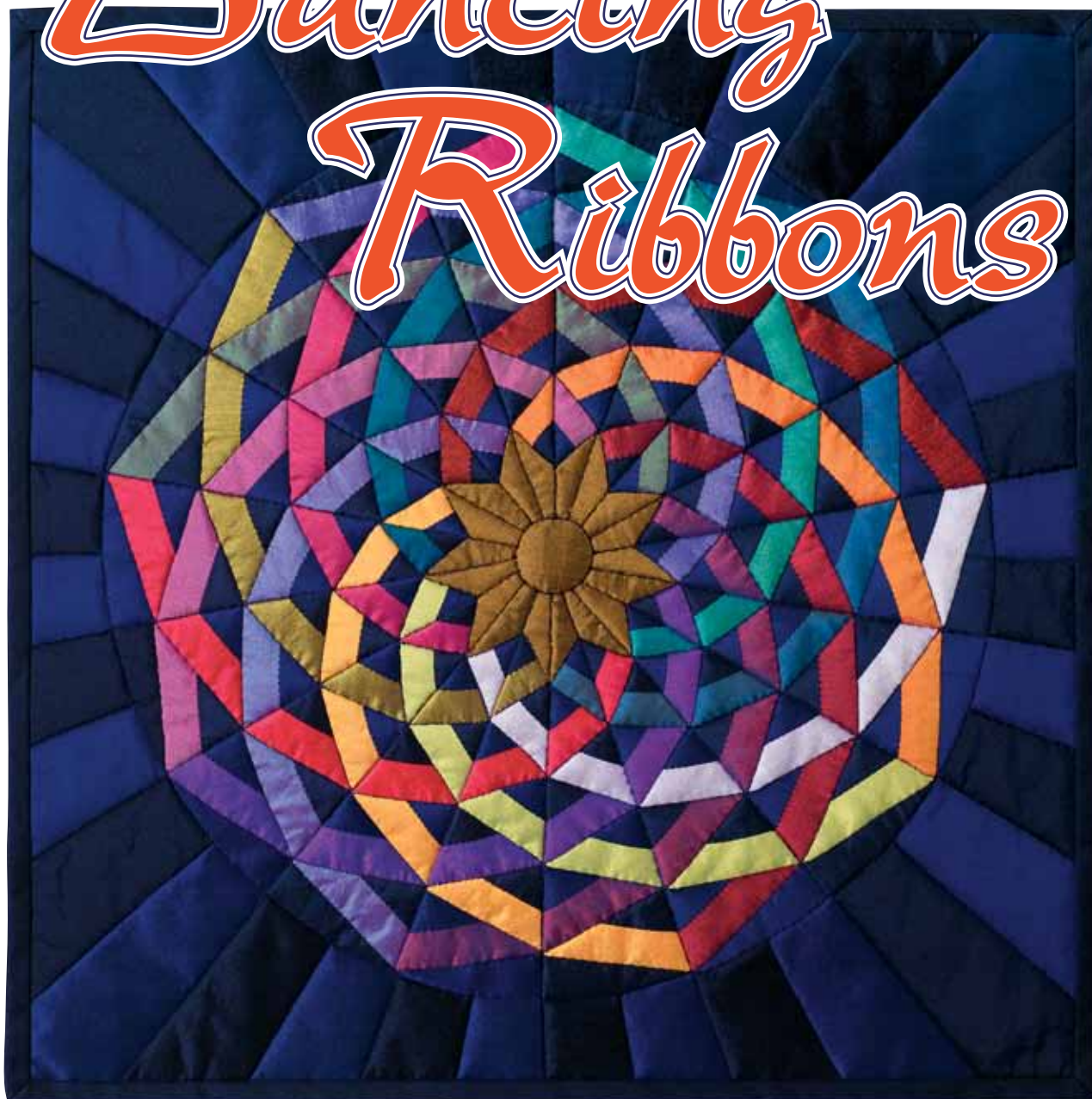


Dancing Ribbons

by Cindy Rounds Richards



DANCING RIBBONS, 12" x 12", by Cindy Rounds Richards

DANCING RIBBONS, inspired by a marble inlaid table, can easily stand alone as a 12" x 12" mini-quilt or become the center of a larger quilt. Even though the original was made with Thai Shot silk, quilting weight cottons work well for this quilt.

For more detailed information on making quilts, including foundation piecing, see the AQS Quiltmaking Essentials & Tested Tips at www.AmericanQuilter.com.

Getting started

There are 9 foundation-pieced X sections and 9 Y sections in this quilt. To get the look of “dancing” ribbons, each of these sections is made up of different colors in the even-numbered patches. To make construction easier, first make a palette of your fabrics. Label each fabric, following the Fabric palette diagram on page 3. If your fabric colors are different than the

palette color, include your fabric description next to mine.

For ease of construction, cutting instructions that follow are for oversized rectangles. These will be trimmed after foundation piecing.

Navy – Cut 9 rectangles $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ for section Y patch 1. Cut 63 rectangles $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{3}{4}"$ for sections X & Y patches 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15. Cut 6 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$ for section Z patches 4, 5, and 6. Cut 12 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{3}{4}"$ for section Z patches 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9.

Royal – Cut 9 rectangles $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ for section X patch 1. Cut 63 rectangles $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{3}{4}"$ for section X & Y patches 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15. Cut 6 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$ for section Z patches 4, 5, and 6. Cut 12 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{3}{4}"$ for section Z patches 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9.

From golden brown for star center – Cut 18 rectangles $1\frac{1}{4}" \times 2\frac{1}{4}"$ for section X and Y patch 16.

From each colored strip – Cut 7 rectangles $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ for even number patches in sections X and Y.



Fabric palette

FABRIC & CUTTING REQUIREMENTS

Skill level: Intermediate

Quilt size: 12" x 12"

- Requirements are based on 40" fabric width.
- Strips are cut from selvage to selvage unless otherwise noted.

Assorted light fabrics – scraps

- 9 strips $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 20"$ for foundation piecing – see “Getting started”

Assorted medium fabrics – scraps

- 9 strips $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 20"$ for foundation piecing – see “Getting started”

Golden brown – scrap

- 1 strip $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 25"$ for foundation piecing and appliqué – see “Getting started”

Navy blue – $\frac{1}{2}$ yard

- for foundation piecing – see “Getting started”

Royal blue – $\frac{1}{2}$ yard

- for foundation piecing – see “Getting started”

Binding – $\frac{1}{4}$ yard

- 2 strips $2\frac{1}{4}" \times 40"$ for 58" of continuous binding

Backing – $\frac{1}{2}$ yard

- 1 panel $16" \times 16"$
- sleeve, 1 strip $9" \times 12"$

Batting

- $16" \times 16"$

Piecing the sections

By tracing or using an accurate copy machine, make 9 copies of X and Y foundation sections, and 4 copies of section Z.

The X and Y foundations are already marked with the fabric selection for odd-numbered patches and the center star. Referring to the foundation section diagrams (figs. 1 & 2), fill in the fabric description for the even-numbered patches. Label each foundation with the section number: X1, X2, Y1, etc.

Following numerical order, foundation piece the X sections (fig. 1) and the Y sections (fig. 2), pressing after

each patch is added. *Tip: As you prepare to piece each section, stack the precut fabric patches in the order they will be sewn to the foundation.* When the sections are complete, trim excess fabric and paper along the outer line.

Making the center

Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, lay out the sections to make sure they are in the right order. Join sections X1 & Y1. Align matching seams before stitching. To do this, hold 2 wedges right-sides together. From the paper side, push a pin through the point where a seam intersects with the seam allowance. Take a peek between the sections and push the pin through the matching seam line on

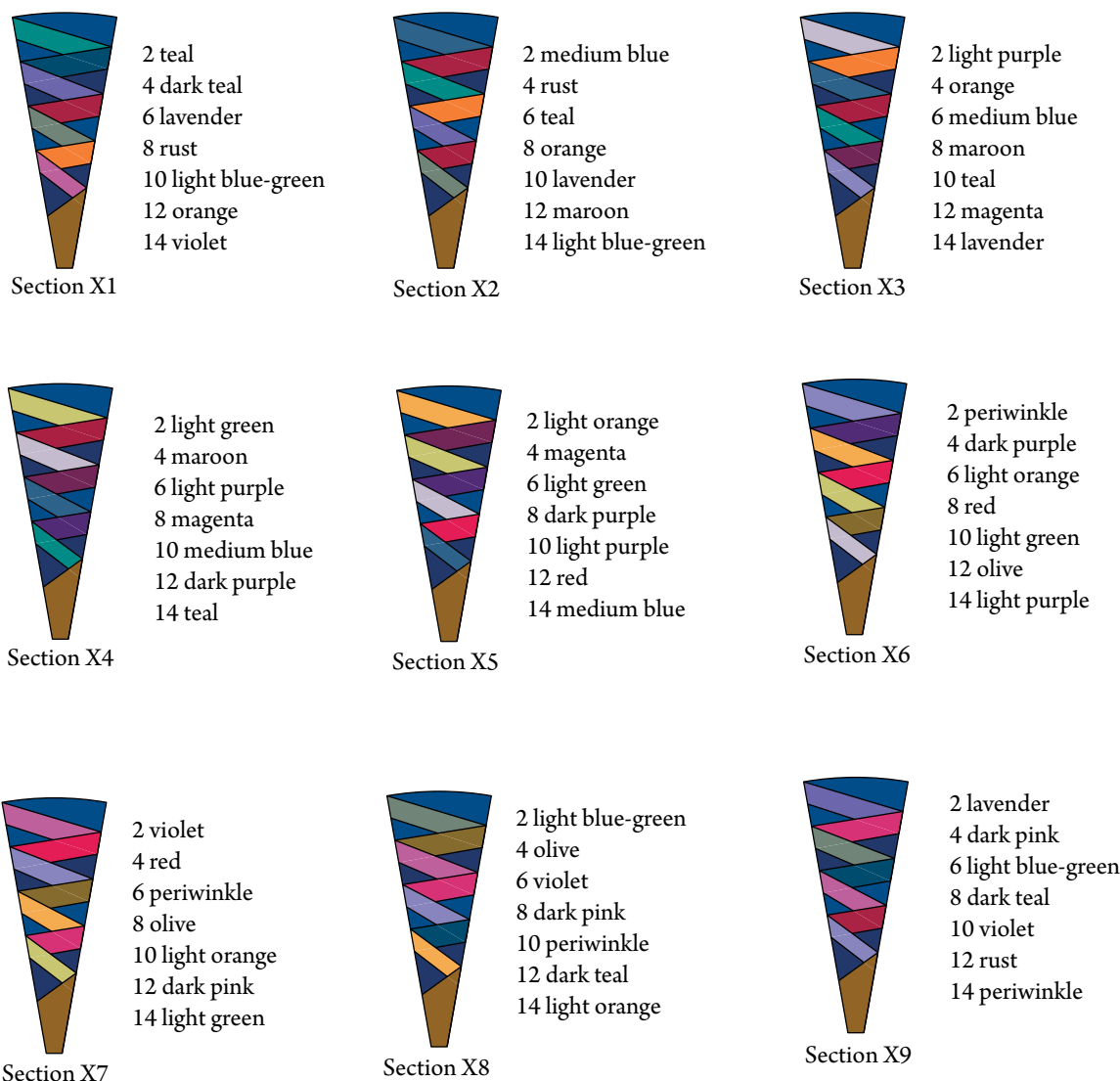


Fig. 1

the second section. Bring the sections together, and line up the raw edges. With the alignment pin still perpendicular to the sections, place another pin next to it to secure the alignment. *Tip: Do not swing the alignment pin flat against the fabric as that will distort the alignment.* Remove the alignment pin. Repeat for all seam intersections along the edge. After stitching, press all seam allowances open.

Join X2 & Y2, X3 & Y3, X4 & Y4. Do not join X5 & Y5. Join the

X/Y pair units together in order. Add X5.

In the same manner, join the remaining sections in pairs. Starting with Y5, join Y5 and the X/Y pair units in order.

Sew the two half-circle units together. Carefully trim any excess fabric in the center so the circle lies flat.

Place template A on the wrong side of a golden brown scrap. Using a fabric marking pencil, draw around the template. Cut out,

leaving a $\frac{1}{4}$ " margin all around. Baste $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge of the circle. Draw up the basting until the circle is the desired size. Press. Trim away any excess. Appliqué by machine or by hand.

Making the background

Referring to the Quilt assembly diagram, and using the Section Z foundations, piece 2 Z1 sections and 2 Z2 sections. When the sections are complete, trim excess fabric and paper along the outer line.

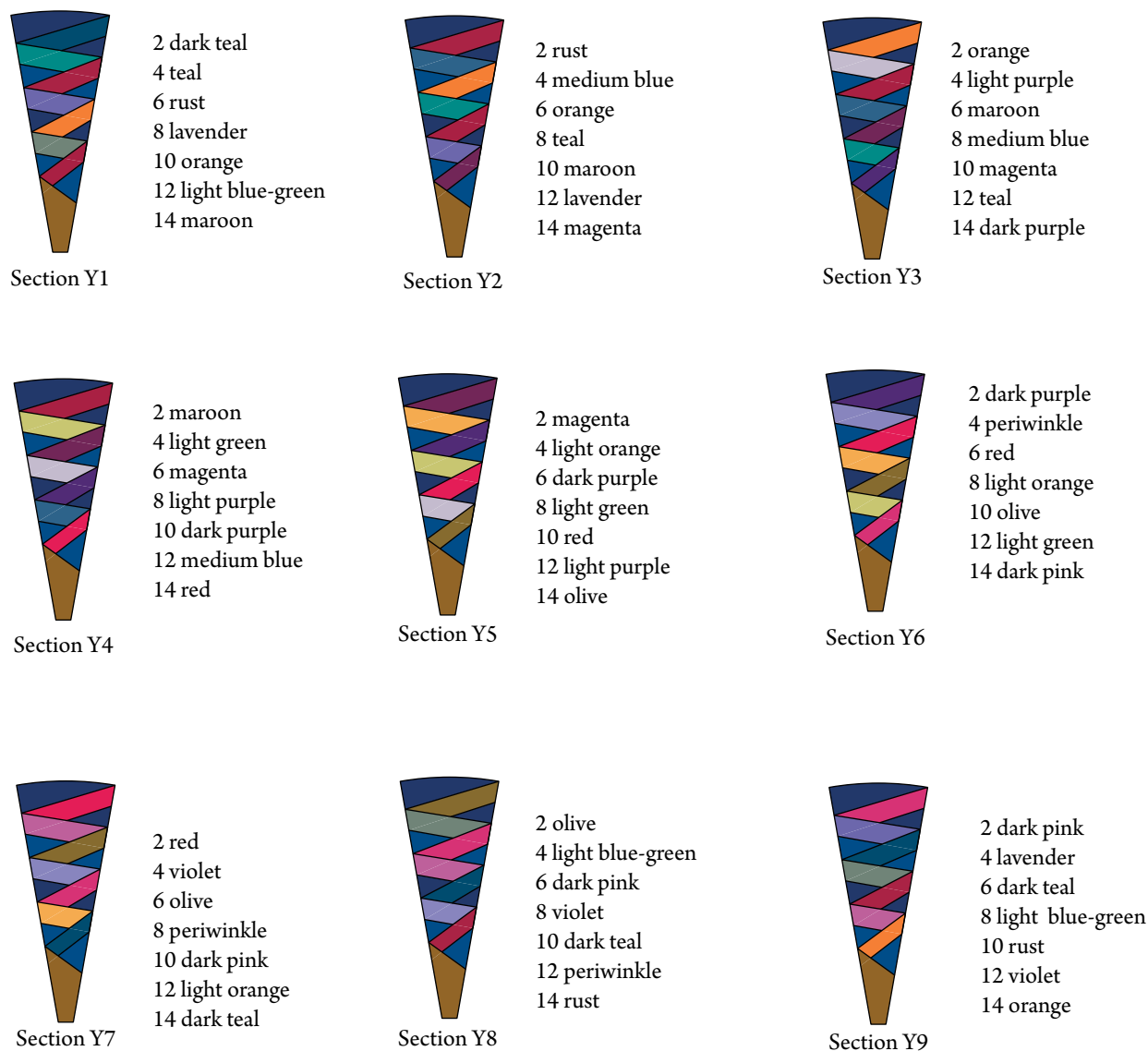


Fig. 2

Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join a Z1 and a Z2 section. Press seam allowances open. Make 2. Join these units to make the circle background.

Assembling the quilt

Remove the foundation paper from all sections. Lay out the quilt center and background, lining up the seams. Flip the background onto the center and pin the inter-sections. Sew together. Press seam allowances toward the background.

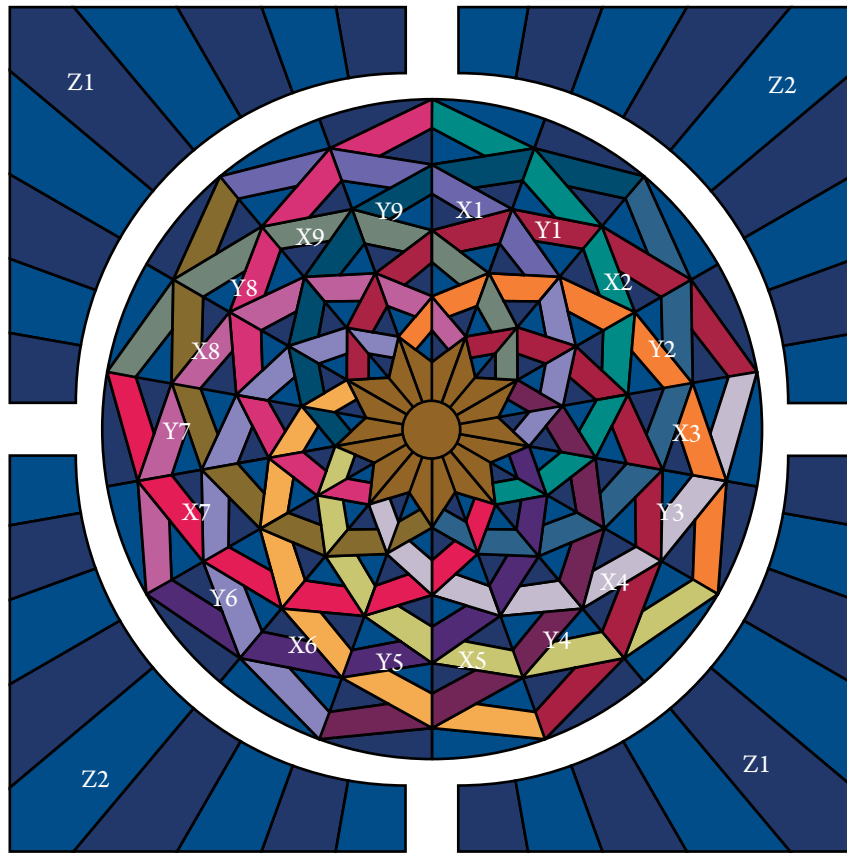
Quilting and finishing

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste the layers together. For small projects like this I often use an adhesive spray basting product.

Thread your machine with dark thread that matches the background. This will help outline the pieces as you quilt. To secure the quilt, start at the center circle of the sun and stitch in the ditch on all of the straight lines radiating out

to the border. Start at the center circle and outline each ribbon by stitching in the ditch. You should end up back at the center circle. Travel around the circle to the next ribbon and continue until the whole quilt is quilted.

Sew the binding strips together to make 58" of continuous binding. Finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding. To display your quilt, make a sleeve and sew it to the back of the quilt.



Quilt assembly



Alternate colorway

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