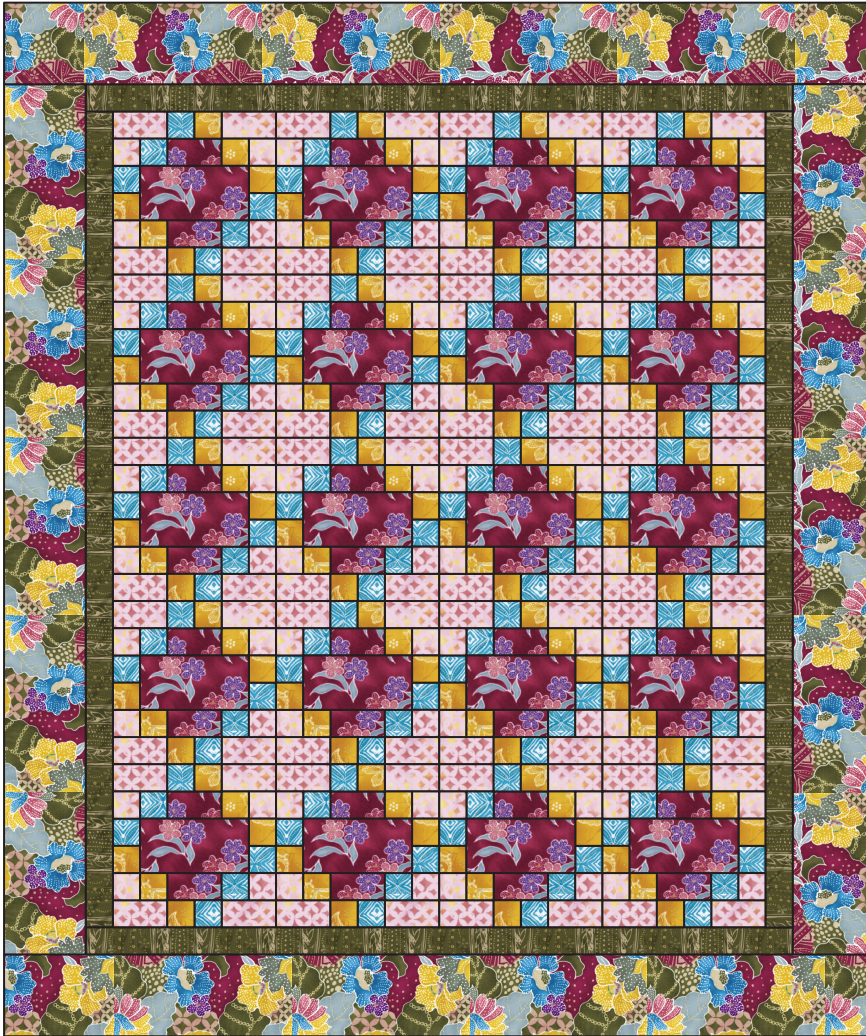


Chain of Squares

Quilt size: 65" x 77" • Block size: 12"



Diagonal chains of color weave across this quilt. For a single block or a scrappy quilt, the pieces need to be cut and sewn individually as in the calendar instructions. However, if you use only four fabrics in the blocks, you can use strip-piecing techniques to make this quilt even easier to piece.

Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric.

1½ yards of pink print for blocks

1¼ yards of multicolored print for outer border

1⅝ yards of red print for blocks*

1½ yards of green print for inner border and binding

¾ yard of blue print for blocks

¾ yard of gold print for blocks

4⅞ yards of fabric for backing

Twin-size batting

**For best results, choose a print without an obvious direction to the pattern.*

Cutting

From the red print, cut:

- 8 strips, 4½" x 42"; cut 5 of the strips into 20 rectangles, 4½" x 8½"

From the pink print, cut:

- 6 strips, 2½" x 42"
- 6 strips, 4½" x 42"

From the gold print, cut:

- 9 strips, 2½" x 42"

From the blue print, cut:

- 9 strips, 2½" x 42"

From the green print, cut:

- 14 strips, 2½" x 42"

From the multicolored print, cut:

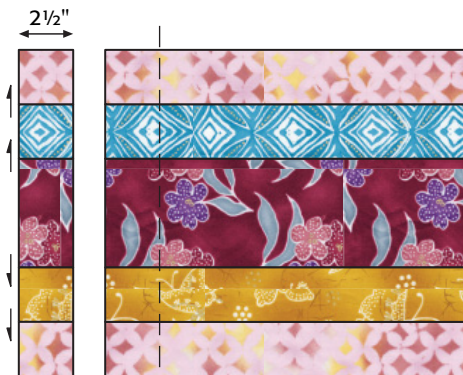
- 7 strips, 6½" x 42"



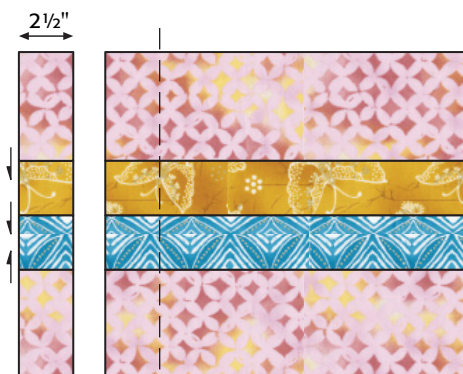
Chain of Squares block

Making the Blocks

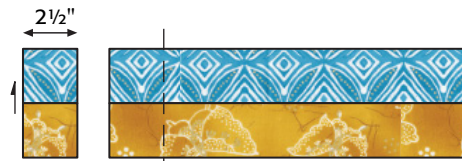
1. Sew a red $4\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip, two pink $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strips, a gold $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip, and a blue $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip together as shown. Press as indicated. Make three strip sets. Cut a total of 40 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, from the strip sets.

Make 3 strip sets.
Cut 40 segments.

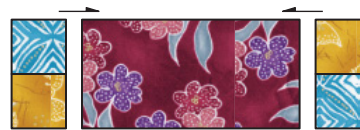
2. Sew two pink $4\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strips, a gold $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip, and a blue $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip together as shown. Press as indicated. Make three strip sets. Cut a total of 40 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, from the strip sets.

Make 3 strip sets.
Cut 40 segments.

3. Sew a blue $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip and a gold $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strip together as shown. Press toward the blue strip. Cut a total of 40 segments, $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide, from the strip sets.

Make 3 strip sets.
Cut 40 segments.

4. Sew two segments cut in step 3 to either side of a red $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle as shown. Be careful to arrange the blue and gold segments so that the blue is on top on the left side and the gold is on top on the right side of the rectangle. Press toward the red. Make 20.



Make 20.

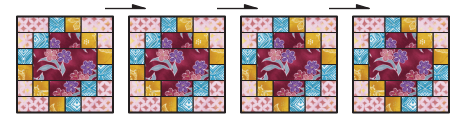
5. Arrange two segments cut in step 1, two segments cut in step 2, and a unit from step 4 as shown. The top two segments are the same as the bottom two segments, but they are rotated 180° . Sew the segments and unit together. Press seams in one direction. Make 20 blocks.



Make 20.

Assembling the Quilt

1. Arrange the blocks in five rows with four blocks in each row. Rotate every other block 180° so that the seams are pressed in opposite directions from block to block. All of the blocks should have blue squares in the upper-left and bottom-right corners, making chains of blue squares slanting down to the left across the quilt top and chains of gold squares slanting down to the right. Sew the blocks into rows. Press the rows in opposite directions. Sew the rows together. Press.



2. Sew six of the green strips end to end to make one long strip for the inner border. Sew the multicolored print strips end to end to make one long strip for the outer border.
3. Measure the quilt vertically through the center. It should be about $60\frac{1}{2}$ " long. From the green strip made in step 2, cut two borders that are equal to the length of your quilt top. Sew a border to each side of the quilt, matching the ends and the centers. Press toward the green border.
4. Measure the quilt horizontally through the center, including the side borders just added. It should be about $52\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. From the green strip made in step 2, cut two borders

that are equal to the width of your quilt top. Sew these to the quilt top and bottom, matching the ends and centers. Press toward the green borders.

- Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the multicolored print strip from step 2 for the outer border of the quilt. Press toward the multicolored border.

Finishing the Quilt

- Measure the length and width of your quilt top. Add 6" to the length and to the width and prepare a backing to that measurement.
- Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Pin, hand baste, or spray baste the layers together.
- Quilt using your preferred method. Trim excess batting and backing even with the edges of the quilt top.

- Sew the remaining eight green print strips together end to end to make one long strip for the binding. Fold the strip lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Align the raw edges of the binding strip with the outside edge of the quilt top, and stitch. Fold the binding over the raw edges to the back of the quilt, covering the machine stitching. Hand sew the binding to the back of the quilt.

