

# Explosion!

89" x 103"

To make the quilt pictured:



## You need:

- About 6 yards of scraps and 2" squares in order to make your 8x8 main blocks
- 2¾ yards of various reds, oranges, yellow for the sashings and arrow border contrast colors
- 4 1/8 yard of black

- About 3/4 yard of fabric for the binding.

Note: This quilt consists of 1 main block

A 64 patch block (8x8 layout):



and the morning star sashing with a bit of a twist to it to make it look more like an arrow:



### Cut:

**For the 64 patch blocks:** (30 blocks needed)

- I strip pieced this using various colors of strips that I already had cut.  
Strip piecing: I sew 8 strips together like this from my already cut up 2" strips: (of course they aren't that even on the ends!)



Then, I press seams all in one direction. Then, I cut off 2" segments like this:





Now you have strips of 8 squares together that looks like this:



Do this a multitude of times with a variety of different color combinations to get 8 strips like this for each block you need (240 total strips).

Note I already had a bunch of 16 patches made up so making up my 64 patches was a breeze as I was literally using leftovers from several other quilts for about half of my block. (Sea Lanterns and Claire's Lanterns primarily, plus some leftover from a mystery quilt I didn't make as the author wanted us to – so a lot of green checkered strips made up 3 blocks).

#### **For sashing pieces:**

Cut:

From black:

- 98 -  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "x  $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

From yellow (for star points):

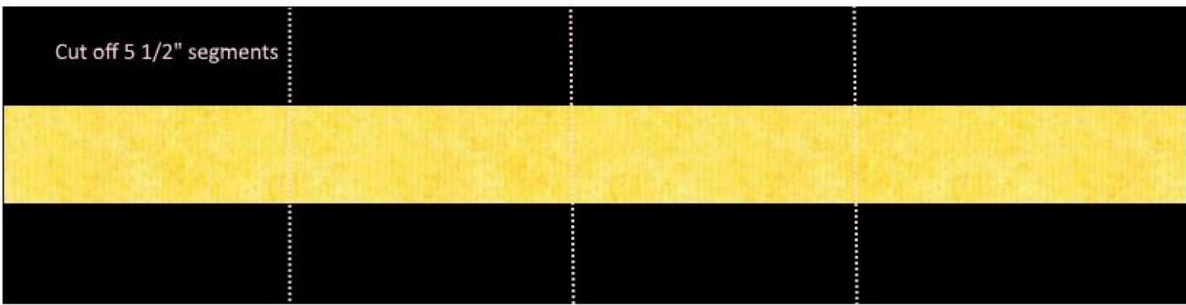
- 196 –  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares

Make centers as described:

For center pieces: 1 strip pieced these using 2 black  $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x WOF and 1 yellow  $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x WOF. Sew together black, yellow, black. Press seams towards the black. Subcut to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ "x lengths. Finished piece will be  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ". Like this:



Subcut:



You need 49 of these segments! I used a variety of yellows and oranges and reds from my strips bags. Rest of this sashing block will be described below under Construct blocks.

**For cornerstones:**

20 – yellow and reds  $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$  squares, your choice as to how many of each color. I used 10 of each.

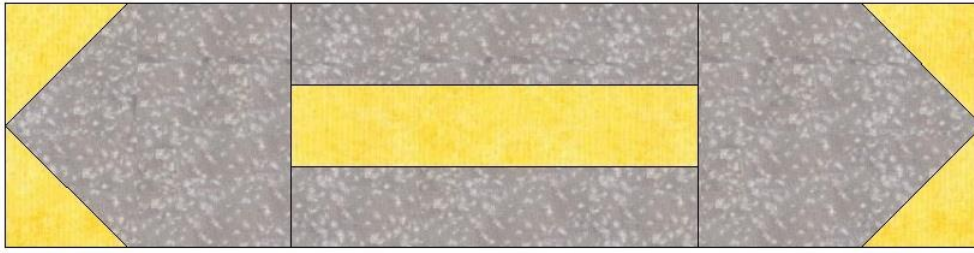
**Construct blocks:**

1. **The 64 patch blocks:** Block will be  $12\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$  after completion but before being sewn into the quilt top.

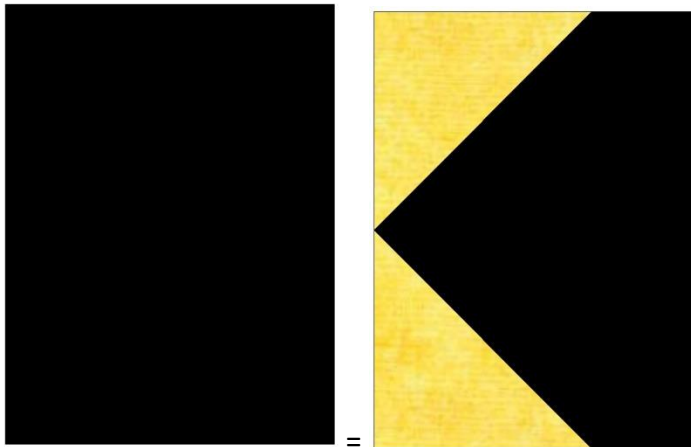


- Using your previously made 8 square sements, sew them together, nesting seams, until you have a 64 patch. First sew two strips together. Then sew a third onto those two, and then a fourth, then a fifth, etc. Press. Nest your seams.
- Make 30.  
(Note: You could also make these by making 16 patches and sewing the 16 patches together like a big 4 patch.)

2. **The sashing block:** (In order to see the seamlines, I showed black as gray.) Will finish at  $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ .

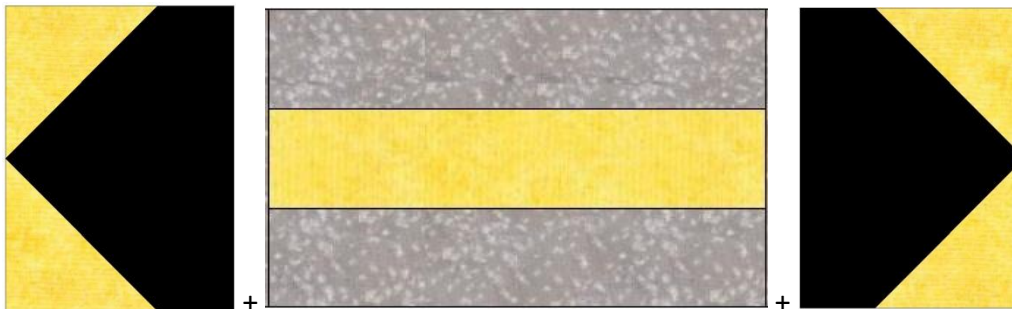


- A. Take your  $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$  pieces of black and "snowball" two ends along the  $4\frac{1}{2}''$  sides using your  $2\frac{1}{2}''$  square yellow pieces like this:

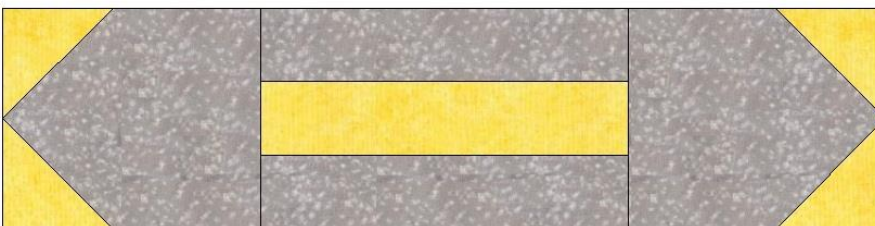


If you do not know how to do this, please watch a MSQC video. Jenny Doan shows often how to do it. Eventually I will make a tutorial showing it as well, but for now...If you do not know how to do this, please write me on the FB group and ask. I'll find something for you to use.

Attach star points to the ends of the  $5\frac{1}{2}''$  segments like this:



Remember: gray= black



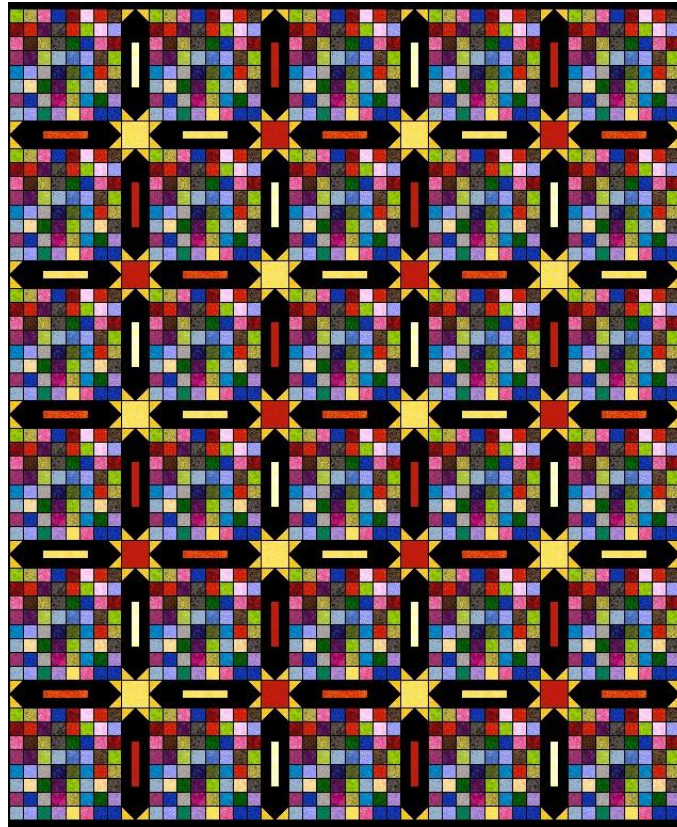
Make 49.

### How to put together this quilt:

1. **Construct your blocks as described above.** Make 30 main blocks and 49 sashing blocks.



2. **Using the diagram below, lay out your blocks in a 5x6 arrangement.** Place the sashing blocks you made and the cornerstone yellow blocks. Put together row by row with sashing/cornerstones in between. I did them one row at a time.



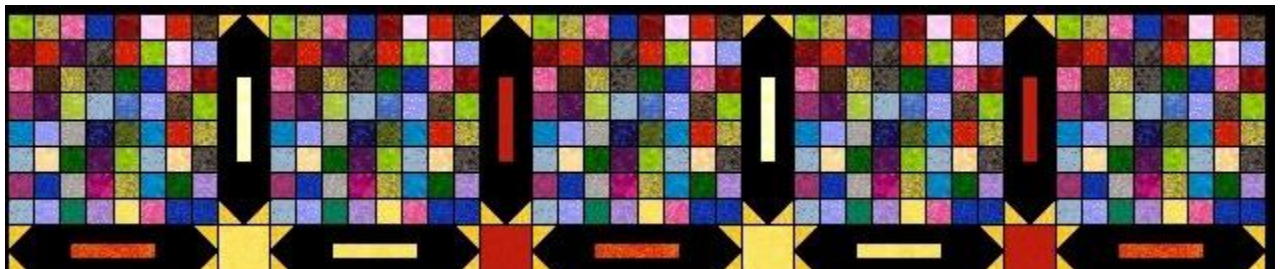
I sewed them together like this: I made 6 rows like this:



Then 5 sashing/cornerstone (yellow squares) rows like this:



I then attached the sashing strips to a row and sew together like this:



Use diagram above to make the center of the quilt.

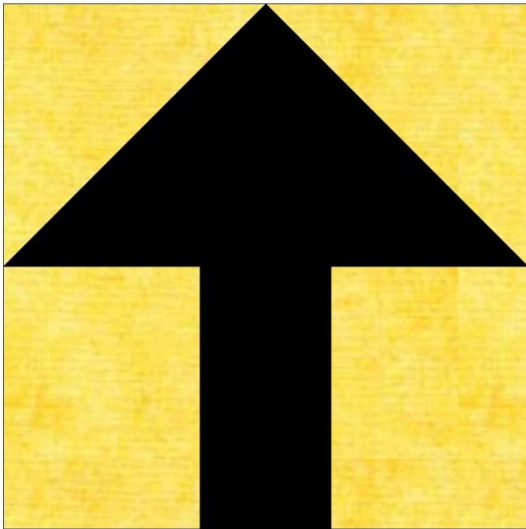
**3. Borders.** I am going to give you measurements for your borders as the black needs to be this size so that the other blocks will fit.

**First border: black:**

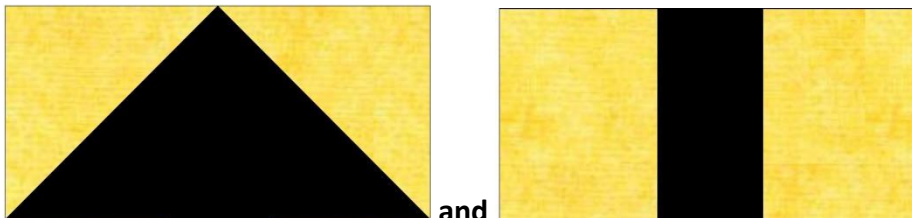
- Cut 2 strips  $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 87\frac{1}{2}"$  Attach to sides. (Will probably need to piece to get this length)
- Cut 2 –  $2" \times 76\frac{1}{2}"$  Attach to top and bottom. (Will probably need to piece to get this length)
- Note: these two borders are slightly different widths:

**Second border: arrow blocks:**

**This block is  $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$  and looks like this:**



**To make this block: It is made up of two segments:**



Each measures  $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$  as segments:

**To make 1 arrow block:**

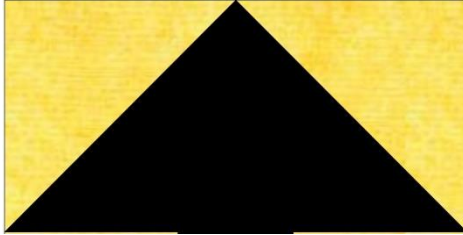
1. Cut black  $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$  and 2 yellow  $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$  squares. "Snowball" the corners as shown using the yellow squares. Press well.
2. Strip piece a yellow  $2" \times \text{WOF}$ , black  $1\frac{1}{2}" \times \text{WOF}$  and another yellow  $2" \times \text{WOF}$ . The unit will measure  $4\frac{1}{2}"$  wide by the WOF (about  $40"+$  long). Cut off  $2\frac{1}{2}"$  segments. Like this:



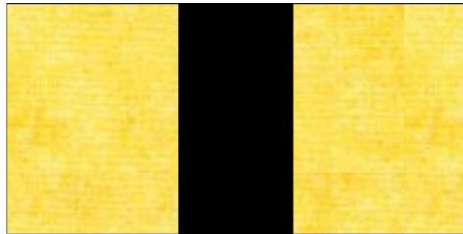
and subcut  $2\frac{1}{2}"$  segments:



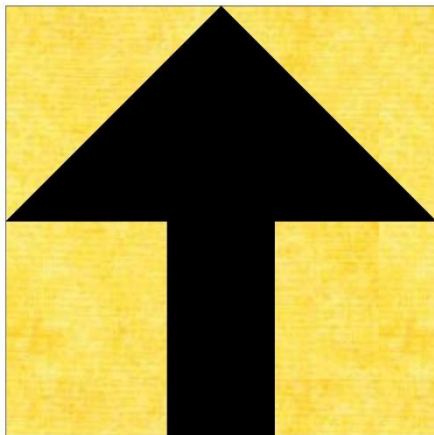
Now, sew together the two segments:



+



To get this:



Make a variety of arrows using various colors instead of all yellow. I used about 10 different background colors. You will need a total of 82 arrow blocks for this quilt.

Cut 4 squares – 4 ½" x 4 ½" for the corner blocks. Your choice of color. I wanted the effect of fireworks, so I used a variety of warm colors (oranges, browns, reds, yellows).

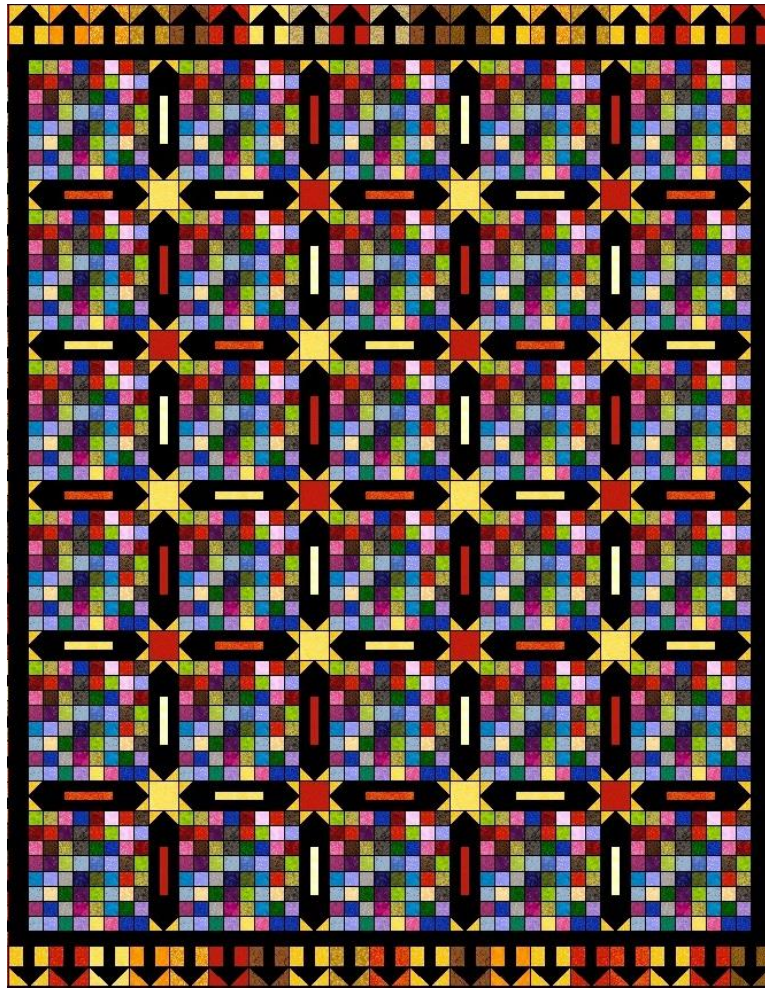
For the top and bottom, sew 19 of the arrows together, side by side.

Like this:



Sew to top and bottom of your quilt:

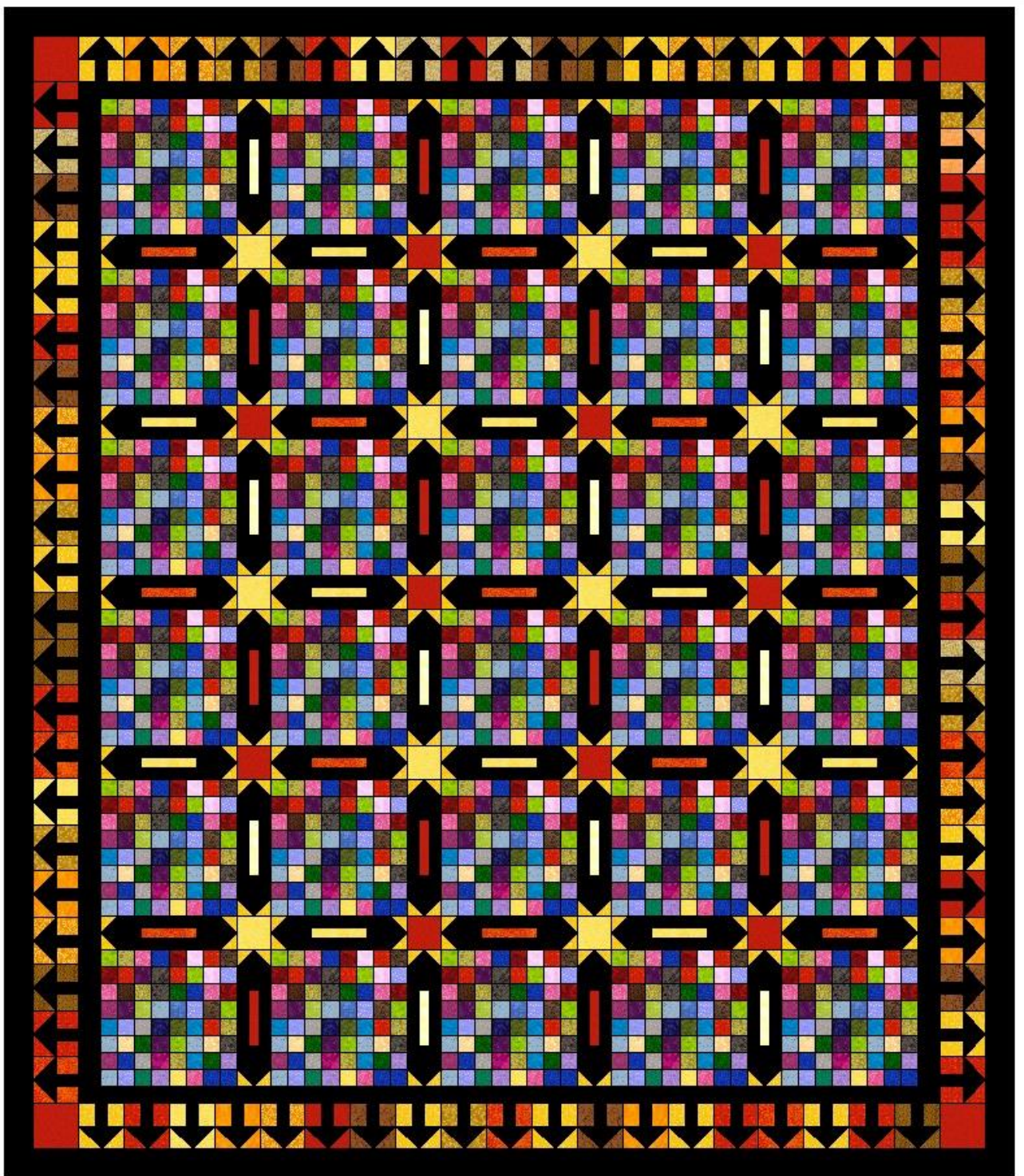




Now sew 22 together in a row (for the sides). Do this 2x. Add a 1½" strip of a color, either black or your bright hot colors to each end of your 22 arrows. This will make your strip the right length to attach to the center (90½"). Once all 22 arrows and a spacer strip are sewn together, add your 4½" plain block to each end for the corners. Press. Attach to the two sides of the quilt.

It will now look like this diagram minus the last black border except this diagram doesn't show the spacer strips. (Don't know how to do that at this point...) Look at the top pictured above.)





**Third border: black:**

- Cut 4½"xWOF and sew together until you have enough length to subcut  
 2 – 3"x 98½" Attach to sides.  
 2 – 3"x 89½" Attach to top and bottom.
- 4. **Press well.**
- 5. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
- 6. **Quilt** as desired. I did an all over stars and loops design. It is hard to see, though, with all the motion and changing colors in the quilt top itself.



7. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish.

Congratulations!  
Your quilt is finished!  
Enjoy!

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Here are couple more pictures as I worked on it.



