

This charming little quilt can be a joy to make and well as to receive. It is loaded with fun prints and bright solids sewn together into very simple units. Artistically arranged to splash color all over the surface of the quilt top, you can rest assured that there is absolutely no way to get it wrong! Consider putting flannel on the back to make it extra warm and comfy as well as plenty rough and tumble. So gather up some charming fabrics that have special meaning to your little one, do some easy sewing and create a treasured keepsake.

Fabric Requirements

Novelty fabrics to total	½ to ¾ yard (fussy cutting may require more)
Additional scrap fabrics to total	¾ to 1 yard
Inner border	⅓ yard
Outer border + binding	1 yard
Backing	3½ yards OR 1½ yards + 6" x 56" center strip *** See note at end of pattern***

Cutting Directions

What and how you cut will depend on your chosen method of construction. You have two options:

- 1) **Square^{2™}** method using Deb Tucker's **Square^{2™}** tool, or
- 2) Paper foundation piecing.

For both Deb's tool and Paper foundation you will be cutting your squares and triangles slightly larger than necessary and then trimming away excess once your sewing and pressing are complete. With Deb's **Square^{2™}** tool however, there is no paper to be removed at the end! A real time saver!

The sample was made with Deb's **Square^{2™}** tool. It is quick, accurate and easy to use. You can purchase the tool at your local quilt shop, or directly from Deb's website at www.studio180design.net. If you would like to see how it is used before you buy, simply visit the free demonstration video on Deb's site. It may help make your construction decision easier.

Center Square Note: You have several options here as well. The quilt requires 63 - 4" finished squares in the main section, and 4 - 4" squares in the corners of the outer border. Deb mixed hers up a bit by adding 2 unpieced squares of the outer border fabric and two squares with mini 2" pieced blocks + outer border fabric fillers (one is along the left hand edge and one is along the right hand edge) in the main section of the quilt. So she had 59 pieced 4" finished blocks, 2 non-pieced 4" finished blocks and 2 little 2" pieced blocks + fillers. The cutting will reflect what Deb did, but please feel free to adjust as desired.

Center Squares ~ From Novelty Fabrics Totaling ½ to ¾ yard . . .		
For 4" Finished Units	Square ^{2™} Method	Cut 59 squares using the 4" finished window template on the Square ^{2™} tool
	Paper Foundation Construction	Cut 59 squares 3¾" x 3¾" for paper foundation construction
	Cut 4 additional squares all from the same fabric for 4" finished units for the corner units in the border. Use the same method as above.	
For 2" Finished Units	Square ^{2™} Method	Cut 4 mini squares using the 2" finished window template on the Square ^{2™} tool
	Paper Foundation Construction	Cut 4 squares 2¼" x 2¼" for paper foundation construction.

Surrounding Triangles ~ From Scrap Fabrics Totaling $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 yard . . .		
For 4" Finished Units	Square ^{2™} Method	Cut 118 squares $3\frac{1}{4}" \times 3\frac{1}{4}"$ and sub cut into half square triangles for use with the Square ^{2™} tool
	Paper Foundation Construction	Cut 118 squares $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ and sub cut into half square triangles for use with paper foundation.
	Cut 8 additional squares all from the same fabric, then sub cut into 16 half square triangles for the corner units in the border. Use the same method as above.	
For 2" Finished Units	Square ^{2™} Method	Cut 8 squares $2\frac{1}{4}" \times 2\frac{1}{4}"$ and sub cut into half square triangles for use with the Square ^{2™} tool
	Paper Foundation Construction	Cut 8 squares $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ and sub cut into half square triangles for use with paper foundation

Inner Borders ~ From $\frac{1}{3}$ Yard of Fabric . . .
Cut 2 strips to measure $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 36\frac{1}{2}"$
Cut 2 strips to measure $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 32\frac{1}{2}"$

Outer Borders & Binding ~ From 1 Yard of Fabric . . .
Cut 2 strips to measure $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 40\frac{1}{2}"$
Cut 2 strips to measure $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 32\frac{1}{2}"$
Cut 2 squares to measure $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$ for main section of quilt
Cut 2 squares to measure $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ for mini block piecing
Cut 4 strips $2\frac{1}{4}"$ or $2\frac{1}{2}"$ wide for binding

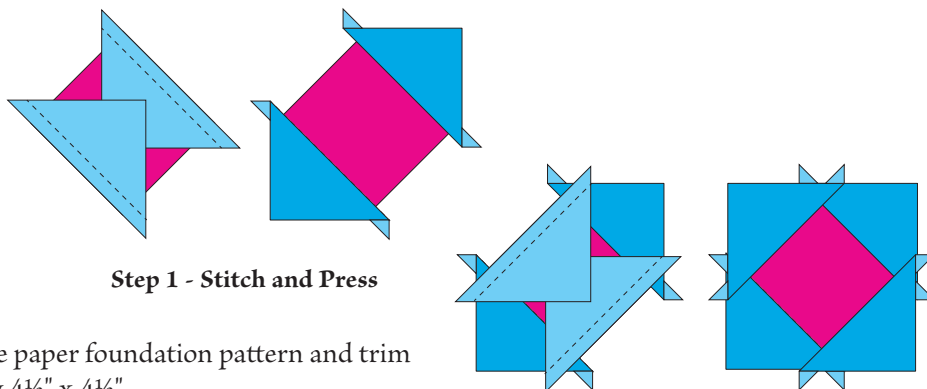
Assembly

Make a total of 59 - 4" finished diamond square blocks using either Deb's sewing methods or paper foundation methods.

Step 1 - Stitch half square triangles onto the opposite sides of the center square (piece #2 and piece #3) and press seams away from the square.

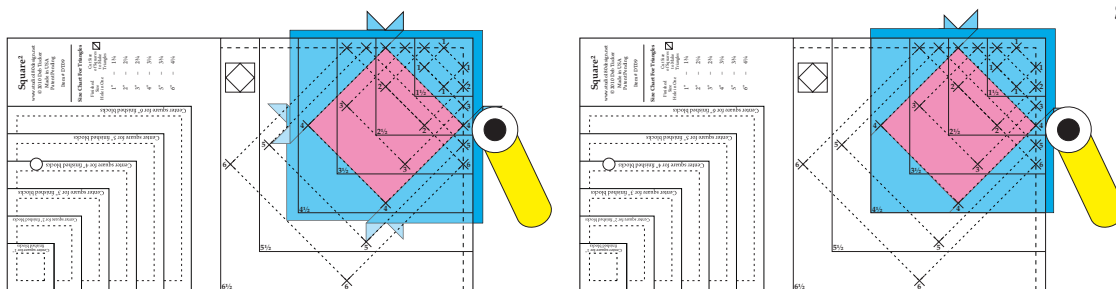
Step 2 - Stitch half square triangles onto the remaining sides of the center square (piece #4 and #5) and press seams away from the square.

Step 3 - Use Deb's Square^{2™} tool or the lines on the paper foundation pattern and trim each sewn and pressed unit to measure exactly $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.



Step 1 - Stitch and Press

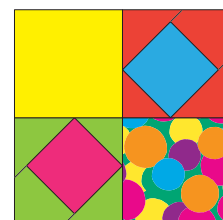
Step 2 - Stitch and Press Again



Step 3 - Trim Using Square^{2™}

Step 4 - Make 4 miniature (2" finished) diamond square blocks in the same manner as above. Trim each unit to measure $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$ using Use Deb's Square^{2™} tool or the lines on the paper foundation pattern.

Step 5 - Sew these miniature units alternately with 4 - $2\frac{1}{2}"$ outer border fabric squares to make a total of 2 blocks that should measure $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.



Step 5 - Sew Mini Blocks

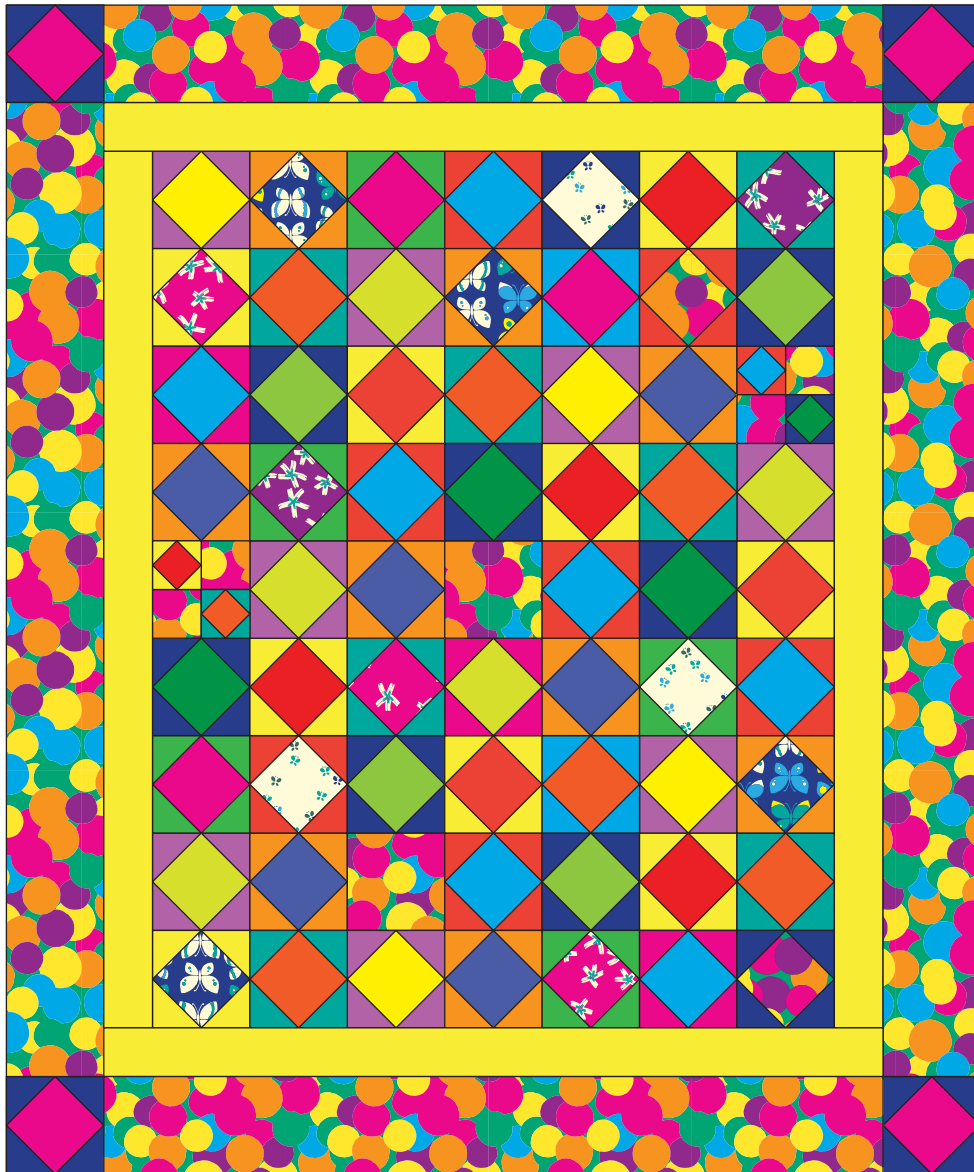
Step 6 - Arrange the pieced blocks on a design wall into a 7 block x 9 block layout.

Step 7 - Stitch the blocks together into rows, pressing seams open. Stitch the rows together into center section of quilt, pressing seams open again.

Step 8 - Attach the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $36\frac{1}{2}$ " inner border strips to the long sides of the quilt center, pressing seams toward strip. Attach the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $32\frac{1}{2}$ " inner border strips to the short sides of the quilt center, pressing seams toward strip.

Step 9 - Attach the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $40\frac{1}{2}$ " outer border strips to the long sides of the quilt center, pressing seams toward outer border strip. Attach a pieced $4\frac{1}{2}$ " diamond square border unit to each end of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $32\frac{1}{2}$ " top and bottom outer border strips, pressing seams toward the border strip. Attach these top and bottom border sections to the quilt center and press seams toward the inner border strip.

Step 10 - Layer the completed top together with batting and backing and baste using either thread or safety pins. Quilt as desired. Bind to finish.



Some food for thought: On the backing of my quilt I placed a bright, solid yellow strip right down the middle between two colorful fabric sections. I plan on using this strip to record what a child sees on the front of the quilt. By listing the items and inking them with a permanent marking pen I hope to create added observation skills in the child as well and using it as a recall list for a hide & seek type activity. Someday the words may also be used to help a child learn to recognize letters and eventually words. I'm almost certain that their young eyes will see things that I do not! Let's all strive to learn something new every day!

Hide & Seek

4" and 2" Diamond Square
Paper Foundation Pattern

