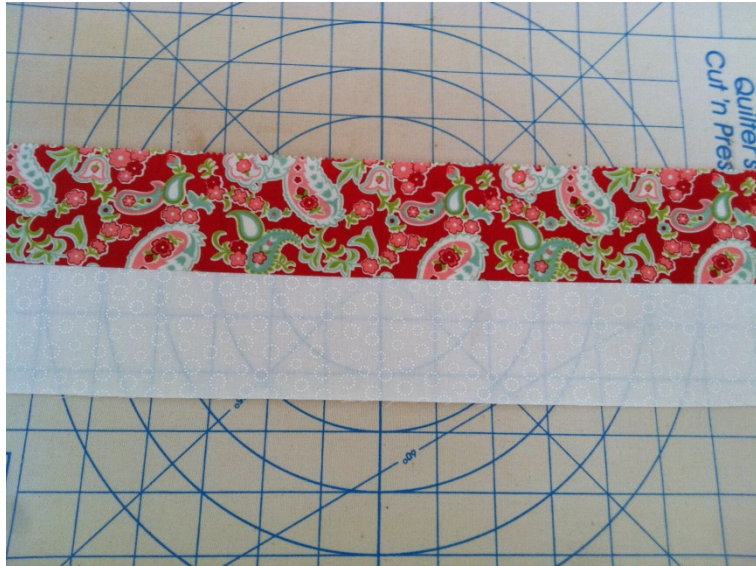


IQG Block Exchange: Island 9 Patch Tutorial – Mindy Gooding

In this tutorial I have prepared, I used strips from a jelly roll. Since the jelly roll I was using had no print repeats, I cut the strip in half and used one of the prints for rows 1 and 3 of the block and chose a coordinating strip to use as the middle of the block. I have made others from the strips from a fat quarter and white where all of the color matches. From a charm pack, you could cut the squares into four 2 1/2" squares and use a coordinating square in row 2. Sewing the individual squares together is not as quick as chain-piecing which is how I have done mine. How you choose to make your blocks is totally up to you!!! 😊



Prepare your fabrics and cut your fabric into 2 1/2" strips. You will need twice as many color/white/color pieces as you do white/color/white strips.

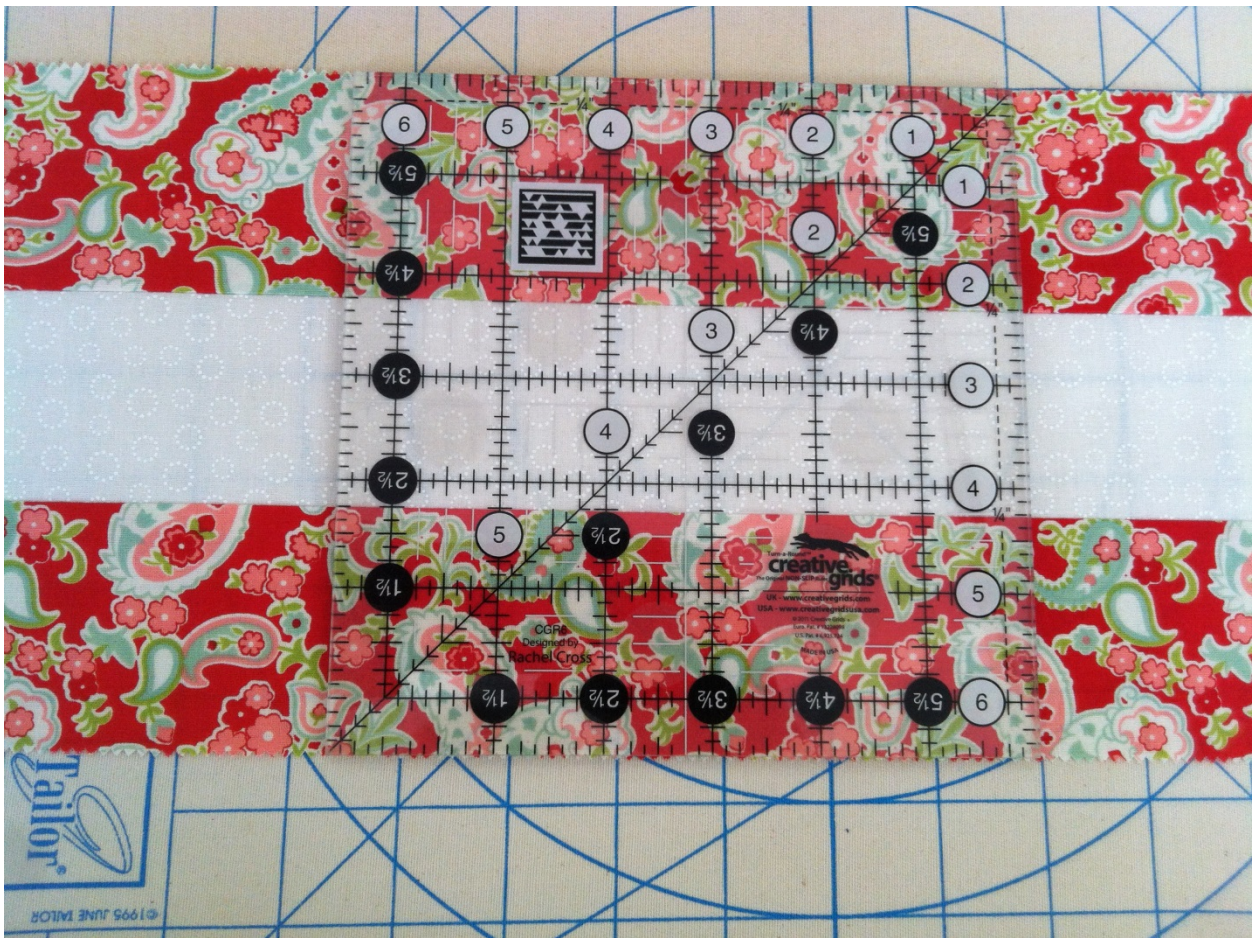


With right sides together, using a 1/4" seam allowance, sew a colored strip to a white strip. Finger press towards the darker fabric before pressing with the iron. When finger pressing, I really push that fabric back on the seam and then I iron. It is possible to lose some of your seam allowance when pressing, causing your block size to be off. I have found that finger pressing first helps to alleviate this.

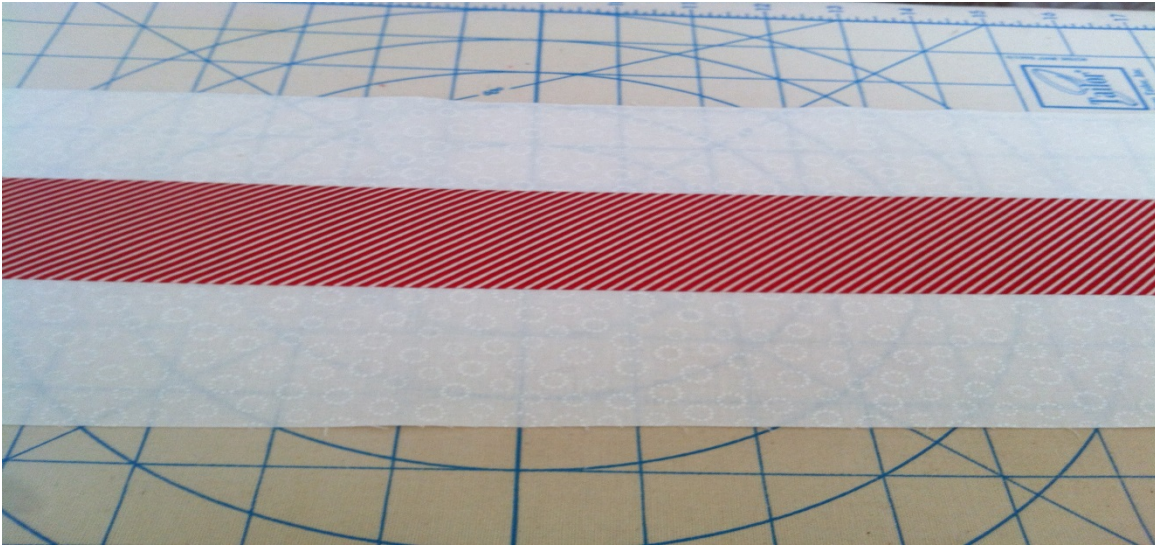


When using jelly roll strips, the pinked edge is the edge of the fabric.

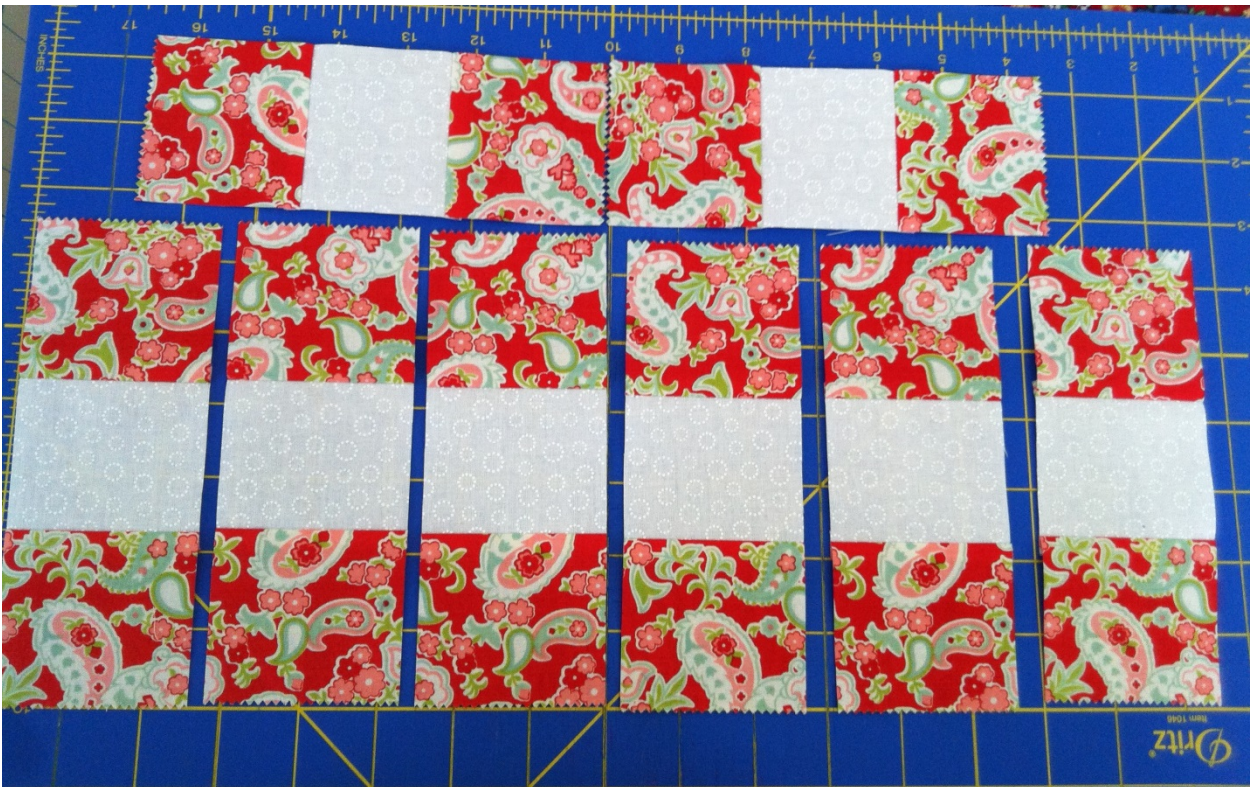
Place your next colored strip right sides together and sew. Finger press the strip towards the dark fabric and press with the iron.



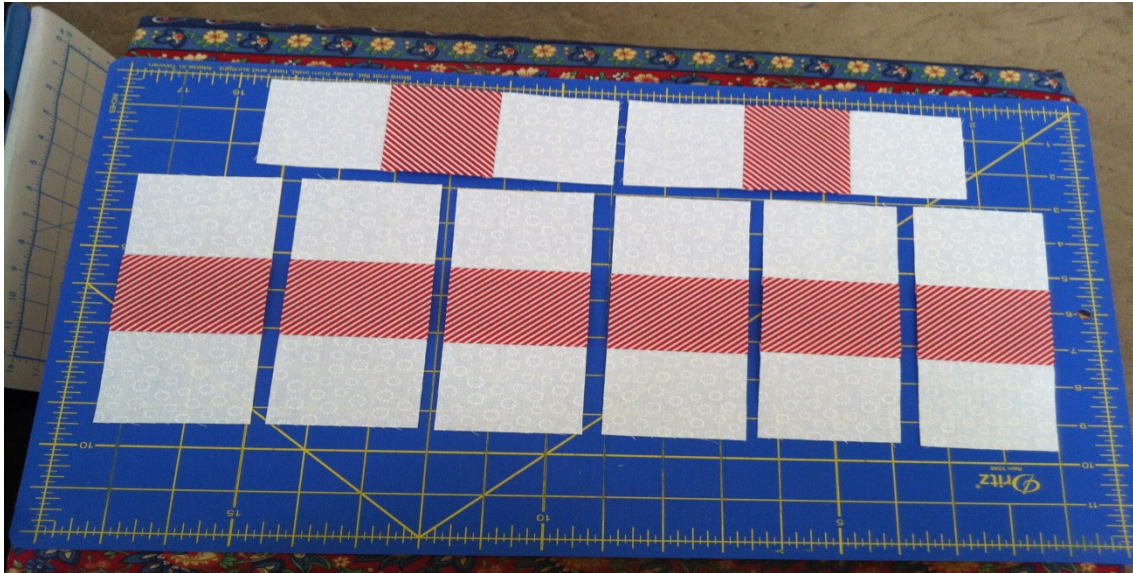
Your completed strip set should measure 6 1/2".



Next, repeat the above steps to complete your strip set #2. Press towards the dark fabric.



Cut your strip sets into 2 1/2" increments.



If you are using a 40-42" WOF strip, such as jelly roll strips, often there is a bow in the fabric where the strips are folded. When cutting your units, cut to the middle of the strip set and then turn it and begin cutting from the opposite end. This way, the waste will be where the fabric bows and not where it is straight at both ends.



Lay out your blocks before sewing. With right sides together, sew row 1 to row 2 using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



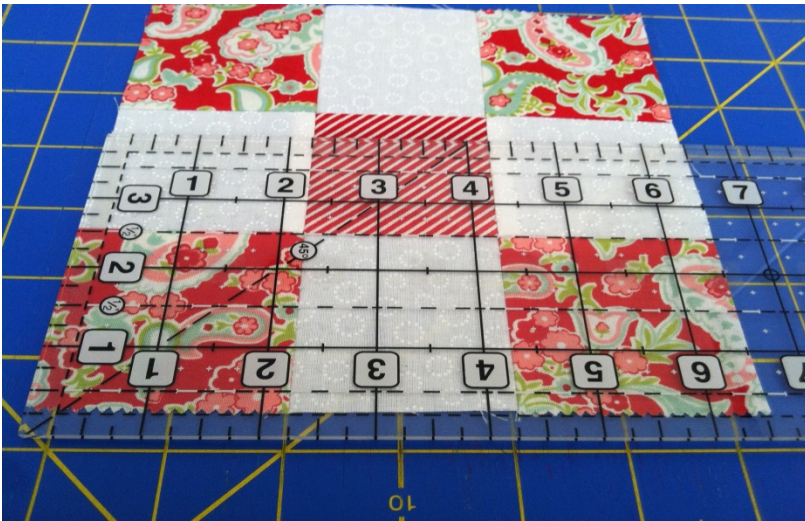
If you have pressed your seams as instructed, your seams will nest when sewing your block together. I am a pinner and I pin where the seams nest as well as at the end.



Finger press your seam towards row 1 and press.



With right sides together, sew row 3 onto the block. Press your seam towards row 3.



Your block should measure 6 1/2" square.



This is the back view of the completed block.

From the jelly roll strip I cut in half, I was able to make 4 blocks. I still had enough of the middle print left over to make 4 more blocks using a different print for rows 1 and 3. From a fat quarter, I was able to make 8 blocks where all of the prints matched. If there is a block that you make and LOVE, set one aside to put in your finished quilt. Make 4-5 blocks from one print and then set the rest of the fabric aside to use for making more blocks, corner stones, or sashing when constructing your quilt. Maybe you will use the fabric you have set aside to make a scrappy binding or make a special label for the back of your quilt honoring our first block exchange.

Here are some of the blocks I have completed so far.

