

# Gatherings

*A row quilt in two sizes and six parts*

PART 6 OF 6

by Kimberly Einmo



GATHERINGS, 85" x 105" (queen), by Kimberly Einmo.  
Quilted by Carolyn Archer, Ohio Star Quilting.

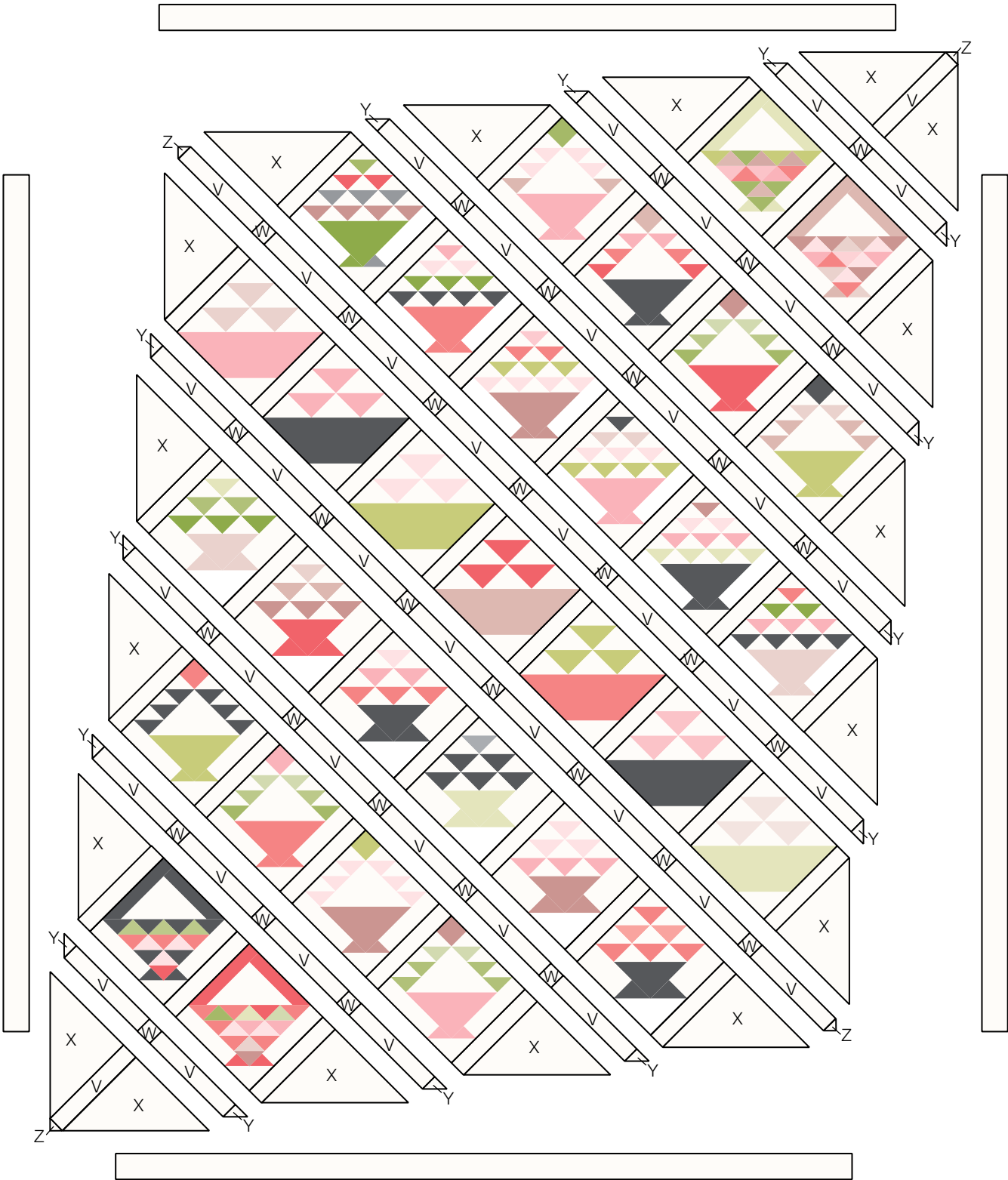
If you have been keeping up with your block and row assembly for the GATHERINGS quilt, you now should be ready to sew the quilt top together. We'll be using the sashing, setting triangles, and border pieces cut in part 1.

## Assembling the quilt

Following the quilt assembly diagram for the quilt you are making, lay out the diagonal basket rows. Paying attention to the orientation of the triangles, sew background X triangles to each end of the rows. Press seam allowances away from the triangles.

Again referring to the quilt assembly diagram, lay out diagonal sashing rows of background V sashing strips, W squares, Y and Z triangles. Sew the pieces together into sashing rows. Press all seam allowances toward the V sashing strips throughout the rest of the quilt assembly. Join the block rows and sashing rows matching cornerstones and sashing strips as you go.

Please respect copyright laws.  
This pattern may be copied for personal use only.  
Reproduction for resale is strictly prohibited.



Quilt assembly – queen

Note: Press all seam allowances toward the V sashing strips or toward the borders.



For the upper right and lower left corner units, join 2 background X triangles and a background V sashing strip. Sew a background Z triangle to the corner of the unit. Make 2. Sew the corner units to the quilt center.

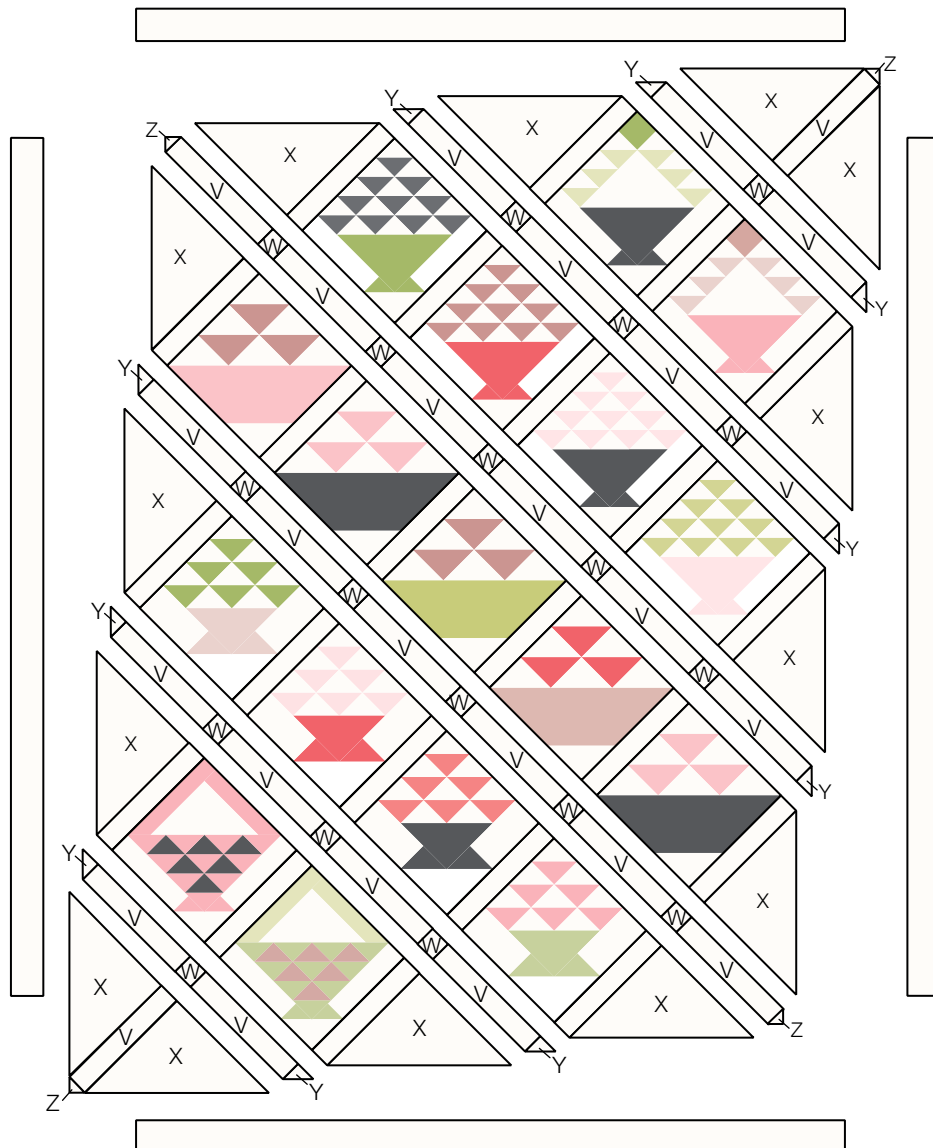
Press the quilt center. Measure the vertical length of the quilt through the center and trim the 2 background side border strips to this measurement. Sew them to the sides of the quilt. Press seam allowances toward the border. Measure the width of the quilt through the center, including

the side borders you just added. Trim the top and bottom border strips this length and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt.

### Quilting & finishing

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste to secure.

Sew the binding strips together for 391" (312") of continuous binding. Finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding. ▲



Quilt assembly – twin

Note: Press all seam allowances toward the V sashing strips or toward the borders.

# TIPS for Machine Quilting GATHERINGS

by Lori Kennedy

**A**s soon as you finish piecing the lovely GATHERINGS quilt top, jump right in to the quilting process!

## Begin with Stabilizing

After the quilt sandwich is layered and basted, the first step in the quilting process is stabilizing. Using a walking foot (optional) and matching color thread, stitch in the ditch along the major axes of the quilt. Because the blocks in GATHERINGS are set on-point, the major axes are diagonal lines. After stitching the major axes in both directions, you may want to stitch in the ditch all of the seams to add more structure to your quilt.



## Start quilting anywhere

Once the quilt is stabilized, the three layers will not shift. This allows you to begin machine quilting anywhere on the quilt—even the edges. If you know what you want to quilt in the borders—start there! If you have chosen a motif for the sashing, start quilting there instead! You do not need to have all the quilting planned in order to begin quilting. Stitching a few motifs will help the design ideas flow.



## Audition motifs

There are many ways to audition potential quilt motifs. Computer applications like 53 Paper allow you to import a photo of a quilt top and draw motifs on the photo. One of my favorite methods is to layer a sheet of vinyl over the quilt and audition motifs with a wet-erase pen.





### Repeat a pieced shape in the quilting

Choose a shape from the quilt top to repeat within the quilting line. Repeating a shape helps unify the overall quilt design and creates more visual interest. In *GATHERINGS*, the most frequently used shape is a triangle. One option for quilting is to create “Triangle Pop” in the sashing. Outline triangles and quilt heavily around each shape. The unquilted triangles will “pop” to create a gorgeous quilted texture.



### Design with contrast

Use density contrast to create visual interest within the quilted design. By placing densely quilted motifs next to more open motifs, both designs are more visible. The densely quilted Triangle Pop is more interesting when stitched next to the open Double Loop Vine motif. When using this technique, remember to keep the density balanced throughout the quilt.



### Repeat and vary

Repeating a single motif in several areas of the quilt creates unity within the quilt. Varying the motifs adds interest to the design. Choose any motif and see how many ways you can vary it to fill different quilt blocks. In *GATHERINGS*, adding leaves and stitching half flowers modified the Carnation flower motif.



### Add personality

As long as you are going to the effort to stitch custom quilting, add a little personality to the quilt. Stitch words or phrases within the quilted line or add a motif you love. Including a surprise design element creates visual interest and tells a story. In *GATHERINGS*, the little bird is an unexpected motif added to make it more fun for the viewer—and more fun for the quilter!

## Divide and conquer

Creating a quilting plan for an entire quilt is intimidating. Plan the quilt in smaller sections to make the process more manageable. In *GATHERINGS*, the major sections are: the sashing, the large setting triangles and the four blocks. Because the four blocks are all different, each block will require a separate plan. Choose one section at a time to quilt and don't worry about the rest of the quilt.



## Choose the right thread

The weight, color and sheen of thread effect how the motif will look in the quilt. When quilting a focus motif, choose thread in a heavier weight and contrasting color. When quilting a texture or background motif, choose a lightweight thread in a matching color. In *GATHERINGS*, the Carnations are stitched in pink 30wt cotton thread to help emphasize their design. On the other hand, the sashing and setting triangle motifs are stitched with lightweight Rayon in matching light green color to create a more subtle texture.



## Sign your quilt

Add your signature and date within the quilted line. Signatures add interesting detail and if you never get that label made....



## Pat yourself on the back!

When you complete the quilting for each block of the quilt, step back and relish your progress. Quilting large quilts takes time and patience. It is important to be patient and enjoy the process!

For more motifs, tutorials and inspiration please visit me at Lori Kennedy Quilts!