

Urban Sunsets (with super-skinny swizzle sticks)

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Finished block: 13" x 13"

Finished quilt: 47" x 47"

Learn about color, value, and pattern, and my technique for making super-skinny strips. Narrow black-and-white strips inserted between the fabric "segments" define and separate the fabrics.

Fabrics:

- Scraps about 4" x 9" for the block segments (the center unit). I used three different fabrics in nine different blocks for a total of 27 fabrics. You can repeat some of the fabrics, but know that your quilt won't look as varied. When in doubt, bring more fabric!

What *kinds* of fabrics work well? In most of my blocks I used a

- hand-dye
- Kaffe Fassett stripe (www.gloriouscolor.com)
- Marcia Derse print (www.marciaderse.com)

I went for contrast—in color and in the openness (versus density) of the fabric design. You can use other fabrics, of course, but I think it's most appealing when you combine different "species" of fabric in each block—for example, a hand-dye, a stripe, and a print.

- For the center-unit fabrics, I tend to avoid very dark colors and prints—they will blend with your B&W super-skinny strips. By the same token, you will want to avoid very light fabrics—they will jump out.

- $\frac{1}{4}$ yard black-and-white fabric for the skinny strips (predominantly black, with just a little white). *Fabrics that are half-black and half-white won't work—they end up looking gray. This is the #1 mistake students make with this quilt.*

- $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards of Gelato #714 (gray ombré), available in class or online in my Store (www.christinebarnes.com). You can use any neutral gray, but the value changes in the ombré make the blocks look lustrous.

Pattern required, \$14.