

peace, love, quilt

Hosted by Sharon Blackmore

Love Shack Quilts

Oct 15, 2016 – April 15, 2017

Finished Quilt Size 66" x 82"

You'll Need:

Assorted Lights 15 Fat Quarters

Assorted Mediums & Darks 12 Fat Quarters

Inner Border 1/2m

Outer Border 1 1/2"m

Binding 1/2m



Peace

It does not mean to be in a place where there is no trouble, noise, or hard work.

It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in

Your heart. ♥

— LadyGaGa

Peace Love Quilt Step 1

We begin with a very simple 4 Patch. Now unlike most 4 Patches, we are not going to be using lights and darks for contrast. Instead, we will be using our assorted Mediums & Darks. My fabric choices for this quilt are pinks and pinky-reds that range from medium to dark value. I have not fussed about the placement, I simply pulled 4 prints and stitched them together. I want you to do the same. You've already chosen the fabrics for this quilt, and hopefully are happy with them. So trust in your choices, and in me... Are you ready?



Peace Love Quilt Step 1

From each of your Medium & Dark prints, cut a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strip.

You are going to need $128 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares in total for this step.

Some patterns will have you "strip piece" which means you stitch 2 long strips together, and then cut them down into smaller segments. The reason I am not a big fan of this method, is that it results in too many of the exact same pairing of fabric. I like variety. And using my method, you will achieve that. Welcome to scrappy ladies!

I recommend that you cut an even amount of squares from each of your fabrics. So for example, if you have 20 fabrics in your Medium/Dark group, you will cut $6 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares from each of your cut strips, and then an additional 8 from random strips.

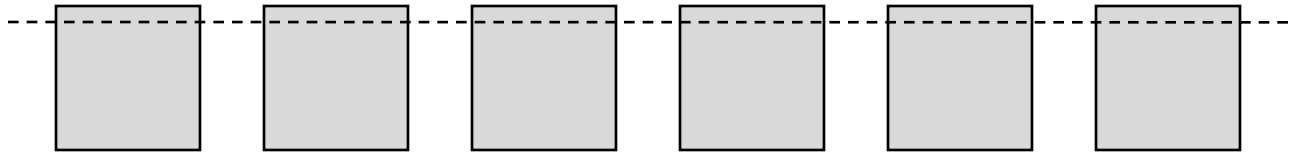
Here's the math:

128 (required squares) divided by 20 (the amount of Medium/Dark prints you have) = 6.4 . This is not an even amount, is it! So then we take 6 and multiply by $20 = 120$... and we need 128 . Therefore, you'll need to cut an additional 8 squares!

Use this formula to cut as close as possible, an even amount of patches from each of your prints, in all the steps for this mystery. Save the leftovers from each strip for future steps.

Peace Love Quilt Step 1

From your 128 – 2 ½” cut squares, pick up 2 random squares (close your eyes if you must, but don’t try to “match” them up) and stitch them together (remember to open your eyes again), using a SCANT ¼” seam allowance. Now instead of cutting your thread, and starting over with a new pair... take a few bare stitches (3-4) and then feed in your next pair of squares. This is called Chain Piecing. Here is a picture of what that will look like:



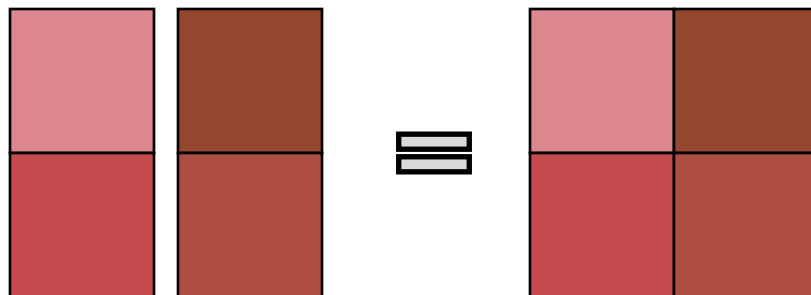
Chain piecing will save on thread, time, and the hassle of having to rethread every time your thread gets sucked down into the bobbin area when you start stitching a new pair together. Once you have stitched all your square pairs together, remove the entire string of them and clip them apart.

Press the seam to one side, it does not matter which direction. You will have 64 units that should measure 2 ½” x 4 ½”.



Peace Love Quilt Step 1

Now choose 2 random units (again do not try and match), rotate one of the units so that the seam directions oppose one another. Pin the center seam intersection if you wish, and stitch them together. Chain Piece again.



You may press the seam in either direction, up or down.
Don't forget to use your flannel and Best Press!
You should have 32 - 4 Patches that measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Congrats! You have just completed Step 1 of the PLQ Mystery! Take your time and enjoy the journey. I love to look at the beautiful combinations of fabrics in each completed step. Please post pictures your completed steps so we can all enjoy!

Until Step 2, happy quilting, and Stay Scrappy!

Sharon

Peace Love Quilt Step 2

Now for something a little more intricate and fun! Half Square Triangles (HST) have got to be the most versatile quilt block EVER! And if you've ever made them, you'll know there's lots of cutting and drawing and then even more cutting. PHEW! Sometimes I dread making them just because of that! But I've recently found a method that is simple, produces an accurate HST and is a lot less work than other methods. Ready to give it a try?



Peace Love Quilt Step 2

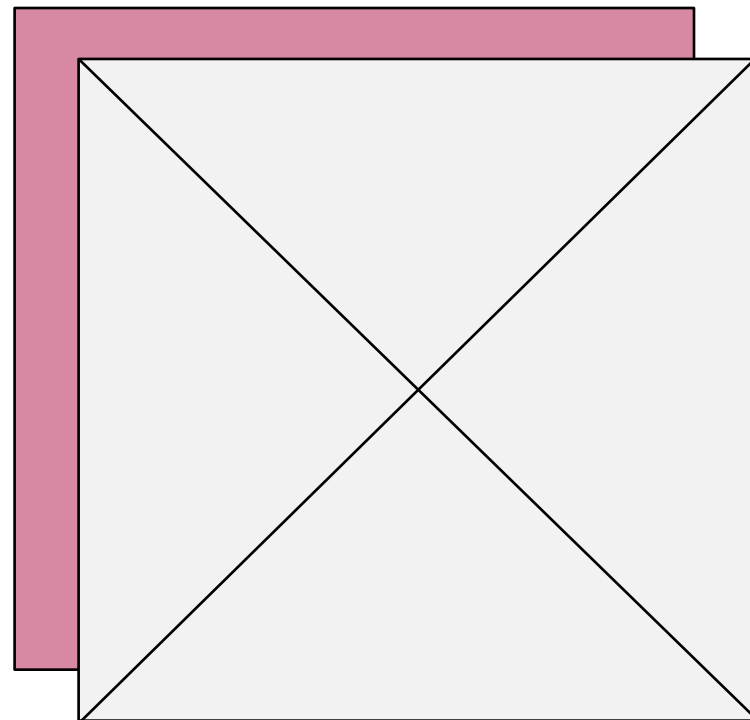
From your assorted Med/Dark prints:
Cut 16 squares 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "

From your assorted Light prints:
Cut 16 squares 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "

Pair up a med/dark and a light square, right sides together.

On the wrong side of the LIGHT square, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on BOTH diagonals.

Be sure that your drawn line is exactly at the tip of each corner.

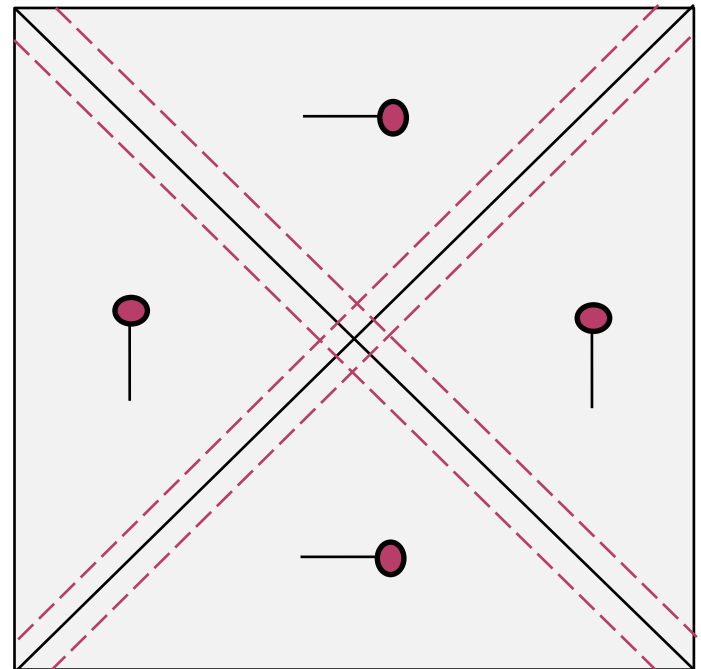


Peace Love Quilt Step 2

Place 4 pins to prevent squares from shifting.

Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " on either side of the drawn lines. It's extremely important that your seam allowance is SCANT $\frac{1}{4}$ ". You may want to try one pair to be sure you are accurate before you make all 16 pairs.

Remove pins and press gently.



Peace Love Quilt Step 2

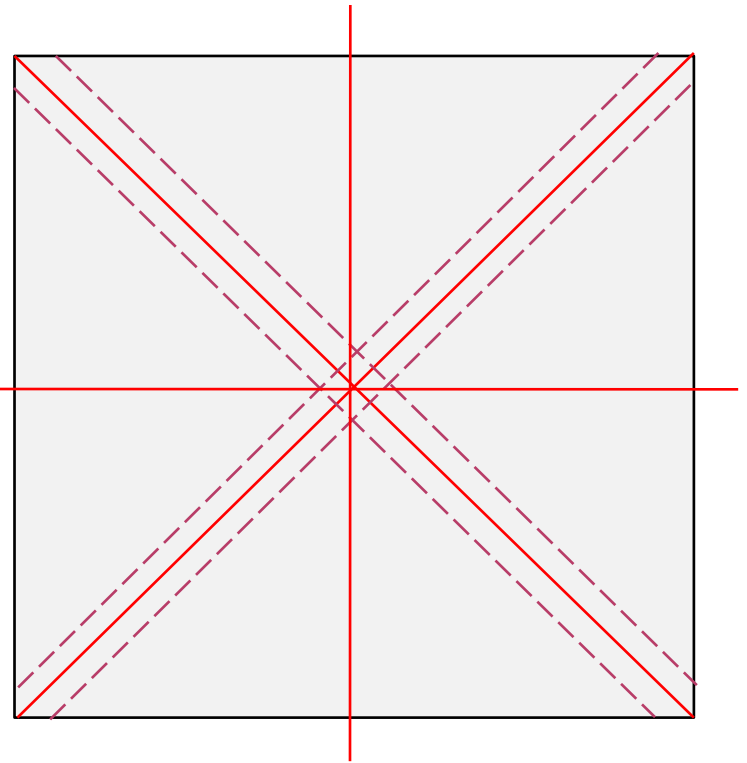
- Place on a rotating cutting mat. (If you don't have one, use a small cutting mat)

You will make 4 cuts (red lines). Do NOT move the fabric until you have made all 4 cuts.

First, place your ruler to make a cut exactly through the middle. The marking on your ruler should be at $2 \frac{7}{8}$ " (on the left edge of the block).

Without moving the fabric, rotate the mat one quarter turn and then cut again exactly through the middle.

Next, cut directly on the diagonal drawn lines.



Peace Love Quilt Step 2

Now you have EIGHT Half Square Triangles! Press all seams toward the dark.

Repeat this for the remaining square pairs for a total of
16 square pairs = 128 HST

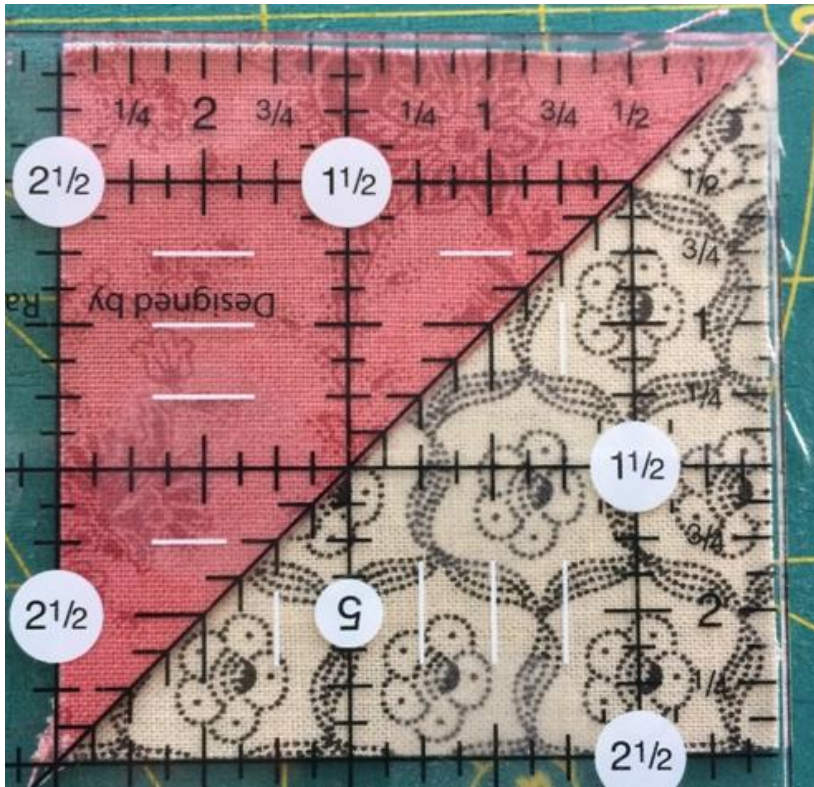
They should measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ".



Peace Love Quilt Step 2

- Trim the little triangle excess bits from the corners, even with the HST.

TADAAAAA!



Until Step 3, Happy Quilting, and Stay Scrappy!

Sharon

Peace Love Quilt Step 3

Dreaded Flying Geese. Ugh? Nope!

With this slick method you will have your geese all flying in formation in no time! There is a tutorial video for this step as well. Check out the Videos folder in the PLQ Facebook Group.

For this step you will need:

Light: 8 assorted – 5 ¼” squares

32 assorted - 2 7/8” squares

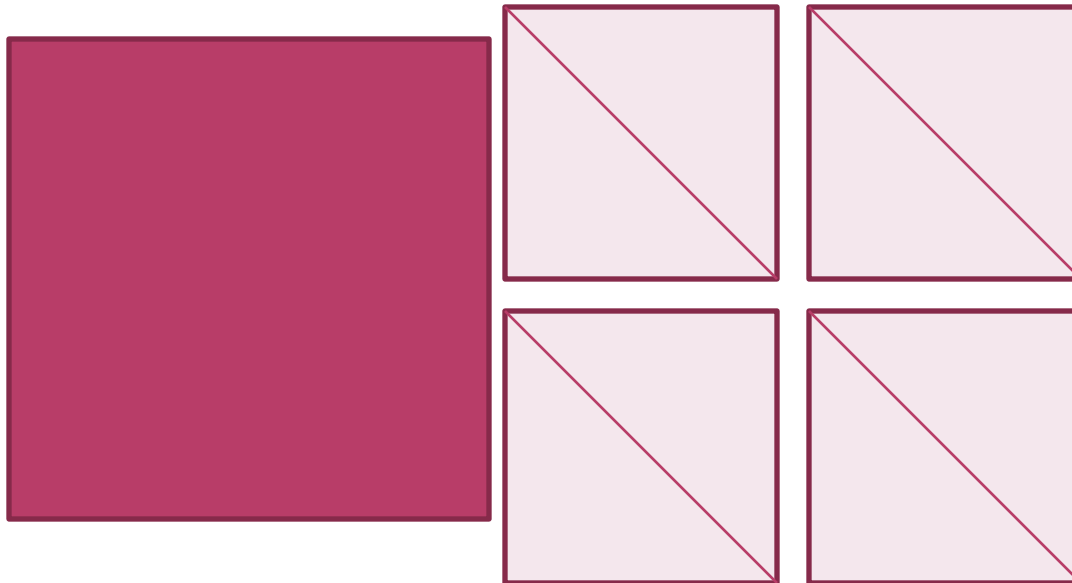
Medium/Dark: 8 assorted – 5 ¼” squares

32 assorted - 2 7/8” squares

*Don't be afraid of the 7/8” measurement on your ruler. The more you use it, the more comfortable you will be.

Peace Love Quilt Step 3

Ok the first thing we need to do is BREATHE and DON'T PANIC!
It will help immensely to watch the video before you tackle this step,
unless you're a BTDT quilter and are comfy with these Geese!
(BTDT = *been there, done that!*)



First, draw a diagonal line on the **WRONG** side of 4 small **LIGHT** squares.

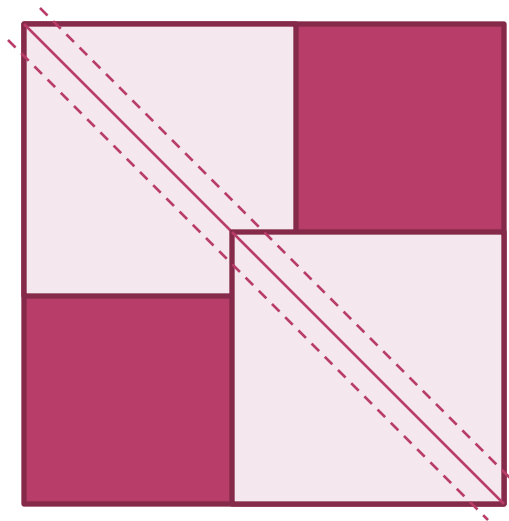
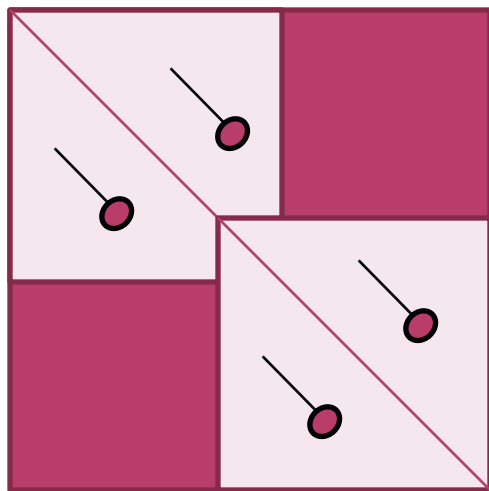
Take these, and a large med/dark square to your sewing machine.

Peace Love Quilt Step 3

Take 2 of the small squares and place them in opposite corners of the large square, making sure the outside edges line up.

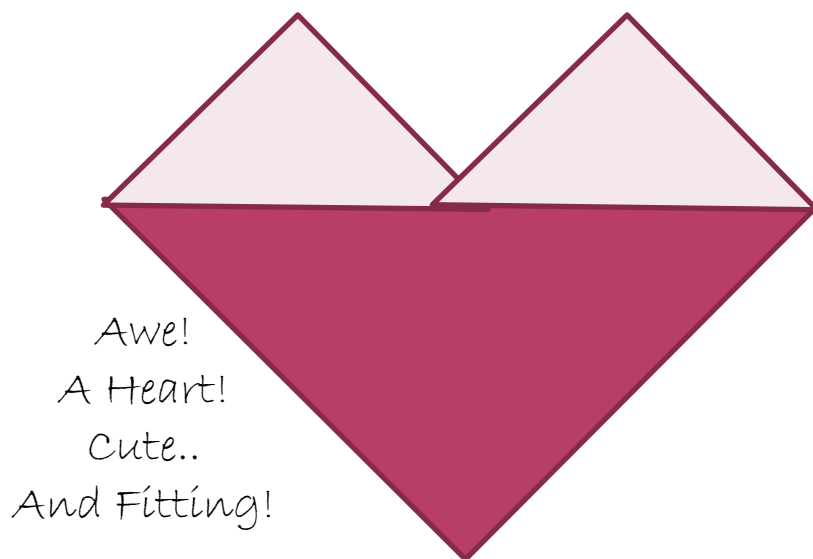
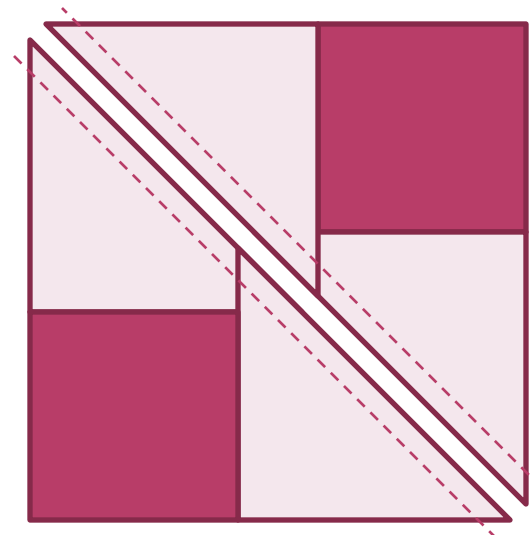
Place pins to hold the squares in place.

Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the drawn line, on both sides of the line.



Peace Love Quilt Step 3

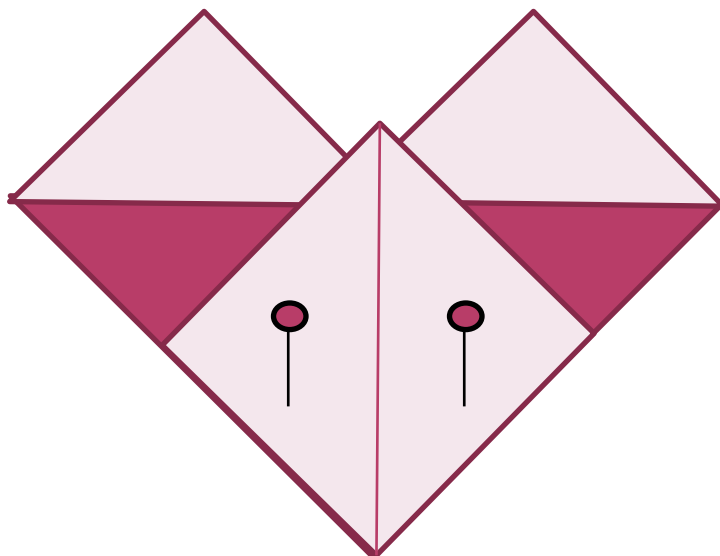
Cut the unit apart on
the drawn line.



Awe!
A Heart!
Cute..
And Fitting!

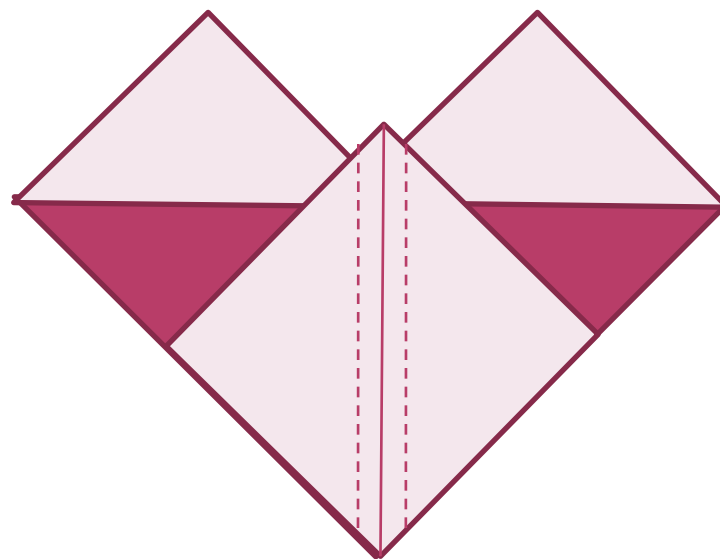
Press the triangles back
away from the large square.
Use Best Press and be
careful not to distort. You will
have TWO of these units.

Peace Love Quilt Step 3

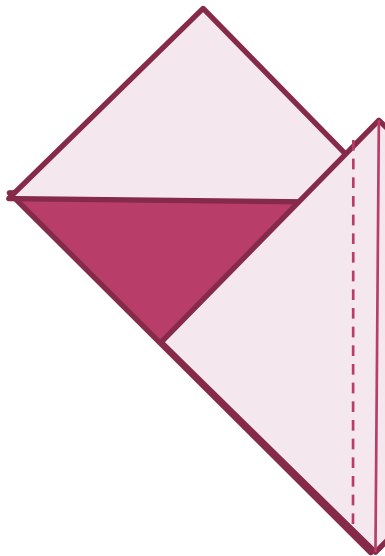


Now place another small square on the remaining corner of the large square.
Pin in place.

Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " on either side of the drawn line. Do this for both units.



Peace Love Quilt Step 3

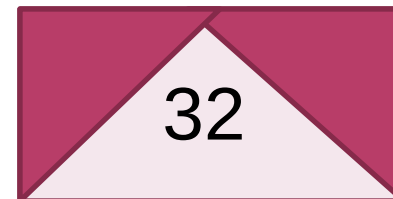
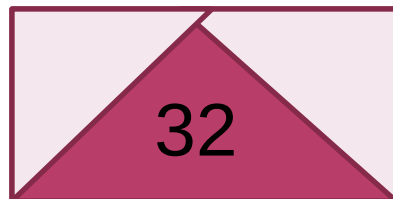


Cut apart on the drawn line. Press the seam back toward the light, away from the center med/dark.

Trim any excess to measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".

This makes 4 Flying Geese Units. Repeat this 7 more times to make a total of 32 Flying Geese, with the med/dark in the center.

Repeat steps again 8 times with remaining large light squares and small med/dark squares, to make another 32 Flying Geese.



Peace Love Quilt Step 4

Ready for a little strip piecing? This is a nice & easy step!

Before you begin, watch my recent video in the Facebook Group on Cutting Multiple Layers; to cut these assorted strips efficiently and accurately. Click on the link below to take you directly to this video.

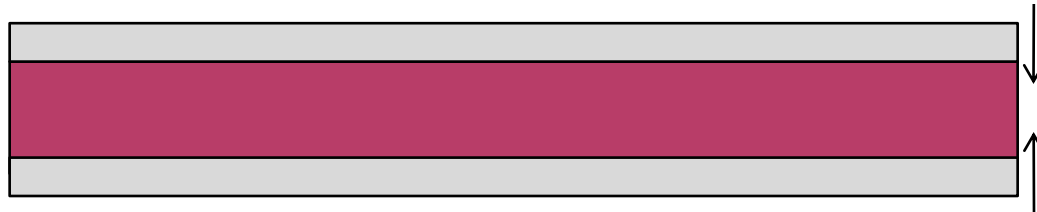
[Cutting Multiple Layers Video](#)

From your assorted mediums / darks cut 7 strips 3 ½" wide. Cut these along the longer, 20" side of the fat quarter. If you don't have a full 20", you can get away with 18". You should have 7 different 3 ½" print strips.

From your assorted lights, cut 14 strips 1 ½" wide. Again, you can get away with 18". You should have 14 different 1 ½" strips.

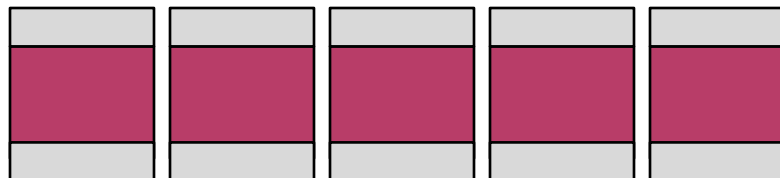
Peace Love Quilt Step 4

Stitch a light 1 ½" strip to either side of a med/dark 3 ½" strip. Press the seams towards the center 3 ½" strip. Make 7 strip sets.



Square the right end of the strip set by placing your ruler on top of the strip, and aligning a horizontal ruler line, with one of the seams in the strip set. Trim off as little as possible.

Rotate the strip so that the freshly cut end of the strip set is now on your left hand side. Cut each strip set into 5 sections 3 ½" wide. This unit should measure 3 ½" x 5 ½". You need 31 units total.



Peace Love Quilt Step 5

This is an exciting step, because we get to make a block! Let's do this!

From your assorted light fat quarters, cut:

5 strips 3 ½" x 20"

From your assorted mediums/darks, cut:

10 strips 1 ½" x 20"

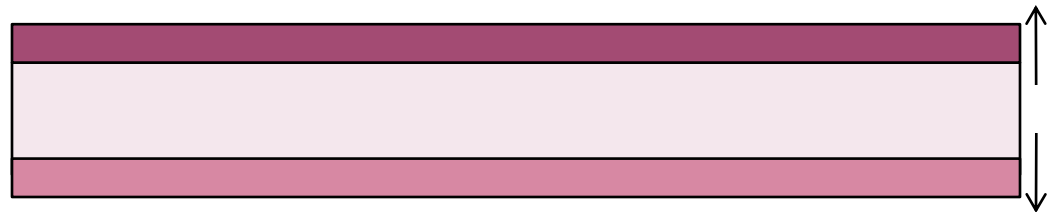
Alternatively, if you are working from smaller cuts or scraps, you will need a total of:

62 assorted light 1 ½" x 3 ½" rectangles

124 assorted medium / dark 1 ½" x 1 ½" squares

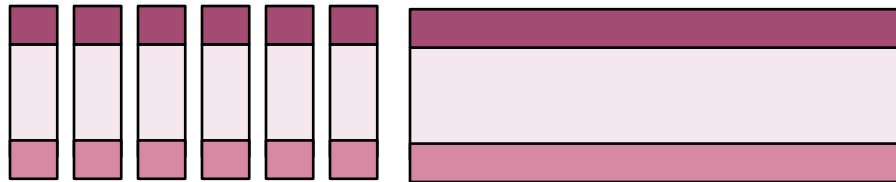
Stitch a medium / dark 1 ½" strip to either side of a 3 ½" light strip.
Press the seam toward the 1 ½" strips. Make 5 strip sets 5 ½" x 20".

*Stitch a different
med/dk strip to
each side, not the
same fabric.*



Peace Love Quilt Step 5

- Square off one end of the strip set and the cut into $1\frac{1}{2}$ " segments.



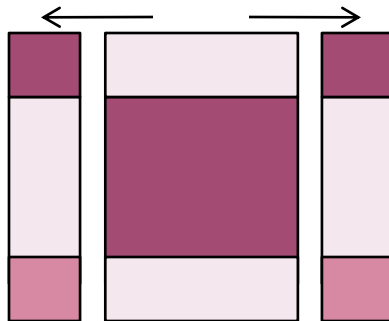
You should get 13 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " segments from each strip set.
5 strip sets x 13 segments = 65.
You need 62 to complete this step.

If you are piecing rectangles and squares together from smaller cuts or scraps, stitch a medium / dark $1\frac{1}{2}$ " square to either end of a light $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle. Press the seams toward the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " squares. Make 62.

Each segment should measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ ".

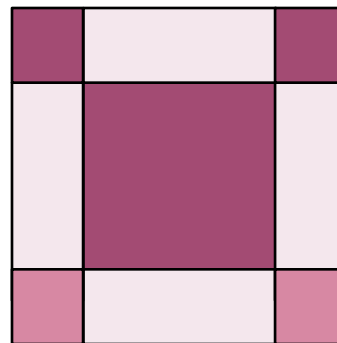
Peace Love Quilt Step 5

Gather the 31 units you made in Step 4.



Stitch a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " segment to either side of a Step 4 unit.
Press the seam toward the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " segments.

Make 31 blocks $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ ".

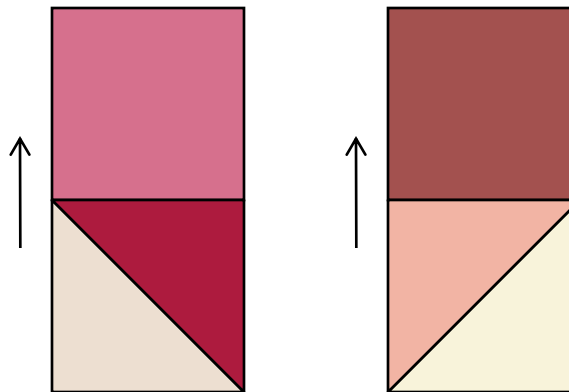


Peace Love Quilt Step 6

From your Mediums / Darks, Cut 64 – assorted 2 ½” squares. Gather 64 random Half Square Triangles that you made in Step 2. There will be 64 remaining and will be used in another step.

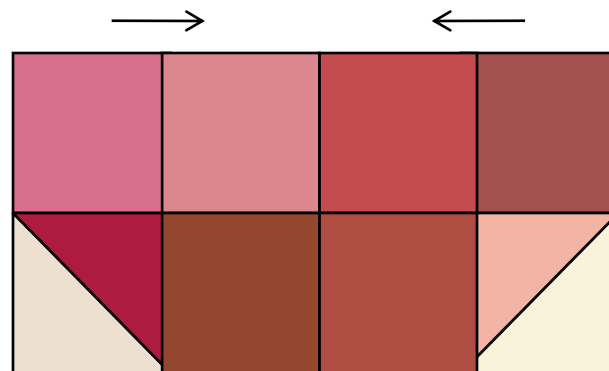
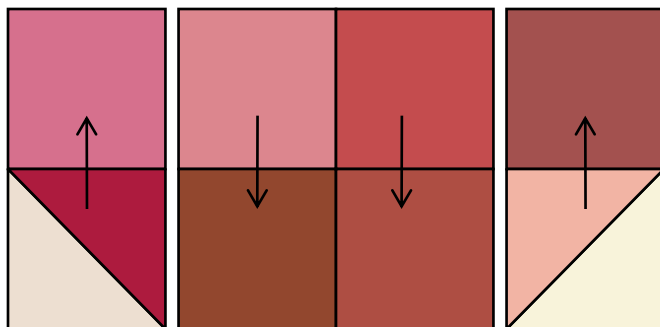
Stitch a Med/Dk 2 ½” square to a Half Square Triangle, in the orientation shown. Try not to have the same fabrics touching each other AND if one of the fabrics is considerably light, pair it with something a little darker, just for balance. *(There is NOT a specific placement for Mediums & Darks, only that we try to distribute them evenly throughout the quilt)*

Make 32 of EACH of these units, paying attention to the orientation of the Half Square Triangles. Press toward the 2 ½” plain square.



Peace Love Quilt Step 6

Now gather the 32 - 4 Patches you made in Step 1. Rotate the 4 Patch so that the seam is downward. Again, try to ensure that there are no 2 same fabrics touching. Stitch the units you just made, to either side of the 4 Patch, placing a pin at the seam intersections if necessary. Press the seam toward the center 4 patch. Make 32. This unit should measure 4 1/2" x 8 1/2".

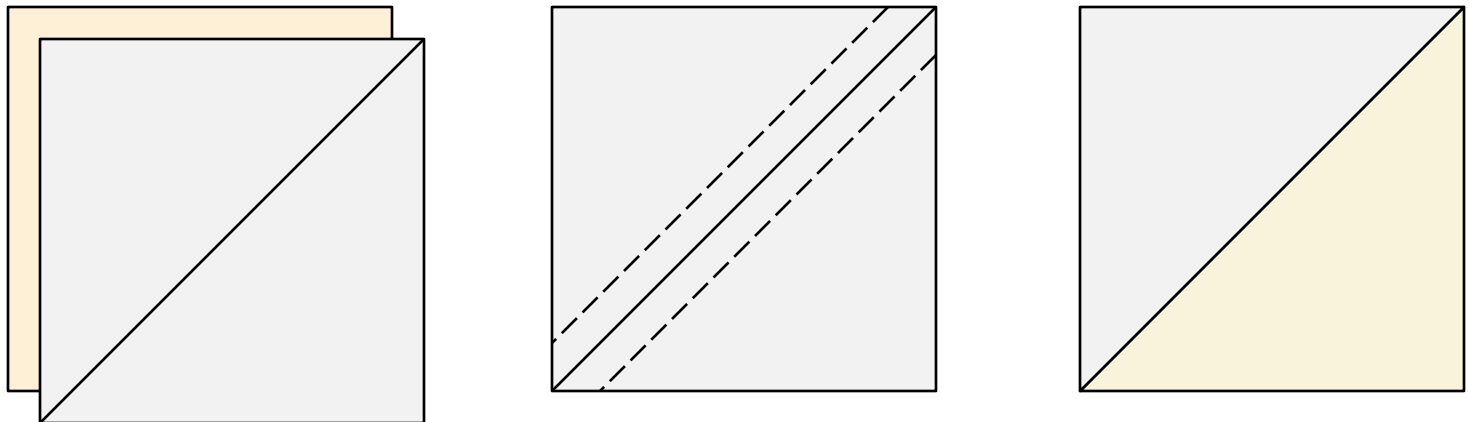


Peace Love Quilt Step 7

From your assorted lights, cut 62 – 6” squares. Pair up 2 different squares, right sides together, and draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of one of the squares. Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ ” on either side of the line. Then cut apart on the drawn line. Press in either direction. You will have 62 – 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” + Half Square Triangles.

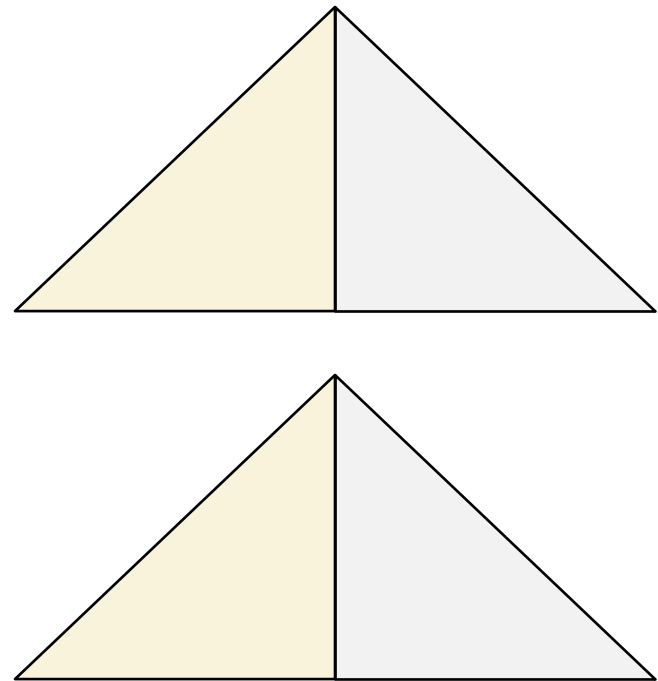
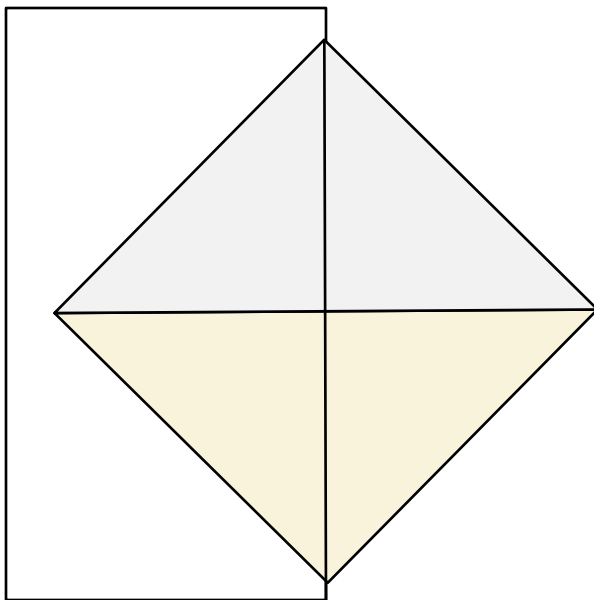
DO NOT TRIM THESE DOWN!

We are NOT doing the HST method shared in Step 2, because these will not be trimmed to a correct size until later in this mystery.



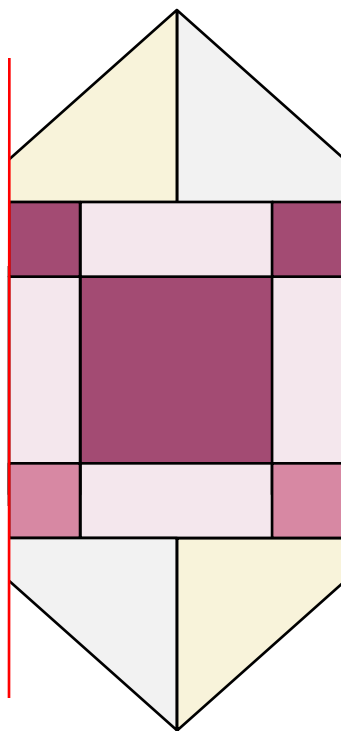
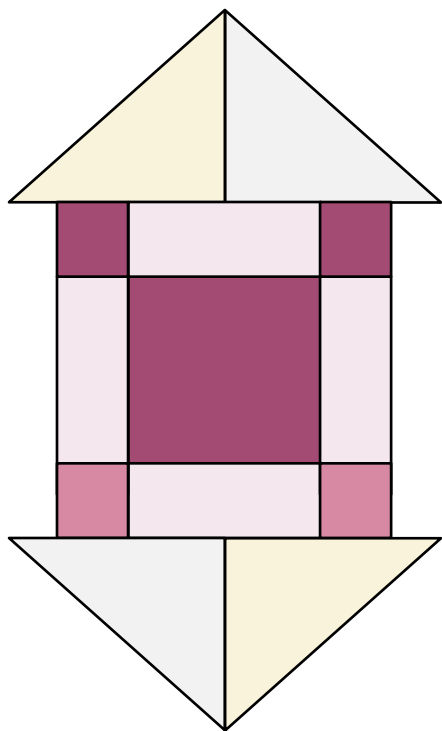
Peace Love Quilt Step 7

Place a ruler on top of the HST as shown and cut it into 2 units.
Repeat for all remaining HSTs. You will have 124 units.



Peace Love Quilt Step 8

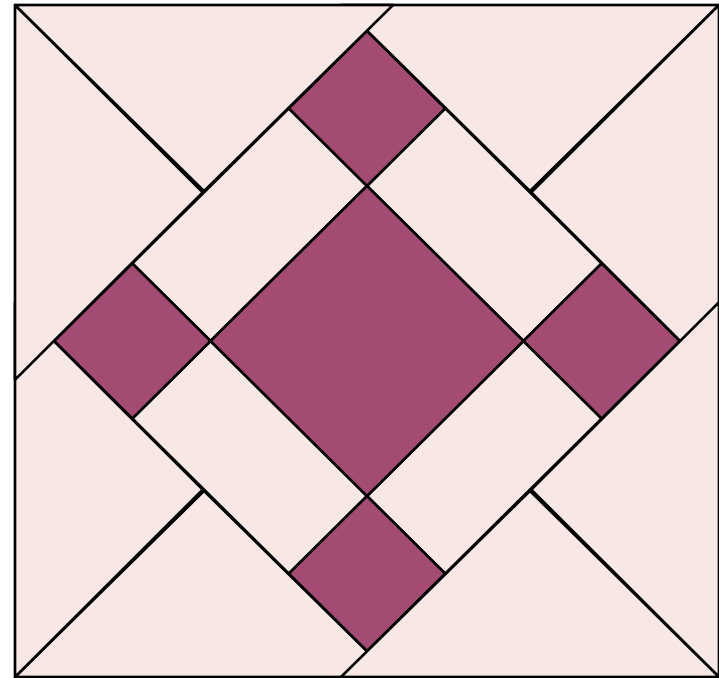
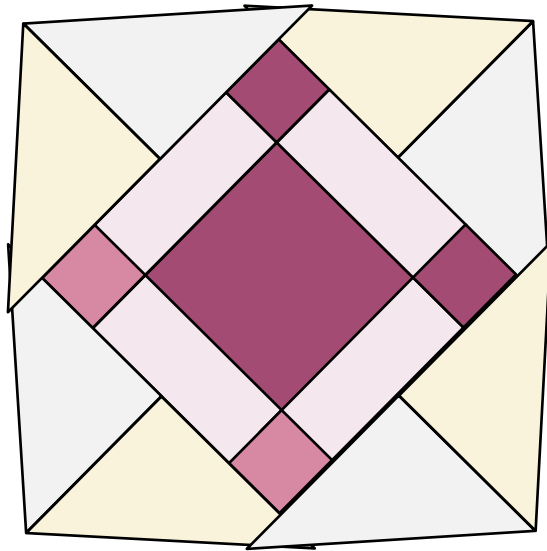
Gather the triangle pair units you made in Step 7, and the blocks you made in Step 5. Stitch a triangle unit to either side of the block, and press toward the triangle unit.



Trim the edges of the triangle unit even with the block on both sides.

Peace Love Quilt Step 8

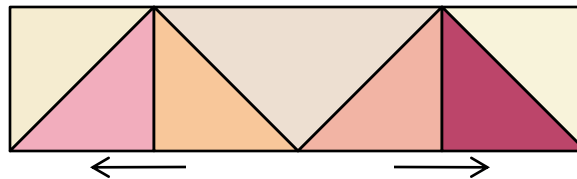
Stitch the rest of the triangle units to remaining sides of the block, and press toward the triangle unit. Trim/Square this block down to $8\frac{1}{2}$ ". Note that there will be more than $\frac{1}{4}$ " extending beyond each point of the inner block. This will give the block a slightly floating appearance, and is a tad of forgiveness if your seam allowance is slightly off ;-)
Make 31 – $8\frac{1}{2}$ " blocks.



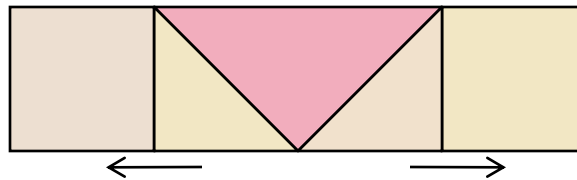
Peace Love Quilt Step 9

Gather ALL 64 of the Flying Geese units from Step 3, and the remaining 64 Half Square Triangles from Step 2.
From your lights, cut 64 assorted $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

Take 2 HST and 1 FG and arrange as shown below. Stitch together to make a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " row. Press the seams toward the HST's. Make 32.



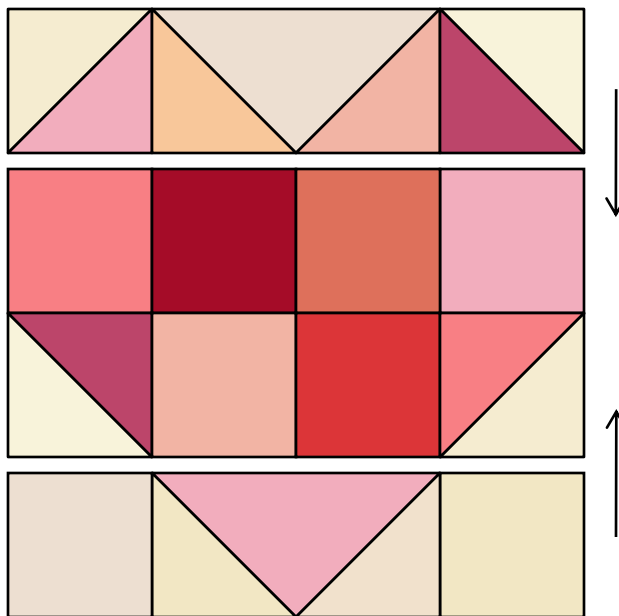
Take 1 FG and 2 light squares and arrange as shown below. Stitch together to make a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " row. Press the seams toward the light squares. Make 32.



Peace Love Quilt Step 9

You guessed it! A heart block!

Gather the units you made in Step 6, and attach the rows you made on the previous page to the top and bottom of those units, as shown below. Take note of the orientation of each of the units. Press the seams as indicated by the arrows. Make 32 - 8 ½" heart blocks.

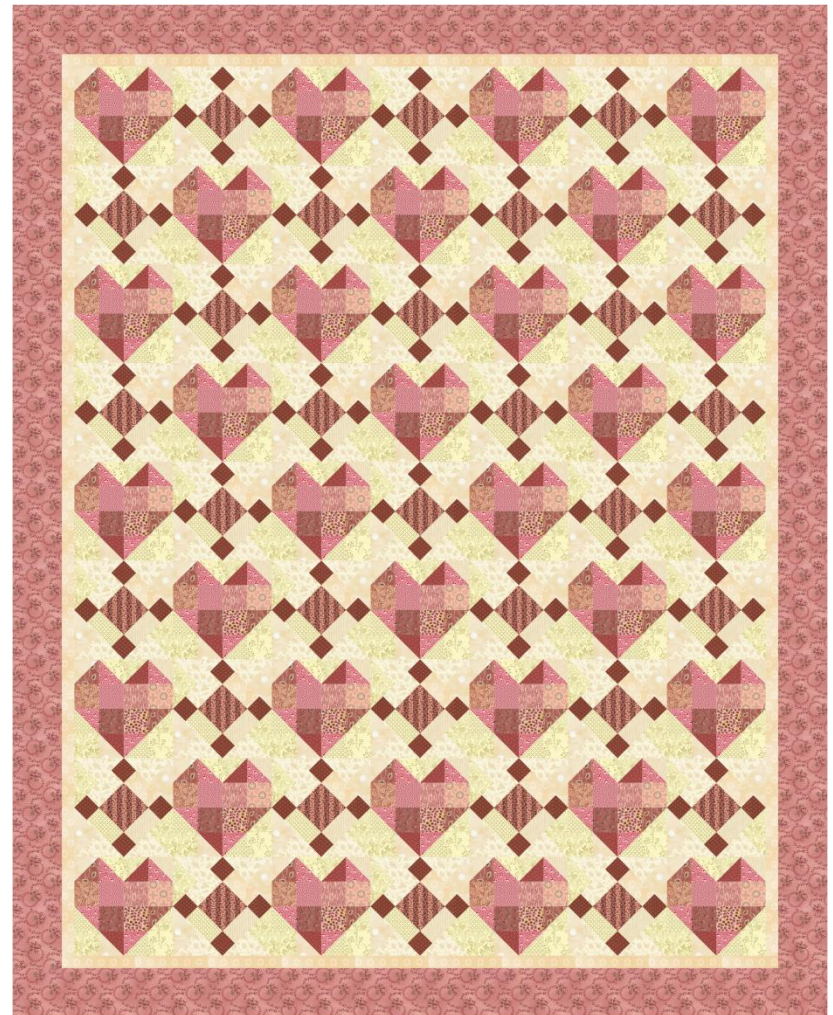


Peace Love Quilt Step 10

One of the things I love about teaching mystery quilts is the amazing creative and talented quilters that turn my designs into their own masterpieces! I love seeing all the creative juices flowing and different layout ideas everyone has.

So I am keeping it simple, so that YOU get to be the boss of your own art, and YOU get to be in charge of your own creative process!

The layout here is a simple one, alternating the blocks in each row. I love it as is. But, I have seen some fabulous suggestions, so I am opening it up for you to do your own thing! But that's not all...



Peace Love Quilt Step 10

Take the next 2 months to get caught up, make extra blocks if needed, and show us your favorite layout of Peace Love Quilt!

At the end of April, I will announce a VIEWERS CHOICE award, and I will be offering some pretty awesome prizes!

You MUST upload a picture of your final layout in [THIS PHOTO ALBUM](#) in order to get votes!

To complete Peace Love Quilt as shown:

Arrange the blocks into a 7x9 layout. Stitch the blocks into rows, pressing the seams away from the heart blocks. Join rows, pressing either up or down.

The simple layout shown has a narrow light inner border, and a wider darker outer border.

From your inner border print, cut 7 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x width of fabric. Join them end to end. Measure the length of your quilt in 3 places and average that measurement. Cut 2 inner border lengths to this measurement and then pin/stitch them to the sides of the quilt.

Now measure the width of your quilt in 3 places and average that measurement. Cut 2 inner border lengths to this measurement and then pin/stitch them to the top & bottom of the quilt. Repeat this with 7 strips $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x width of fabric for the outer border.

Peace Love Quilt

I hope you thoroughly enjoyed this journey, making Peace Love Quilt along with me! I want to thank each and every one of you for placing your trust in me.

A mystery quilt can be a huge leap and very challenging for some of you.

BRAVO to everyone for diving in and having a great time!

If you are interested in participating in more mysteries and fun, please consider joining my group, the Prairie Quilt Militia. We have just begun a new mystery called Cheap Thrills, and are only 2 steps in to a beautiful BOM, The Great Divide, shown here.

Please use the coupon code
MILNEW for \$10.00 off your first
year as a Militia member!
I am absolutely certain you will not
regret it 😊 Thanks in Advance!

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