

Twister – A Mystery Quilt

Designed by Kathryn Greenwold

This is a 2 color (or multicolor) mystery quilt that will create a whirligig pattern when completed. It uses only simple straight seams, strip piecing, and simple measurements (no 1/8th inches!), but will give you a quilt with lots of movement and fun.

Contrast between your fabrics is important for the pattern to show, however, you can use scraps or fat quarters for a multicolor look. It's a great way to use up scraps with a consistent background fabric or color.

You need at least 2 ½ yards of the “feature” fabric, 8-10 fat quarters, or a collection of scraps. A fat quarter can make two blocks (as the feature fabric), but additional fat quarters will be needed for borders or binding.

You will also need 3 ½ yards of your “background” fabric. This can be either light or dark, but must strongly contrast from the feature fabric(s). It can also be from scraps or fat quarters but would be most successful if they are all within the same color range in order to set off your featured fabric(s).

These yardages will allow you to create 12 16” x 16” finished blocks plus outer borders. The finished quilt will be about 64” x 76” depending on the borders you add.

If you would like to make a smaller quilt, aim for 4 or 6 blocks plus borders. The 4 block quilt would create an approximately 48” x 48” quilt, and the 6 blocks would create a 48” x 64” quilt. Yardages for a 4 block quilt would be 4 fat quarters or 1 yard of feature fabric and 1 ½ yards of the background fabric. Yardage for a 6 block quilt would be 3-6 fat quarters or 1 ½ yards of feature fabric and about 2 ½ yards of background fabric. To make a larger quilt, add yardage for the size you want to create. 25 blocks would make a good king size quilt.

You will also need yardage for your backing. You can use some of the same fabric(s) or muslin, but plan to buy enough fabric for the size quilt you plan to make. I've tried to be generous with yardage estimates to allow for some variance in borders and binding to make your creative process as stress free as possible.

Hopefully these estimates will give you the chance to make a quilt that meets your needs for a wall hanging, baby quilt, or a full twin bed size quilt either for your family or for Northeast Parent and Child. Happy Quilting!!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 370-1667 or send email to lgreeny@aol.com.

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STEP 1

From your feature fabric(s) cut a strip across the width of the fabric that is 4 ½" wide. Then cut 1 square 4 ½" X 4 ½" for each block you plan to make. Also cut a 4 ½" strip from your background fabric and then cut 4 squares 4 ½" x 4 ½" for each block.

Continue cutting strips and squares until you have enough.

 If making 12 blocks, cut 12 feature fabric squares and 48 background squares

 For 6 blocks, cut 6 feature fabric and 24 background squares

 For 4 blocks, cut 4 feature fabric and 16 background squares

Be sure to keep all of your remaining fabric for use later.