

QM pattern  easy

Anita's Arrowhead

Simply clever technique: try it!

*Sewn by Carolyn Beam. Quilted by Peg Spradlin.
Fabric: Fruitcake by BasicGrey for Moda Fabrics.
Batting: The Warm Company. Thread: Aurifil.
Step 2 Photos Courtesy of C&T Publishing.*

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Arrowhead is a sophisticated and well-balanced, block. I enjoy the satisfaction

of creating alternative techniques to simplify block and quilt construction. It's like moving from a hand beater to an electric mixer.

Anita Grossman Solomon • New York, New York • makeitsimpler.com

Anita is the author of three books. Her most recent is *Rotary Cutting Revolution* from C&T Publishing, ctpub.com.

materials

Throw: 51" x 59½"
Finished Blocks: 8½"

Assorted Prints and Tone-on-Tones
 21 fat quarters for blocks (a fat quarter is approximately 18" x 21")

Multicolor Stripe
 ⅝ yard for binding

Backing 3⅝ yards

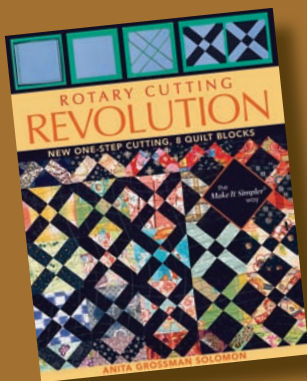
Batting 59" x 68"

Spray Starch (see Step 2)

cutting

Assorted Prints and Tone-on-Tones
 84 squares (A) 8½" x 8½"

Multicolor Stripe
 7 strips 2¼" x 40" for binding



Look for more revolutionary block piecing methods in Anita's book *Rotary Cutting Revolution* from C&T Publishing, ctpub.com.



1 About This Quilt

The *QM* staff was intrigued by the simplicity in Anita's construction of this traditional Arrowhead block. Each block is made from just two fabric squares and three cuts. Turn to page 20 to see five other versions made by *QM* staff.

Precise cutting and accurate ¼" seams are key to producing the best results.

2 Making the Blocks

With right sides together, pair 2 contrasting A's and trim to 8" x 8".



Anita recommends starching and ironing pairs of contrasting A's with the right sides together before trimming to 8" x 8". This keeps the A's aligned and stabilized for accurate cutting and sewing.

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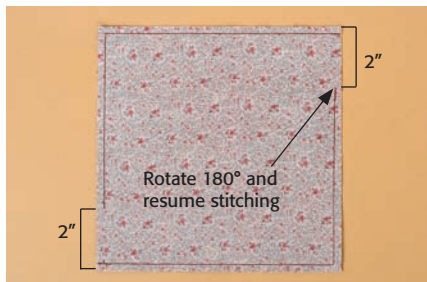
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Using a short stitch length, start with a backstitch and begin sewing 2" from the top right edge as shown. Pivot $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the corner and sew to the bottom left edge as shown, ending with a backstitch.

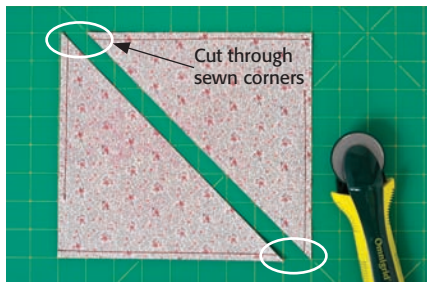
Rather than measuring and marking the 2" starting point on each pair of A's, Anita places a 2" sticky note in the upper right corner.



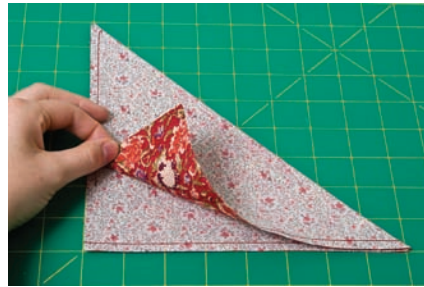
Rotate the A's 180° and sew the last 2 sides in the same manner.



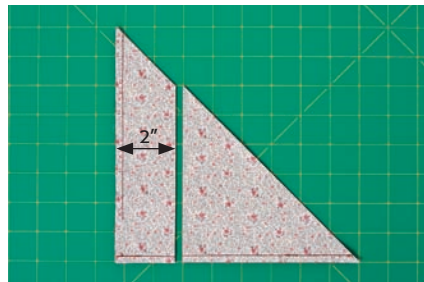
Cut the unit diagonally through the sewn corners as shown.



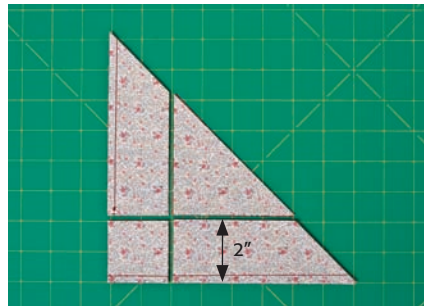
Stack the triangles as shown, carefully aligning all edges.



Measure 2" from the left edge and cut through all layers as shown.



Without disturbing the stack, measure 2" from the bottom edge and cut through all layers as shown.



Open all of the sewn units and press the seams open.



Arrange the units as shown below. Sew the units together to make the block.



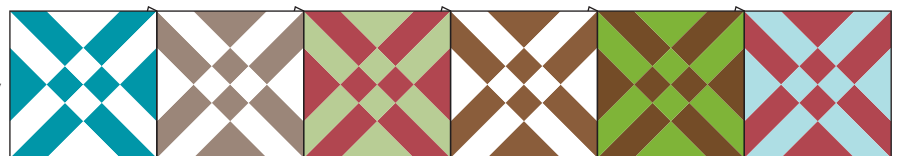
Center and trim the block to 9" x 9".



3 Assembling the Quilt

Refer to the assembly diagram; arrange the blocks on a design wall for a pleasing distribution of color. Join 6 blocks to make a row as shown. Repeat to make 7 rows. Sew the rows together.

Row
Make 7

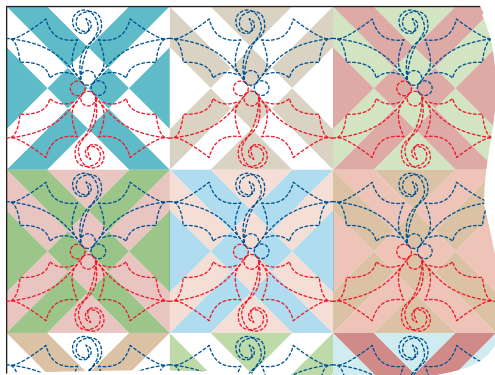


Assembly

4 Quilting and Finishing

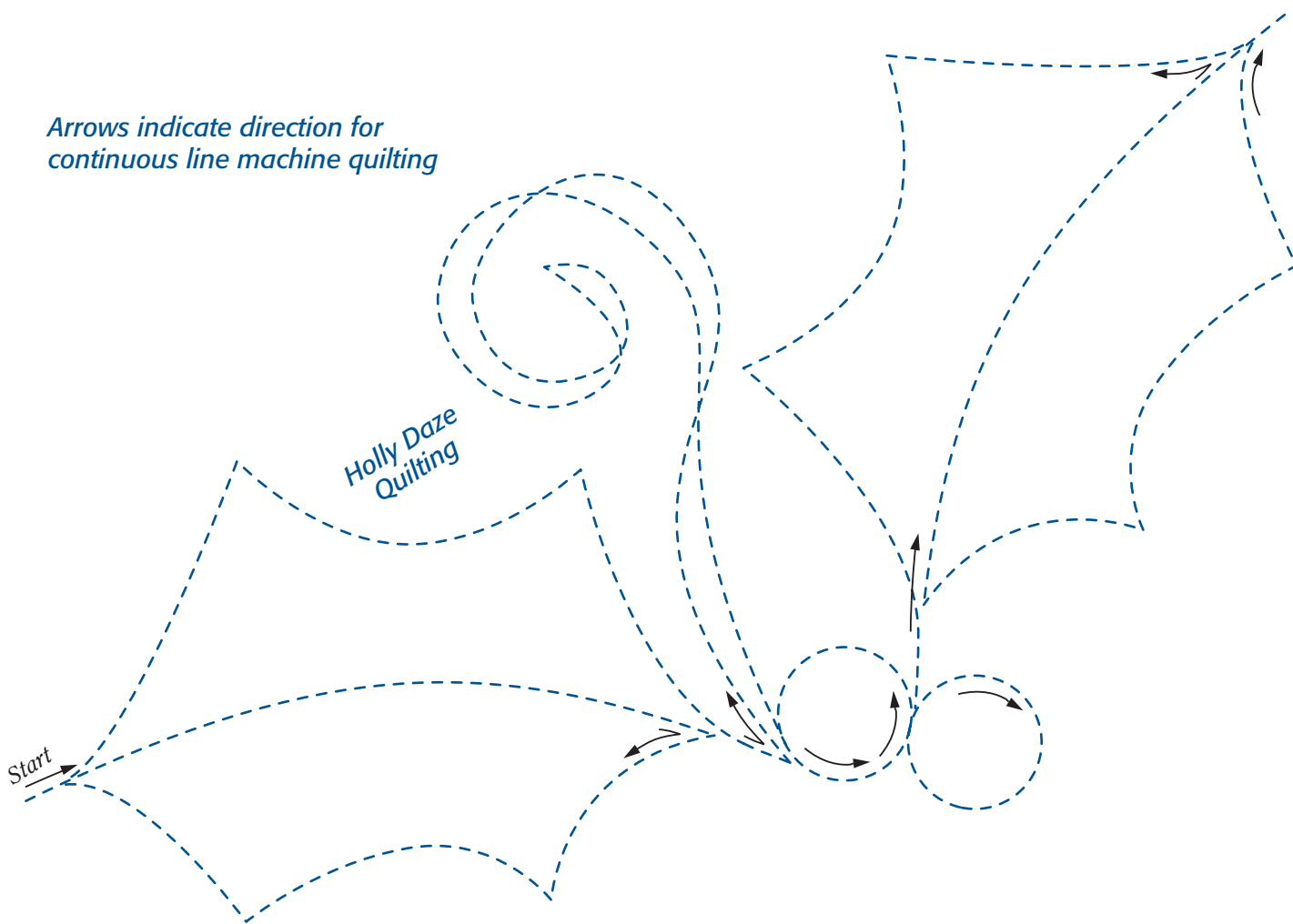
Following the arrows, mark the *Holly Daze Quilting* across the upper half of the first row as shown in blue. Flip the motif to mark the lower half of the first row as shown in red. Repeat to mark all rows.

Layer and baste together the backing, batting and quilt top. Quilt the marked motifs. Bind the quilt. ■



Quilting Placement

Arrows indicate direction for continuous line machine quilting





For a 12" finished Anita's Arrowhead block:

Cut two 10½" squares, sew the ¼" seams and follow the sewing instructions in Step 2, sewing and cutting 2¾" from the edge instead of 2". Center and trim to 12½" x 12½".

<i>alternate sizes</i>	twin	queen
size	68" x 85"	93½" x 93½"
block setting	8 x 10	11 x 11
number of blocks	80	121
<i>materials</i>		
asst. prints and tone-on-tones	40 fat quarters	61 fat quarters
multicolor stripe	¾ yard	7/8 yard
backing	5⅝ yards	9⅛ yards
batting	76" x 93"	102" x 102"

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QM staff color options

We couldn't wait to try Anita's technique. Each QM staff member chose Christmas fabrics from a different fabric company to make these versions. Some basics and tone-on-tones were added to some to bring the total fabric count to 21. Read more about our layouts and things we learned at quiltmaker.com/QuiltyPleasures.



Fabric: Maywood Studio.

This collection of fabrics from Maywood Studio is bright and fun to play with. I loved the pattern and the simple steps to make it.

Mellisa Mahoney, QM Photographer



Fabric: Robert Kaufman.

The graphic patterns in these bright fabrics naturally caught my eye. The marble solids really help them all play nicely together.

Denise Starck, QM Graphic Designer



Fabric: Michael Miller Fabrics.

The combination of red, aqua and lime green felt so unlikely to me but I like the youthful energy it has. Michael Miller Fabrics always has wonderfully funky holiday fabrics!

Diane Harris, QM Associate Editor



Fabric: Hoffman California Fabrics.

I was drawn to the icy, non-traditional Christmas colors in these Hoffman fabrics. A sprinkling of purple adds a little pizzazz.

Eileen Fowler, QM Associate Editor



Fabric: RJR Fabrics.

Roses in traditional red and green make for a throw that lasts beyond the holidays with Fancy Hill Farm by Robyn Pandolph for RJR Fabrics.

June Dudley, QM Editor-in Chief

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