



CHRISTMAS CHEER ~ TREE SKIRT



Please do not copy or distribute without prior written consent. Designed by:: Kelle Boyd / annkelle.com
Pattern Written/Tree Skirt Sewn by:: Andrea Taddicken / knittybittiessews.com



Fabrics Used::

Kona Cotton (Robert Kaufman)::

Corn Yellow / Bubble Gum / Camellia / Aqua / Deep Blue / Lagoon / Fern / Clover / Carrot / Tomato

Remix, Ann Kelle (Robert Kaufman)::

Remix Chevrons Sunshine / Remix Chevrons Emerald / Remix Chevrons Summer / Remix Chevrons Lime /
Remix Chevrons Water / Remix Chevrons Red / Remix Chevrons Surf / Remix Chevrons Tangerine

Remix Dots Red / Remix Dots Aqua / Remix Dots Bright / Remix Dots Lime

"CHRISTMAS CHEER" TREE SKIRT

FINISHED SIZE:: 61" circle

SUPPLIES/MATERIAL LIST::

- (21) 1/3 YD solid/print coordinating fabrics
- 2 YD white fabric
- 1 YD binding fabric
- 64" square piece of cotton batting
- coordinating thread

Wedge Pattern:

Print and cut pattern pages, taping together matching dashed lines.

Design Layout (front):

Each of the (12) wedges of the tree skirt is created using (3) different solid/pattern fabrics. Determine which (3) fabrics you'll use for each wedge **BEFORE** you begin cutting. You will have extra fabric that will be used for your backing.

Cutting Instructions (front):

From solid/print fabrics, cut (1) 16.5" x wof (width of fabric) strip from each of your (21) fabrics.

- Sub-cut strip into 9.5" x 16.5" rectangle(s). **DO NOT** cut the entire strip into 9.5" rectangles. **ONLY** cut as many rectangles as you need of each solid/print based on your design. {i.e. one print may be used in 3 different wedges, you would cut (3) 9.5" x 16.5" rectangles.} Group rectangles into sets of (3) for each wedge to keep yourself organized and make piecing faster.

From binding fabric, cut (10) 3" x wof strips.

Piecing (12) Wedges:

**** Use a 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise noted. ****

Select your first set of (3) rectangles for your first wedge. Sew rectangles together along 16.5" side. Press seams open. You now have one large rectangle. (see Figure 1)

Repeat for all 12 wedges

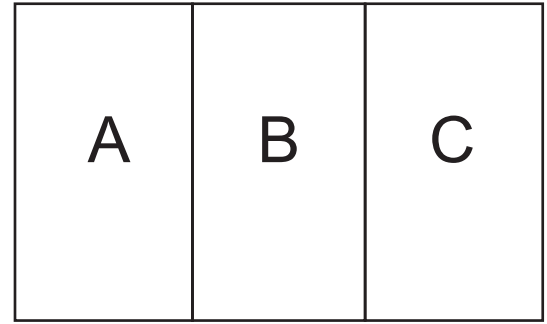


Figure 1

Using your pattern piece, trim your large rectangles into wedges::

- Begin by folding your large rectangle in half length wise (it should measure approx. 8.25" x 27.5"). Press fold for accuracy.
- Lay pattern piece on folded large rectangle, making sure to place the correct side on the fold (shown on the pattern) and matching the upper most point with the top fabric edge. (see Figure 2)

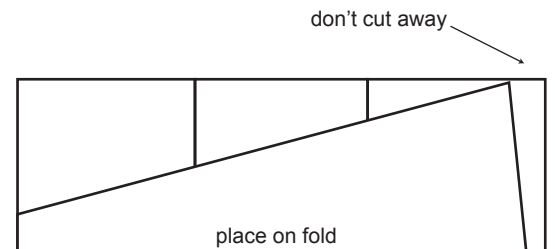


Figure 2

- Cut **ONLY** the side of the wedge. **DO NOT** cut the bottom, just leave the excess fabric.

Repeat for all 12 pieced rectangles.

Double checking your design layout and, sew (2) wedges together along side. Press seams open.

Repeat for next two wedges until you have 6 pairs sewn. Sew all but **ONE** pair together, this will be the side opening for your tree skirt, where you will sew ties.).

To round out the perimeter of your tree skirt, you'll need to carefully fold it in half (1/2 of a circle) and then fold it in half again (1/4 of a circle) and fold it in half again (1/8 of a circle).

Measure 26.5" from the middle of the interior circle to the exterior edge, making several marks with a fabric pencil/pen. This will create the exterior curvature. Cut along the exterior curvature. (see Figure 3)

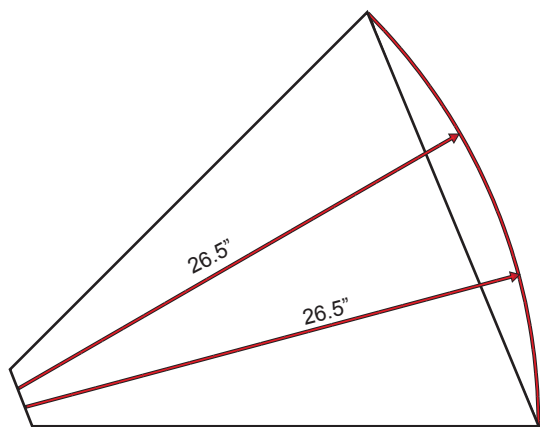


Figure 3

Your tree skirt front is now complete!

Cutting Instructions (back):

These are the instructions to create the 'checker-board' pattern as shown on the Ann Kelle blog post at annkelle.com. It features (8) colored blocks and (8) white blocks.

From your remaining cuts of solid/pattern fabric, choose (8) fabrics to use for the back. Cut fabric into 16.5" x 16.5" squares.

From white fabric, cut (4) 16.5" x wof strips.

- Sub-cut strips into 16.5" x 16.5" squares.

Arrange blocks as desired, alternating white/color/white/color to create the look of a checkerboard, 4 squares x 4 squares.

Piecing Checkerboard:

**** Use a 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise noted. ****

Working (1) row at a time, sew squares together, pressing seams open as you go. Repeat until you have 4 rows, each 4 squares wide.

Sew rows together again pressing seams open.

Now you need to turn that square into a circle, *almost* just like you did when you rounded out your tree skirt front.

Fold your back piece in half length wise and then again width wise. You should now have a smaller square. With the center point at your lower left, take the upper left point and bring it to the lower right point, matching up the bottom edge. You should now have a triangle, 1/8 of a square. (see Figure 4)

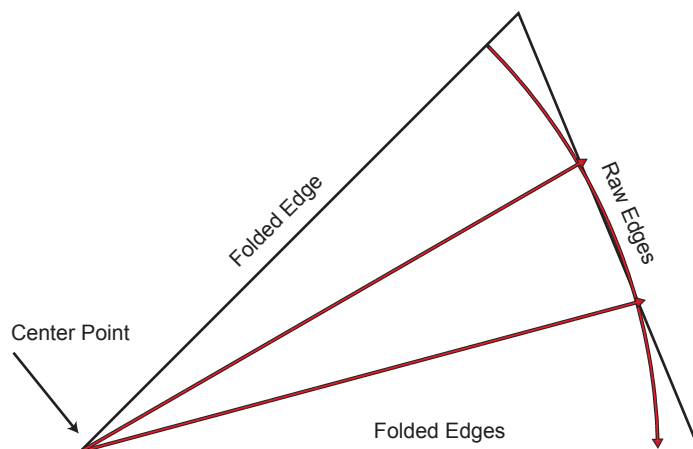


Figure 4

For the tree skirt back, you'll measure 30.5" from the center point to the exterior edge of the triangle, making several marks with your fabric pencil/pen. This will create the exterior curvature. Cut along the exterior curvature. In the same way, measure 4" from the center point to cut the interior curvature for the tree skirt center. Cut along the interior curvature.

Your tree skirt back is now complete!

Quilting the Tree Skirt:

First you need to create your quilt sandwich as follows:: lay your tree skirt back, right side down, then center your batting so there is at least 1" excess batting on all sides, next place your tree skirt front, right side up, making sure to line up the position of the center circles.

**** Your tree skirt front WILL overlap about 1" where the two wedges not sewn together meet. Go ahead and leave this for now until you're done quilting. ****

Pin your tree skirt quilt sandwich using quilting pins to hold your layers in place.

Straight line quilt through all layers 1/4" to the right and left of each wedge side seam. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each line of quilting to secure your stitches.

**** I recommend a stitch length between 2.8 - 3.2 when quilting. A walking foot is HIGHLY recommended for straight line quilting. ****

Trim excess batting from exterior and interior curvatures of tree skirt.

Split the amount of the overlap (where the two un-sewn front wedges meet) between the two wedges, trimming the side wedge edge so that they lay flush. Cut through ALL layers (batting and tree skirt back) along this un-sewn line.

Binding the Tree Skirt:

This assumes basic quilting knowledge including traditional finish binding which is first sewn to the front and then wrapped to the back enclosing raw edges. The back binding can be secured with machine or hand stitching.

**** I used a slightly wider binding at 3" (vs. the typical 2.5"). I sewed it using a 3/8" SA. ****

Use your favorite binding method to sew (6) of the strips of binding fabric together and then fold binding in half, wrong sides together.

Fold (1) of the remaining strips of binding fabric in half, wrong sides together.

Attach your binding to all edges of your tree skirt in the following order:

- Tree skirt center
- Using the long strip of binding, attach it to one side of the skirt opening, go around the exterior of the skirt and then up the other side of the skirt opening.

Sew slowly .. line the binding up with the curvature as you go, pivot at the corners as you would with a square binding and tuck under the raw edges of your binding when you begin and end.

Tree Skirt Ties:

Cut the (3) remaining strips of binding to 3" x 36" each. Fold the short ends on one strip, right sides together and sew using 1/4" SA. Trim to 1/8" and clip corner SA fabric.

Turn end right side out and you now have a triangle on each end. (see Figure 5)



Figure 5

Repeat for the other (2) strips.

Fold strips in half, wrong sides together and press, creating a center crease. Open back up and fold raw edges into the center crease and press. Fold in half again, enclosing the raw edges. Top-stitch along the folded edge.

Cut each strip in half, creating (2) ties, (6) in total.

Attach ties to tree skirt::

- Starting on one side of the skirt opening, line up the ties as follows:: the top tie should line up just under the tree skirt center binding, the middle tie should be centered over the first/second tree skirt section and the bottom tie should be centered over the second/third tree skirt section.

Lay ties with raw edges in the middle of the skirt opening binding. (see Figure 6)

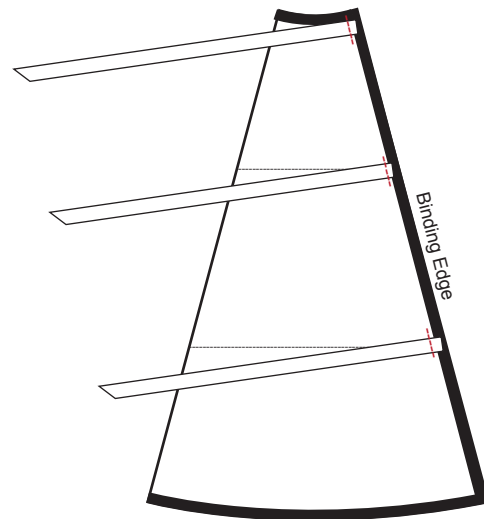


Figure 6

Attach ties, sewing along the binding edge as shown in red.

Then fold the ties over the raw edge toward the other skirt opening and stitch down, 1/4" from the binding edge, enclosing the raw edge.

With that, you've just finished a reversible tree skirt full of holly and jolly!!

Notes::

This {free} pattern/tutorial does assume basic sewing/quilting knowledge. Please feel free to contact me for clarification or utilize the internet and the amazing amount of quality tutorials/videos related to sewing/quilting.

Save time by creating just one 'pieced' side and keeping the backing simple with a single cut of fabric at least 62" square.

If you're worried about cost/amount of fabric, you can easily reduce the amount of individual cuts if you're willing to forgo some of the variety. For example, you could choose 12 cuts of fabric vs. 21 and just vary the placement of those 12 cuts.

