

Charm Square Sampler

Finished quilt size 52" x 68"

Finished block size 8"



This pattern uses charm squares (pre-cut 5" squares) to make four different 8" quilt blocks. It's a great way to use up scraps, if you cut your own 5" squares.

The quilt in this picture uses four charm packs and contains 35 blocks. I used the "Redbird in the Bowers" fabric collection by Kathy Schmitz for Moda to make my sample. Since charm packs vary in the number of squares they contain, use the fabric requirements below to determine what you'll need.

Fabric requirements:

Based on 42" wide fabric. Good quality, 100% cotton fabrics are recommended.

The blocks use 4 charm packs containing 35 squares each. Each block uses 4 charm squares. So for the 35 blocks, you'll need a total of 140 5" squares.

For the inner border and binding, you need 1-1/4 yards

For the outer border, you need 1-1/4 yards

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Charm Square Sampler

Block One

MAKING THE BLOCK

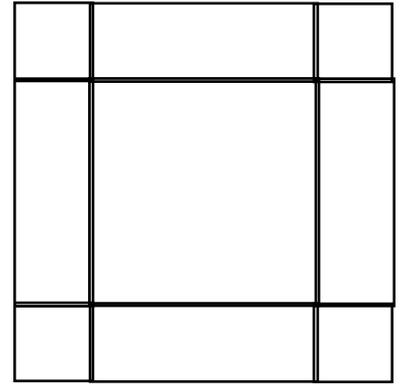
You will use 32 squares to make 8 blocks.

Sort the squares into 8 groupings of 4.

One square will be the center.

Two squares will be the sides.

One square will be the corners.



Once you are happy with your arrangement, cut the following:

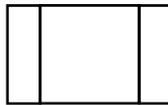
Set the center square aside as it is

Cut the 2 squares for the sides in half to make four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5" rectangles

Cut the remaining square in half twice to make four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares

Repeat with each grouping of four.

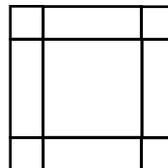
Sew a side rectangle to each side of the center square.



To each side of the two remaining rectangles, sew one of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares. (You will have two units like this.)



Add these units to the top and bottom of the block.



The block now measures 9" square. Trim down the entire block to measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ ", trimming evenly off each side so that the center square stays centered.

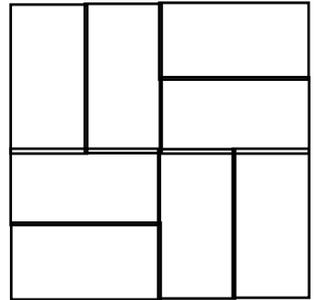
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Block Two

MAKING THE BLOCK

You will use 32 squares to make 8 blocks.

Sort the squares into 8 groupings of 4.



Once you are happy with your arrangement, cut each square in half to make two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5" rectangles.

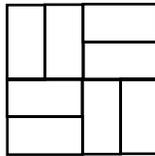
Sew the rectangles together into pairs. The unit will now measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5". Trim one end off each unit so that they are all $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



Next, join the pairs together, turning them as shown.



Stitch two of these units together to finish the block.



The block now measures $9\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Trim down the entire block to measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ ", trimming evenly off each side so that the center stays centered.

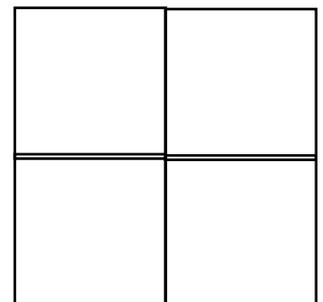
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Block Three

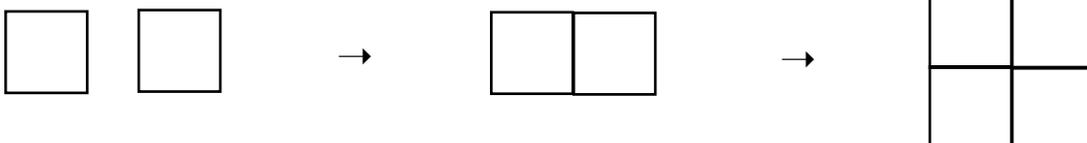
MAKING THE BLOCK

You will use 32 squares to make 8 blocks.

Sort the squares into 8 groupings of 4.



Once you are happy with your arrangement, simply make the groupings into four-patches.



The block now measures $9\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Trim down the entire block to measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ ", trimming evenly off each side so that the center stays centered.

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Block Four

MAKING THE BLOCK

You will use 32 squares to make 8 blocks.

Sort the squares into 8 groupings of 4.

Once you are happy with your arrangement, cut each square in half twice to make four 2-1/2" squares.

Sew the squares together into pairs. Sew the pairs together into 4-patches. You can make the 4-patches all alike, or randomly mix up the squares, whichever you prefer.



Stitch the four-patches into pairs, then join these units together to complete the block.

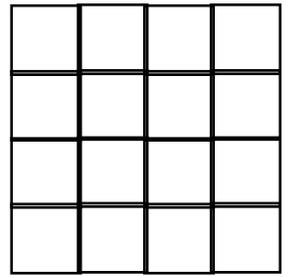


The block now measures 8-1/2" square. No trimming required.

SETTING THE BLOCKS TOGETHER

You now have 32 blocks. Using the remaining 12 squares, divide them into groups of four and make 3 more blocks of your choice so that you have 35 blocks that measure 8-1/2".

Arrange the blocks into 5 rows of 7 blocks each, in an arrangement that you like. Stitch the blocks into rows, then stitch the rows together to complete the center of the quilt. If you do not wish to add any borders, you can stop here. If you want borders on your quilt, see the next page.



ADDING THE BORDERS

For the inner border, cut 2-1/2" strips.

For the outer border, cut 4-1/2" strips. If your strips are not long enough, stitch them end to end and then cut your length from the longer pieced strip.

If you prefer, you can make your borders smaller or larger, and these instructions will still work.

Step 1: Measure the quilt (being careful not to pull or stretch) through the center from top to bottom.

Step 2: Take 2 of your border strips and cut them to this length. Measure carefully!

Step 3: Sew these 2 strips to the side edges of the quilt top, running from top to bottom, and easing the quilt to fit the border strip.

Step 4: Now measure the quilt through the center from side to side, including the border strips you just added.

Step 5: Cut your two remaining border strips to this length.

Step 6: Sew these 2 strips to the top and bottom edges of the quilt, easing the quilt to fit the border strip.

Step 7: Steps 1 through 6 can be repeated for any additional borders you wish to add.

You should have enough fabric left over from your inner border to cut 2" strips for the binding after you get the quilt quilted.