

**PROJECT: Christmas Glow**

Strip-piecing makes it easy to whip up a merry holiday quilt. The additions of mint green and aqua liven up the traditional Christmas color palette.

**DESIGNER:** Kelli Marshall of Simply Mackbeth Design Co. (*simplymackbeth.com*)

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jason Donnelly



**FINISHED SIZE:** 60½×74½"

**FINISHED BLOCKS:**

Square-in-a-Square—6" square;  
Plus—8" square

**MATERIALS**

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

Fabrics are from the Kona Cotton Solids collection by Robert Kaufman Fabrics (*robertkaufman.com*).

- ⅝ yard solid mint green (units, plus blocks)
- 1¾ yards solid white (units, Square-in-a-Square and plus blocks)
- 1 yard solid red (units, plus blocks, binding)
- ⅝ yard solid coral (units)
- 2⅞ yards solid aqua (units, border)
- 1 yard solid dark green (Square-in-a-Square blocks)
- 3⅞ yards backing fabric
- 69×83" batting

**CUT FABRICS**

Cut pieces in the following order.

**From solid mint green, cut:**

- 2-2½×42" strips
- 6-2½×8½" rectangles
- 7-1½×8½" rectangles
- 2-1½×4½" rectangles
- 2-1½×3½" rectangles

**From solid white, cut:**

- 8-3½×42" strips
- 20-6½" squares
- 4-3½" squares

**From solid red, cut:**

- 9-2½×42" strips
- 6-2½×8½" rectangles
- 7-1½×8½" rectangles
- 2-1½×4½" rectangles
- 2-1½×3½" rectangles

**From solid coral, cut:**

- 6-2½×42" strips
- 3-1½×42" strips

**From solid aqua, cut:**

- 15-3½×42" strips
- 7-2½×42" strips for border

**From solid dark green, cut:**

- 80-4" squares

**ASSEMBLE UNITS AND BLOCKS**

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated. Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

**1.** Sew a solid mint green 1½×3½" rectangle to top edge of a solid white 3½" square (**Diagram 1**). Join a solid mint green 1½×4½" rectangle to left-hand edge to make a mint green corner unit. The unit should be 4½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make a second mint green corner unit.

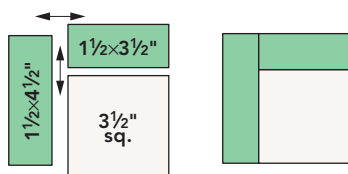


DIAGRAM 1

**2.** Repeat Step 1 using solid red rectangles instead of solid mint green rectangles to make two red corner units (**Diagram 2**; note placement of 1½×3½" rectangle).

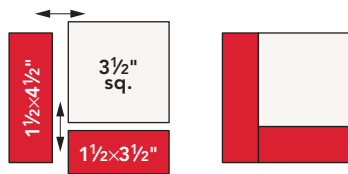
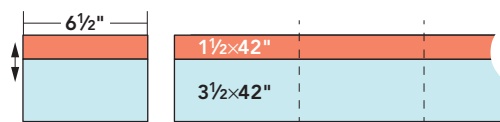


DIAGRAM 2

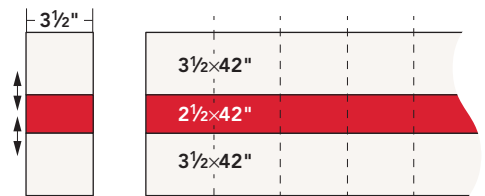
**3.** Referring to **Diagram 3**, sew together a solid coral 1½×42" strip and a solid aqua 3½×42" strip along long edges to make Strip Set A. Repeat to make three A strip sets total. Cut strip sets into eighteen 6½"-wide A units total.



Strip Set A

DIAGRAM 3

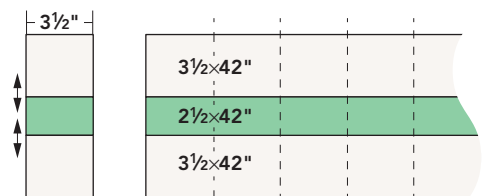
**4.** Referring to **Diagram 4**, sew together two solid white 3½×42" strips and one solid red 2½×42" strip along long edges to make Strip Set B. Repeat to make a second B strip set. Cut strip sets into nineteen 3½"-wide B units total.



Strip Set B

DIAGRAM 4

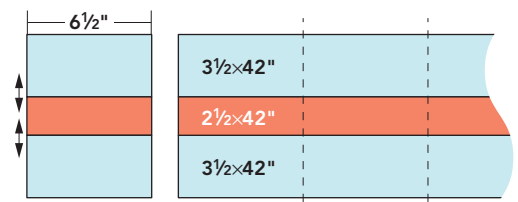
**5.** Repeat Step 4 using solid mint green strips instead of solid red strips to make two C strip sets (**Diagram 5**). Cut strip sets into nineteen 3½"-wide C units total.



Strip Set C

DIAGRAM 5

**6.** Referring to **Diagram 6**, sew together two solid aqua 3½×42" strips and one solid coral 2½×42" strip along long edges to make Strip Set D. Repeat to make six D strip sets total. Cut strip sets into thirty-one 6½"-wide D units total.



Strip Set D

DIAGRAM 6



**7.** Sew a solid red  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to a long edge of a B unit to make a red side unit (**Diagram 7**). The unit should be  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances. Repeat to make seven red side units total.



DIAGRAM 7

**8.** Repeat Step 7 using solid mint green  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles and C units to make seven mint green side units total (**Diagram 8**).

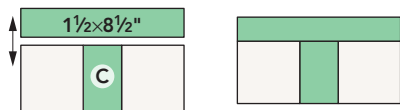


DIAGRAM 8

**9.** Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each solid dark green 4" square. (To prevent fabric from stretching as you draw lines, place 220-grit sandpaper under each square.)

**10.** Align two marked solid dark green squares on opposite corners of a solid white  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square (**Diagram 9**; note direction of marked lines). Sew on marked lines. Trim seam allowances to  $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press open attached triangles. Add marked solid dark green squares to remaining corners to make a Square-in-a-Square block. The block should be  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances. Repeat to make 20 Square-in-a-Square blocks total.

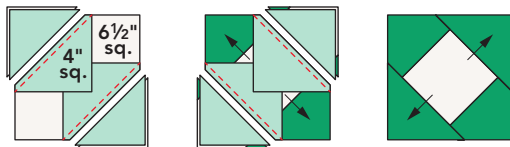


DIAGRAM 9

**11.** Sew C units to long edges of a solid mint green  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to make a mint green plus block (**Diagram 10**). The block should be  $8\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

Repeat to make six mint green plus blocks total.

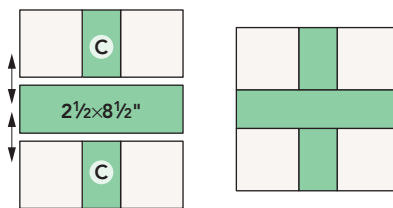


DIAGRAM 10

**12.** Repeat Step 11 using B units and solid red  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles to make six red plus blocks total (**Diagram 11**).

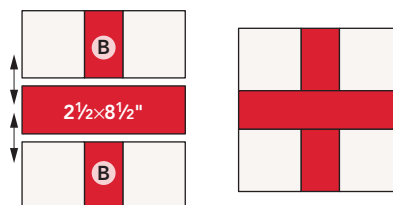


DIAGRAM 11

### ASSEMBLE QUILT CENTER

**1.** Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, lay out corner units, A units, side units, blocks, and D units in 11 rows.

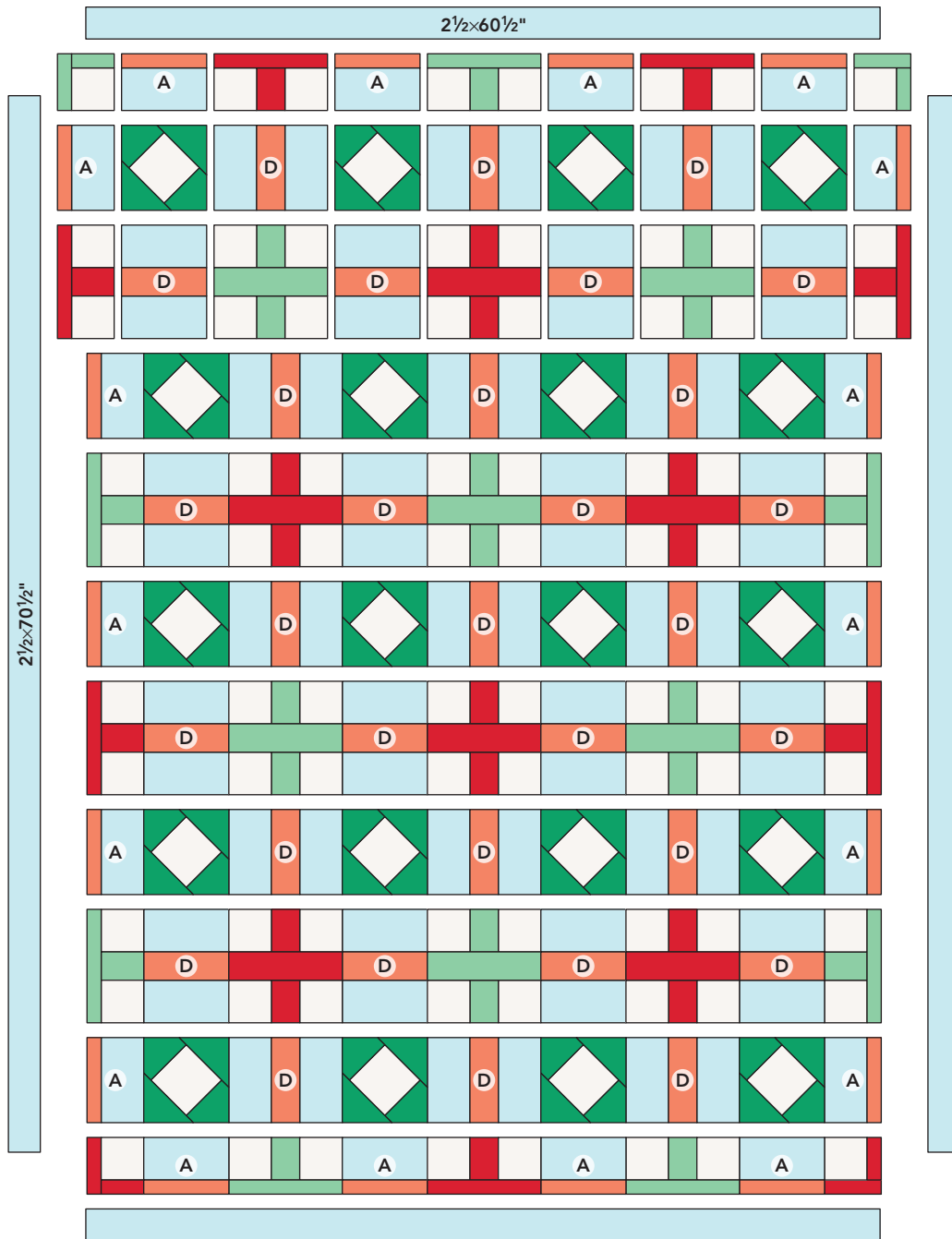
**2.** Sew together pieces in rows. Press seams open. Join rows to make quilt center. Press seams open. The quilt center should be  $56\frac{1}{2} \times 70\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances.

### ADD BORDER

**1.** Piece and cut solid aqua  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 42$ " strips to make:

- 2- $2\frac{1}{2} \times 70\frac{1}{2}$ " border strips
- 2- $2\frac{1}{2} \times 60\frac{1}{2}$ " border strips





QUILT ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

**2.** Sew long border strips to long edges of quilt center. Sew short border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top. Press seams toward border.

**FINISH QUILT**

**1.** Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste.

**2.** Quilt as desired. Designer Kelli Marshall used a digital quilting pattern called Merry and Bright by

Melonie J. Caldwell to machine-quilt an allover Christmas tree design across the quilt top.

**3.** Bind with remaining solid red  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 42$ " strips.