

Rainbow Mug Rug

Created by Diane Knott for The Craftsy Blog

What you need:

- Printed pattern (the last page of this document)
- 15 fabric strips, 2" x 6" – 8"
- Rotary cutter and ruler
- Fabric scissors
- Batting, 6" x 10"
- Backing fabric, 6" x 10"
- 30" of binding
- Rainbow Paper Piecing Pattern

STEP 1: PRINTING THE PATTERN

This pattern is best when printed on light weight copy paper such a 20-lb. paper. If you have a paper product designed for paper piecing, that's even better.



Trim the paper 1/4" away from the outside line. Then, fold the pattern on each of the lines. This will score the paper so that it is easier to work with during the later steps.

STEP 2: CUTTING THE FABRICS

All 15 strips can be cut 2" wide. Most of the strips can be cut 6" long. However, the strips that will be used for the corners will need to be 8" long. If you are using scraps, simply lay them across the paper pattern where you plan to use them to ensure they will be long enough.

STEP 3: SEWING THE FIRST TWO STRIPS

Placed the first two strips right sides together, with the first strip touching the paper. Using a ruler as shown above, lay the strips so that they overlap the first sewing line by 1/4." This will create your first seam allowance.

Set your stitch length to 1.8 – 2.0 for shorter stitches. Begin sewing at the edge of the paper and continue sewing off the edge of the paper

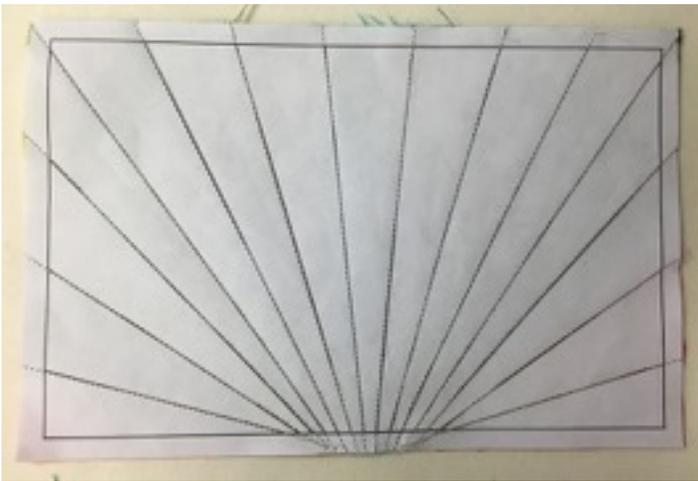
STEP 4: FINGER PRESSING

Once the strips are sewn, flip the paper over and finger press the seam open as shown above. Take care to completely open the seam and make sure the fabrics are laying flat and smooth.

STEP 5: TRIMMING THE STRIPS

Fold the paper on the next sewing line (not the one that was just sewn) and trim away the excess fabric, leaving a 1/4" seam allowance as shown above. Layer the next strip, right sides together, on the newly cut edge of this strip. Then repeat the steps beginning with sewing.

Continue to sew, flip, finger press, fold the paper and trim. This will build your rainbow one strip at a time. The seams will come together very closely on the bottom edge. To prevent extra bulk, trim the seams at an angle with scissors, leaving about 1/8" at the very edge.



This is what your rainbow will look like once it is completely sewn, on the front and the back. The rainbow can now be pressed with a hot iron if you choose.

STEP 6: REMOVING THE PAPER PATTERN

Securely grip or press the end of the seam before pulling the paper away.

Handle this unit carefully because there will be bias edges. If desired, stay-stitch around the entire outside, less than 1/4" away from the edge, to stabilize the unit.

STEP 7: ASSEMBLING THE MUG RUG

Layer the rainbow on top of the batting and backing. Simply quilt by stitching "in the ditch" along each seam line. Decorative stitches would add interest as well, if you choose. Once the rainbow is quilted, trim the batting and backing even with the edges of the rainbow. Add the binding and you're finished.

