## Advanced preparation - particularly important for 1-day workshops

Jan's Notes: Most quilt tops take longer than one day to construct. As a traveling instructor, my goal is to spend time working with each of you in class to master cutting and arranging your design.
If you prepare some of the preliminary work in advance at your own pace, you'll get much farther in the 6-hour class. At the very minimum, please do the following:

1. Gather all the supplies on the list
2. Create your color chart
3. Print the paper labels for the strips.
4. As you cut, label each strip with the corresponding numbered tag, as the strips are similar in width, and it's much easier to work with the strip sets when the colors and widths are labeled in advance.
Optional and recommended advanced construction (if you have the time, please do this!)
5. **Set up your sewing machine to stitch a SCANT QUARTER-INCH seam allowance** (particularly important if previous blocks/projects routinely come out too small, your seam is likely about 1 thread too wide.) If your seam is too wide when sewing the Stone Mosaic Strip sets, there will not be adequate fabric for cutting the pieces in class.
a. Refer to page $\mathbf{1 7}$ in Quick Diamond Quilts \& Beyond for seam allowance technique tips. Set your machine seam stitch length 1.5 to 2.0 (or 12 to the inch).
b. Use a sharp needle (rather than a Universal or Stretch) - this can be Sharp, Metallic, Quilting, Jeans, Topstitch, etc.
c. Work with your needle settings until you can verify you are sewing a scant quarter inch seam.

| G-J-E-J / two sets | G-I-C-I / one set | D-H-2"F / 1 set |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B-A - $\mathrm{C}^{1}$ set | H-D-H / one set | C-I-G/1 set |
| B-A - B-4"F / 1 set | E-J-B-A / one set | 22" B-J-E / 1 set |
| 11" x 3"A - 2"B / 1 set | 22" I - H-D / one set | $\mathrm{F}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{F} / 1$ set |
| I-C / one set | 11" G - G / one set | 11" E-J-4"F / 1 set |
| 21-22" 4"G-4"F/ one set |  |  |

6. Sew the shorter strip combinations - mixing up the I, J \& K fabrics when applicable:
a. Press the seams OPEN.
b. Check off the strip set combination as you complete them - keep the paper labels on each strip.

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c. Sew as many of the strip sets as you can.
7. IF POSSIBLE BEFORE CLASS:
a. Combine the strip sets from STEP 5 into larger strip combinations before class.
b. Keep the labels on the fabric strips for identification (you may need to move the labels from one end to the other).
c. Create the following larger sections.



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## The Non Strip-Set Alternative:

This is a faster and equally satisfying method! Work with an interesting stripe - this would be any printed stripe that has a wide variety of stripe widths, colors and patterns (you may have something in your stash).

We will be cutting rectangular shapes from the strip sets (on the previous page) or you can also cut from a printed stripe (sometimes designed as border stripes).

For a small quilt, bring about 2 yards. If you want a larger quilt, bring 4-5 yards. Either size can be enlarged by adding borders. Examples of interesting stripes:


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