATERIALS	YDS.	CUTTING
Assorted Prints & Solids*	2¾	2 borders 6" x 55½", 1 border 6" x 44½", 1 border 6" x 39", 12 A, 18 B, 9 C, 4 D
Binding	½	6 binding strips 2¼" x 40"
Backing	2½	2 horizontal panels 36" x 48"
Batting		48" x 70"

\*Read step 1 before cutting fabric.

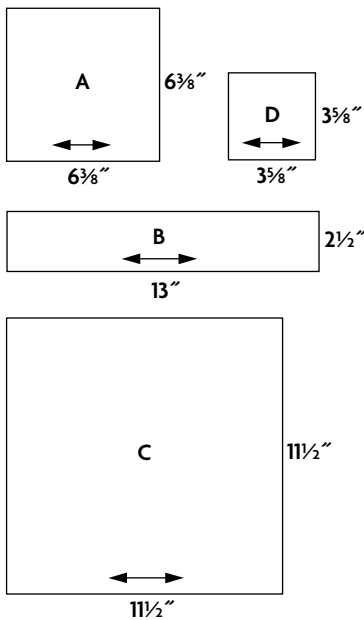
**TECHNIQUES USED:** machine piecing, machine quilting

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**ROTARY CUTTING**

Measurements include 1/4" seam allowances. Align arrows with lengthwise or crosswise grain of fabric.



**ASSEMBLY**

**1** Wash, starch and press fabrics. Study the quilt photo and block diagrams, noting the fabric placement. Cut A's and D's in sets of 2, and cut B's in sets of 3. Cut the remaining patches listed in the materials and cutting box and shown in the rotary cutting diagrams.

**2** Working with 2 sets of A's at a time and referring to Fig. 1, place an A on a contrasting A, right sides together. Lightly mark a diagonal line from corner to corner. Stitch a 1/4" seam on both sides of the marked line. Cut on the marked line and press the triangles open to make 2 unit 1's. Make 4 identical unit 1's.

Referring to the block X piecing diagram, join the unit 1's as shown to make a block X. Make 3.

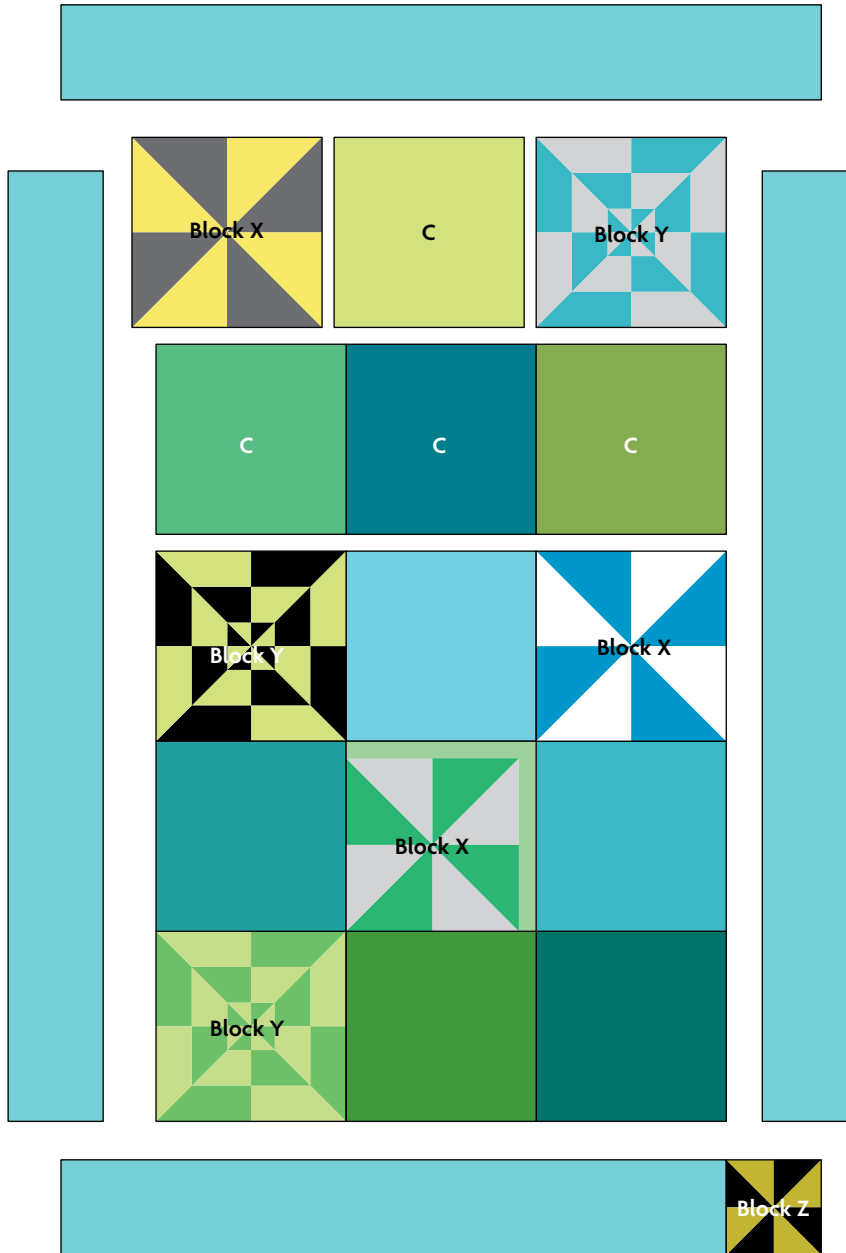
**3** Working with 2 contrasting sets of B's at a time and referring to the band diagrams, join B's

as shown to make 1 band 1 and 1 band 2. Press seam allowances toward the darker B's in each band. Cut each band into 2 6 1/2"-wide segments.

Referring to Fig. 2, place a band 2 segment on a band 1 segment, right sides together and seam lines parallel. In the same manner described in step 2, mark a diagonal line, stitch on either side, cut and press the triangles open to make 2 unit 2's. Repeat with the remaining band segments.

Referring to the block Y diagram, join 4 unit 2's to make a block Y. Trim to 11 1/2" square if necessary. Make 3 block Y's. ▶

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QUILT ASSEMBLY

**4** On a design wall or large, flat surface, and referring to the quilt assembly diagram, arrange the blocks and C's in 5 horizontal rows as shown or as desired.

When you are satisfied with the arrangement, join the blocks and C's into rows then join the rows.

**5** In the same manner described in step 2 and shown in Fig. 1, join 2 contrasting D's to make 2 unit 3's. Make 4. Referring to the block Z diagram, join the unit 3's to make block Z.

**6** Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join the 55½" borders to either side of the quilt then join the 44½" border to the top of the quilt. Join block Z to the end of the 39" border then join this border to the bottom of the quilt.

**7** Layer the backing, batting and quilt top. Baste. Quilt an allover design or quilt as desired. Linda Barbin quilted undulating wavy lines. Bind the quilt to finish. 