



Charm Squares Baby Quilt

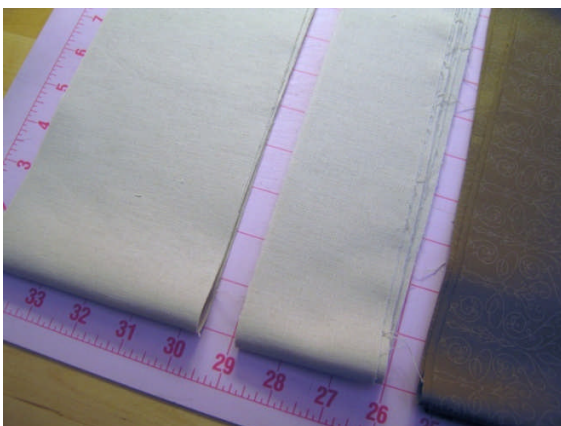
33" x 40"

Precut charm squares and a simple layout make it possible to finish this quilt in a single afternoon.

You will need:

- 38 charm squares 5" x 5" of assorted print fabrics
- 5/8 yard solid cotton/linen for sashing
- 3/8 yard contrasting print or solid fabric for binding
- 1 ¼ yard coordinating print fabric for backing
- 37" x 44" low-loft cotton batting

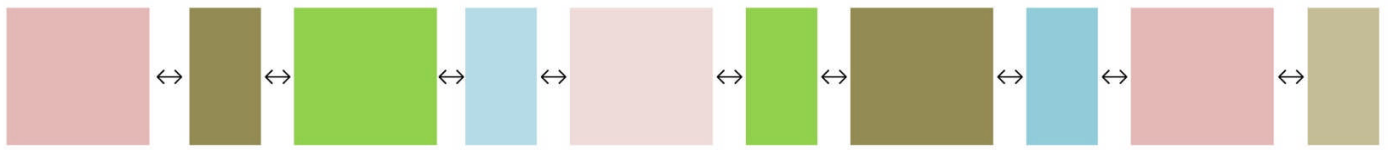
Note: I used a craft sized package of Warm and White batting, which measured 34" x 45". I also backed my quilt with just one yard of fabric. Using the larger sizes suggested above will give you more leeway during the sandwiching process but, because this is such a small quilt, I found it quite easy to make the slightly smaller sizes of batting and backing work.



From your solid fabric, cut 2 wide sashing strips 5" x width of fabric. Cut 4 sashing strips 2 ½" x width of fabric. From binding fabric, cut 4 strips 2 ½" x width of fabric.



Divide your charm squares into one set of 25 and one set of 13. The set of 25 squares will be used "as is." Cut each of the squares from the set of 13 in half, creating 26 half squares measuring 2 ½" x 5".



Sew your charm squares and half squares into 5 rows, pressing seams open. Each row should include 5 squares and 5 half squares, alternating between the two. You will have one extra half square. (If you're using directional prints, start 3 of your rows with a square and 2 of your rows with a half square.)

Sew your solid sashing strips and pieced rows together, placing the wide (5") sashing at the top and bottom and the 2 1/2" sashing between the pieced rows. Press seams open.

The sashing strips will be longer than the pieced rows. After sewing, trim each piece of sashing to match the pieced rows.

Turn every other row of sashing 180 degrees, so that the squares and half squares are offset in the finished composition.

Once your quilt top is finished, use it with your batting and backing fabric to make a quilt sandwich. Quilt in your desired pattern. (I used free-motion quilting.)

Piece and sew binding, as desired. I used double-fold binding.

Machine wash your quilt on gently cycle in cold water and tumble dry with low heat to create a crinkly texture.

Enjoy your finished quilt!

