

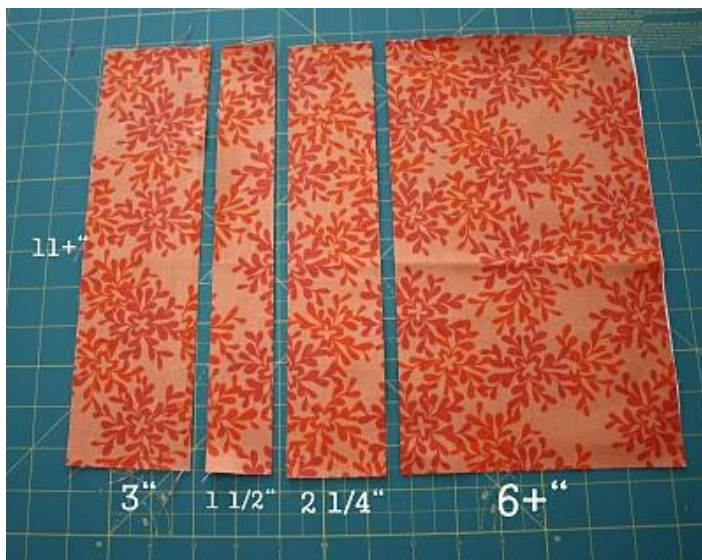
# Simple Stripes Quilt Tutorial



This is an easy-peasy beginner quilt. I made this quilt with cute, big-print fabrics in mind. In the past 5 or so years really big, graphic prints have become so popular and readily available. Using those kind of prints, you can make a simple quilt and really let the fabric do all the design work.

## Fabric Requirements:

- Sixteen 11+" x 13" rectangles
  - (you can get 2 of these pieces from one fat quarter or three from 1/3 of a yard)
- 1 ¼ yard for backing
- Four 2½" strips (x width of fabric) for binding



(I say 11+" - like 11 ¼" - because if you cut your fabric slightly wider than 11" you will have more room to 'square-up' at the end. But if you can still get by with 11" if you're careful.)

Cut each block in the same way. Starting at the left, cut off a 3" strip, a 1½" strip, a

2 ¼" strip and then leave the fat strip at the end. You can easily stack and cut at least four blocks at a time and you'll be done cutting everything for this quilt in no time.



Lay out all of your blocks, mixing and matching the 1 ½" and 2 ¼" strips. Stack each group together and take them to your sewing machine.



Begin with your 3" strip and put the 1 ½" strip on top, right-sides together. Sew the strips together using a consistent ¼" seam - usually the right side of the presser foot will work. Here is one of the keys to quilting: Always use a consistent seam allowance. Makes everything match-up nicely. You may have to go slow at first - and that's

okay. The more you do it, the faster and more naturally it will come.



Now sew the 2¼" strip and then the remaining large strip that is the same fabric as the first. Repeat for all 16 blocks.



Take all your blocks to the ironing board and press the seams all to one side. Then press from the top to make sure all seams are flat and clean. (This is the second tip for neat looking quilts - don't skip the pressing!)



Now take your nicely pressed blocks back to the cutting mat and trim the edges to create 11" square blocks.



Lay out your blocks, rotating the stripe, until you get a design that is pleasing. Pick up each row and sew the blocks together 4 across for each of the 4 rows.



When the rows are sewn together, you are going to press the new seams to one side, with the seams going in opposite directions for alternating rows. (This is going to make it easier to sew those rows together and those corners to match-up nicely.)



Pin blocks at corners so seams will but up next to each other. This will match points together.



When you get ready to sew the rows together, pin the seams at the intersecting corners. Make sure the pressed-seams going in opposite directions but up against each other. This will help the corner to match perfectly and not be too bulky. Sew rows together (again using that consistent 1/4" seam allowance). Press the finished quilt top from

the top.



Voila! You have a simple quilt top finished that fast and easy. You are free to quilt however you choose. For some good machine quilting tutorials check Crazy

Mom Quilts or A Quilt is Nice. I love how the quilting finishes a quilt - making it softer and giving it more personality. AND I love how the quilting hides a lot of the flaws - of which I usually have many!



When you are ready to bind your quilt (the fabric folded over the end of the quilt to cover your raw edges), I can help you with this Quilt Binding Tutorial. Once again, it's SO much easier than it looks. Your friends will be so impressed.

### TWIN SIZE VERSION

This pattern would make a really quick and simple twin size quilt. Here are the specs:

#### Fabric Requirements:

Forty-Eight 11" x 13" blocks from:

--(16) 1/3 yards of fabric (you can get (3) 11.5" x 13" pieces out of 1/3 yard of fabric which is roughly 12" x 42")

OR --(24) Fat Quarters (from which you can get two 11" x 13" pieces)

5/8 yard binding fabric

5 yards backing fabric

Assemble 48 blocks using same method above

Layout your blocks 6 across by 8 blocks down. These 48 blocks will give you a quilt top that is 63" x 84".

If you want to make it any bigger I would suggest a 5" border all the way around - that would give you a 73" x 94" twin. (If you do this buy 1.5 yards of border fabric and increase your backing to 5.5 yards)