

Sticks & Stones

Improvisational Piecing by Tonye Belinda Phillips and Jean Wells



Finished quilt size approximately 19" x 24"

Designed by Tonye Belinda Phillips

for "Marks" fabrics by Valori Wells for Robert Kaufman Fabrics

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Improvisational Piecing

Sticks and Stones was designed by Tonye Phillips and uses Valori Wells “Marks Collection” of fabric from Robert Kaufman Fabrics. It was

Improvisationally Pieced in strips (see sketch). When working this way, you can free-cut without using a ruler, or you can use a ruler. The circles and small rectangles were hand appliquéed, but you could fuse them down. The different widths and lengths of the bolder prints adds interest to the design.

If you choose to piece without a ruler, lay out your strips in the colors you like, then attach the background fabric to each end of the center strips. (Figure 1.)

- Cut along the vertical edge of the strip without using a ruler.
- Overlap the edge of the first strip on top of the second one. Use the cut edge of the first strip to cut the line on the second strip. (Figure 2.) Pull out the leftover piece. Place the strips right sides together and stitch the seam, lining up the raw edges as you go: Stitch an inch or two, stop, line up the raw edges again, and continue. Press the seam in either direction.

For more detailed instructions on this technique, see the book Intuitive Color and Design by Jean Wells from C&T Publishing.

