



Windy Tree

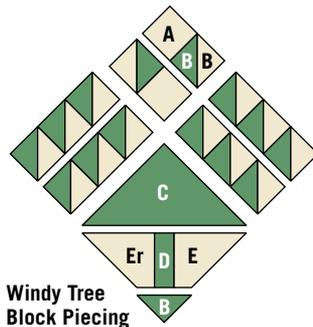
Every year when the kids were young, the “cutting of the tree” was not only an annual event but a pretty big deal. Along with the Slates family, we would pile the kids into our VW van and Roger Slates would follow in his beat-up mini pickup truck. We would drive at least an hour to the nearest lot where we could cut the tree ourselves. Inevitably, upon arrival, the quest for the perfect tree would begin. Funny how they look so perfect from the roadside, but less than great up close and personal.

After much deliberation, each family would pick their perfect tree and the hand saws would begin their sturdy chore. After piling the trees in the back of the truck and seat-belted the kids in place, our journey home would commence. Back at home began the deliberation of which family picked which tree.....not that it really mattered. Because all in all, was it about the perfect tree or two families building memories to last a lifetime? — *Alex*

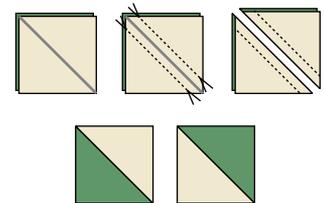
Windy Tree Block

Quilt designed and made by
Alex Anderson

Block size
10"



Windy Tree
Block Piecing



Half-square Triangle Piecing

Fabric & Cutting Requirements

Beige print	scraps	2 A, 7 B, 1 E, 1 Er
Green print	scraps	8 B, 1 D

Patches

A = 2½" square

B = 27⁄8" square, cut in
half diagonally



C = 67⁄8" square, cut in
half diagonally



D = 1½" x 33⁄8" rectangle

E/Er = template

The block design

Many traditional Tree blocks look similar to this one, but generally, the green triangles either all point to the center of the block or all toward the outside edges. Alex has arranged hers so that all green triangles except for one point in the same direction.

Looking at the quilt, however, note that two blocks face left and two blocks face right. Feel free to point your triangles to either side but do choose a predominant direction for each block. It doesn't matter which way the wind blows, left or right, as long as each block is consistent.

Making the block

Rotary cut the A, B, C, and D patches. Use the template to cut the E and Er patches.

Above is a great quick-piecing method for making the green and beige half-square triangles (HSTs). Referring to the diagram, layer a beige B and a green B right sides together. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the back of the beige B. Sew ¼" away from the line on both sides. Cut on the line to make 2 HSTs. Press seam allowances toward the green triangles. Make 14 HSTs. Cut the remaining green B in half diagonally to get the B for the corner of the block. Save the remaining green B for another Tree block or for your scrap drawer.

Following the block piecing diagram, arrange and join the patches. Press seam allowances always toward the green patches.

