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Suitable for all skill levels

You need:

One Oakshott Colour Block
"Earth" from the Elements range
of 16 Eighths of fabric
Can also be made from other
selections including Fire, Water,
Spirit and Air, in smaller sizes
A piece of fabric approx
50 by 38 inches
125 by 100cm
for backing and about 1/4 metre for
binding

Cotton (preferably) or compressed
polyester wadding/batting 50 by
38 inches / 125 by 100 cm
Do not use fluffy polyester

Thread for piecing and quilting
Rotary cutter and mat

Finished size approx
48 by 36 inches
120 by 90 cm (see notes below)



Oakshott

Garden In The Rain

Modern quilted wall hanging
using
Oakshott Elements fabrics

Easy machine sewing

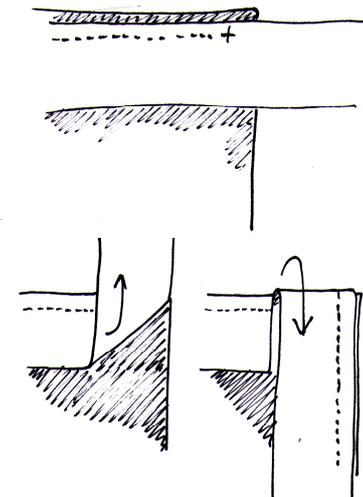
6. Finish Your Quilt

Layer the quilt with batting / wadding and backing
(I always use cotton or bamboo batting / wadding, never fluffy polyester)
and quilt as desired.

I quilted along all the block seams, then through the diagonal lines and filled
spaces until I was happy with the result

Trim the quilt to the edges of the blocks, and bind with 2-1/2 inch (7 cm)
strips of fabric - join the pieces together into one long strip, press the seams
open and then press the strip in half, right-side out. Sew all round from the
front. Mitre the corners as shown. Slip-stitch the binding down on the back
by hand.

Finish with a hanging sleeve and show your work with pride..



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Garden In The Rain

Quilt inspired by Japanese wood block prints which depict rain as a series of diagonal lines...

Use 1/4 inch / 5mm seams throughout

Note - use metric or imperial measurements, do not mix the two

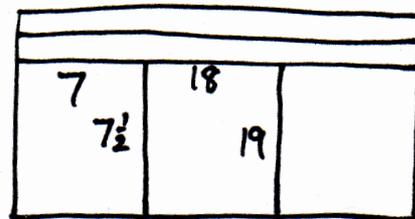
1. Cutting Out

Press your fabrics

From each of your pieces of fabric, cut two 1-inch (2.5 cm) strips along the length, having first straightened the edge Square off the ends..

Cut these up a little to make for more interest (I cut a long and a couple of short pieces from each strip).

Cut the remainder of each piece into three pieces 7 by 7-1/2 inches (18 by 19 cm) as shown



2. Make Long Strips from the 1 inch (2.5 cm) pieces, joining end-to-end and pressing the seams open. You will find there is more than you need, but this gives you some freedom in the making of the blocks.

3. Make Blocks

Note - I find it helps to be not too deliberate when arranging colours - the end result is nicer if the blocks are pretty much random... Some of my blocks have inserted strips that match or part-match the block - this makes texture and is OK. Try not to get the cuts in the corners, or the joins in the inset strips too close to the edges of the blocks..

Handle cut pieces with care as they have a bias edge

There are eight different block types, including some plain blocks - see the diagrams. Make a few of each and then decide which you like best and want more of... And you will find more variations...

Make all cuts with a quilters' ruler and rotary cutter on a mat next to your machine; this saves confusion. Keep all pieces the right way up and right way round or you will get into a tangle....Cuts always run from top left (ish) to bottom right (ish)...

Cut all blocks across the narrower dimension...

Block A - layer 2 or 3 block pieces right-side up on your mat and cut once on the diagonal with a cutter and ruler. Re-arrange colours and sew together with a 1/4 inch (5mm) seam

Block B - Make a set of Block A pieces, then cut again and insert a piece of your long strip. Sew the strip to one side of the gap, press and trim the strip in line with the block edges, then add the second part.

NOTE: In theory, adding a strip of this width does not change the block size, but if your seam allowances are too generous you may find you have to trim all your blocks down at the end. Test a couple and measure; if need be you can adjust the seam accordingly...

Block C - Cut the block piece twice and insert two pieced strips.

Block D - Cut and insert a strip, press, then cut across the first and insert another.

Block E - Make an A block, then cut again across the join and insert a strip

Block F - As Block B, but cut two at once and rearrange the bits before adding the strip

Block G - As A with one inserted strip

Block H - cut plain blocks to match when you have finished the others (see note below)

4. Trim Blocks

You should be able to trim all of these to 6-1/2 inches (16.5 cm) square, but if your sewing is not so accurate, make them all 6-1/4 inches (16 cm) or 6 inches (15 cm) to suit

If you have just one or two which are too small, you can add a strip down one side from your thin pieces...

5. Join Blocks Together

Into a quilt 8 by 6 blocks. Arrange to please your eye then sew the blocks into rows, pressing the seams to alternate sides in each row, and then sew the rows together matching the block seams neatly

The sample is tall and thin but it will work fine the other way round...

See over for finishing...

For quilts from Fire, Water, and Spirit selections, make 36 blocks and set 6 by 6; for Air, make 30 blocks and set 6 by 5...

