

BRIGHT CHRISTMAS

Quilt design by Linda Ambrosini featuring fabrics from the Bright Christmas collection, a part of the HOFFMAN SPECTRUM digital-print division



Quilt Size 54" x 66 1/2"

Free pattern available from www.HoffmanFabrics.com

HOFFMAN SPECTRUM

HOFFMAN FABRICS
CALIFORNIA-INTERNATIONAL

“Bright Christmas” featuring fabrics from the “Bright Christmas” collection
a part of the HOFFMAN SPECTRUM digital-print division

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Quilt Yardage Chart

Style	
M4228 161-Christmas	1/3 yard
M4229 381-Pomegranate	1/3 yard
M4230 441-Winter Cherry*	7/8 yard
M2758 265-Oyster	3/4 yard
M2759 175-Strawberry	1/3 yard
M2759 403-Cherry	1/4 yard
M2760 175-Strawberry	1/4 yard
M2761 67-Flame	1/3 yard
M2762 265-Oyster	3/4 yard
M2762 321-Gecko	1/3 yard
885 67-Flame	1/4 yard
1895 231-Garnet	1/4 yard
1895 316-Clownfish	1/4 yard
1895 321-Gecko	1/4 yard
1895 500-Gardenia	3/4 yard
1895 501-Sanddollar	3/4 yard

Note: These are estimated yardages. Final yardages will be on pattern.

*Yardage includes binding.

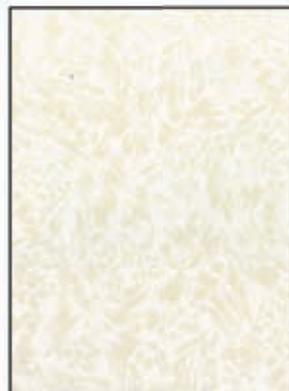
BACKING: Bright Christmas coordinate of your choice. 4 1/4 yards



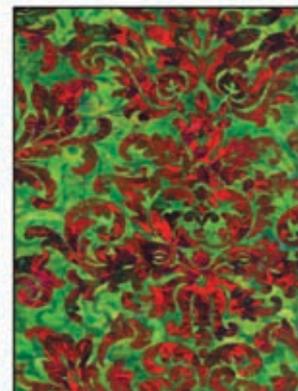
M4228 161-Christmas



M4229 381-Pomegranate



M2758 265-Oyster



M4230 441-Winter Cherry



M2759 175-Strawberry



M2759 403-Cherry



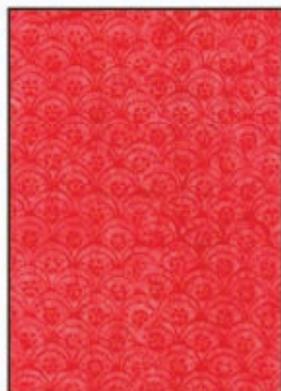
M2760 175-Strawberry



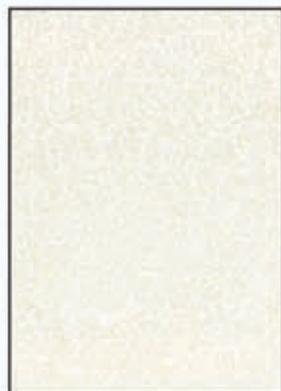
885 67-Flame



1895 231-Garnet



M2761 67-Flame



M2762 265-Oyster



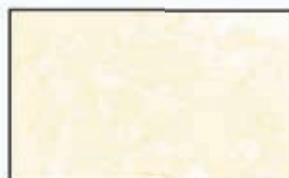
M2762 321-Gecko



1895 316-Clownfish



1895 321-Gecko



1895 500-Gardenia



1895 501-Sanddollar

View swatches and download quilt patterns at www.hoffmanfabrics.com

Bright Christmas

54" x 66"

Quilt design and instructions by Linda Ambrosini, copyright 2015
featuring the Bright Christmas digital print collection by Hoffman California Fabrics

This pattern is all triangles!!! An equilateral, or 60 degree triangle, is such a great shape. Some of the blocks are one big triangle (8" finished size) and others are 4 smaller triangles sewn together to create the same size as the big triangle. Nesting the triangles together creates rows, which we quilters are great at sewing....way too much fun!

Note: This quilt was designed using a ¼ inch seam allowance.

Tools: A *Creative Grids* 60 degree triangle ruler for an 8 inch finished size triangle is recommended. There are other equilateral or 60 degree triangle rulers on the market. Some of them measure in the same way as the *Creative Grids* model, others do not. Mostly, the difference comes with the notched edge on this ruler. I find this notch helps me while I am piecing. The instructions for this pattern are written with the assumption that the *Creative Grids* triangle ruler is being used.

Fabric Cutting: The instructions that come with the *Creative Grids* triangle ruler are excellent. I will summarize them in the instructions but I recommend reading them in full.

Background fabrics: from each of the 4 background fabrics cut the following:

- 1 – 9 inch by WOF strip
- 3 – 4 ½ inch by WOF strips

In the sub-cutting of the 9 inch strip, fold the strip in half matching the selvage ends. Starting from the selvage end, cut the selvages off using a regular ruler and a 90 degree cut. We will first cut two – 30 degree triangles that will be used to straighten and finish our rows of the larger 60 degree triangle.

Align the bottom or 8 ½ inch mark along the long edge of the fabric with the furthest dotted line off center with the edge of the fabric where the selvages were removed. The fabric will extend beyond the peak of the ruler. This is because we are maximizing our fabric usage in some of the following cuts. Cut along the angled and top edges creating two 30 degree triangles or row ends.

Next we will be cutting four large triangles, cutting 2 at a time. Flip the ruler over, aligning the bottom or 8 ½ inch mark with the long edge of the fabric and the 60 degree triangle edge along the previous angle cut. Yes, once again the fabric will be wider than the ruler and you will need to cut off the top notch. Repeat the process again making another set of large triangles. You will have cut 4 large 8 ½ inch tall triangles.

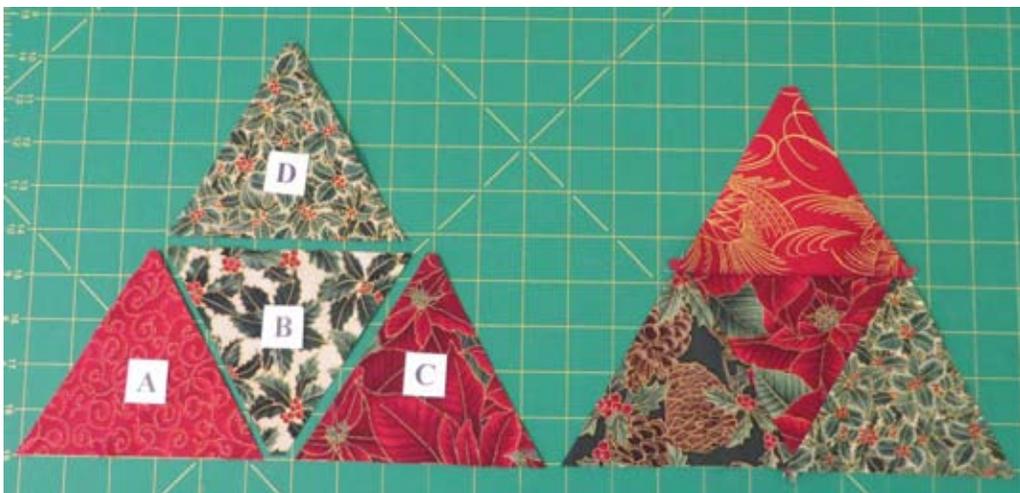
From the balance of the 9 inch fabric strips, cut two 4 ½ inch strips the width of the fabric. Keep them folded in half, aligning the angled edge. Use these strips of fabric and cut 4 ½ inch triangles by aligning the 4 ½ inch mark on the ruler as well as the top notch to the top edge of your fabric strip. Cut, flip, cut, flip.....

Now for cutting the original 4 ½ inch strips, start by folding your fabric strip in half matching the selvage edges. Cut off the selvages with a 90 degree cut. We will first cut two - 30 degree triangles, just like we did in the 9 inch strip, but in this case we will be using the 4 ½ inch marking, as that is the width of our strip. These will be used to make end pieces. Once the end pieces are cut you have established the angle so you can “cut, flip, cut, flip” the entire strip into 4 ½ inch triangles. These will be used in your pieced blocks. I was able to get 2 end pieces and 13 full triangles from each strip of fabric.

Multi-color tree fabrics: You have 2 groups of fabrics, 6 fabrics in each. From the group that all measure ¼ yd. you will cut one – 4 ½ inch strip by WOF from each. Sub cut into 2 small end pieces and 12 to 13 - 4 ½ inch small triangles just like you did with the 4 ½ inch background strips.

From the multi-color fabrics that measure more than ¼ yd, cut 1 strip 9 inches by WOF from each. One fabric you will have more of than the others, this is fabric that is also used to bind the quilt. These 9 inch strips will be cut just like the 9 inch strips of background fabric, except you will only cut 2 large, 8 ½ inch triangles and use the rest of the fabric to cut the smaller 4 ½ inch units. You will have many more multi-color triangles that are needed to complete this quilt, but the color and texture variety is needed to make your tree twinkle.

Block construction: Congratulations! You already have made 16 background blocks and 12 tree blocks just cutting. These are the large 8 ½ triangles you cut from your 9 inch strips of fabric! Next you will need to make 36 background blocks and 29 multi-colored blocks (this is 2 more multi-color blocks than required, but I found it helpful to have a variety when designing my tree). We will not deal with making the end pieces until we are in the layout stage as they are directional.



Four – 4 ½ inch triangles make up each block. Refer to the previous photo. Sew triangle A to triangle B, and press the seam open. Next add triangle C to AB and press the seam open. Finally, add triangle D right above triangle B and press the seam up towards the top. I really liked using the notched edge (this is why I really like the *Creative Grids* triangle ruler) to help me orient each triangle. Remember, when sewing triangles you do not match up the end points, you match up where your ¼" seams start. The notch helps you do this. Refer to the photo on below. The block will end up the same size as the 8 ½ inch cut blocks! Keep a random orientation with your fabric placement.



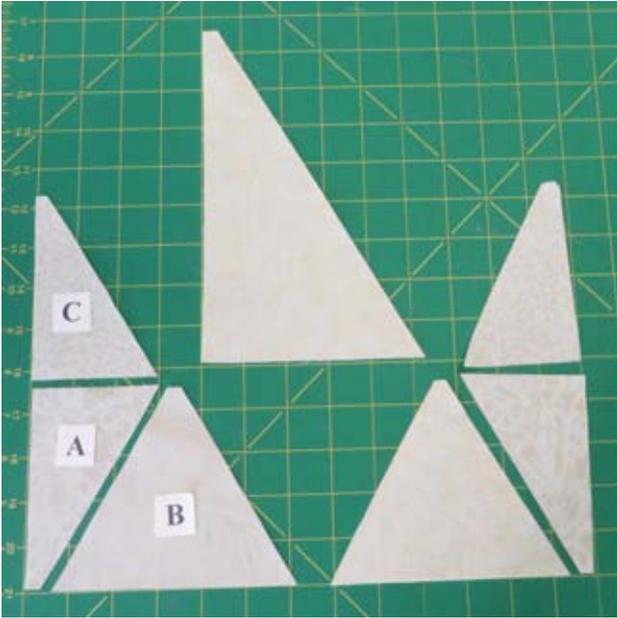
Note: Fabric
Notch Alignment

Quilt Construction: This quilt is constructed in rows, but I just couldn't help myself and had to start with the Christmas tree shape first! You may wish to use the suggested layout diagram, included in this pattern. On a large design wall, or you may have a very special design floor like mine, lay out the tree starting from the top triangle. Refer to the quilt photo. Can you see that one pieced block makes the top of the tree, then 3 blocks below it? Lay them out. The 3rd tree row has 3 blocks again, just oriented differently. The 4th has 5. Continue on. The tree bottom, or 8th row has 8 full blocks and then a half block, or end piece, to square up the edge. The row completer blocks will be made and placed after we have laid out the quilt's center.

Once you have a pleasing tree, let's place the background pieces. Starting at the bottom, place 3 background triangles on the left side of the tree. At this time we are not adding the end pieces, so you will have funny angled edges. Continue up the left side of the tree adding blocks. The top point of the tree will have 7 large triangles on the left hand side. Now let's fill in the right hand side of the tree. The top point of the tree will have 3 background blocks. The last large background block will stop at 5th row down from the top.

Now let's construct the half blocks or end pieces. There are right and left oriented end pieces. You have already cut 8 of these as large 30 degree triangles, when you cut your nine inch strips of fabric. You will need to make 8 more; one will be made from the multi-colored tree fabrics and the rest from the background fabrics.

Refer to the photo below for block construction. First sew A to B, press the seam open and then add piece C and press the seam to the top. Fill in the rows with the appropriate end piece.



Now we will start sewing the blocks into rows. When sewing the rows make sure you offset your triangles just like when you were constructing your pieced blocks. Those notches will once again help you to align properly. You will also need to pay attention to the point intersections of your pieced blocks. I found the seam allowance tails helped me to get good alignment, but check the actual point before you sew. Sew all 8 rows you have created and then sew these rows together. Yes, matching all these points is very tedious. Take extra care in the tree area of the quilt as these points show much more than in the background area.

Finally!!! Let's add the very top background row. This row is constructed with a series of the 4 ½ inch background triangles. Starting from the upper left hand corner of the quilt, layout one 4 ½ inch 30 degree triangle with the square or 90 degree corner facing the upper left hand edge. Add 23 of the 4 ½ triangles and complete the row with another 30 degree. Sew this row together and add to the top of your quilt

Quilt, Bind and Cheers!

SUGGESTED LAYOUT

