

SINGLE IRISH CHAIN VARIATION

A simple 9 patch alternating with a plain block paired with a double border makes for a very striking quilt.

This can be done with only 2 fabrics or make the small inner border and binding with a third or go totally wild and make it scrappy with a bit of everything! Just remember value, darks and light.

You will need:

Focus fabric-medium/small print....1 yard

Contrast for chain, small border
and binding.....27 inches

OR: contrast for chain.....13 inches
narrow border and binding....14 inches

From focus fabric:

Cut 2 WOF 6 1/2 inches, sub-cut into 12-6 1/2 squares. Cut and additional 6 1/2 square from the fabric. (Total of 13)

Cut 4 WOF 2 1/2 inches, ignore the fact that one corner is missing, you will have plenty.

Cut 4 full WOF at 3 inches for last border

From your chain fabric:

Cut 5 WOF at 2 1/2 inches

From fabric you choose for border and binding:

Cut 4 WOF at 1 inch for border and 4 WOF at 2 1/2 inch for binding.



Sew your 2 1/2 inch strips into sets....one set 2 focus and 1 contrast and two sets 1 focus and 2 contrast. Each set only needs to be 30 inches so the strips that are short from the extra square cut will be okay. Press to the contrast fabric. Sub-cut into 2 1/2 inch units and create your 12 - 9 patch units.



Arrange your blocks into a large 25 patch with the large blocks in the outside corners. This should measure 30 1/2 inches. Cut 2 narrow contrast borders to this or your "personal" measurement. Next 2 pieces should be about 31 1/2. From the focus border your pieces should be about 31 1/2 and 36 1/2. Now it is just to quilt and bind!

Some random comments.....

I have been very pleased with the response to the kits and it has been exciting to see them come back completed.

I will try and have some at every meeting for you to take home. Most of the kits will have all you need to make the top and binding. I am starting with a few that have everything but the background, for example the floating rectangles from the October newsletter. Suitable backgrounds are something we do not have donated in large quantities and I need your help with providing them yourselves.

We are out of batting until we get another donation but that does seem to be something present in every quilter's stash! I don't mind making "frankenbatting" so donations of your medium and large chunks are welcome. One garbage bag full we received yielded 10 premie sized battings.

We have 3 totes full of flannel cut to 40 inch pieces. PLEASE help yourself to what you need. Most of the flannel is washed and ironed. When I started with cutting in September I did not wash all of it, please use your discretion and knowledge in deciding if it needs to be preshrunk. Now that I am not drowning in fabric I am washing all we receive, the pieced backings are definitely washed to limit the different shrinkage of the random pieces.