A Scrappy Trip Around the World

These directions are for one block, and all the blocks in a quilt are made following the same directions.

For a traditional Trip you needed eight different fabrics. For a Scrappy Trip instead of using just eight fabrics you will need eight COLORS and at least eight different prints of each color. Because I do not know how far you want your Trip to go, I can not give you fabric requirements. For best results make sure your colors are the same value, use dark greens that look the same darkness, a variety of blues that are all medium, etc.

For my sample I have picked these colors:

8 different purples,
8 different light purples,
8 different oranges,
8 different yellows,
8 different bright greens,
8 different light greens,
8 different bright blues and
8 different light blues.

And you can use one or two extra of any one of the colors, as long as they are the same value.

We will be using 2 inch strips and they will all be 16 inches long.

It is again very important is that you sew each set together exactly the same way. Every single block you make MUST have the strips in the same order.

Sew your 2 by 16 inch strips together into strip sets like this. Remember that every strip set you make must have the strips in the same color order. Make each strip set in the same manner, but use different fabrics of the same color in them. That gives you the scrappy look.
Press all the blocks exactly alike. Press the seam allowances in alternating directions, every other row pressed in the opposite direction. This will make putting your quilt together so much easier. I also very lightly pressed, just incase a block needed to be turned to fit the pattern so it could easily be repressed. (And that DID happen!)

When I was done lightly pressing them, I sewed the open sides together, creating a tube.

Then I carefully cut the tube into eight 2 inch sections.

The next step was to lay out the strips again. I opened one seam with my trusty seam ripper, and then laid the strip down, opened the next seam on the next set, and laid it down and so on… Then I sewed them all together, and the first block is finished.
Once that first block is made, put it in a prominent place so you can see it easily. I pinned mine to the wall above my sewing machine... and then every block I made after that was made in the exact same order. (It also helped me to have a sticky note on my sewing machine reminding me to keep dark purple in the middle of each block.)

When the blocks are all done, lay them out on your design wall or bed and arrange them in the order you want. You will probably have to turn them left and right and uphill and down to get the layout right.

You could just sew them together like that, or you could add a center row which would give you a more traditional Trip design. It’s really easy, just use your extra scraps and add as shown here. I would add a center strip (red arrows) between the top and bottom halves, and then join them with another row in the center.

These directions are for one block, and all the blocks in a quilt are made the same. Keep the colors in the same position, but use a variety of fabrics of each color to give your quilt the scrappy look. Blocks should be 12 1/2 inches when you make them, and finish at 12 inches in your quilt. Four blocks will give you a finished quilt about 24 inches square, a nice wall hanging size...

Sixteen blocks will give you a finished quilt about 48 inches square, a nice lap size.

Add another row on the top and bottom making your quilt a rectangle, and almost twin size, 48 by 72 before borders.

Six rows of six blocks gives you a 72 inch square which fits nicely on the top of a double bed, and if you add borders it could fit a queen also.