



CONFIDENT BEGINNER

# HIGH AS A KITE

Finished Quilt: 32 1/2" x 32 1/2"

Quilt design by Linda Ambrosini, featuring a Bali Ombre Poppy and Indah Batiks.

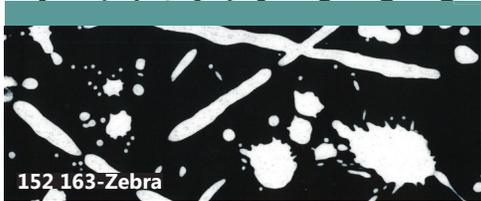
Let yourself get caught up in the unseen creative currents with Linda's strip-pieced Bali Poppy blocks that change course this way and that like a kite riding the wind. It's a fun ride!



BPP 681-Ombre



150 655-Chalk



152 163-Zebra

100 3-White



FABRICS	
BPP 681-Ombre	1 Poppy
150 655-Chalk	1/4 Yard
152 163-Zebra	3/8 Yard*
100 3-White	1 Yard

\*binding

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# High as a Kite

By Linda Ambrosini

Finished Size 33 inches square

This is the time to become creative. Using a Ombre Bali Poppy of fabric strips we will create a fantastic geometric quilt. The color gradation of the Bali fabrics just adds to the artistic possibilities. It will make you has happy as flying a kite!

This quilt is constructed using a foundation fabric. This method of construction is called foundation piecing or "string" quilting. If you have never used this method before there are many tutorial on the internet. Simply Google, "How to make a string quilt using a foundation".

Note: all seam allowances are  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch

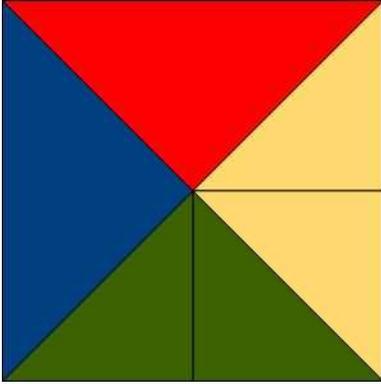
## **Fabric Requirements:**

1	Ombre Bali Poppy	Quilt Center
$\frac{1}{4}$ yd	Indah Batik #150 Chalk	Border
$\frac{3}{8}$ yd	Indah Batik #152 Zebra	Binding
1 yd	white or light colored fabric to be used as a foundation	

## **Quilt Construction:**

1. Creating the foundation: Press the foundation fabric using spray starch or a fabric sizing product. Cut a 31 inch square from this fabric. Cut along both diagonals of the square creating 4 quadrants.
2. This wall hanging is made in Quadrants. Please refer to the diagram on the following page.

Quadrant #1 is the top red triangle. Moving in a clockwise direction, Quadrant #2 is the right hand, yellow triangle. Quad #3 is the bottom, green area and finally Quad #4 is the left hand, blue triangle. Quadrants # 2 and #3 are cut in half from the center point to the outside edge perpendicular to the outside edge.



3. Label the foundation pieces using a pencil or fabric marker. Do not use a marking tool that will bleed or shadow through the Bali Poppy fabrics. Mark the center intersection points of each piece. I put a "C" for center. Also mark which quadrant it is (for example: Q1-Q4). Quadrant #2 will have 2 pieces, marked as Q-2 top and Q-2 bottom. Quadrant #3 will have a right and left unit (Q-3 right and Q-3 left).

Our foundation fabric is cut to finished size. Keep this in mind as you will need to add seam allowances, I added an extra inch to each Bali strip when cutting the length. I will remind you!

4. Let's start sewing by making the top section, Quadrant #1. I am starting here because this quadrant's fabric choices carry over into the top part of Quadrant #2 and I want full lengths of my 2 ½ inch Bali strips. We will always start each unit from the center angle that has been marked. Take a long ruler and align the 2 ¼ inch mark to the left hand side of Quadrant #1's foundation fabric and draw a line.

In other words, mark a line parallel to the left hand edge 2 ¼ inches in. This line will dictate the placement of our first Bali fabric strip.

Using the Quadrant #1 foundation as a cutting guide, cut a generous length from lightest to darkest color for the two longest strips, shown as a green and red in the quilt's photo. Be a bit generous with the fabric lengths as the foundation units do not include seam allowances and you need to be adding this in. As an estimate, cut 1 inch longer than needed.

Place the green strip just cut with the wrong side of the fabric against the foundation fabric and aligning the raw edge with the marked 2 ¼ inch line. This strip will extend ¼ inch beyond the foundation's left hand edge and cover the center angle. Pin in place.

Now take the red strip that has been cut and place it right sides together with the green strip that has been pinned in position. Stitch a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam to the left of the marked line through all three fabrics, the red, green and foundation.

Flip the red fabric open and press. Repeat this process with 9 more Bali fabric strips, always aligning to the raw edge of the last strip sewn. At this point, you will have completely covered Quadrant #1's foundation with Bali strips.

To trim Quadrant #1 to size, turn it over so the foundation fabric is facing up and the excess Bali strips extend beyond its edges. Create the seam allowances for this unit by cutting  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch away from the raw edges of the foundation. You should only have to trim two sides as we created a  $\frac{1}{4}$  seam allowance when we positioned our first piece. Quadrant #1 is complete. Save the fabrics used in quadrant #1 for the top half of Quadrant #2.

5. Quadrant #2 is made from two smaller triangles that have been marked #2 top and bottom. Let's make the top section first. It will use the same fabrics in the same order as sewn in Quadrant #1. Make sure when cutting to continue with the same color transitioning. This really adds to the uniqueness of the quilt.

Just like we did in Quadrant #1 we will start with the green and red fabrics. Cut them to a generous length (1 inch extra) to cover the shorter edge of the Quadrant #2 foundation.

Once the 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch strip is cut to length the width needs to be made smaller to allow for matching with the strips in Quadrant #1. This is a specialty cut. Cut these strips to a generous 1  $\frac{7}{8}$  inches width, what this means is align you ruler to the outside of the 1  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch line. All the strips in this unit will be cut to this generous 1  $\frac{7}{8}$  width.

To set up this unit's fabric placement, draw a line on the top unit 1  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch parallel to the edge that forms the center seam of Quadrant #2.

Once again starting with the same green fabric used in Quadrant #1, place its wrong side against the foundation fabric while aligning a raw edge against the drawn line. Then take the second strip (red) and place it right sides together with the green strip along the drawn line. Sew though all three layers open up the red strip and press. Continue this process for the next 9 fabrics taking care to keep the same color order as

in Quadrant #1. Trim this unit in the same manner as Quadrant #1 or cut  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch away from the foundation's edge, creating a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance.

6. In the bottom half of Quadrant #2 we are back to using the full  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch width of the Bali strips. To create the positioning line for your first strip draw a parallel line  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the hypotenuse (longest side) of the bottom piece of Quadrant #2.

Start sewing the first two fabrics just like we have done before. This unit contains 6 Bali strips. After the sixth strip has been sewn in place the entire foundation fabric will be covered. Turn it over and trim  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch away from the foundation's edge creating the seam allowances.

7. Now both halves of Quadrant #2 are made, sew them together along the center line to create a full quadrant. There are not seams to match here. Press the seam open. Now join Quadrants # 1 and 2 taking the time to match each of the coordinating fabric's seams. Press the seams open. Half of the quilt's center is finished.
8. Quadrant #3 also uses 2 smaller foundation triangles to create a full quadrant, but this time all the fabric strips are sewn at an angle perpendicular to the foundation's hypotenuse. This gives this quadrant a "V" shape.

Let's draw the placement lines for both the right and left units at the same time to make sure we have this "V" oriented properly.

Again we will start the fabric placement from the marked center angle of each foundation unit. Mark a line  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in from the center point and perpendicular (at 90 degrees) from the hypotenuse of each of the units.

Check your work, when the two foundation units are placed together do these marked lines create a "V"? If they do, good job, if not remark so they do.

Since the first fabric strip sewn is so short let's make a second placement mark 2 inches from the first one. This will help the strips from getting "tweaked". The first 7 fabrics used in both the left and right hand sides are the same.

At this point, the left hand unit continues on with four additional strips, but the right hand unit adds the remaining fabrics at a right angle. To complete the right hand unit, cut 4 rectangles of different fabrics at  $2\frac{1}{2}$

by 8 ½ inches and sew them together along the 8 ½ inch length. Straighten one edge containing all 4 fabrics and sew to the raw edge of the 7<sup>th</sup> strip sewn. In the quilt's photo this is dark blue fabric. Once again trim the excess fabric away ¼ beyond the foundation fabric which creates a seam allowance. Sew the right and left hand units together matching the fabrics along the center seam creating a "V". Quadrant #3 is complete.

9. Quadrant #4 is "a piece of cake" after completing #3. Once again we will mark our foundation fabric so we know how to align our Bali strips. Using a ruler with a 45 degree marking, align that 45 degree mark along one of the short sides of this large triangle near the center point. Draw a line 1 5/8" in from this center point.

Just like in the last quadrant this is a small piece let's also mark the alignment of the next strip by drawing a second line 1 3/8 inches from the first.

Quadrant #4 uses those generously cut 1 7/8" wide Bali pieces as they will line up with each of the larger strips in Quadrant #3. Eleven strips are used in total. Depending on how "generous" your 1 7/8<sup>th</sup> cuts are, you might fall slightly short of completely covering the foundation fabric. Do not worry; we will make some adjustments later on. Trim the excess Bali fabrics ¼ inch from the foundation fabric to create Quadrant #4's seam allowance.

Sew Quadrant #3 and 4 matching the seams. Press open. Finally join the two halves matching the center point. There is nothing else that needs a perfect match along this seam. Since we have been working with so many biases and creative piecing the outside points may not match perfectly. At this time, square up the center to create a square.

Add a framing border of Indah 150 Chalk. Cut 4 strips at 2 inches by WOF and cut to the appropriate lengths. The quilt is bound using Indah 152 Zebra.