

Nothing but Blue Skies – Step 1

by Charlotte Angotti

finished size of block - 7½"
finished size of quilt - 63¾" x 63¾"

Mystery patterns usually do not give you color suggestions, but since few of you will make this quilt as a mystery, the pattern is written using the colors that were used in my quilt. Feel free to change the colors.

Fabric Requirements

White **4¼ yards**

Yardage includes the border.

Medium Blue **1¼ yards total**

4 or more different fabrics

Dark Blue **1 yard total**

4 or more different fabrics

Backing **4 yards**

Binding **¾ yard**

Cutting Instructions

You will need a set of Tri Recs tools to make this quilt.

Strips are cut across the width of the fabric making them approximately 40" long with a selvage on each of the short ends.

White

Cut two strips 13" wide.

Use the strips to cut four 13" squares.

Cut each square twice, diagonally, into quarter-square triangles. Yield: 16 triangles



From leftovers of the 13" strips, cut two 8" squares.

Cut each square once, diagonally, into half-square triangles.

Yield: 4 triangles



Cut seventeen strips 3" wide.

Reserve six strips for the border.

Use the remaining eleven strips to cut the following pieces:

eighty 3" squares,
four 1¾" x 3" rectangles, and
sixty-four Tri triangles.

When cutting the Tri triangles, use the unmarked solid line halfway between the 2½" line and the 3½" line, not the dashed line that is labeled 3". The tip of the Tri tool will line up with the opposite side of the strip when the correct line is on the edge of the strip.

Cut twenty-one strips 1¾" wide.

Medium Blue

From each of the four fabrics, cut the following pieces:

one 3" strip and
two 1¾" strips.

When you have completed cutting the strips, you will have a total of four 3" strips and eight 1¾" strips.

Reserve the 1¾" strips for strip-piecing four patch units.

Use the 3" strips to cut sixty-four Recs triangles and sixty-four reverse Recs triangles. Again, use the unmarked solid line halfway between the 2½" line and the 3½" line, not the dashed line that is labeled 3".

Dark Blue

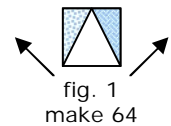
From each of the four fabrics, cut three strips 1¾" wide.

In addition, cut a fourth 1¾" strip from your favorite of the four fabrics. When you have completed cutting the strips, you will have a total of thirteen 1¾" strips.

Piecing Instructions

Press the seam allowances in the directions shown by the arrows in each illustration.

Use the Tri triangles of white and the Recs and reverse Recs triangles of medium blue to make sixty-four Tri Recs units. See figure 1.



Use six 1¾" strips of white and six 1¾" strips of dark blue to make six panels like the one shown in figure 2.



fig. 2
make 6 panels

Crosscut the panels from figure 2 into 136 1¾" wide sections. Use the sections to make sixty-eight four patch units. See figure 3.

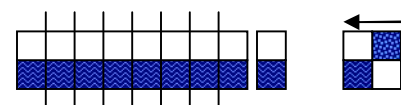


fig. 3
crosscut 136 sections 1¾" wide
make 68 four patches

Use eight $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of white and eight $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of medium blue to make eight panels like the one shown in figure 4.

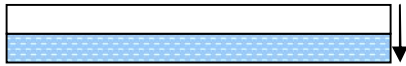


fig. 4
make 8 panels

Crosscut the panels from figure 4 into 160 $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide sections. Use the sections to make eighty four patch units. See figure 5.

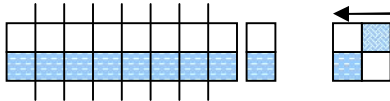


fig. 5
crosscut 160 sections $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide
make 80 four patches

Use seven $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of white and seven $1\frac{3}{4}$ " strips of dark blue to strip-piece seven panels. See figure 6.



fig. 6
make 7 panels

Crosscut the panels from figure 6 into eighty-four 3" wide rail units. See figure 7.

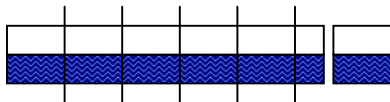


fig. 7
crosscut the panels into
84 rail units 3" wide

Experiment with all of your units to see what you can make with them. Go on to Step 2 to see how I finished the quilt.