

SQUARED AWAY



Flannel Baby Quilt by Maureen O'Neill



Multicolour by Sherry Harnden

This is a quick and easy quilt but can be quite effective. Great for a gift or a charity quilt. It can be varied in a number of ways. You can make anything from a potholder to a king-sized quilt using these blocks.

These fabric requirements are for a 56" x 72" quilt, just to give you an idea. A border is optional .

You will need two groups of contrasting fabrics: A: dark and light prints B: two solid colours

Can be done scrappy but make sure you have two contrasting groups.

2m. total of fabric A (i.e. 1 m. of each of 2 fabrics or eight $\frac{1}{4}$ m. pieces) *not fat quarters*

2m. total of fabric B (i.e. 1 m. of each of 2 fabrics or eight $\frac{1}{4}$ m. pieces) *not fat quarters*

Fabric for binding. Borders are unnecessary but optional.

Don't forget to send a picture of your finished product to Debbie Fisico (dfisico8@yahoo.ca)

to post on the KQG website and you can also post on KQG Facebook.

Squared Away

Instructions

Cutting

Cut your fabric into $9\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares 16 squares of each of A light & dark and B light & dark. You will have 32 squares from A and 32 from B.

From each of your $9\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, cut two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " strips.

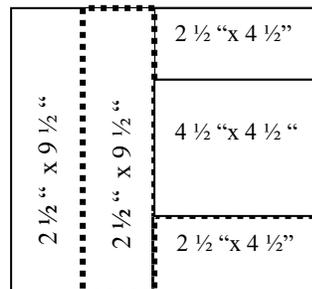
From the remaining rectangle, cut two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " strips.

You now have two- $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " strips

two- $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " strips

one- $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square

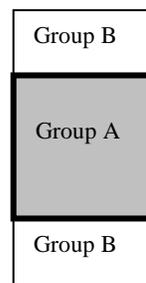
You can cut two or more squares at once; i.e. one of each from group A and B



Sew the blocks

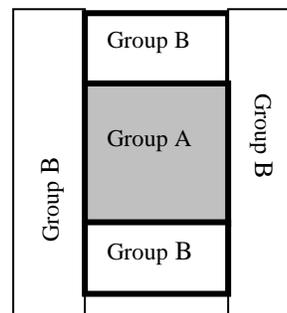
Sew the two short rectangles to opposite sides of the square.

Press towards rectangles.



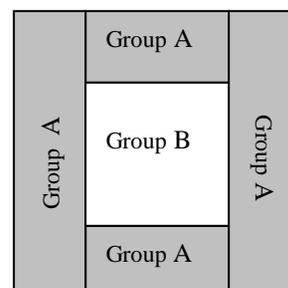
Sew the two long pieces to the other sides of the now rectangle.

Press away from center square towards long rectangles.



Trim to make your block square. (It will probably be $8\frac{1}{4}$ " x $8\frac{1}{4}$ ")

For the next block, you will use opposite colours or groups.

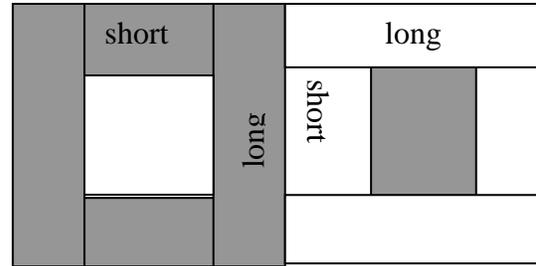


If you prefer, you could chain piece, by sewing all of the first short rectangles to your squares, then the next ones. Press. Then sew each of the long rectangles. Press.

You should end up with 32 blocks framed in colour A and 32 blocks framed in colour B. You have an extra block because you will only need 63 for the size given.

Assemble Blocks:

No seams to match



Block # 1

Block # 2

Sew 7 blocks into a strip, alternating the colours. i.e. Strip one : begin with block # 1, follow with block #2. Strip two: begin with block #2, follow with block #1. Strip three : begin with block # 1, follow with block #2.

Continue in this manner until you have 9 strips of 7 blocks each. It's not a bad idea to number these strips on a piece of paper pinned to the strip so that you will have them in the order that you have planned. These are your horizontal strips. Press.

Be sure to turn the blocks as in the diagram, with the long side on one block beside the short side on the other, so that you have no seams to match.

Now sew each of these strips to the other. Press.

Finishing:

All that is left to do is to add batting and backing, quilt & bind! Lots of opportunity to try a variety of quilting patterns.

Variations :

- ❖ Alternate one pieced block, one plain.
- ❖ Instead of using all the same fabrics for the "frames", use two & two, or four different all in the same group (*A or B*).
- ❖ Use all the same squares and frames instead of alternating them.... it will look more like sashing but with shading variations.
- ❖ Set the blocks on point.
- ❖ Fussy cut an image for the center squares.
- ❖ Appliqué on some or all center squares.
- ❖ Make as an "I spy."
- ❖ Change the size of the center square & frames.
- ❖ Add a border, pieced or not . I made mini blocks as a border on one of mine.