

# QUICK STACK

I cannot tell you how many times I have labeled my blocks, numbered my rows and still the blocks aren't in the right position on my quilt. One of the things I love most about quilters is their willingness to share really great tips, so I am passing on a really ***GREAT TIP*** to piecing the interior of your quilt together.

This is a fabulously fast method of piecing your quilt blocks together without ever leaving your chair. No labeling no numbering your blocks or rows, no matter how big or small your quilt is.

I know this seems like a lot of information for an easy tip, but I am trying to take you step by step. It will only take you a couple of times before you get the hang of it and then you'll bless me and those who shared it with me every time you use it.

1. Your quilt is on your design wall or floor which ever the case may be. It has been laid out with all the blocks in their proper position.

2. Working up and down in columns, left to right.

**Refer to the diagram below:**

3. Begin by taking the #1 block in the top row and placing it right sides together with block #2.

4. Place a pin in the upper right and corner pointing towards the bottom the block, this will be your guide to which side of these blocks you will need to sew, so if you put them down before you sew them, you can orient them into the correct position.

5. Proceed in the same manner with blocks 3 and 4, 5 and 6, 7, and 8.

Each of these block pairs should be stacked below the preceding ones.

6. Starting at the top of column 3, pick up block #9 right sides up and place it at the bottom of your stack, then block #10, then #11, and #12.

7. Again starting at the top of column 4, pick up block #13, right sides up at the bottom of the stack, then block #14, then #15, and finally block #16.

8. Take the stack to your sewing machine, with the tops of the blocks in the same orientation, up away from you.

9. You should be looking at the wrong side of block # 1 from row one. Take the top two blocks bring the raw edges even and sew using your quarter inch seam.

10. Leave them in your machine.

11. Take the next two from your stack which should be the backside of block #2 from row number 2, sew them right behind your previous two.

12. Continue this until you come to a block that is right side up. This will signal the end of your first column.

13. Remove the sewn components from your machine; do not clip your threads and beginning at the top again.

14. Take the next block in your stack and lay it right sides together with your #2 block

15. Continue on down the line until you come to the last row that will signify the end of the third column.

16. Start at the beginning again, adding your 4<sup>th</sup> column.

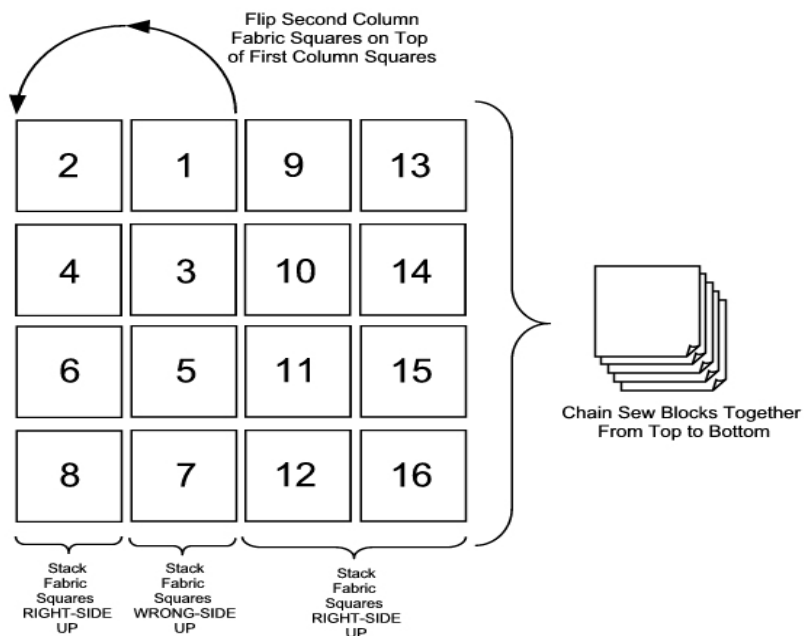
17. When all your blocks have been sewn into columns, it's now time to sew the rows. The thread that you used to chain sew your blocks is now another reference point to be used in nesting your blocks together as you sew the rows.

18. Take row #1 and lay it right sides together onto row #2. Pin your intersections to be safe, bring the raw edges of both rows together and sew, alternating the direction of your seams from one row to the other.

19. Once you have completed row 1 and 2, lay row #2 right sides together with row #3 with row #2 on top, this way you have a visual on the direction the seam allowance was sewn in the previous row and you can control the seams on the bottom row to make sure they will nest in the proper position.

20. Continue sewing your rows together in this manner, always with the previously sewn row on top so you can control the direction of the seam allowances.

21. Finish and press



Compliments of Peggy Barkle