

Charm Squares Baby Quilt

by Elizabeth Hartman



Finished quilt measures approximately 33" x 40"

Supplies

- 1/4 yard each of 5 different print or solid fabrics, **or** at least 38 precut or scrap 5" x 5" squares
- 5/8 yard white or other neutral solid fabric for sashing
- 1-1/4 yards fabric for backing
- 3/8 yard fabric for binding
- 37" x 44" low-loft cotton batting
- 100% cotton thread

Note: Fabric requirements call for fabric at least 42" wide.

Cutting Directions

If you're using 1/4 yard cuts:

- From each 1/4 yard of fabric, cut 1 strip 5" x width of fabric. Subcut into 8 **squares**, 5" x 5" each. Cut 3 of the squares in half, creating 6 **rectangles**, each measuring 2-1/2" x 5".

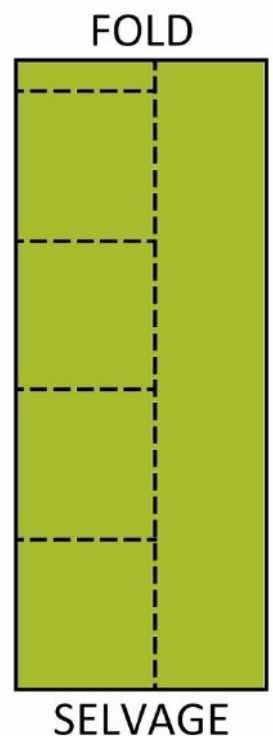
If you're using precut squares:

- Reserve 25 **squares** and cut the remaining 13 squares in half to create 26 **rectangles** 2-1/2" x 5".

For sashing and binding:

- From solid sashing fabric, cut 2 **wide sashing strips** 5" x width of fabric. Trim each to 5" x 33". Cut 4 **narrow sashing strips** 2-1/2" x width of fabric. Trim each to 2-1/2" x 33".
- From binding fabric, cut 4 strips 2-1/2" x width of fabric.

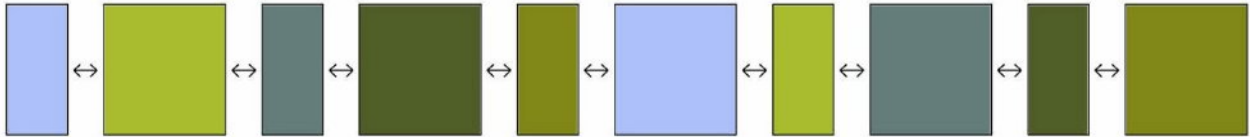
Tip: When cutting rectangles from directional prints like stripes, think about how your cutting will affect how the print is oriented in the finished quilt.



Sorting the Squares and Rectangles

Sort the cut squares and rectangles into 5 sets (1 for each row) each including 5 squares and 5 rectangles.

- If you're using 5 different fabrics, each set should include 1 square and 1 rectangle of each fabric, and you will have 1 extra rectangle of each fabric.
- If you're using precut squares, you will have 1 extra rectangle.



Note: All piecing should be done using a 1/4" seam allowance and all seams should be pressed open.

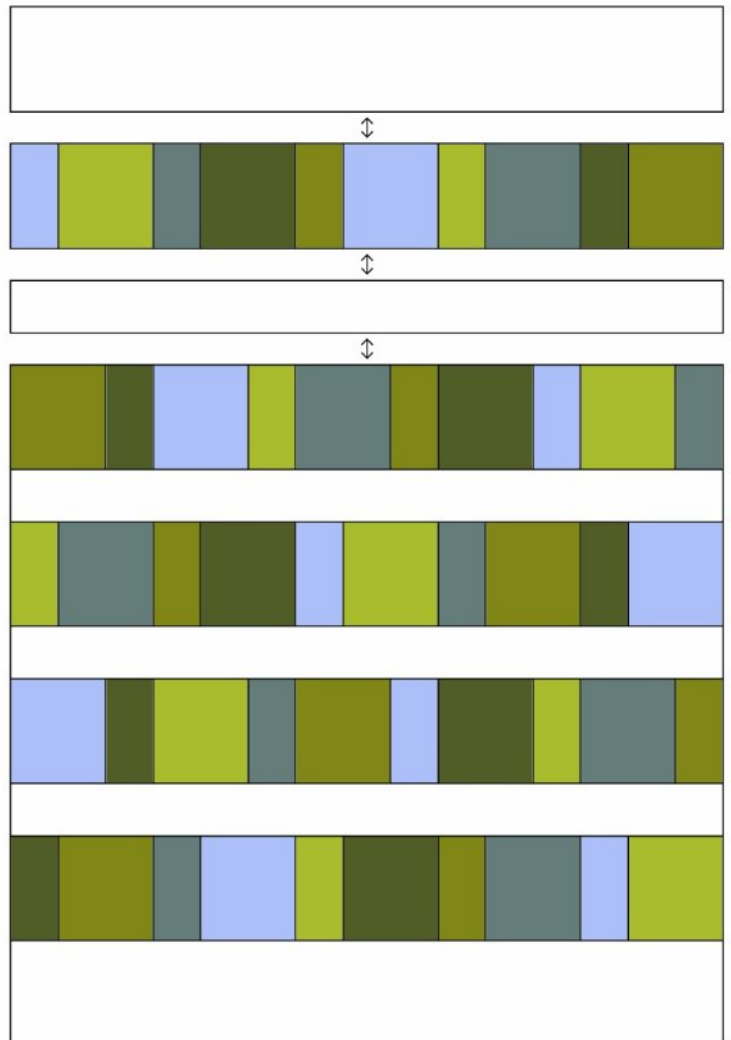
Making the Quilt Top

Sew each set of squares and rectangles into a pieced row, alternating squares and rectangles, as shown in the diagram above. Rows 1, 3, and 5 should start with a rectangle. Rows 2 and 4 should start with a square.

Tip: Use blue painter's tape and a marker to label each row, so you don't lose track of which row is which.

Sew the sashing strips and pieced rows together in the following order:

- Wide sashing strip
- Row 1
- Narrow sashing strip
- Row 2
- Narrow sashing strip
- Row 3
- Narrow sashing strip
- Row 4
- Narrow sashing strip
- Row 5
- Wide sashing strip



Finishing the Quilt

Sandwich, quilt, and bind your quilt as desired. Tutorials for making a quilt sandwich and making and sewing binding are free on my blog, www.ohfransson.com.

Twin Bed Variation (approximately 71" x 85")

Fabric requirements call for fabric at least 42" wide. Please note that the fabric requirements are fairly exact (within a couple of inches). If you would like a little wiggle room for cutting errors, you may want to purchase extra fabric.

Supplies

- 5/8 yard each of 5 different print or solid fabrics, **or** at least 38 precut or scrap 10" x 10" squares
- 2 yards white or other neutral solid fabric for sashing
- 5-1/4 yards fabric for backing
- 5/8 yard fabric for binding
- 75" x 89" low-loft cotton batting

Cutting Directions

If you're using 5/8 yard cuts:

- From each 5/8 yard of fabric, cut 2 strips 10" x width of fabric. Subcut the strips into 8 **squares**, 10" x 10" each. Cut 3 of the squares in half, creating 6 **rectangles**, each measuring 5" x 10".

If you're using precut squares:

- Reserve 25 **squares** and cut the remaining 13 squares in half to create 26 **rectangles** 5" x 10".

For sashing, backing, and binding :

Note that sashing fabric will be cut along the length (selvage edge) of the fabric.

- From solid sashing fabric, cut 2 **wide sashing strips** 10" x length of fabric. Trim each to 10" x 70-1/2". Cut 4 **narrow sashing strips** 5" x length of fabric. Trim each to 5" x 70-1/2".
- Cut backing fabric into 2 equal pieces, each about 93" x width of fabric.
- From binding fabric, cut 8 strips 2-1/2" x width of fabric.

Making the Quilt

Follow the baby quilt directions to sort and piece your squares, rectangles, wide sashing, and narrow sashing into a quilt top. Trim selvage from the 2 quilt back pieces and sew them together, matching long sides. Sandwich, quilt and bind as desired.