Gudny's Surprise Strips Quilt

You can cut strips any width. You can make them all the same width as shown in the instructions, or make them random widths. The pop strip should be very narrow and a contrast. After you sew the strips together you will cut them into a square the width of the sewn strips. In the instructions that is 21" square.

Variation: You can change the width and length of the strips, just cut the finished squares the same.

- For each square, cut four 5 ½ inch strips, at least 21" long. If longer, leave the length alone, do not cut it yet. A fat quarter makes three 5/12 inch strips. To make a 42" x 56" lap quilt you need 6 squares, which is twenty-four 5 ½ inch strips and six 1 1/8 inch strips.
- 2. **Pop**: Cut one strip 1 1/8 inches wide, at least 21" long. Makes a ½ inch wide finished strip.
- 3. Place the strips for sewing. The two strips on the outside will be longer in the block. Place the pop strip between two of the strips. It should not be on the edge of the square. Vary where you place it.
- 4. Sew the strips together. Sew the pop strip to one side of a wider strip. Trim it to ¾ inch wide. Sew to the other wider strip. Sew all the strips together.
- 5. Create two squares the width of the sewn strips. Measure and cut both squares to 21" square or if they are too small cut them to the largest size you can, or to the size you prefer.



 Position the two squares perpendicular to each other, right sides together. Pin the corners and sides so they stay together. Sew a ¼ inch seam all around the edge. (shown being placed, top half folded over)





 Cut the squares diagonally in both directions.



For the 21" squares you get 4 blocks, around 14 1/2" square. The edges are on the bias, so handle the blocks carefully. Square up the blocks lining up on the diagonal line.

Have fun creating the design. Try moving the blocks around on your design wall.

Sew the blocks together. Sew all around the top 1/8 from the edge to protect the bias edges while quilting.



Some examples: The first 3 are 42" x 56" with 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ strips and a pop strip.







The square quilt is 12" x 12" with random width fabric and ribbon strips.

