

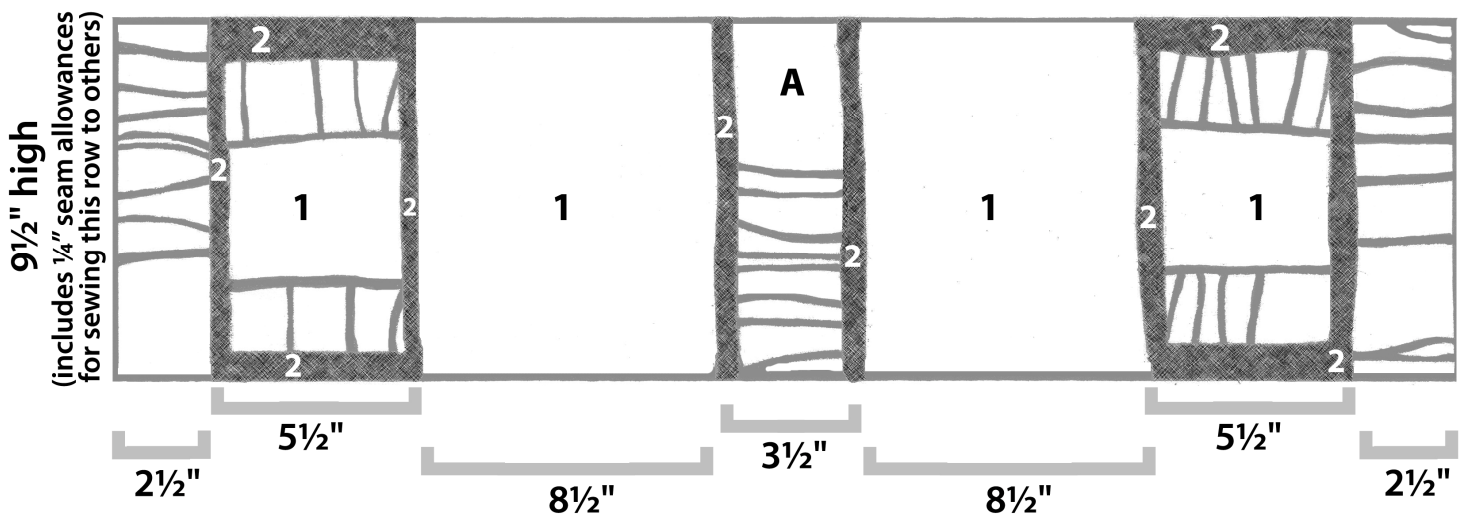


Artistic Artifacts Owner Judy Gula: We are pleased to be participating in the 2014 Row by Row Experience—learn more at www.artisticartifacts.com/about_us/rowbyrowexperience.htm (which includes links to purchase fabric kits, the Thermofax screens we used, and more). I hope you enjoy my pattern, but I can't emphasize this enough: make this row your own! The design, and techniques used, lends itself to a wide range of fabric and color choices.

Springtime Flora & Fauna Row© — Materials Needed:

1. one (1) 10" wide by 45" (or width of fabric) long strip of bleached muslin
2. one (1) 9" x 22" strip butterfly print Combanasi fabric
3. two (2) 3" x 22" Combanasi fabrics (one each parang and discharge prints)
4. two(2) 2" x 22" commercial batik fabrics
5. one (1) 2" x 44" contrasting batik, framing
6. *From your stash:* 8-10 complementary fabric strips, 1" to 2" wide: batiks, solids, patterns

The first 5 items are included in the Artistic Artifacts fabric kit, which is now available for purchase. You may substitute the equivalent measurement of 100% cotton fabric in your choice of colors and patterns. Note that there will extra material left over from all fabrics listed.



The above diagram measurements represent the finished/sewn row: 9 1/2" x 36 1/2"

Diagram Key:

- 1 = Block Printed and Thermofax Screened feature fabric: red and orange butterfly print in photograph
- 2 = Turquoise batik framing strips
- A = Combanasi Print, "fussy cut" for your design (note that the Combanasi print is also used elsewhere in the striped piecing)

Create Your Feature Fabric

- Begin with your 10" wide by 45" long strip of bleached white muslin. Randomly place the Thermofax screens over the fabric and pull prints using a contrasting color of PROFab Opaque Textile Paint. I used dark colors (but not black) that would stand out against the white.
- Once dry, I overprinted the fabric using a butterfly wooden printing block. (The key to great woodblock prints is the use of a dense foam printer's mat underneath your fabric: it allows the perfect amount of "give.")

- Place your painted fabric aside to dry completely. Once thoroughly dry, you can heat-set your surface design for permanence by ironing the back of the fabric with a dry iron.
- Cut two (2) 9½" squares and two (2) 4½" x 6" rectangles from your painted fabric and set aside. Consider cutting additional strips from this fabric to incorporate into your quilt; see the instructions for piecing your free-form strip sets below.

Create Your Free-Form Striped Row Base Fabric

Begin by gathering the fabrics you want to use in your quilt. This free-form technique doesn't require a lot of fabric, and it's a great way to use up strips and patches left over from other quilt projects. Read *Create Your Own Free-Form Quilts* by Rayna Gillman, available at our shop, to really explore free-form quilting as it thoroughly explains how to cut and sew curved and "wonky" strips. A quick visual tutorial can also be seen online at www.sewhappy.me/tutorials/wonky-wavy-seams/.

You will sew a random number of strips together to create one large piece of "fabric" that you then cut from. If your stash strips are all the same width, cut or tear them for some variety. Keep most of the strips narrow, between 1" and 2" wide, and vary the thickness of your strips, and the placement of the colors, as you piece them together. Including a couple thicker strips from the Combanasi fabric gives a lovely effect. I recommend you aim for gentle curves as you cut and piece these wonky strips, both because of the finished size of our springtime row as well as for ease of sewing. (I confess that I cut some a bit too deep and had some problems, but Rayna would say to persevere and not worry too much about it. Great advice!)

I ended with an approximately 22" square of free-form strips pieced together. From that, I then cut my striped patches for the quilt, which left me with fun leftovers to use for a matching pillow, another free-form art quilt project, etc. I chose to "fussy cut" my Combanasi fabric to feature the butterfly screen. If you would like to do the same, I recommend cutting your feature fabric first, and then cutting from your stripped set to complete that row (see below).

Cut & Piece Your Free-Form Striped Rows

- Take one of the 4½" x 6" rectangles that you previously cut from the painted fabric
- From your pieced strip set—and with the stripes running vertically—cut two (2) rectangles, 2½" x 6"
- With a ¼" seam allowance, sew a strip set rectangle to the painted fabric rectangle, along the 6" side
- Repeat on the opposite side: your painted feature fabric will then have stripes above and below it
- Frame this unit with ¾" strips cut from your turquoise batik, resulting in a block that is 6" wide and 9½" tall
- Repeat this sequence with your second 4½" x 6" rectangle cut from the painted fabric

You will end up with two (2) 6" wide x 9½" high pieced rectangles. Set aside.

Center row:

- "Fussy Cut" a square/rectangle from your Combanasi fabric that is 3½" wide and the length necessary/desired to frame up your design
- With the stripes running horizontally, cut a 3½" wide strip from your pieced strip set that is long enough, when sewn to your fussy cut patch, to create a 9½" tall strip. If you choose not to fussy cut, simply cut a 3½" wide x 9½" tall strip.
- Sew ¾" strips cut from your turquoise batik to each side of this center unit; set aside.

End rows:

- With the stripes running horizontally, cut two (2) 3" wide x 9½" tall strips from your pieced strip set.

Design Your Quilt Row

Lay out your pieces on your design wall (or floor) in the following order, left to right, as per the diagram:

1. one (1) 3" wide x 9½" tall pieced strip unit
2. one (1) 6" wide and 9½" pieced rectangle (framed in turquoise/contrasting accent color)
3. one (1) 9½" square screened and block printed fabric
4. your "fussy cut" and pieced 3½" wide x 9½" tall strip
5. remaining 9½" square screened and block printed fabric
6. remaining 6" wide and 9½" pieced rectangle (framed in turquoise/contrasting accent color)
7. remaining 3" wide x 9½" tall pieced strip unit

Review your design. Try turning like units upside down, or swapping their position, to achieve the most pleasing composition.

- Once finalized, sew all together using a ¼" seam allowance. If desired, embellish your large squares of screened and block printed fabric with Tentakalum metallic Ric Rac
- If you are not sewing this row into a quilt, add a ¼" turquoise/contrasting accent color binding
- Free-motion quilt your finished row as desired: I outlined select block printed butterflies, outline quilted select pieced strips, "doodled" circles on others, etc.