

Prairie Moon Quilts

Wild West Scavenger Hunt

Prairie Patches

Step One

Your first step in creating this quilt is to pick out the fabrics you'll be using. Yardage requirements are given on the next page. You can make this quilt by shopping in your stash, but I encourage you to give your favorite quilt shop a boost should you feel the need to shop. And who doesn't?

You can refer to the pictures of the quilts for color ideas, but definitely feel free to pick your own colors and try not to be influenced by mine. Scraps are good in this quilt.



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There are two size options for this quilt. The small version is shown on Page 1. I made mine from the Pure collection by Sweetwater for Moda. Two versions of the large quilt are shown on page 3, one of the full quilt with a closeup, and a closeup of another version. I used mostly scraps for the blocks, and tied those together with purchased fabric for the sashing and borders.

Small Version

46" x 64"

Here's what you'll need:

For outer borders:

1 yard

For sashing:

1 1/2 yards

For cornerposts:

5/8 yd.

For blocks:

1 3/4 yards assorted prints or scraps

For binding:

5/8 yard

Large Version

64" x 82"

Here's what you'll need:

For outer borders:

1 1/2 yards

For sashing:

2 1/2 yards

For cornerposts:

7/8 yd.

For blocks:

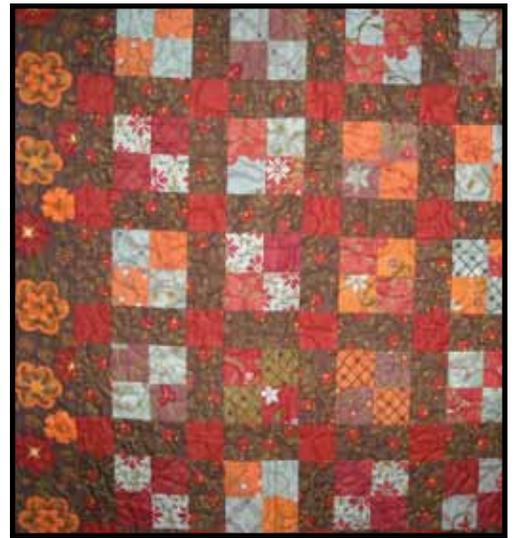
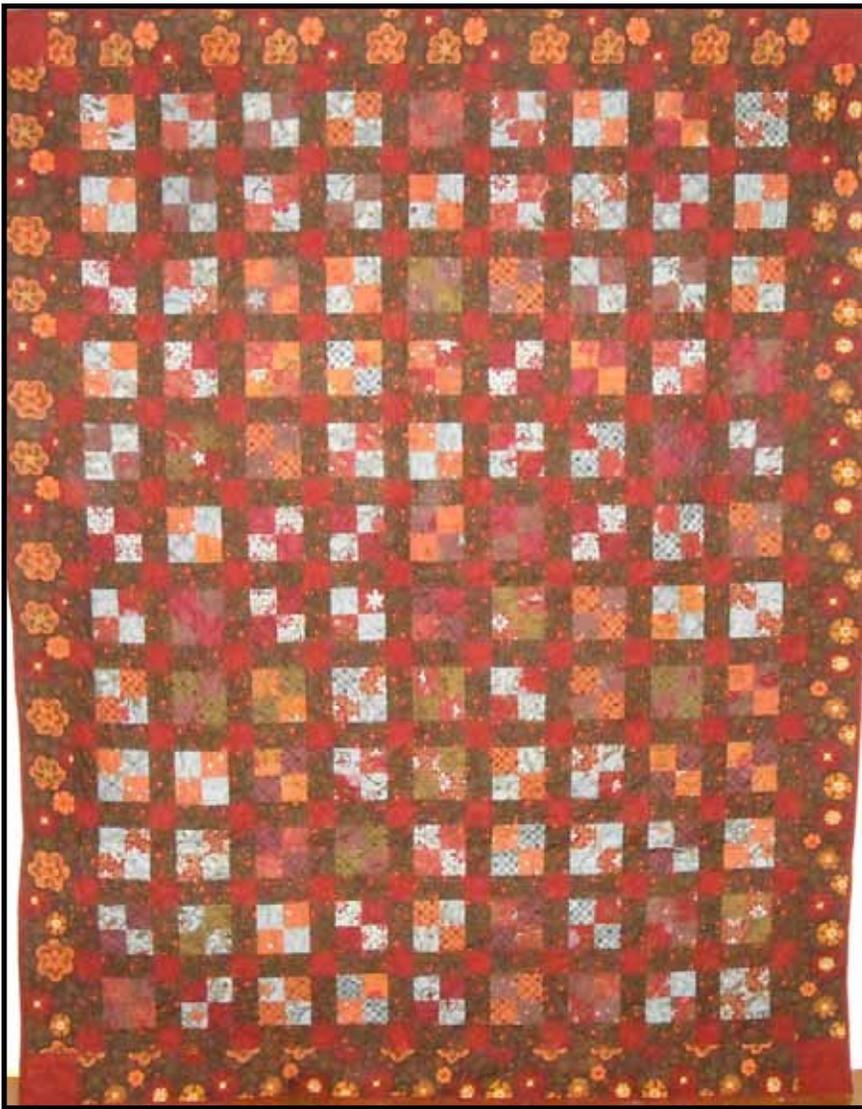
3 yards assorted prints or scraps

For binding:

3/4 yard

NOTE: You can use charm packs for part of the block piecing if you wish. If your charm packs have at least 35 squares in them, the large version will take 4 charm packs, and the small version will take 2 charm packs.

Once you have your fabric all together, you're ready for Step Two.



In the top version, you can see that I used all 4-patches in my piecing instead of using some large squares. I did this because I had more scraps to use up.



In the “regular” version, shown at left, I used my border print to cut large squares to fit in the blocks. This makes the piecing go faster. You can opt to do whichever way you prefer.

Step Two

Now that you have your fabrics all gathered up, you're ready to begin cutting and sewing. We'll make this quilt in units, so for Step Two we'll be making Unit 1.

Unit 1 is simply the 4-patch units that will be used in the blocks.

Be sure to follow the instructions for the size of quilt you are making. In addition, you have the option of using more scraps by making all the block units into 4-patches, or using larger squares for some of them. The two choices are pictured below. For this step, we're concentrating on the version shown on the right, and I'll cover what to do for the other version in Step Four.

Remember, for this step, we're working on the 4-patch unit only (Unit 1). Cutting and stitching directions begin below.



Small Version

46" x 64"

From your assorted prints or scraps, (or from charm squares if you're using them), cut:
120 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Mix and match up your squares, and sew them together in pairs. Press seams toward the darker fabric, or open if you prefer. You should have 60 pairs.



Next, join two pairs together to create a 4-patch unit. Press seams to one side, or open if you prefer.



You should have 30 4-patches when you're done, and each one should measure 4 1/2". And now you're ready to proceed to Step Three.

Large Version

64" x 82"

From your assorted prints or scraps, (or from charm squares if you're using them), cut:
240 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Mix and match up your squares, and sew them together in pairs. Press seams toward the darker fabric, or open if you prefer. You should have 120 pairs.



Next, join two pairs together to create a 4-patch unit. Press seams to one side, or open if you prefer.



You should have 60 4-patches when you're done, and each one should measure 4 1/2". And now you're ready to proceed to Step Three.

Step Three

Are you ready for this? We'll be building on the units we made in Step Two. First some more cutting, then some more sewing . . .

Remember to follow the instructions for the size of quilt you are making.

Small Version

46" x 64"

From your cornerpost fabric, cut:

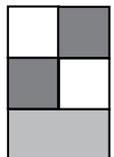
24 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

From your sashing fabric, cut:

48 rectangles 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

Take out 24 of your 4-patch units to work with, and set the rest aside for later.

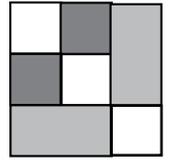
To the bottom of each of these 24 4-patches, sew a rectangle, as shown. Press the seam toward the rectangle.



To each of the remaining rectangles, sew a 2 1/2" cornerpost square. Press the seam toward the rectangle.



Sew these units to the sides of each of the other units, as shown. You should have 24 units that look like this, and each unit should measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



Now you're ready to proceed to Step Four.

Large Version

64" x 82"

From your cornerpost fabric, cut:

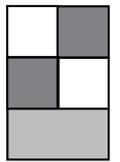
48 squares $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ "

From your sashing fabric, cut:

96 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

Take out 48 of your 4-patch units to work with, and set the rest aside for later.

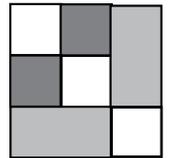
To the bottom of each of these 48 4-patches, sew a rectangle, as shown. Press the seam toward the rectangle.



To each of the remaining rectangles, sew a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " cornerpost square. Press the seam toward the rectangle.



Sew these units to the sides of each of the other units, as shown. You should have 48 units that look like this, and each unit should measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square.



Now you're ready to proceed to Step Four.

Step Four

Now you should be all ready to make Unit 3. Are you? We'll be doing some more cutting, then once again on to some more sewing.

Remember to follow the instructions for the size of quilt you are making.

Small Version

46" x 64"

From your sashing fabric, cut:

24 rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

And for these next pieces, you have a choice . . .

You can use one focal print (I had extra border fabric, so I used that, but don't do that if you're not sure you have extra), OR you can use scraps and mix them up, OR you can cut from charm squares.

Whatever you choose, you need to cut:

24 squares $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

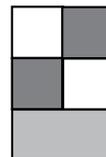
And here's another option . . .

If you'd like to use up more scraps, you can make extra 4-patches to use in place of these squares, if you prefer. Instead of cutting the 24 larger squares, you can cut 96 more 2 1/2" squares and make them into 4-patches. I did this in one of my versions because I had smaller pieces I wanted to use up. Make the most of your scraps!

So, to clarify here, you'll need 24 large squares, OR 24 more 4-patches. Then you're ready to sew. To one side of each square (or 4-patch), sew a rectangle. Press the seam toward the rectangle. You should have 24 units that look like this,



or this,



and each unit should measure 4 1/2" x 6 1/2".

Now you're ready to proceed to Step Five.

Large Version

64" x 82"

From your sashing fabric, cut:

48 rectangles 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

And for these next pieces, you have a choice . . .

You can use one focal print (I had extra border fabric, so I used that, but don't do that if you're not sure you have extra), OR you can use scraps and mix them up, OR you can cut from charm squares.

Whatever you choose, you need to cut:

48 squares 4 1/2" x 4 1/2"

And here's another option . . .

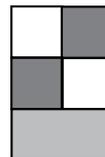
If you'd like to use up more scraps, you can make extra 4-patches to use in place of these squares, if you prefer. Instead of cutting the 48 larger squares, you can cut 192 more 2 1/2" squares and make them into 4-patches. I did this in one of my versions because I had smaller pieces I wanted to use up. Make the most of your scraps!

So, to clarify here, you'll need 48 large squares, OR 48 more 4-patches. Then you're ready to sew.

To one side of each square (or 4-patch), sew a rectangle. Press the seam toward the rectangle. You should have 48 units that look like this,



or this,



and each unit should measure 4 1/2" x 6 1/2".

Now you're ready to proceed to Step Five.

Step Five

This time we're going to take all the units we've made so far and assemble the blocks. Are you ready?

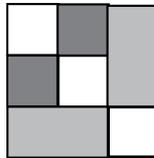
These instructions are the same no matter which size version you're making. The only difference is in the number of blocks you'll make.

The small version makes 6 blocks.
The large version makes 12 blocks.

You'll need all the units you made in Step Three, plus the units you set aside for later from Step Three, plus all the units you made in Step Four.

We'll work with one block at a time . . .

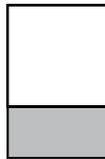
You'll need four of the Step Three units:



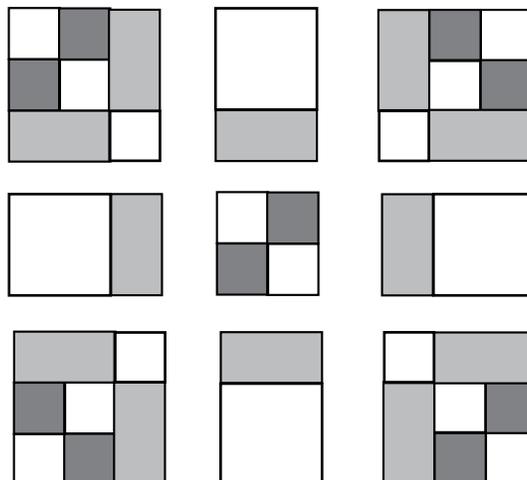
One of the 4-patch units you set aside:



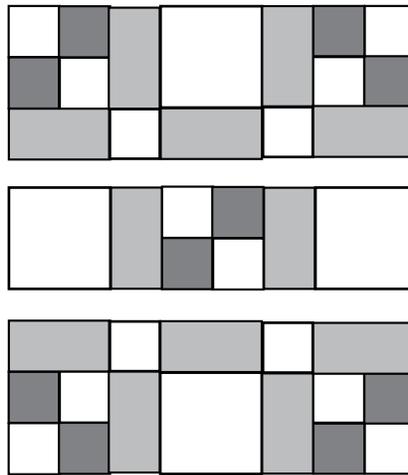
And four of the Step Four units:



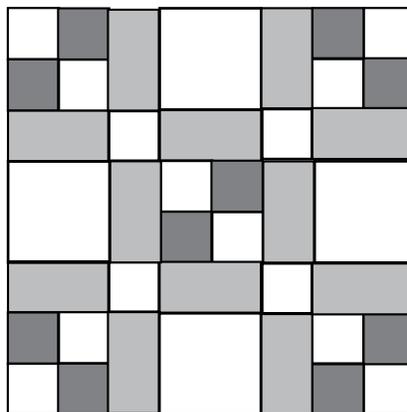
Lay them out as shown, making sure you have them turned the right directions. The 4-patches within the units are just random — in other words, it doesn't matter which way they are turned, as long as you get the rectangles in the right positions.



Sew the units together in rows, making sure you're still keeping them turned correctly . . .



. . . then join the rows together to complete the block.



Repeat 5 more times with your remaining units for the small version, and 11 more times with the remaining units for the large version.

You're now ready for Step Six.

Step Six

This time we're going to make the sashing units and assemble the quilt top center. Do you have all your blocks together?

Remember to follow the instructions for the size of quilt you are making.

Small Version

46" x 64"

From your sashing fabric, cut:

51 rectangles 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

From your cornerpost fabric, cut:

46 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Then you're ready to sew.

For each unit, you will need 3 rectangles and 2 squares.

Sew them together as shown, pressing seams toward the rectangles. (You will have some squares left over at this point.)



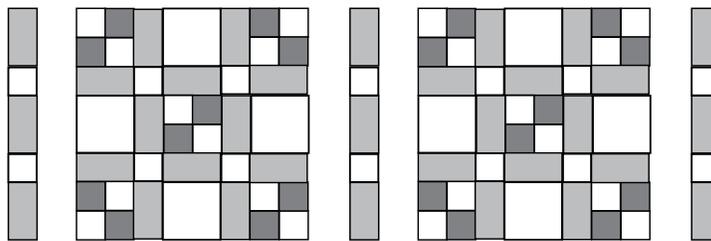
Repeat until you have made 17 units like this.

Next, lay two of these units out with three of the left over squares, as shown.



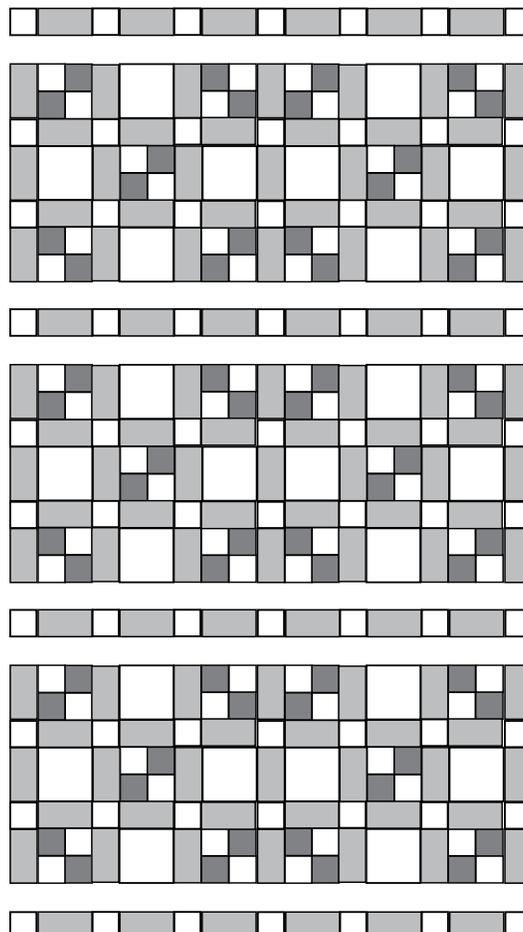
Stitch together, pressing seams toward the rectangles. Make 4 of these.

Using 3 of the remaining 9 sashing units, lay them out with your blocks, as shown.



Sew these together into a row, pressing seams toward the sashing strips. Repeat to make 3 of these.

Now lay out the long sashing rows with these block rows, as shown.



Sew these rows together to complete the quilt center.

Now you're ready to proceed to the final step, Step Seven.

Large Version

64" x 82"

From your sashing fabric, cut:

93 rectangles 2 1/2" x 4 1/2"

From your cornerpost fabric, cut:

82 squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Then you're ready to sew.

For each unit, you will need 3 rectangles and 2 squares.

Sew them together as shown, pressing seams toward the rectangles. (You will have some squares left over at this point.)



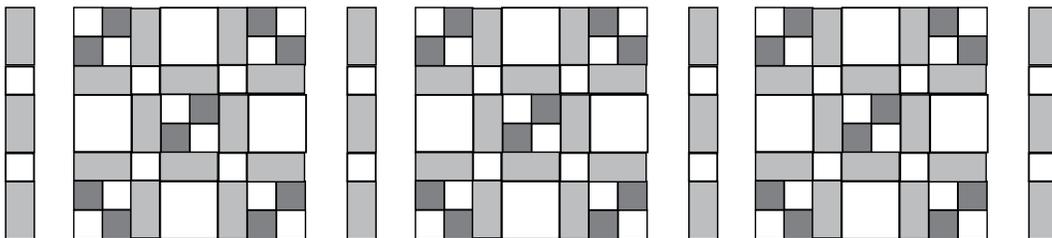
Repeat until you have made 31 units like this.

Next, lay three of these units out with four of the left over squares, as shown.



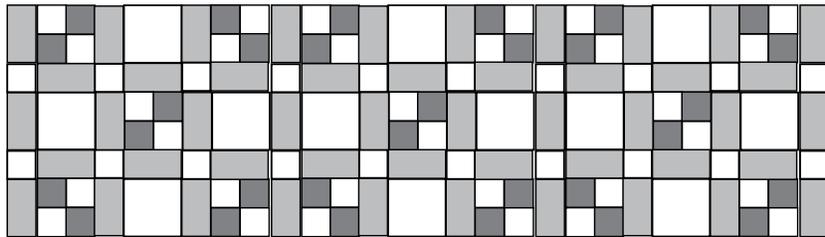
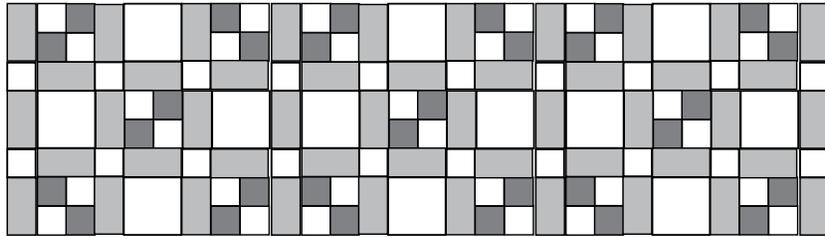
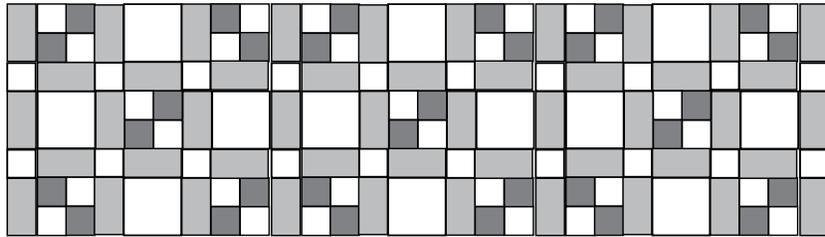
Stitch together, pressing seams toward the rectangles. Make 5 of these.

Using 4 of the remaining 16 sashing units, lay them out with your blocks, as shown.



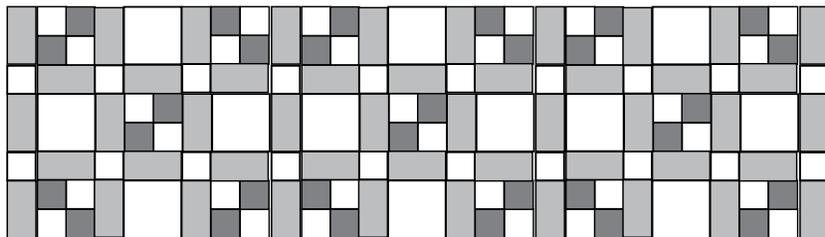
Sew these together into a row, pressing seams toward the sashing strips. Repeat to make 4 of these.

Now lay out the long sashing rows with these block rows, as shown on the next page.



Sew these rows together to complete the quilt center.

Now you're ready to proceed to the final step, Step Seven.



Step Seven

All that's left is adding the borders.

These instructions are the same, no matter which size version you're making.

Remember to use the Carpenter's Rule: Measure twice, Cut once!

Step 1) Measure your quilt top from top to bottom through the center. (Don't measure an outside edge, as it can stretch and give you an inaccurate reading.) Write this number down so you can refer to it.

Step 2) From your border fabric, cut strips 4 1/2" wide by width of fabric (WOF). You're going to join these strips together to make one longer strip, so you will need enough strips to cut your border length from.

Step 3) From your longer strip, cut two strips the length of the number you wrote down. Add these strips to the **sides** of the quilt, pressing seams toward the strip.

Step 4) Now measure your quilt top from side to side through the center, including the strips you just added. Write this number down.

Step 5) Cut two more of your 4 1/2" strips to this length, and add them to the top and bottom of the quilt.

You're now done with your quilt top! Congratulations!