# Directions for Funky Caterpillars (Chinese Coins)



by

### **Becky Ball**

Quilt size: any size you want, mine is 45" x 70"

Finished Block size: 12"wide x 8"

Blocks needed for this setting: 12 A, 12 B

## Stuff You Need

#### Supplies needed:

- Tri-Recs® templates are required for cutting and for ease of construction. I would not try to make the quilt without them.
- A large acrylic ruler, at least 8½" square
- Usual sewing supplies

#### Fabric requirements:

- Background: 1.5 yard
- Borders / Sashing- optional ( around 2 yards)
- Chinese coin (CC) strips  $-7\frac{2}{3}$  yds.,  $5\frac{5}{8}$ " wide
  - I used 3 strips about 90" long for ease of cutting
- Accent strips about 1 yard
- These directions assume you already know how to make Chinese Coin strips. If not, a tutorial can be found at http://www.maryquilts.com/
- You can use a striped fabric as the CC strip for a similar effect.

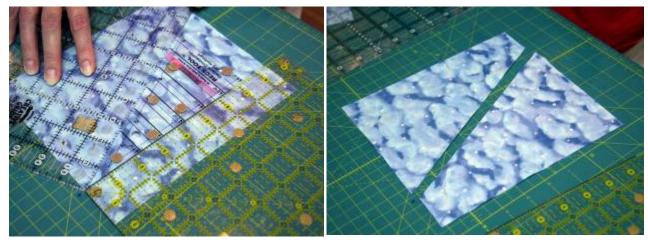


# Cutting

#### **Cutting Background:**

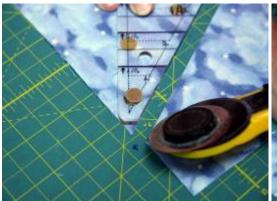
Cut 5 strips of background 8½" wide

- From strips cut 24 blocks 7\%" x 8\%", leaving fabric **SAME sides together**. This allows you to cut A and B blocks at the same time.
- To cut the diagonal, place your ruler 15/8" from the top and bottom of the rectangle.
- The resulting angle is the same as the one in Tri-Recs<sup>®</sup> templates (see photo)



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 Prior to separating pieces, trim the wide end of the resulting "halves" with the Recs® template for ease of construction





- Your background should resemble this (photo) A blocks tilt to the right, B blocks tilt to the left
- Cut even amounts of A and B backgrounds for even numbers in each long column. If you are using columns that have an unequal number, you will need more As or Bs, so cut them accordingly. My 3 columns have 8 blocks each – 4As and 4Bs.



#### **Cutting Chinese Coin (CC) Strips**

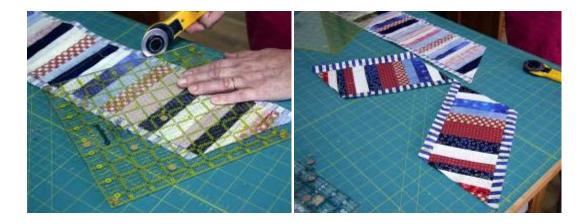
- For best use of fabric, all the coins should be sewn together into 2 or 3 long strips.
- Trim CC strips to 55%" NOTE: A wider or narrower strip can be used with the same background squares, only the finished width will be different, not a problem for this quilt.
  - Ex: 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" strip = 12" finished width
  - Ex: 5½" CC strip = 11-7/8" finished width.
- Accent strips can be added to each side of CC strips if desired. Do this prior to the next step. Mine were cut 1", and the CC strips trimmed to 5" prior to attaching accent strips



- Place coins SAME side together, cutting 2 thicknesses at once. This
  gives you A and B strips tilted in the correct direction
- Square the end of the strips at right angles to the length



- Place Recs template on straightened end cut along the angle.
- Place a large ruler with the 8½" line across the angled edge of CC. Cut maintaining the angle



- Continue cutting for a total of 12 A CCs, and 12 B CCs
- NOTE it is recommended that you recheck the angle with a Recs template every other cut.

# **Assembly**

- Align center CC strip with one side of A, matching corners trimmed with Recs template and sew (see photo)
- Match up other side A to CC strip and sew.



- Press A block seams towards CC strip
- Repeat with B blocks pressing seams towards background.
- You should have A and B blocks that angle opposite ways.



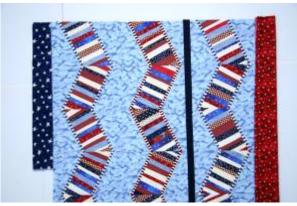
Line up center strip of A and B
 If you have pressed
 seams opposite they
 should nest





- Stitch together A to B to A etc. until you have a column 8 blocks long.
- If needed, trim edges of column evenly

 Audition sashing. If you like the look, cut the sashing the length of the columns x about 2½" wide. Cut them from the long straight grain of fabric (parallel to selvedge).



- Sew panels to each other or to the sashing.
- Add a border if desired.
   Mine was Cut 3½ wide,
   lengthwise grain, sewing strips together as needed.



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