

Erik's Tips:

For this step you will need **8** of any of the previously made 6 1/2-inch blocks from the project. Measure and trim the blocks you are using, squaring them up as necessary. You can use any combination of the remaining blocks...in fact, you don't even have to use the same in both rows; feel free to do as you like!

For the border fabric, we chose a large all-over floral that hides the piecing. Be careful when you piece the strips together, that whatever fabric you have chosen, the print is going in the same direction! The border will need to be pieced as the inner border of **Step 8**. We used the same fabric for both the pieced unit and the strip that is sewn to the units. By choosing a large print like this, we were able to give the illusion of one piece of fabric. That said, you may wish to use two different fabrics for these steps...see what you like best by trying different fabrics. Adjust your yardage as necessary.

When you sew the strip with the 6 1/2-inch blocks to the two-strip pieces, you will notice that one strip is longer than the other...not to worry! You will be trimming them even in the following step. Be sure and trim from the end opposite from the 6 1/2-inch blocks! Each pieced border unit should be 12 1/2-inches wide.

As before, take the time to measure your quilt through the center! This will keep your quilt and its borders straight and flat. As before, we did not include actual measurements at this point because everyone's quilt may be slightly different.

And as before, we recommend cutting the pieced border units a little longer than necessary, marking the actual measurement, then pinning the border strip in place before sewing or cutting it. By doing this, if you are off by 1/4 or 1/2 inch, you will have not wasted border strip fabric since you can adjust from that point.