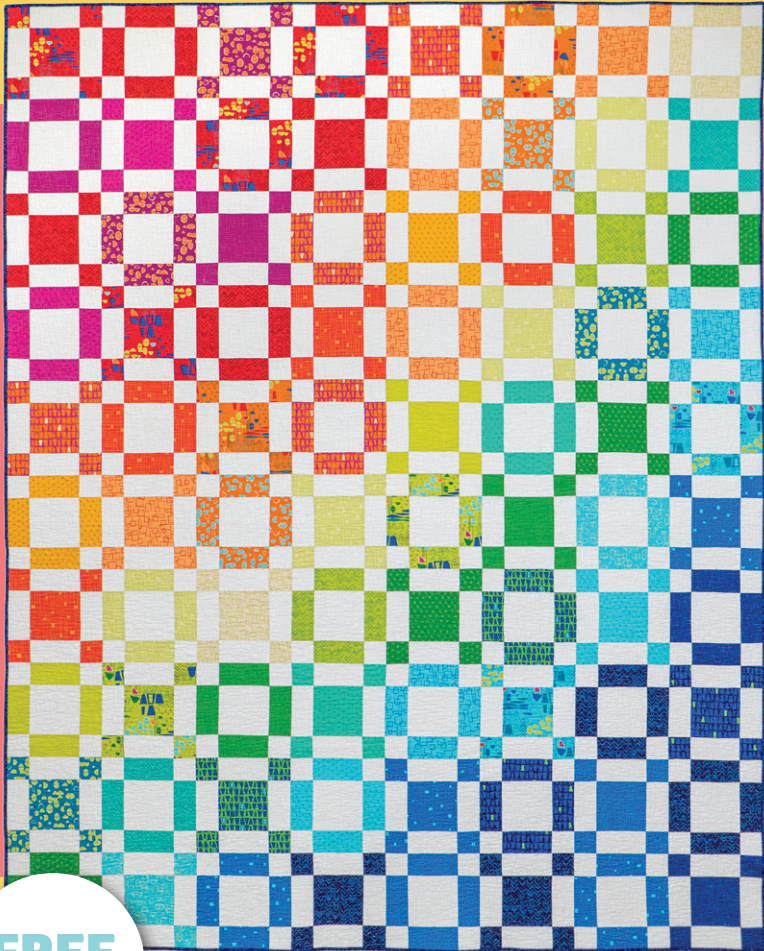


Rainbow TAFFY



FREE
pattern

FINISHED SIZE: 68" X 85"

a design by



ChristaQuilts

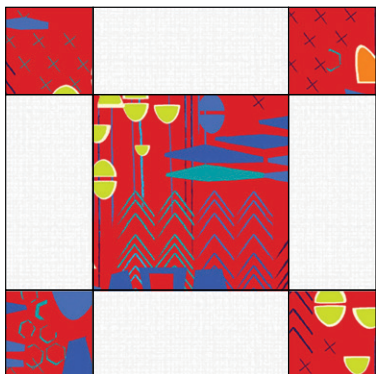
Rainbow TAFKY

ENJOY THIS FREE PATTERN!

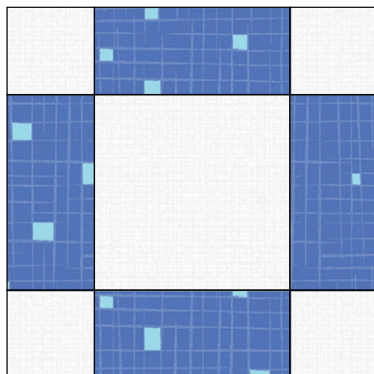
Shop owners are welcome to use this pattern for kits, instructors are welcome to teach classes from it, and quilt makers are welcome to make a quilt for any purpose they wish. All I ask in return is design credit and attribution to Christa Quilts. I recommend reading the entire pattern through before beginning. I prefer to sew with a shorter stitch length and press seams open to reduce bulk and allow the quilt top to lie flat for domestic machine quilting. $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams are used throughout.

DESIGN NOTES

Rainbow Taffy is made from two simple blocks. Each block requires two 5" squares of the same print fabric, but you can achieve a scrappy look by mixing them up. The blocks are laid out in roughly rainbow order, but feel free to play around with the design and color placement to achieve a different look.



8 ½" Finished X Block



8 ½" Finished O Block

SORTING AND CUTTING THE SQUARES

Note: refer to the Quilt Top Assembly on page 5 for color placement. Due to duplicates contained in 5" charm packs, some fabrics may be used in more than one block.

Step 1

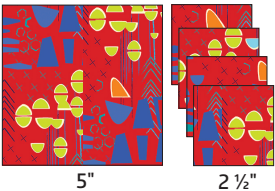
Sort matching pairs of 5" print squares into two separate stacks for X and O blocks as follows:

| Sort matching 5" pairs by color: X blocks | | O blocks |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Red/Pink (R) | 7 pairs (14 squares) | 7 pairs (14 squares) |
| Orange/Peach (O) | 9 pairs (18 squares) | 9 pairs (18 squares) |
| Light green (L) | 6 pairs (12 squares) | 6 pairs (12 squares) |
| Teal/Medium Green (G) | 7 pairs (14 squares) | 7 pairs (14 squares) |
| Light Blue/Aqua (A) | 4 pairs (8 squares) | 4 pairs (8 squares) |
| Dark Blue (B) | 7 pairs (14 squares) | 7 pairs (14 squares) |

You should have a total of 160 squares sorted into matching pairs, in two different piles. (*Note: if you are creating a scrappy quilt, just sort a total of 40 matching pairs for X blocks and 40 matching pairs for O blocks in any colors.*)

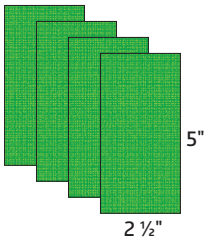
Step 2

From one matching pair of 5" print squares in stack X, set aside one 5" square for the block center. From the remaining 5" print square, subcut four 2 ½" x 2 ½" squares. Repeat for all 40 pairs of squares in stack X, for a total of (40) 5" squares and (160) 2 ½" squares.



Step 3

From each 5" print square in stack O, subcut into two matching rectangles, 2 ½" x 5", for a total of 4 per matching fabric pair. Repeat for all 40 pairs of squares in stack O to get 160 rectangles.



Step 4

From (160) 5" white squares,

- Cut 80 of the 5" white squares in half to yield 160 rectangles, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 5"$.
- Cut 40 of the 5" white squares into 4 equal pieces to yield 160 squares, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.

Leave the remaining 40 white squares intact.

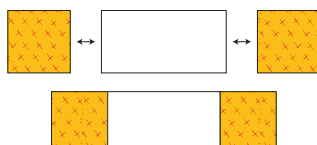
MAKING THE X BLOCKS

Step 1

Sew two $2\frac{1}{2}"$ matching print squares to either side of a $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 5"$ white rectangle.

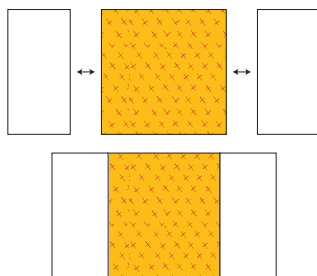
Press seams open or to the darker fabric.

Repeat with another set of matching fabrics to create the top and bottom rows of the X block.



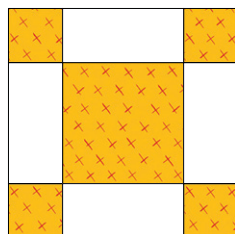
Step 2

Sew two $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 5"$ white rectangles to either side of a 5" print square that matches the fabric from step 1. Press seams open or to the darker fabric.



Step 3

Join units from Step 1 to top and bottom of unit from Step 2 to complete the block. Repeat with all print from stack X to create a total of 40 X blocks in rainbow colors.

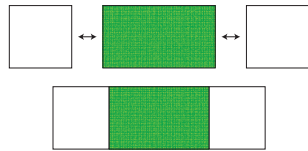


Make 40

MAKING THE O BLOCKS

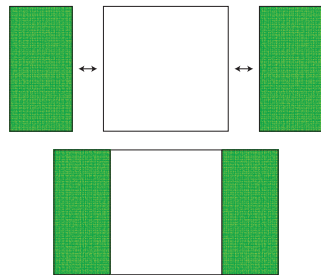
Step 1

Sew two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares to either side of a $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 5" print rectangle. Press seams open or to the darker fabric. Repeat with another set of matching fabrics to create the top and bottom rows of the O block.



Step 2

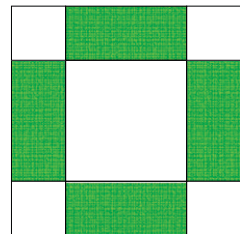
Sew two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5" matching print rectangles from step 1 to either side of a 5" white square. Press seams open or to the darker fabric.



Step 3

Join units from Step 1 to top and bottom of unit from Step 2 to complete the block.

Repeat with all prints from stack O to create a total of 40 O blocks in rainbow colors.



Make 40

QUILT TOP ASSEMBLY

Hint: take a picture with your camera phone to refer to as you assemble the rows.

Step 1

Lay out 10 rows of 8 blocks in a roughly diagonal rainbow order according to the quilt top assembly diagram on page 5. Notice that the top row starts with an X block and ends with an O block. The next row starts with an O block and ends with an X block. The pattern repeats for all 10 rows.

QUILT TOP ASSEMBLY



Step 2

Sew blocks into rows, joining two blocks together at a time. Each row will have 4 pairs of blocks joined together. Join two pairs into 4 blocks. Then join two sets of four blocks into a set of 8 blocks per row. Press seams open to reduce bulk.

Step 3

Sew the rows together, two at a time to complete the quilt top. Press seams open to reduce bulk.

Step 4

Take a victory lap! Sew around the perimeter of the quilt 1/8" in from the edge of the quilt to secure the seams from splitting open while basting and quilting.

FINISHING THE QUILT

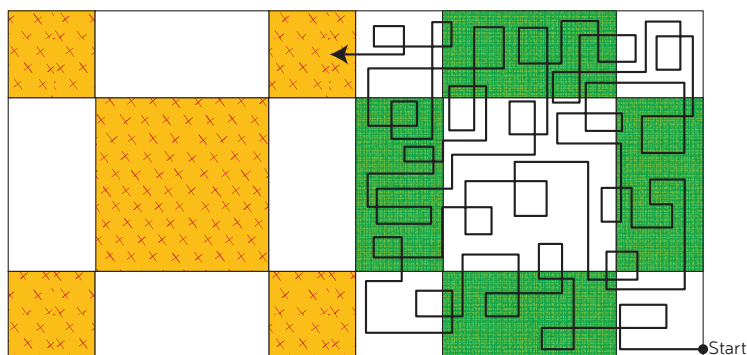
Layer and baste the quilt using your favorite method. Quilt and bind as desired. For my particular methods and additional quilting ideas, take a look at my machine quilting books.





MACHINE QUILTING SUGGESTION

I quilted Rainbow Taffy with an Aurifil 50 cotton thread in a shade of light lime green. I used the “boxes” design shown below in an allover meander across the surface of the quilt, working across the quilt top in an orderly fashion.



Visit ChristaQuilts.com for basting and binding tutorials plus machine quilting tips.
 Questions? Please contact me any time at Christa@ChristaQuilts.com
 I'd love to see your finished quilts!

Cover quilt designed, pieced and quilted by Christa Watson. © Christa Quilts 2017. All rights reserved.
 Graphic design by Lindsie Bergevin, DesignByLindsie.com

Rainbow TAFFY

Make this quilt in rainbow order as shown, or mix up the colors and make it scrappy! The versatile design can be quickly made from 4 packs of 5" x 5" squares or one pack of 10" x 10" squares cut into smaller squares + the same amount of background.



Rainbow Taffy Detail

MATERIALS LIST

Finished Quilt 68" x 85"

Blocks 4 – 5" x 5" Packs
of Modern Marks
(160 squares needed)
(SKU MARK5PK)

Background 4 – 5" x 5" Packs
of White
(160 squares needed)
(SKU WHITE5PK)

Suggested Binding 5/8 yard
Herringbone Navy
(SKU 4662-58)

Suggested Backing 5 yards Boxes
Cream/Lime
(SKU 4663-07)

Yardage is based on 42" width.

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PDF DIGITAL
PATTERN



Christa Quilts

Print fabric used in this quilt
is Modern Marks by Christa
Watson for Benartex
Contempo. Background
fabric is Basics in solid white.