SECRET GARDEN QUILT FEATURING ARCADIA BY SARAH WATSON

Note: The Secret Garden quilt is made with string pieced half square triangle (HST) blocks that are cut from a “tube” with a 45-degree ruler or the corner of a 9½” square ruler. It is made up of 64- 8½” blocks (finished at 8”).

STRING PIECED BLOCKS
¼ yard each 14 prints: Sun Spot and Bee {Aqua & Coral}, Flutterflies {Aqua & Coral}, Mushroom March {Aqua & Coral}, Wheel Daisy {Aqua & Coral}, Dewy Garden, Tumbling {Aqua, Midnight, Coral, Sunshine}, Herb Garden
¼ yard each Solid Fabric: Green, White, Gray, Yellow

BACKGROUND:
1 yard each: Tumbling {Aqua} and Solid Fabric {Teal}

4 yards for Backing
½ yard for Binding

STRING PIECED BLOCKS
From each, cut various sized strips from 1¼” to 3”: Sun Spot and Bee {Aqua & Coral}, Flutterflies {Aqua & Coral}, Mushroom March {Aqua & Coral}, Wheel Daisy {Aqua & Coral}, Dewy Garden, Tumbling {Aqua, Midnight, Coral, Sunshine}, Herb Garden, Solid Fabrics {Green, White, Gray, Yellow}

BACKGROUND:
5- 6½”x WOF strips
From each: Tumbling {Aqua} and Solid Fabric {Teal}

¼” seam allowance unless otherwise noted.

1. Sew strips of Arcadia and Solids together until they equal 6½”. If too narrow, add another strip. If too wide, trim to 6½”. Play with the combinations. Press seams open. [fig 1]

2. With right sides together, sew strip-pieced unit to 6½” of background along BOTH edges to create a tube which will be approximately 42” x 6.5”. [fig 2]

3. To cut the tubes into the blocks, use a ruler with a 45-degree angle line that is at least 9” long (or use a 9½” square ruler). Place the 45-degree angle line on the stitch line and a ½” from the open edge. [fig 3] Important: The odd ends from the tube will be used to make the final four blocks. Make the first 45-degree cut with your rotary cutter towards the left. When cutting the next tube unit, make the first cut towards the right. Both directional cuts will be needed to make the last 4 quilt blocks. [fig 4]

4. Move the ruler up to the top stitch line (with the 45-degree line centered) and make next cut. Continue making 45-degree cuts in this manner until there are six blocks from each unit. Save the odd end pieces for use later. [fig 5]

5. Press and trim each block to 8½”.

6. Sew together the end pieces and trim blocks down to 8½”. Four of these blocks are needed (two blocks with solid teal background, two blocks with Arcadia Tumbling {Aqua}). [fig 6]

7. QUILT ASSEMBLY: Layout the quilt to your liking referring the QUILT DIAGRAM as a guide. Assemble in groups of four. Sew four blocks together, then four segments together, then finally the four quarters together.

8. Layer the backing, batting and quilt top. Baste, quilt and bind.