

Table Runner: Final assembly (July 2013)

Arrange the blocks in one long line in whatever order appeals to you. Then add the borders according to the diagram below. Note that the strips in the ends are longer than the side strips and there are eight strips on each end of the runner and 6 strips on each of one side of the blocks. I picked a total of 6 fabrics for my blocks and added two additional fabrics for the strips on the end. All came from my stash.

- Instructions are for a runner of six blocks. If you made the runner shorter (3 to 5 blocks) or longer you will need to make fewer (or more) strip sets. Also, the instructions are for cutting strips separately and assembling individually, but you could easily sew long 6 pieces of fabric together and then cut crosswise to make the strip sections. If you do this, the length of the longer strips needs to be $6 \times 3 \frac{1}{2}$ " or 21 inches long (2 inches wide for each strip). Make a similar adjustment for longer strip sections to be used on the ends (2×5 " or 10" long by 2" wide)
- Thirty-six $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " x 2" strips (six each in assorted fabrics)
- Sixteen 5" x 2" strips (two each in assorted fabrics)
- One 65" x 13" piece for backing
- One 65" x 13" piece of batting

There is NO binding

Construction

1. Arrange and sew the $3 \frac{1}{2}$ " strips to create the 6 strip section as shown for each block and sew to blocks on alternating sides.
2. Arrange and sew the 5" strips to create the 2 strip sections as shown for each end. Add to the end blocks and assemble the complete runner as shown.
3. Spread out the batting and lay the backing piece wrong side down on top of it. Baste with stitches (pins tend to catch on each other when turning the quilt right side out). Lay the quilt top right side down onto the backing, smooth it out. Pin and machine sew all around, leaving gap unsewn on one edge (I left the equivalent of two block lengths on the side open, easier to turn and sharpen corners).
4. Trim the backing to match the quilt top. Trim the excess batting from the seam allowance and across the gap. Clip the corners diagonally to about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge and turn the quilt right side out through the unsewn gap – called "bagging out." Smooth the top over the batting and backing and then baste the layers together.
5. Quilt the sandwiched runner. Finally, slipstitch the turning gap closed.

