

FINISHED SIZE:
19" X 49"

**ESTIMATED TIME
TO COMPLETE: 4
HOURS**

FABRIC:

- **Three Lights, Three Darks:** 3/8 yd
- **Background for center and first border:** 5/8 yd
- **Binding:** 3/8 yd
- **Backing:** 1 1/2 yd

CUT:

- **Lights and Darks:** (2) each 7" square; (1) each 1 1/2" strip
- **Background:** (1) 15 1/2" x 25 1/2" rectangle; (2) 1 1/2" X 17" rectangles; (2) 1 1/2" x 45 1/2" rectangle (piece if necessary)

Down to the Wire Tree Runner

Use quarter inch seam throughout.

Stack squares in the following order:

- Light 1
- Dark 1
- Light 2
- Dark 2
- Light 3
- Dark 3 (Then repeat...)
- Light 1
- Dark 1
- Light 2
- Dark 2
- Light 3
- Dark 3

Center block pattern (see last page) on top of stack. Place ruler along "Cut Line 1" and cut through the entire stack.

Place ruler along "Cut Line 2" and cut through entire stack. Do the same for "Cut Line 3, Cut Line 4 and Cut Line 5."

Take top "Piece A" (tree) and put it on the bottom of the "A" stack.

Take top three "Piece E's" (trunk) and put them on the bottom of the "E" stack. (Now that the fabrics are mixed up, keep them in order.)



This is a very easy runner, with a lot of space for quilting and a nice centerpiece. It's easy enough to get done by Christmas. We made it in colors that will last a bit past Christmas, but it works just as well with a variety of reds.

Working down the stack in order, stitch each piece "A" to the corresponding piece "B." Don't worry that the edges don't match up—we'll square up the block later. Press toward "B."

Stitch piece "AB" to piece "C." (It worked best for me to stitch with piece "C" on top.) Press to "C."

Stitch piece "D" to piece "E." Stitch piece "DE" to piece "F." Try to line up the "Cut Line 2" edges, it will make the next step easier. Press seams toward "D" and "E."

This project lends itself to chain piecing, I did all the AB sections and DEF sections without leaving the machine. When assembling the tree rows, I chained then in order and pressed without cutting apart. The rows sent together very quickly.

Stitch “ABC” to “DEF.” It seems easiest to line up the straight edge of “DEF” with the bottom of the “A” (the tree section of “ABC.”)

Square blocks to 5 1/2” x 5 1/2.” (I started with the bottom side to make sure I didn’t lose the angled tree bottom, but it really doesn’t matter.)

Assemble the tree rows as described and illustrated below, the blocks are referred to by their background fabric:

Row 1: Light 1, Dark 1, Light 2

Row 2: Dark 2, Light 3, Dark 3

Row 3: Light 1, Dark 1, Light 2

Row 4: Dark 2, Light 3, Dark 3

Press seams of Rows 1 and 3 to the right, and seams of Rows 2 and 4 to the left.



Rows 1 and 3



Rows 2 and 4

Stitch Row 1 to Row 2 and Row 3 to Row 4 to make two pieced sections that look like the illustration below. I put Rows 1 and 3 on the bottom because I used Light 1 as my background fabric and I didn’t want the Light 1 square to touch the background fabric in the center of the runner, but, again, it doesn’t matter.

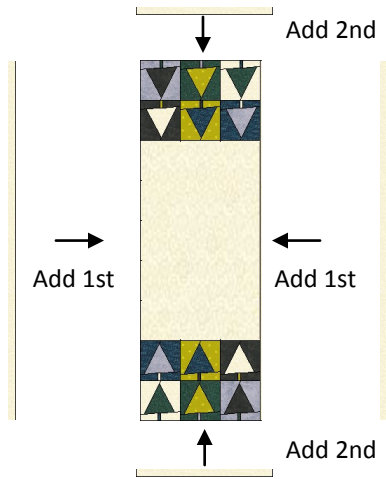
Attach the tree sections to the 15 1/2” x 25 1/2” rectangle of background fabric as



shown.



Attach side borders using 1 1/2" x 45 1/2" background fabric rectangles, press toward border; then add top and bottom borders using 1 1/2" x 17 1/2" background fabric rectangles, press toward border. (See illustration.)



Stitch long sides of remaining Light and Dark strips together in the following order: Light 1, Dark 1, Light 2, Dark 2, Light 3, Dark 3. Press seams in one direction. Cut into (23) 1 1/2" strips as indicated below.

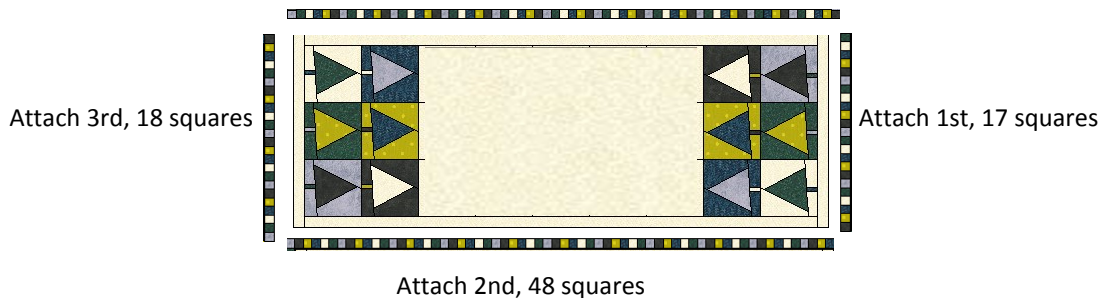


Sew sections together to make one long strip of squares for final border.



I kept the strip together as I put on the pieced border, taking out the stitching between squares when I reached the end of a side. If you prefer to “unstitch” before you start attaching the border, the square count for each side can be found below.

Attach 4th, 49 squares



Layer, quilt and bind as desired.



Third Day of Christmas Runner

Use this page as a reference for cutting and sewing the tree blocks. Print a copy to use as cutting pattern

