

Weave A Rainbow

Learn to cut and sew accurate strip-pieced squares and strips

From ***Piecing the Piece O' Cake Way, Revised Second Edition***

By Becky Goldsmith and Linda Jenkins

This book was designed to be a teaching tool. The information on pp. 1–34 includes things that every quilter should know. Please do refer your students to this information and tell them as much as you can in class.

Class Description:

This happy, scrappy, strip-pieced quilt looks more complex than it really is. Each 14" × 14" block contains 4 large squares, 4 four-patches, and 8 strip-pieced strip units. Put them all together to make a very splashy quilt! Students will learn how to cut accurate strips and sew a precise ¼" seam allowance. This class is suitable for any skill level. Beginners will sew at least one (and probably more) 14" × 14" block. Quilters with more experience could finish most of the blocks.

Class Length:

This can be taught as a 1-day class that focuses on cutting and sewing. If you are targeting true beginners, it would be good to teach it in two sessions, focusing on accurate cutting in the first class.

Teach this as a 2-day class if you want to teach color, and let students design their quilt on a design wall. If you choose this option, students will cut and sew units and play with their placement on the design wall before constructing the blocks and setting the quilt together.

Class Supply List:

- Book: ***Piecing the Piece O' Cake Way, Revised Second Edition***
- Fabric, as listed on p. 51
- Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat. Ruler should be 6½" × 24½"
- Sewing machine in good working order
- Matching thread
- Scissors
- Design wall, if you are also teaching how to color this quilt

It's a good idea to make a fabric-choosing date with your students before the day of the class. Beginners especially like to have help with this step. We recommend that fabric be washed and dried before using and that will give students time to do that.

Classroom Preparation:

Each student needs room to cut. Cutting is an important part of this class, and it's hard

to do on a tiny mat in a cramped space. They also need room to set up their sewing machine. Cutting continues during the class. Once the sewing begins, students will need to iron. Two to three students could share an iron.

Class Agenda:

1. Teach how to cut strips accurately. Refer to pp. 35–37. Also refer to Using Rotary Tools, pp. 18–21.
2. Refer to Making Four-Patch Blocks, pp. 47–48.
3. If the class is moving along well, cut all of the strips described on p. 51. If you have students who are slower, cut 1 of each of the fabrics for 1 block.
4. If you are also working on how to color the quilt, have students put their units on the design wall before setting the block(s) together.
5. Follow the Block Assembly instructions, pp. 51–54. Be sure to follow the pressing instructions to ensure that the seams nest as the blocks and quilt come together.
6. If there is time, set the blocks together.
7. Discuss how finish the quilt.