

# Shimmer Braid

## Month 3

Make 4 Braids with purple points.



Make 8 Braids with white points.



### Block Size

5" x 17" = Finished Block Size. Finished means after it is sewn into the quilt.

5 1/2" x 17 1/2" square = Unfinished Size. Unfinished means before you sew it into the quilt – when it is just a block by itself.

## Fabric Selection for month 3 blocks

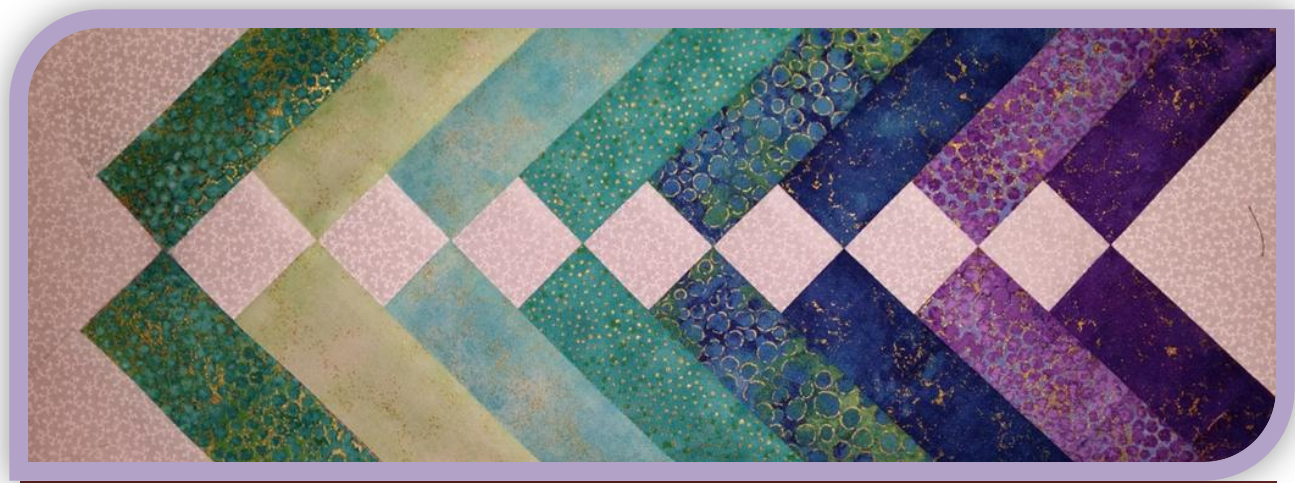
Lay 8 fat quarters out in the order  
you want your braid colors to be.

Label them Braid 1 through Braid 8.



Above is a diagram to show color placement. It has a purple point.

Below is a photo of a real block with a white point.



**IMPORTANT NOTE: THIS QUILT WAS MADE FROM FAT QUARTERS AND ALL STRIPS ARE BASED ON 20" LONG PIECES. CUT ALL STRIPS 20" LONG, NOT 18".**

**IF YOU ARE NOT USING FAT QUARTERS YOU CAN CUT HALF AS MANY STRIPS.**

**From EACH of the 8 braid fabrics cut and label the following:**

**(2) 4 ½" x 20" strips – set one of EACH fabric aside for the strip units**

Cut this Number	This size	Label it	Note
From the remaining 4 ½" strips cut the following:			If you are careful you can get 12 pieces per strip. If you only get 11, cut a 1 ¾" x 20" strip (NOT a chunk off the end) to cut the needed pieces. It is <b>vital that the left over fabric stays 20" long</b> for the final quilt blocks to work out.
12 from EACH fabric	4 ½" x 1 ¾" rectangles	Braid # Associated with the fabric (1-8)	

**Purple Fabric**

**Cut (4) 1 ¾" squares and label them "Purple Squares Braid #8"**

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**White Fabric – Use 42" strips NOT FAT QUARTERS**

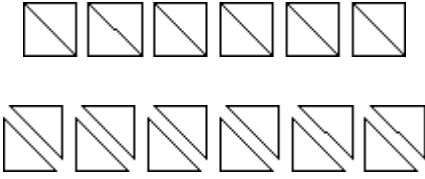
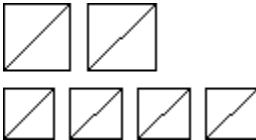
**Cut (2) 6 ½" x 42" strip**

**Cut (4) 1 ¾" x 42" strips**

**Snip the (4) 1 ¾" strips in half to yield (8) 1 ¾" x 21" strips – label them "strip units"**

**Cut (8) 1 ½" strips**

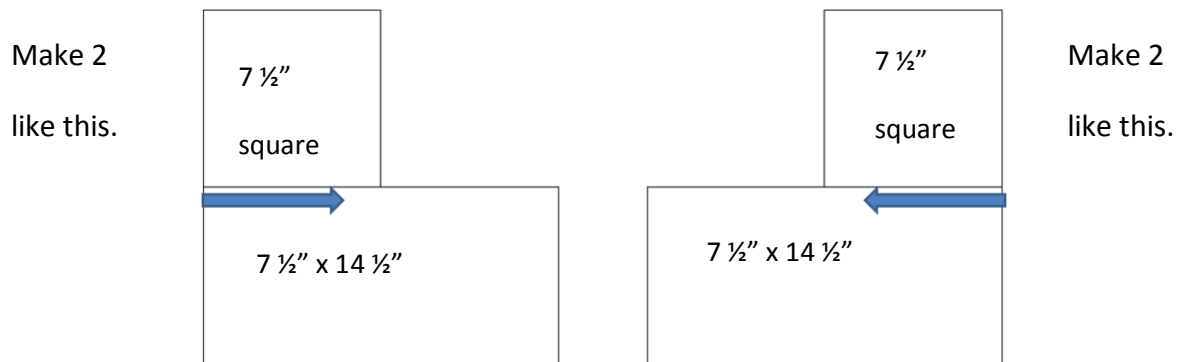
**Cut (4) 7 ½" strips**

Cut this Number	This size	Label them	Note
<b>From one of the 6 ½' strips cut the following.</b>			
6	6 ½" squares		
<b>Cut each of these squares through the diagonal to yield 12 triangles</b>			
12	triangles	triangles	
<b>From the remaining 6 ½" strip cut and label the following:</b>			
2	6 ½" squares	4 corner braids	
4	4" squares	Purple tipped noses	
<b>Cut each of these squares through the diagonal to yield 4 larger triangles and 8 smaller ones.</b>			
			

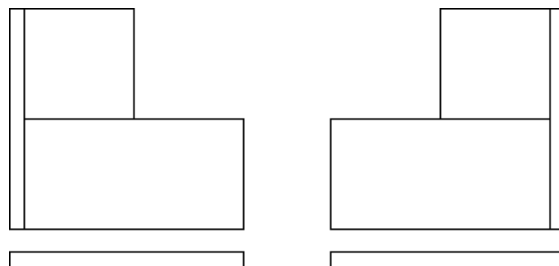
Cut this Number	This size	Label them	Note
<b>From the 1 ½' strips cut the following.</b>			
4	1 ½" x 21 ½"	21 ½"	It is recommended that you cut a 21 ½" and a 15 ½" out of the same strip because you might not get two 21 ½" pieces out of one strip.
4	1 ½" x 15 ½"	15 ½"	
4	1 ½" x 20 ½"	20 ½"	
4	1 ½" x 14 ½"	14 ½"	
<b>From the 7 ½" strips cut and label the following.</b>			
12	7 ½" squares	7 ½" squares	You will use 4 this month and the other 8 at a later time.
4	7 ½" x 14 ½"	7 ½" x 14 ½"	

## Making the corner blocks

Make two of each diagram below. Sew from the end in the direction of the arrow but STOP sewing at the end of the arrow. **DO NOT** complete the seam. It will be finished later.



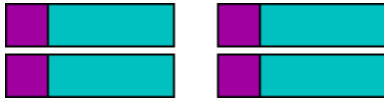
Add a 1 ½" x 14 ½" white rectangle to the sides as shown. Next, add a 1 ½" x 15 ½" rectangle to the bottom.



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## Making the Braid Blocks

1. Locate the Braid #8 4 ½" strip. From this strip cut off (4) 1 ¾" x 4 ½" rectangles.
2. Sew the Braid #8 rectangles to the (4) 1 ¾" "Purple Squares Braid #8".



3. Press them away from the purple squares. Label them Braid #8 for reference later.
4. Sew a 1 ¾" white strip to what is left of the Braid #8 4 ½" strip.
5. Press away from the white.
6. Make 1 ¾" sub cuts. You will need eight units. If you cannot get all 8, cut a 1 ¾" white square and a 4 ½" x 1 ¾" braid fabric and sew them together.



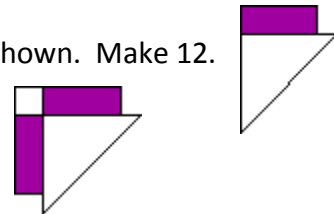
7. Sew a 1 ¾" white strip to **all of the remaining** 4 ½" braid fabric strips.
8. Press away from the white.
9. Make 1 ¾" sub cuts. You will need twelve per strip unit.



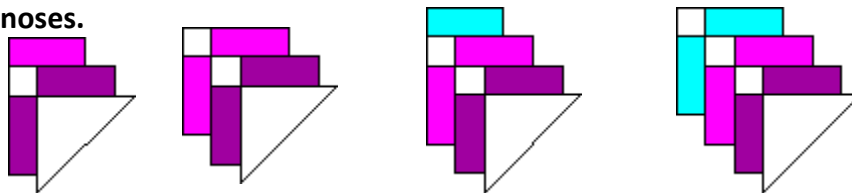
10. You will need 12 units from each strip. If you can only get 11 units, cut an extra 1 ¾" square of white and a 1 ¾" x 4 ½" rectangle of the braid fabric and sew them together to create a unit.

11. Join a white triangle to a Braid #1 1 ¾" x 4 ½" rectangle as shown. Make 12.

12. Add a Braid #1 unit to the other side of the white triangle.

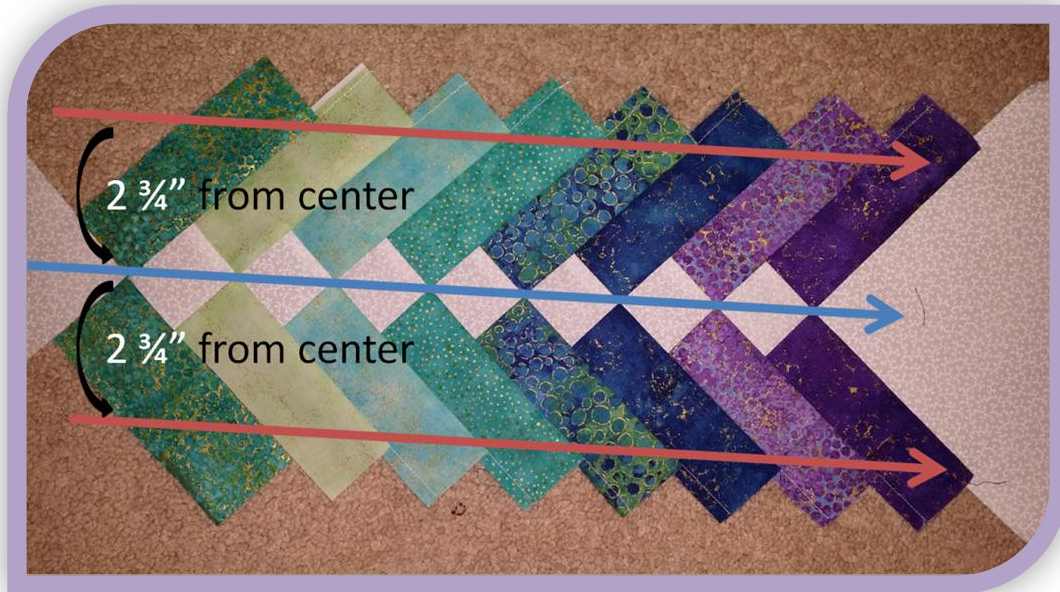


13. Now add a Braid #2 rectangle. Continue to alternate between rectangles and units in numerical order until the braids are completed. **Remember to make four braids with purple noses.**



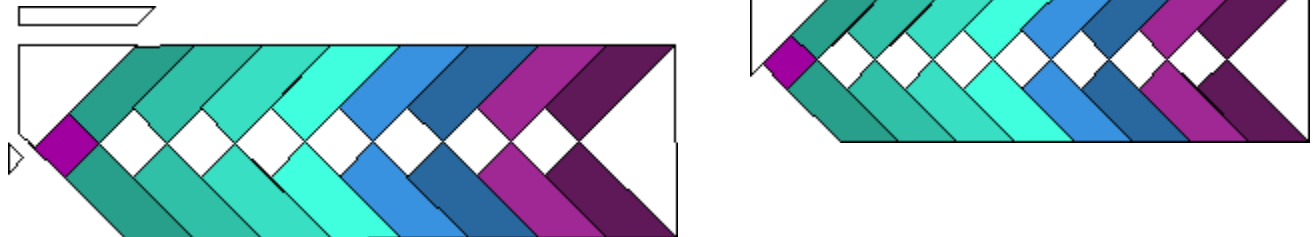
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14. Trim  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " off of both sides of center on the braids. This will make the width of the braids  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ". These blocks easily curve out of shape because the outside edges are all bias. You can easily force the block to line up on the  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " line by moving it where it needs to be.



15. Add a white triangle labeled "**Purple tip noses**" to the nose of **ONLY** the purple nosed blocks.

16. Trim off the excess.



17. Add the other white triangle to the purple nosed blocks and trim off the excess.

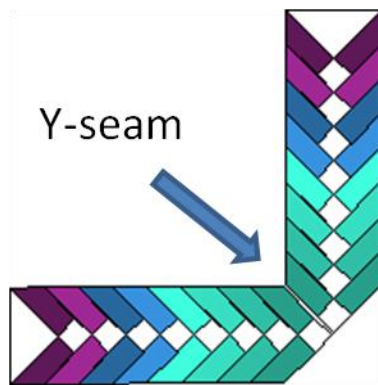
18. Trim the length of the braids to  $17\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Leave  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of white fabric away from the noses when trimming the  $17\frac{1}{2}$ " length. The other end (right end in the diagram) will have excess white (more than what the diagram shows).



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19. Set the purple nosed braids aside for the final month's tutorial.
20. Join the white nosed braids together in pairs as shown below. Make 4 pair.

A “Y-seam” will have to be sewn at the corner. See the instructions below to learn how to do this. You can also go to this [link at youtube](#) or search for “How to Sew a Basic Y-Seam in a Quilt Block by Edyta Sitar of Laundry Basket Quilts” and watch how to do a Y-seam.



21. Begin the Y-seam by marking the 1/4" intersection of the seam. I marked it in red on the wrong side of BOTH pieces.



22. Put a pin in the exact point where the two lines intersect. Put the pin into the same point on the other piece and pin them right sides together. Begin wing from that exact pin point and back stitch. Do not go even one stitch beyond the point.

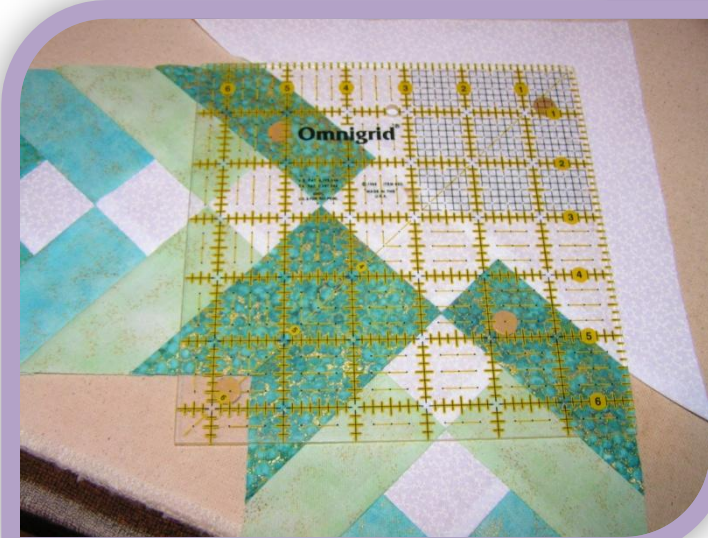
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23. Finish the seam like normal on the other end where the white squares come together.



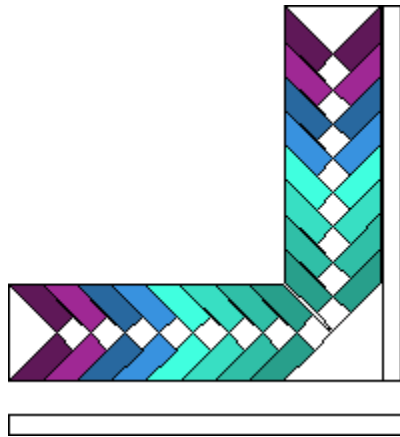
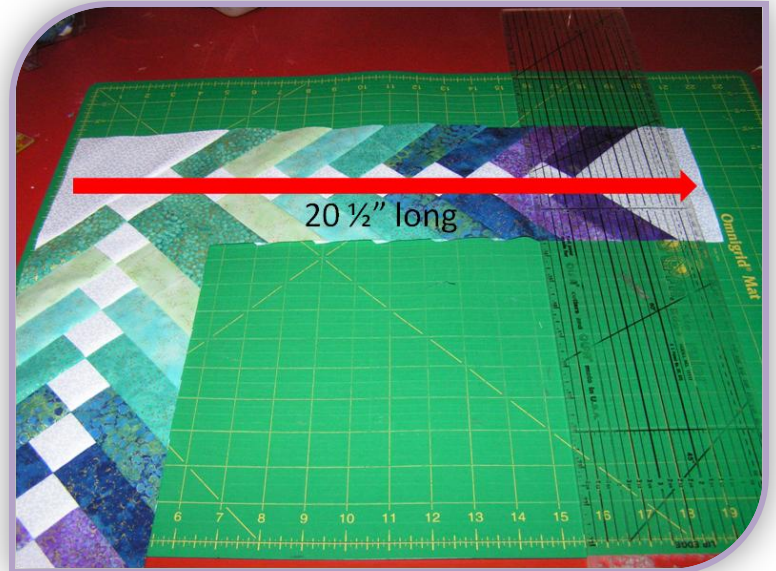
24. Add a white triangle labeled **"4 corner braids"** to the corner. It will be too large. Just center it on the corner.



25. Trim to a perfect right angle.

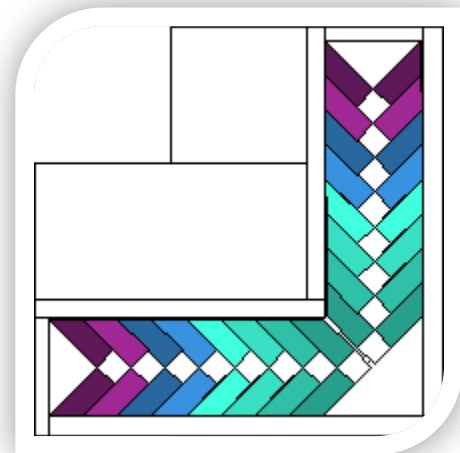
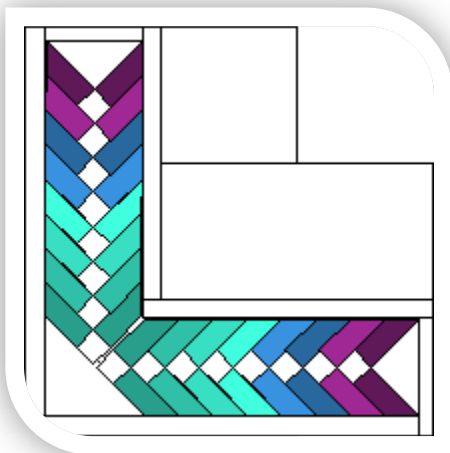
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26. Trim **each end** of the braid to  $20\frac{1}{2}$ " long as shown.



27. Add a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $20\frac{1}{2}$ " white rectangle to the side and a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $21\frac{1}{2}$ " white rectangle to the bottom.

28. Sew the braids to white corner blocks using y-seams as described above. Remember to mark the perfect  $\frac{1}{4}$ " corner on the wrong side of the white corner. Pin that point to the point where the stitching began on the braids.



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