

Light 'n Dark

Top finishes at 77"x92"

To make the quilt pictured:



You need:

- ❖ Approximately 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards of darker colored fabrics and 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards of light colored fabrics
- ❖ $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{5}{8}$ yard of fabric for the binding. (I used leftover 2.5" strips.)

(You will need 1500 light and 1500 dark squares in order to construct the blocks.)

Start cutting 2" squares (and cut and cut and cut!) or else read further down and use strip piecing as a method to make your blocks.

How to make this quilt:

1. **Construct your blocks.** (For this quilt, you will need 30 blocks)

The finished block will look like this and should finish at 15.5" before you sew them all together.



You may either construct your block by cutting out 50 dark squares and 50 light squares, and sewing them together into a strip of 10, sewing light/dark/light/dark, etc, using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams.....

Or you may use strip piecing. I use this method as it is faster and seems easier to me.

Here are some pictures that demonstrate strip piecing and making this block:

In order to use scrappy strips do strip piecing, first I collect 2" strips that are approximately the same size. I sewed them together in groups of light/dark/light/dark, etc. like this



Then, I flipped the strip over upside down on the ironing board



and pressed so that every light strip has the seams pointing out. Like this:



I did that multiple times with various strips of various colorings, but always alternating light/dark/light/dark, etc. until the length was 10 strips long.

I then took it to the cutting mat and, after lining it up on the lines on the cutting mat (I do use the mat—I figure I paid big bucks for those lines on that mat) and cut a straight edge off the left.



Then, working from the left and using the ruler as a guide, I measured out a 2" strip and cut as many as I could from that group of strips.

Obviously if you have longer individual strips, you can get more than 2-3 out of a single strip set.





I did this multiple times until had a pile of them like this: Use plenty of variety in your strip sets and your quilt will have a nice variety.



I then sewed the strips of squares together, alternating the strips, so that the light and dark alternate, until I had a block that was 10 squares wide and 10 squares long.



One block done! Now, do that 30 times for this quilt. If you want to make a smaller quilt, just make fewer blocks.

(End of how I strip pieced my blocks! This is ever so much faster than sewing individual blocks together!)

2. **Sew the blocks together** in a 5x6 grid.

If you pressed your seams like I suggested earlier, the seams should nest nicely.

Here is a picture of mine laid out in a 4x5 grid. I decided it was too small, so I went back and added more later into a 5x6 grid.



3. **Press well.**
4. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
5. **Quilt** as desired. (I quilted with a straight line quilting.)



6. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish.

It's that easy!!!! Your quilt is finished!