River Trees

Hard to believe that one person has this many plaids in her stash, and these were just the reds and greens! River Trees started out as an exercise in stash-busting. But once I realized what I had on hand and how predominantly the reds and greens were, I was glad I would be able to check off "Christmas quilt" from my ever-growing list of "someday" quilts.

The design is simple and scrappy enough that it looks right at home on the sofa, whatever the season. It's a quilt that gets a lot of wear and washing. And when it's worn out and used up, I don't worry about recreating it. That would be easy. I'm amazed at how the plaid stash, especially the reds and greens, continues to grow, and grow, and grow.

One of the beauties of this block is that there are two shortcut methods of piecing it. Here, we give you the Fast 45 way to make quick and accurate Flying Geese, and a paper foundation for the entire block is available to print from our website.— *Jan*

River Trees Block

Quilt designed by
Jan Magee

Quilt made by
Peg Spradlin

Block size
8˝

Fabric & Cutting Requirements

Red plaids	scraps	4 A
Light prints	scraps	8 B
Green plaids	scraps	2 C

Patches

A = 2½˝ x 4½˝ rectangle
B = 2½˝ square
C = 2½˝ x 8½˝ rectangle

Making the block

Don't worry about using the same fabric for both corners of the Flying Geese, nor the same fabric for both C's. Get the most variety you can. The more the merrier!

The other block in the quilt is constructed in the same way, but the red and green fabrics trade places.

To make a Flying Geese unit, place a light print B on one end of a red A, right sides together. Draw a line corner to corner as shown below. Then stitch on the line. Trim the seam allowances to ¼˝. Press open.

Lay another light print B on the opposite end of that unit and repeat. When you press open, you'll have a complete Flying Geese (and be a lifelong convert to the Fast 45 method!). Make 4 Flying Geese units and join them.
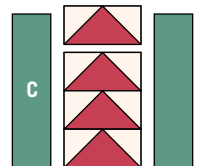
Join a green C to each side of the Flying Geese. Press toward the C's. And you're done!

Flying Geese Unit
Make 4

Fast 45 Flying Geese Piecing

River Trees Block Piecing

11

12

10

8

9

7

5

6

4

2

3

1

**River
Trees**

¼″ seam allowance