**Sunny Skies**

_by Connecting Threads®_

### Fabrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shown in 2618 Dreamscape Coastal</td>
<td>3/4 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shown in 2560 Fronds Pampas Grass</td>
<td>1/2 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Shown in 2584 Pebbles Blueberry</td>
<td>3/4 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shown in 2561 Fronds Honeysuckle</td>
<td>FQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shown in 2598 Dreamscape Planet Earth</td>
<td>1-3/4 yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shown in 2546 Nebula Atmosphere</td>
<td>1-1/4 yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Shown in 2572 Swirl Sahara</td>
<td>1/2 yd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Backing:** You will need an additional 3-1/2 yards for a two-pieced back.

Additional Supplies: Freezer Paper
### Sunny Skies
by Connecting Threads

#### Pattern Basics

We encourage breaking the rules, but here are a few things you might want to keep in mind:

- Please read through all the instructions carefully before beginning a project. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this pattern.
- All instructions use a 1/4” seam allowance unless otherwise stated.
- Need help with any of the techniques used? Check out our free tutorials and videos at http://quiltwithus.connectingthreads.com

#### Common Quilting Acronyms:

- **FQ** = fat quarter (18” x 22”)
- **FE** = fat eighth (18” x 11”)
- **WOFQ** = width of fat quarter
- **WOF** = width of fabric
- **WS** = wrong side of fabric
- **RS** = right side of fabric
- **HST** = half square triangle
- **WS =** wrong side of fabric
- **RS =** right side of fabric
- **HST =** half square triangle

#### Approx. finished size: 54-1/2” x 54-1/2”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td>3/4 yd Border I - Eight 4” x 21-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td>1/2 yd Background A - Sixteen cut from freezer paper template A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Background C - Eight total cut from freezer paper templates (4 C &amp; 4 Cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td>3/4 yd Sunbeam B - Sunbeam points using 20 freezer paper template B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Border F - Four 2” x 30-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Border J - Four 2” x 54-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td>FQ Quarter Circle D - Four half circles using freezer paper template D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>1-3/4 yds Center E - One 22” square, trim using template</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td>1-1/4 yds Border K - Four 5” x 54-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td>1/2 yd Border H - Eight 3” x 21-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Binding - At least 228” of 2-1/2” strips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corner G - Two 9-7/8” squares cut in half once diagonally</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions

1. Place an A and B right sides together (freezer paper to freezer paper). Hold with A wrong side up (wsu). You will be able to see partially through A. Match up the freezer paper points of A and B.

2. Sew the two together starting the seam where the freezer paper begins and ending the seam all the way to the end of the two fabrics.

3. Flip A open and press the seam toward B. The A and B freezer papers should match up relatively close. Leave the papers attached to the fabrics.

4. Sew the arches alternating A and B pieces. Press toward the Bs. There will be some bulk at the points but if you can work with this it will be advantageous in the end. Finish the arches by sewing a C to the left end and a Cr on the right end. Leave all of the freezer papers attached to the fabrics.

5. Place a D and an arch right sides together. Line up the match points with the bottom intersecting points of the sun beams.

Because the seams were not sewn to the end of the fabrics, the arch will pivot nicely as you sew the convex and concave curves to each other. Remove the freezer paper from D and sew to the arch with the stitches going to the raw edges. It will help to have D wsu on top so you can see the match points on the arch. Press toward D. Repeat this process for the remaining three New York Beauty blocks.

6. Clip the match points just shy of 1/4". This will allow E to make a graceful curve. Pin the clipped match points to the Sunbeam (B) points. Sew the NY Beauty blocks to the Center E piece. Use the same approach used in sewing the D and the arches together (step 5). Press away from E.

7. The borders are sewn to the quilt center using mitered corners. Refer to steps 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 for details on the process. Steps 13 and 14 apply only to multiple borders being applied at one time. In this pattern, borders H & I and J & K are applied together.

8. Press the border F strips at a 45° angle on each end. Sew two of the strips to the quilt center on opposing sides. Start and stop your stitches at the creased line.

9. Sew the two remaining strips to the remaining sides of the quilt center. Stop the stitches at the crease/stopping point of the first two border strips.
10. Bring two of the border ends together (see step 16). Sew down the pressed crease. Trim the excess (step 17) and press the corner seams to one side and the initial seams toward border F.

11. Sew the H and I strips together. Press toward H.

12. Fold each end of the sewn strips to the wrong side of the combination. Fold at a 45° angle. Press with a hot iron.

13. Center a G triangle in the center of an H/I strip combo. Begin your stitches 1/4” away from the end of G and finish by sewing to the opposite end of G. Press toward H.

14. Match and pin a second H/I combo in place following the diagram below.

15. Sew the H/I to G. Start where the two creases intersect. Finish the seam at the crease.

16. Pivot the two corners so that with right sides together the ends line up. Line up the I border strips and pin where they intersect.
17. Sew the corner using the creases as your guide. Stop the seam 1/4" away from the end. Trim the excess leaving a 1/4" seam allowance. Press to one side. Repeat this process with the three remaining handkerchief corners.

18. Sew a row of basting stitches 1/8" in from the creases continuing across the bottom of G. Trim the excess flush with the bottom edge of G.

19. Fold one handkerchief corner in half, right side out. Fold one side of border F in half, right side out. Match up the two folds and pin together. Pin the ends together and once in between. Sew the two together. Trim the corners and press toward border F. Sew the remaining three handkerchief corners to the quilt's side.

20. Sew border J and K to the quilt using the same process used for applying borders H and I to the quilt. Press toward border J.

21. Sew the quilt back sections together. Press the seam allowances to one side.

22. Layer the quilt backing (wsu), batting and quilt top (rsu) together. Bast the layers. Quilt as desired.


Placement Diagram
Cutting Suggestions

FREEZER PAPER TEMPLATES: Prepare the freezer paper templates before you begin cutting the fabrics.

Benefits: The freezer paper stabilizes the fabric. The shapes using freezer paper foundations have curves and straight sides. The paper will keep the fabric from stretching and distorting during piecing. The paper can be seen through the lighter fabric giving you a second guide. The edge of the paper and your 1/4” foot will both act as a double check for accuracy during piecing.

1. Trace templates A, B, C (reverse direction on four templates for Cr) and D. Freezer paper can be reused but for streamlining the process you may want to cut enough templates for each piece. There will be less back tracking this way. Transfer any markings to the freezer paper pieces including the match point markings, grain line arrows and letter names.
2. Iron the shiny side of the freezer paper templates to the right side of the fabric. Leave enough space between the freezer paper templates for a 1/4” seam allowance around all sides. Be sure to follow the arrows indicating grain line placement.
3. Apply the templates using a hot, dry iron.
4. Cut 1/4” away from each template on all sides.

Cut a total of nine 2” x WOF strips. Sew them end to end and from this long strip cut four 2” x 30-1/2” strips and four 2” x 54-1/2” strips for borders F & J.
Cut one 22" square, fold it in half twice. Cut one with the E template placed on the folds.
NEW YORK BEAUTY BLOCK
TEMPLATES
ENLARGE 200%

Please measure this little 3/4" square after enlarging 200% for correct sizing.