



BEGINNER | 1 DAY CLASS

# TROPICAL DASH

Finished Quilt: 64" x 64"

Quilt design by  
Linda Ambrosini

Featuring On the Lanai Bark Cloth, Indah Batiks and Solids, large scale prints are easy to showcase in this cascading churn dash. Half square triangles, snowballs and strip piecing are the only techniques you need to know.



Q5004 402-Sea Glass

Q5005 4-Black

Q5006 96-Olive

Q5007 157-Verde

100 38-Burgundy

101 96-Olive

110 133-Pacific

142 221-Honeysuckle

BBHC 1125 4-Black

FREE PATTERN DOWNLOAD  
[hoffmanfabrics.com](http://hoffmanfabrics.com)

FABRICS	1 KIT
Q5004 402-Sea Glass	1 Fat Quarter
Q5005 4-Black	1 3/8 Yards
Q5006 96-Olive	1 Yard*
Q5007 157-Verde	5/8 Yard
100 38-Burgundy	3/8 Yard
101 96-Olive	3/8 Yard
110 133-Pacific	1 1/2 Yards
142 221-Honeysuckle	1/2 Yard
BBHC 1125 4-Black	4 Yards**

\*binding

\*\*perfect backing

# Tropical Dash

Finished Size 64 x 64 inches

By Linda Ambrosini

Let's take a traditional block, super size it, and throw in a tropical vibe.....and you have Tropical Dash, a variation on a traditional Churn Dash block. The tropical bark cloth not only adds to the tropical vibe, but adds a natural-feeling texture. Awesome!!

Note: This quilt was designed using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance.

HST = Half Square Triangles

WOF = Width of Fabric

## Fabric Requirements:

Fat Qtr	Q5004	Sea Glass (hibiscus and anthurium)	
3/8yd	Indah 101	Olive (dots)	
3/8 yd	Indah 100	Burgundy (solid)	
5/8 yd	Q5007	Verde (tapa)	
1/2 yd	Indah 142	Honeysuckle (pineapples)	
1 3/8 yds	Q5005	Black (Lehua flower)	
1 1/2 yds	Indah 110	Pacific (teal)	
1 yd	Q5006	Olive (banana leaves)	Outer Border and Binding

## Fabric Cutting and Construction:

From the first 3 fabrics listed above, we will make the center Churn Dash. Fussy cut a 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch square from the Q5004 Sea Glass Fat Quarter. You have plenty of fabric to center a floral motif.

From both the 101 Olive (dots) and the 100 Burgundy (solid), cut one 3 inch strip and one 6 inch strip by WOF. Sew the olive dot and burgundy solid 3 inch strips together along the long edge and sub-cut this strip set into four, 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch units.

Sub-cut each of the 6 inch strips into two, 6 inch squares. Turn these squares into HST's by drawing a diagonal line on the wrong side of the Olive dots, point to point. Join one of the Olive squares with a Burgundy, right sides together and stitch a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$  seam on either side of the drawn diagonal line. Cut the

two halves apart and press. I always make my HST's slightly large and square them. Square all four HST's to 5 ½ inches.

Now let's sew our center Churn Dash like a 9-Patch block. The Olive dots will always be next to the focal Sea Glass center square with the HST's positioned at the corners. This center block should measure at 20 ½ inches. Center done!

The three additional supersized Churn Dashes will all be added at once. They will be constructed like a giant 9-Patch.

Cutting:      Q5007 Verde (tapa print), cut three strips at 5 ½ inches by WOF.  
                    142 Honeysuckle (pineapples), cut four strips at 3 ½ inches by WOF.  
                    Q5005 Black (Lehua flower) cut six strips at 7 ½ inches by WOF.  
                    110 Pacific (teal) cut two, 5½ inch and two 20½ strips both by WOF.

Note: Being that the Lehua flower has an obvious direction to the design, keep all the yellow plumed flowers radiating out from the center. Therefore the "bottom" of the Lehua will always be sewn to the Honeysuckle pineapples.

To create the four rail blocks sew two strip sets, starting with the Verde tapa, then Honeysuckle pineapples, followed by the Lehua flowers and ending with the 5 ½ Pacific along the long edges. Press the seam allowances all towards the Pacific. Sub- cut each strip set into two 20 ½ inch segments. You will have four in total, they will measure 20 ½ inches square. These will be the large rail blocks.

Now let's create the corner triangle blocks. Since these are so huge and bias seams will stretch, we will be creating these units by using the Pacific as a foundation. From the two 20 ½ inch strips of Pacific, cut four 20 ½ inch squares. The first stitching line will be on the center diagonal (point to point), but to align our fabric strip correctly we need a guide line that is ¼" away from that center diagonal. Using your longest ruler, align the ¼ inch mark of the ruler to the true diagonal (point to point), towards the quilt's center and mark on the right side of the Pacific fabric. Again make sure this line is ¼ inch closer to the center of the quilt.

Cut each of the four large Lehua floral strips to a 29 inch length. Align the top long edge of the Lehua to the marked line, right sides together with the fabric extending over the squares true diagonal. Yes, your fabric strips will extend beyond the edges of the Pacific square. Stitch ¼ inch away from the raw edge of the Lehua. Flip the Lehua over so the right side is facing up and press.

Next we will attach the Honeysuckle pineapple fabric. Your alignment line has now been established, it is the bottom edge of the Lehua tropical. From the

two 3 ½ inch strips of Honeysuckle pineapple fabric cut four, 14 inch segments. With right sides together align a pineapple strip to the bottom raw edge of the Lehua floral, centering the pineapples on the Pacific square. Again, the sewn fabrics will extend beyond the Pacific edges. Stitch ¼ away from the raw edge through all three layers of fabric (pineapples, Lehua and Pacific). Flip over the pineapple fabric and press.

Repeat this process for the Verde tapa print. Cut the Verde tapa print's 5 ½ inch strip into four, 10 inch segments. Align to the bottom raw edge of the pineapple fabric and stitch with ¼ seam, flip and press.

Square the block to 20 ½ inches, or just to the size of the Pacific foundation square original cut. Make four of these blocks for the four outer corners. If you have ever made a string quilt you are using the same technique.

Sew the giant 9-Patch together. First row - corner triangle block, large rail block and corner triangle block. Second row - large rail block, center Churn Dash block and large rail block. Third row - corner triangle block, large rail block and corner triangle block. Then sew the three rows together. The Verde tapa fabric will always be next to the center Churn Dash.

## **Finishing**

In effort to do something a bit out of the ordinary, the quilt we made uses a slightly different technique for the outer borders and binding. It's one and the same!

After quilting the center we added an extra wide binding which also becomes the outer border and wrapped it around to the back which takes care of the binding too!

### **Extra wide binding-outer border:**

After sewing together the giant 9-Patch, quilt the layers (top, batting and backing) making sure you have at least 4 inches of batting and backing extending beyond the quilt top on all sides. When squaring the quilt after quilting, do not cut along the quilt top's edge, but cut 2 inches beyond the raw edge of your quilt top. This extra area will be just batting and backing.

Cut seven strips of Q5006 Olive banana leaves at 5 inches by WOF. Sew the strips together at the short ends. Be mindful and have the print of the fabric going in the same direction on all pieces. Measure the length of your quilt top, through the middle, just the quilt top and not the batting extensions. Cut two Olive leaf strips to your measurement. In theory, this should be 60 ½ inches. Align a raw edge of a quilt top side with one of the border pieces just cut, right sides together. Stitch ¼ inch away from the raw edge, turn the leaf fabric

towards the uncovered batting and press. Approximately 2 1/2" inches of the leaf fabric will extend beyond the batting.

Working from the back side of the quilt, fold the extending fabric in half towards the batting, with the wrong sides of the fabric together, creating a folded edge. Turn under the raw edge and pin in place. Secure with hand stitching. You have just bound one side of your quilt. Repeat for the other side.

Use the same technique for the top and bottom borders/binding. This time measure the width of your quilt, including the side borders/binding, through the middle. and cut an additional 4 inches to this measurement. This extra 4" is for the folding in of the binding (ends). In theory this should be about 68 1/2 inches. Align the raw edge of your leaf fabric to the raw edge of your quilt top, right sides together. Two inches of the leaf fabric needs to extend beyond each end. Stitch 1/4 inch away from the raw edges and turn the leaf fabric towards the uncovered batting and press.

Fold in the extra 2" (on each side) by first folding 1" and then another inch. Secure both ends.

Bring the excess border/binding to the back of the quilt. Turn under the raw edge and pin in place. Secure by hand stitching.