



"FEEL THE FABRIC...EMBRACE THE CULTURE"

AFRIKALEIDOSCOPE QUILT

designed by Lisa Shepard Stewart

Regardless of your skill level, let gorgeous batiks from Ghana do all of the work in this simple-to-sew quilt design featuring half-square triangles and Cultured Expressions' pre-cut jacquard batik squares. The exciting mix of colors and patterns is beautifully framed with CE's signature Border Print, a bold black and beige design imported from Mali.



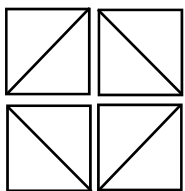
YOU'LL NEED:

- (1) Jacquard Batik Sampler Pack (60 7-inch squares)
- Remnant fabric squares to complete the layout (shown here as black adinkra cloth, 4 squares)
- (1) yard border fabric (border will be pieced)
- (3) yards backing fabric
- Low-loft quilt batting, 60" square

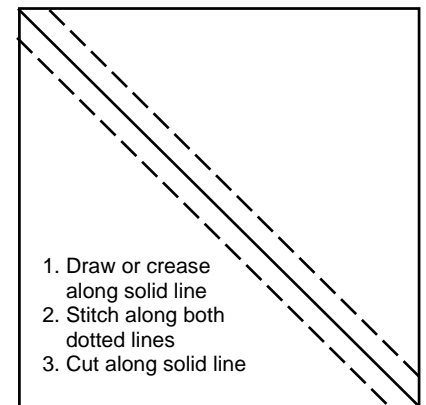
To make the half-square triangles:

1. Pair up the 7" batik squares as desired. For the kaleidoscopic effect, pair similar colors, such as a darker green with a lighter one, or an orange with a gold, as shown
2. For each pair, stack one square over the other, having raw edges even. Draw a diagonal line from upper left corner to lower right corner (you can also simply finger-crease the diagonal, or eyeball it if you feel confident).
3. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the line on each side, taking care not to stretch the fabrics as you sew on the bias (diagonal) grain. Cut along the drawn or creased line to create the two blocks, each made up of the pair of fabrics. Press seams toward the darker fabric. You'll now have two identical quilt blocks made up of the same two fabrics.

To sew the quilt blocks together:



4. Arrange the blocks into sets of four as shown, varying the colors and the directions of the blocks for variety. Note that for four of the sets, you will be missing one $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square; use the additional fabric squares here. Keep colors similar within the blocks, using the photo as a guide if needed.



5. Now arrange these larger blocks until you are pleased with the layout. Stitch blocks together; press. Cut strips of border fabric; sew these to each side of the quilt top. Press seams toward borders.

6. Piece quilt backing to measure 60" square. Place it wrong side up on the table or floor. Center the quilt batting over the backing, followed by the quilt top, right side up. Smooth layers & pin together; quilt as desired.
7. Trim quilt top & batting to the same size. Trim backing, leaving it 1" larger than the quilt all around. Turn in $\frac{1}{2}$ " on all edges of the backing; turn under another $\frac{1}{2}$ " so that the second folded edge overlaps the raw edges of the quilt top border & batting. Using a zigzag stitch, sew the backing to the quilt so that one side of the stitch falls onto the backing, and the other side falls onto the border fabric. Add hanging sleeve & label.

Lisa Shepard Stewart is an author, designer and instructor based in New Jersey. In her how-to project books, Lisa encourages others to express themselves creatively through culturally relevant techniques and materials. She promotes her work through workshops, trunk shows and special events both in the US and internationally. Visit www.CulturedExpressions.com; call 1-866-MUDCLOTH; or write PO Box 356, Rahway, NJ 07065