

How to Create a Harmonic Convergence Quilt

Step-by-Step Instructions with Illustrations
Presented by Helmina

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Step 1

- Start with 4 pieces of fabric about 8.5" x 9.5"
- Number the pieces as shown 1 through 4
- This size will measure about 12.5" x 13.5" when complete

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Step 2

- Draw a registration line across the tops of pieces 1 and 3
- Use a chalk pencil or something that will show up on the given fabrics
- This line is used to keep the orientation of all the strips going in the same way when piecing the convergence strips together

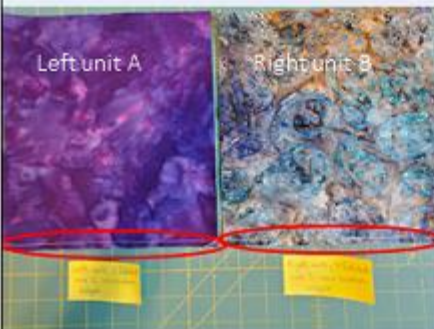
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Step 3

- Fold piece 2 up and over piece 1, right sides together (Left unit A)
- Similarly, fold piece 4 up and over piece 3, again right sides together (Right unit B)
- (Wrong sides of top fabrics are facing up for A and B units)


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Step 4

- Sew $\frac{3}{4}$ " seam along bottom of left unit A
- Repeat with right unit B
- (Wrong sides of top fabrics are still facing up for A and B units)

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Step 5

- Cut strips starting at the right side of the left unit A
- Cut: 1", 1-1/2", 2"
- Leave fourth strip at however wide it is, after
- Trimming about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the far-left side of unit A
- (Wrong side of top fabric is still facing up)

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Step 6

- On left side of right unit B, start cutting strips
- Cut strips starting at the left side of the right unit B
- Cut: 1", 1-1/2", 2"
- Leave fourth strip at however wide it is, after
- Trimming about 1/4" from the far-right side of unit B
- (Wrong side of top fabric is still facing up)

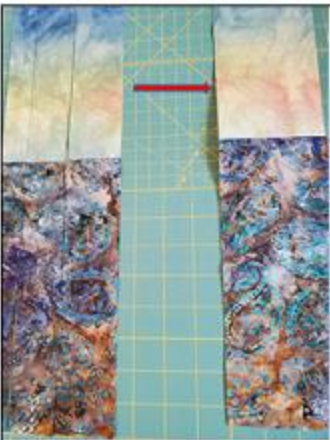
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Step 7

- Open each strip carefully, laying strips next to each other with a space in the middle as shown
- Right sides of fabrics are now facing up

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Step 8

- Move right-most strip of unit B to the right so that there is space between the strips
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 9

- Move first (narrowest) strip from left unit A to the space between the strips of unit B
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)


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Step 10

- Move second strip from right unit B to the space between the strips so that it is touching strip from Step 9
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 11

- Move second strip from left unit A to the space between the strips so that it is touching strip from Step 10
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 12

- Move third strip from right unit B to the space between the strips so that it is touching strip from step 11
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 13

- Move third strip from left unit A to the space between the strips so that it is touching strip from step 12
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 14

- Move fourth strip from right unit B to the space between the strips so that it is touching strip from step 13
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)

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Step 15

- Move last strip from left unit A so that it is touching strip from Step 14
- (Right sides of fabrics are facing up)
- Your strips are now CONVERGED vertically and you are ready to sew them together

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Step 16

- Pair each set of strips into two's, pinning at seam
- NOTE: left-most pair still needs to be folded on top of each other in this illustration

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Step 17

- All strip sets have been paired up, pinned, and are ready to be sewn

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A photograph showing a quilt panel with four vertical columns of fabric strips. Each column consists of two strips of different colors and patterns, such as purple, teal, and orange. The strips are being sewn together side-by-side.

Step 18

- Taking care to sew the seam on the left side of each pair,
- Sew each pair of strips together, opening the seam and finger-creasing the seam open
- Lightly press each pair of strips
- Do this for all four strip sets

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A photograph showing the quilt panel from Step 18, now with the pairs of strips sewn together. The seams are visible, and the strips are pressed open.

Step 19

- Sew pairs of strips together, opening the seam and finger-creasing the seam open
- Lightly press each set of strips

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A photograph showing the quilt panel from Step 19, now with the center of the strips sewn together. The strips are pressed open, and the center seam is visible.

Step 20

- Sew center of strips together, opening the seam and finger-creasing the seam open

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Step 21

- Press the entire set of strips so that the set is flat and the strips are parallel to each other
- First half of convergence is now complete

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Step 22

- Rotate the strip set counter-clockwise so that the strips now go horizontally


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Step 23

- Carefully trim about 1/4" away from each side of the center seam
- Take care that the cuts are perpendicular to the strips in the left and right units

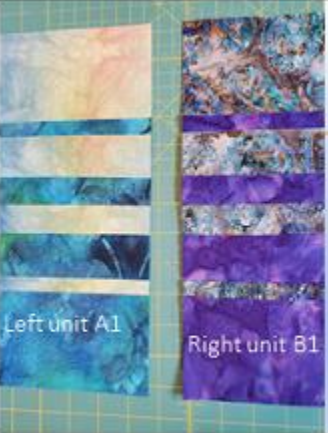
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Step 24

- Carefully remove the center seam strip and discard.

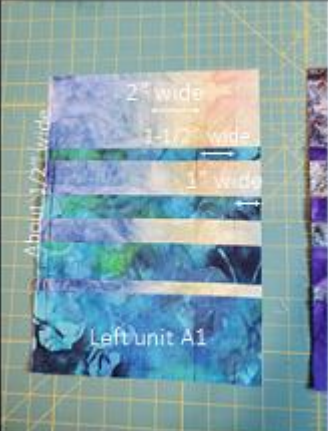
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Step 25

- Keep strips parallel to each other.
- Now refer to the left unit as Unit A1 and the right unit as Unit B1.

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Step 26

- Starting in the center, cut strips on left unit A1 at: 1", 1-1/2", 2"
- Leave fourth strip at however wide it is, after
- Trimming about 1/2" from far-left edge of unit A1.

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Step 27

- Again, starting in the center, cut strips on the right unit B1 at: 1", 1-1/2", 2"
- Leave fourth strip at however wide it is, after
- Trimming about 1/2" from far-right edge of unit B1

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Step 28

- Converge all the strips as in previous Steps 7-21
- Note: strips are just touching one another in this illustration; they will be sewn in the next step

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Step 29

- Sew the strips in sets of two
- Pinning the strips in each pair will help with accuracy at the intersections

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Step 30

- Sew remaining seams
- Press well, taking care not to distort the parallel lines of the strips
- The body of the Convergence Quilt is now complete

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Step 31

- Think about putting a narrow inner border, and a pieced outer border for this quilt
- See Ricky Tims's book on Convergence Quilts for lots of ideas for border treatments in his gallery sections

To SUMMARIZE:

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Left unit A Right unit B

Left unit A Right unit B

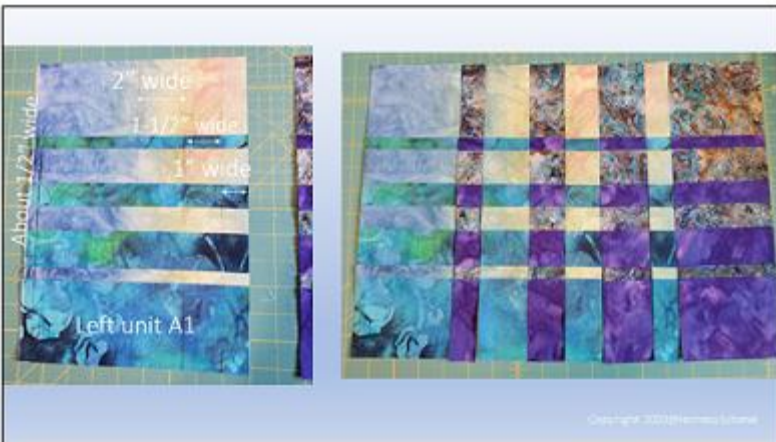
2" wide
1-1/2" wide
1" wide

About 1/2" wide

Left unit A

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How to Make a Convergence Quilt





Now it's time for you to make your OWN
Convergence quilts!

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