

# Delaware Quilts



## Trip Around the World

When I look at my quilting history there is one quilt I see that I've made many times. I didn't even realize this until I started putting together the history pages, but one of my first quilt projects was a Trip Around the World, and right now in December 2012 I have another one under construction.

With that in mind I decided the first project for 2013 will be Trip Around the World. I will share my traditional Trip pattern AND a Scrappy Trips pattern too!

### First a traditional Trip Around the World.

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

For a traditional Trip you need eight different fabrics. Because I do not know how far you want your Trip to go, I can not give you fabric requirements. I know I started out to make just a lap quilt, but when I saw how easy it was I ended up with a full size quilt.

I started with 2 inch strips which were at least 16 inches long. (You could make them smaller or larger but I will be giving you directions using two inch strips.)

To give your quilt that special Trip Around the World look you might want to arrange your fabrics in color groups. Put a light green next to a darker green, and a pale blue next to a darker blue. I'll be using three blues, three greens and two orangey yellows.



**It is 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.

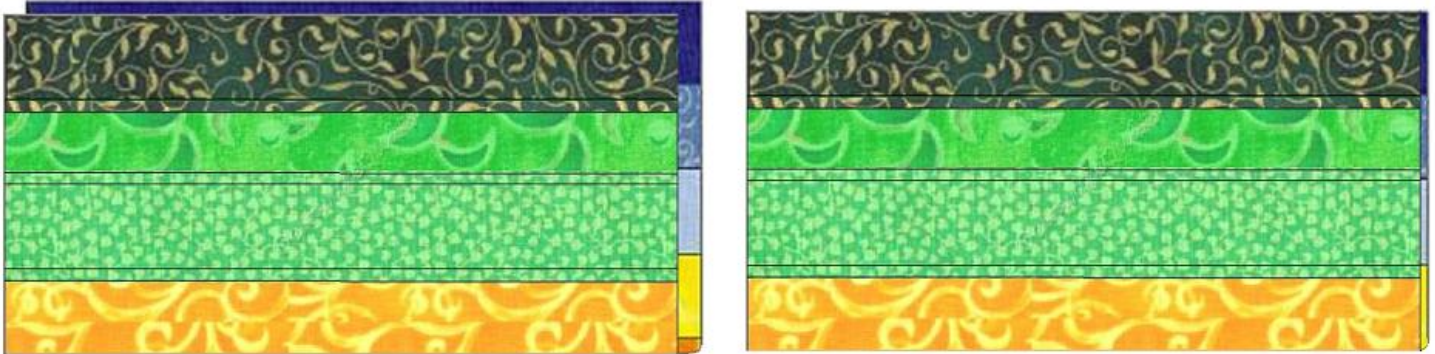
Sew your 2 by 16 inch strips together into strip sets like this. Remember that every strip set you make must have the strips in the same order.



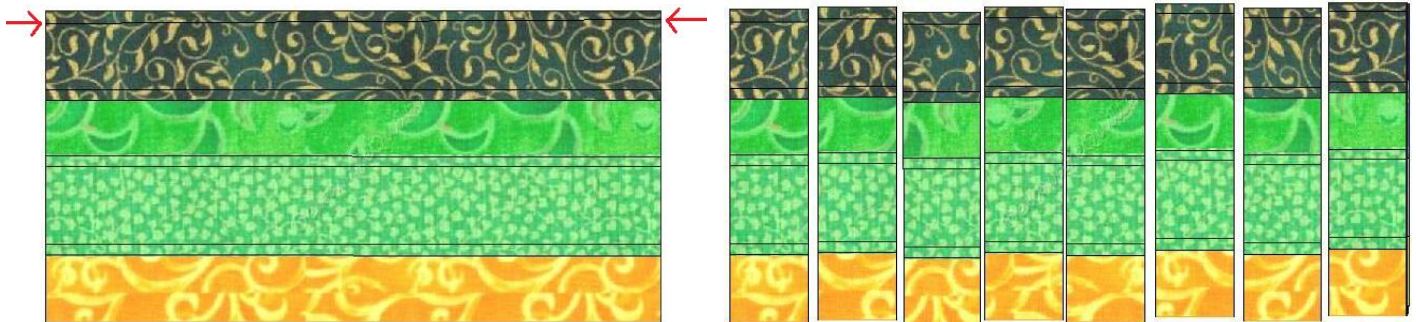
Press all the blocks exactly alike. Press the seam allowances in alternating directions, every other row pressed in the opposite direction. This will make putting your quilt together so much easier. I also very lightly pressed, just in case a block needed to be turned to fit the pattern so it could easily be repressed. (And that DID happen!)



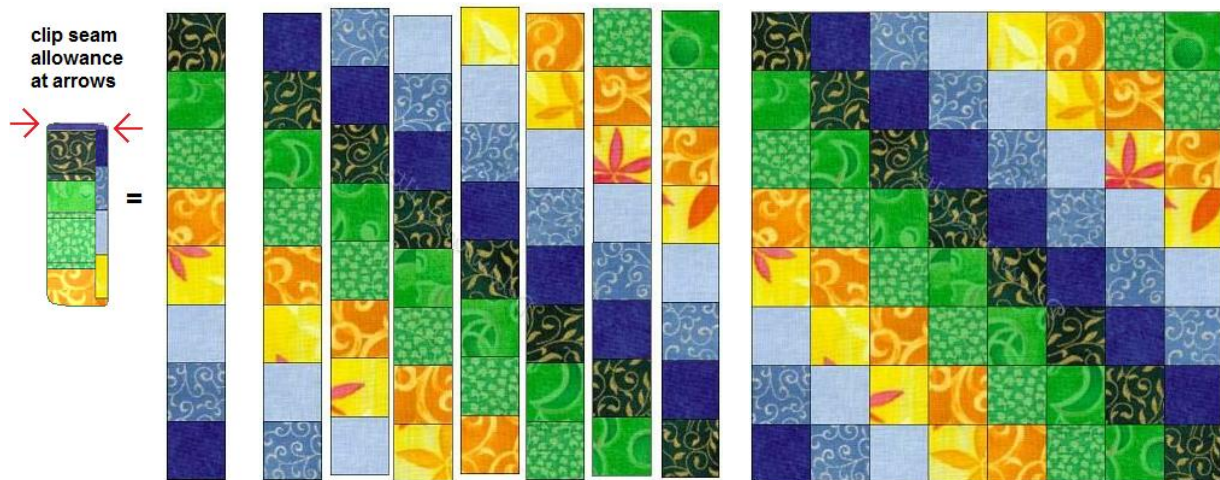
When I was done lightly pressing them, I folded them right sides together



and sewed the open seams together, (red arrows) creating a tube. Then I carefully cut the tube into eight 2 inch sections.

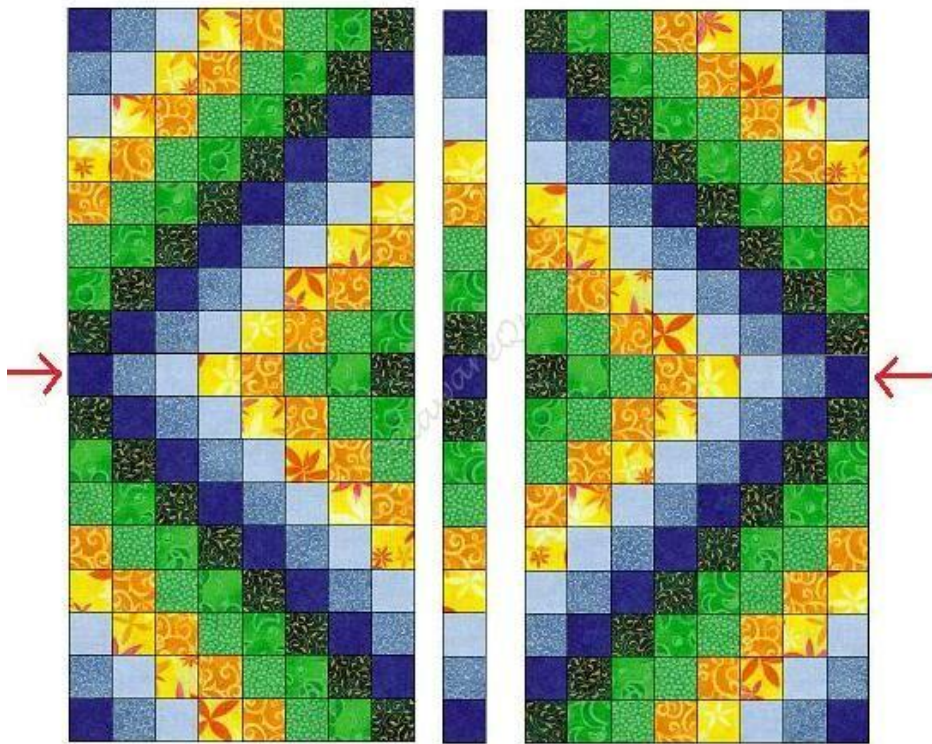
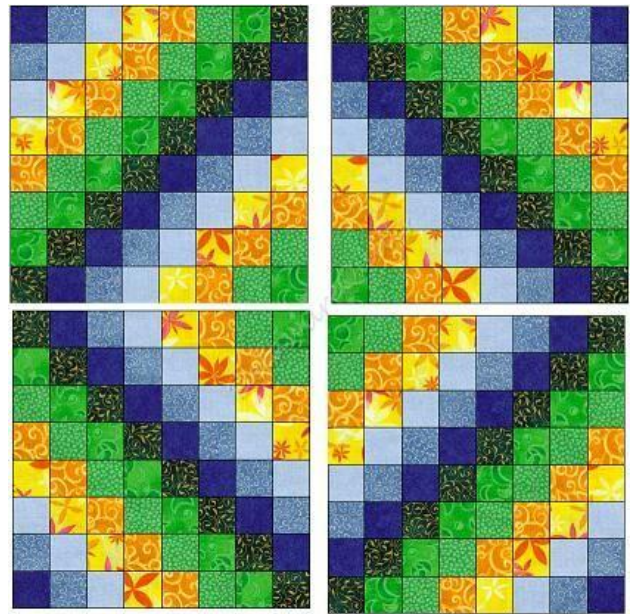


The next step was to lay out the strips again. I opened one seam with my trusty seam ripper, (arrows) and then on the next strip the next seam and so on... Then I sewed them all together, and the first block is finished.



Once you have your first block 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 green 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 another row as shown by the red arrows, and then join them with another row in the center.

*HINT: If you are making a larger quilt, making extra blocks will give you the extra strips you need for these added center strips.*

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