

How To Make A Pinwheel Baby Quilt

Materials Needed to make a 45" x 45" quilt

- 1¼ yards of light print fabrics for the pinwheel blocks *
- 1½ yards of dark print fabric for the pinwheel blocks & binding
 - 1 yard of medium print fabric for the border
 - 2¼ yards of non directional backing fabric
 - 50" x 50" square of batting

* or 24 layer cake (10" x 10") squares

Cutting

From the 1¼ yards of light print fabric for the pinwheel blocks, cut the following:

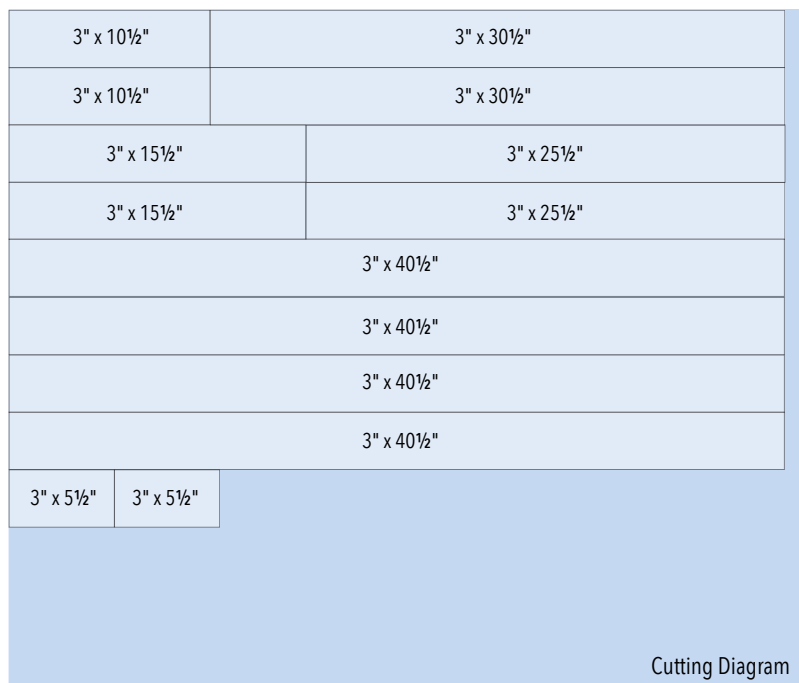
- 5 strips 7¼" x WOF. Subcut each strip into 7¼" squares until you have 24. You will be able to cut five 7¼" squares from each strip.

From the 1½" yards of dark print fabric for the pinwheel blocks and binding, cut the following:

- 5 strips 7¼" x WOF. Subcut each strip into 7¼" squares until you have 24. You will be able to cut five 7¼" squares from each strip.
- 5 strips 2½" x 42". Set aside for binding.

From the 1 yard of medium value print fabric for the borders, cut 9 strips 3" x WOF. Subcut the strips to make (as shown in the Cutting Diagram):

- two 3" x 10½" strips
- two 3" x 15½" strips
- two 3" x 25½" strips
- two 3" x 30½" strips
- four 3" x 40½" strips **
- two 3" x 5½" strips **



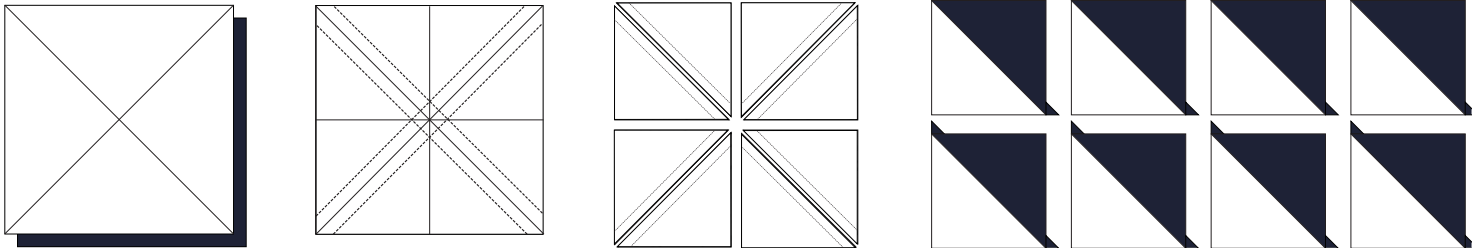
**** Save time when it comes to putting your quilt top together by joining a 3" x 40½" strip to a 3" x 5½" strip to make a 3" x 45½" strip. Repeat so that you have two 3" x 45½" strips.**

Make the Pinwheel Blocks

A video tutorial on pinwheel block construction is available at www.shequiltsalot.com.

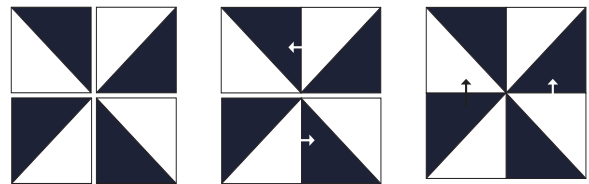
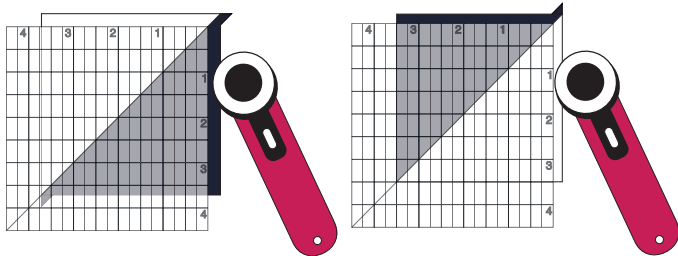
1 Draw diagonal lines on the wrong side of one of the light print fabric squares. Place the marked square on top of a square of dark print fabric with right sides together. Using a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew on either side of both drawn lines.

2 Cut the square in half vertically, horizontally and along both of the drawn lines to make eight half square triangles (HST). Press the seam allowance on each of the HST's towards the darker fabric.



3 Place a rotary cutting ruler on the pressed unit with its 45° line along the seam and cut along two edges as shown. Rotate the HST unit 180° , replace the ruler and trim the remaining two edges.

4 Arrange four of the HST units as shown (Note that each block is rotated 90° to form the pinwheel). Sew the HST units together to make two rows. Press as indicated by the arrows. Sew the rows together to make one block. Repeat to make 48 pinwheel blocks. (Each set of $7\frac{1}{4}$ " squares will make two pinwheel blocks).



Quilt Top Assembly

Refer to the *Quilt Assembly Diagram* on the following page.

5 Arrange four pinwheel blocks in to two rows of two pinwheel blocks each. Sew the rows together and then press the seam allowances in opposite directions. Sew the two rows together to make the quilt centre. The quilt centre should measure $10\frac{1}{2}$ " x $10\frac{1}{2}$ ".

6 Sew the 3 " x $10\frac{1}{2}$ " border fabric strip to the top and bottom of the quilt centre. Press the seams towards the border fabric. Sew the 3 " x $15\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to either side of the quilt centre. Press towards the border fabric. With the first border attached the quilt top should now measure $15\frac{1}{2}$ " x $15\frac{1}{2}$ ".

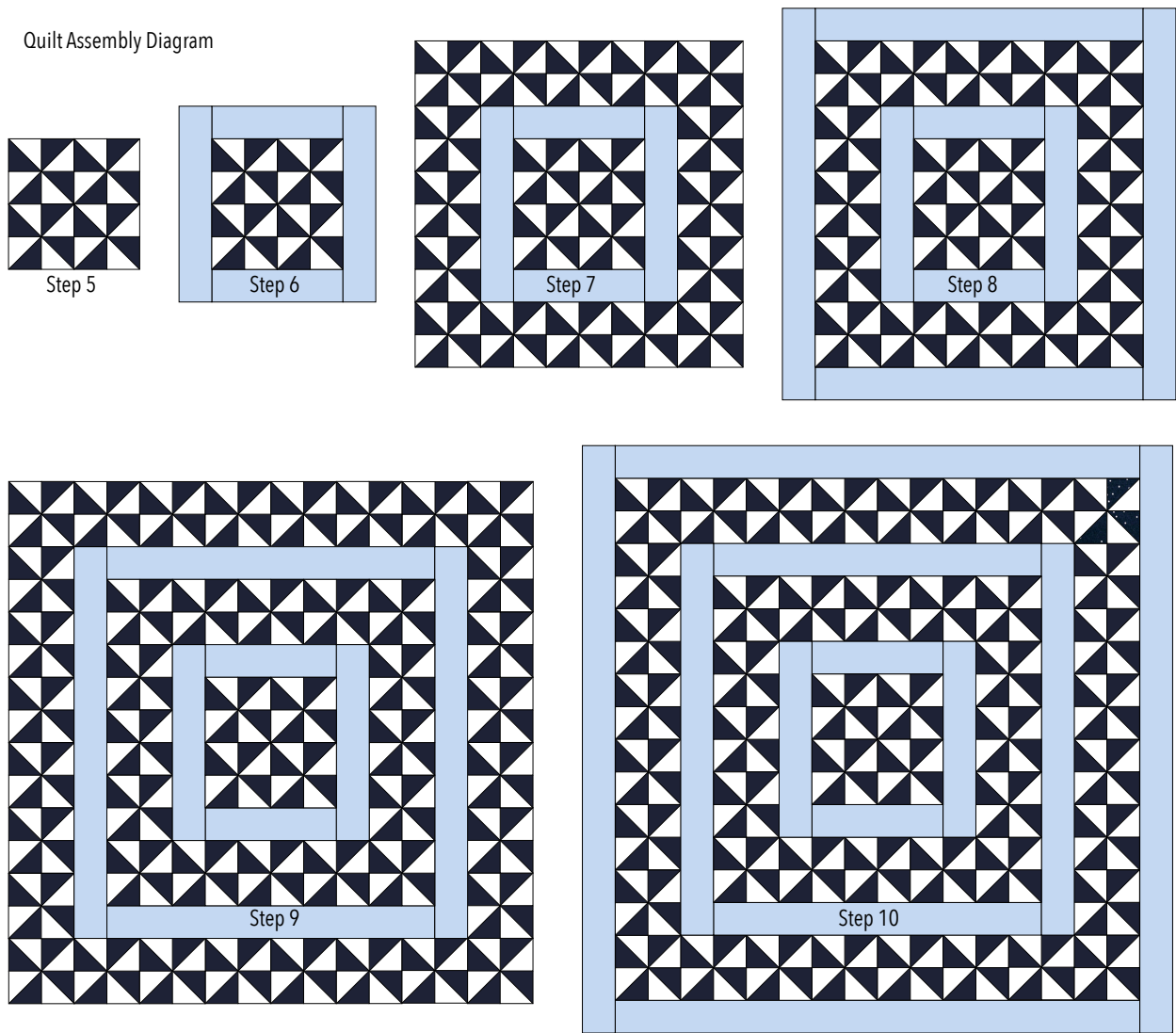
7 For the second border make: Two sets of three pinwheel blocks measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $15\frac{1}{2}$ " and two sets of five pinwheel blocks measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $25\frac{1}{2}$ ". Sew the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $15\frac{1}{2}$ " sets to the top and bottom of the quilt. Press the seams towards the border fabric. Sew the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $25\frac{1}{2}$ " sets to either side of the quilt centre. Press towards the border fabric. With the second border attached the quilt centre should now measure $25\frac{1}{2}$ " x $25\frac{1}{2}$ ".

8 Third border: Sew the 3 " x $25\frac{1}{2}$ " border fabric strip to the top and bottom of the quilt centre. Press the seams towards the border fabric. Sew the 3 " x $30\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to either side of the quilt centre. Press towards the border fabric. With the third border attached the quilt top should measure $30\frac{1}{2}$ " x $30\frac{1}{2}$ ".

9 For the forth border make: Two sets of six pinwheel blocks measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $30\frac{1}{2}$ " and two sets of eight pinwheel blocks measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $40\frac{1}{2}$ ". Sew the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $30\frac{1}{2}$ " sets to the top and bottom of the quilt. Press the seams towards the border fabric. Sew the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $40\frac{1}{2}$ " sets to either side of the quilt centre. Press towards the border fabric. With the forth border attached the quilt centre should now measure $40\frac{1}{2}$ " x $40\frac{1}{2}$ ".

10 Final border: Sew the 3 " x $40\frac{1}{2}$ " border fabric strip to the top and bottom of the quilt centre. Press the seams towards the border fabric. Sew the 3 " x $45\frac{1}{2}$ " strips to either side of the quilt centre. Press towards the border fabric. With the final border attached the quilt top should measure $45\frac{1}{2}$ " x $45\frac{1}{2}$ ".

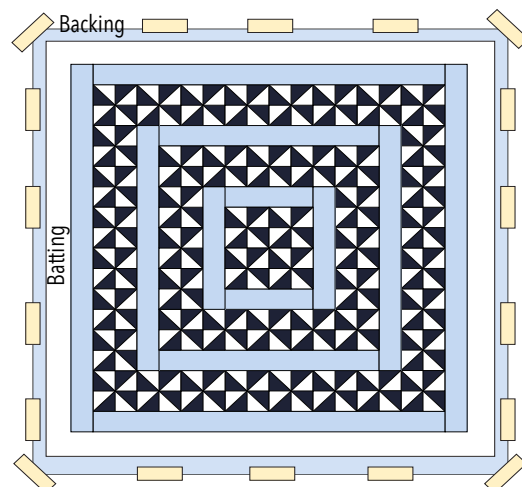
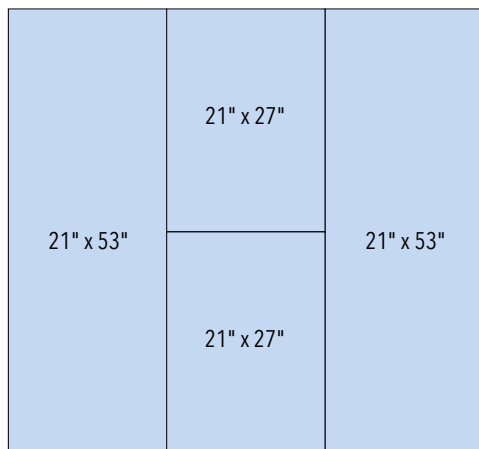
Quilt Assembly Diagram



Quilt Assembly

11 The following method of making backing uses far less fabric than traditional vertical seam backing. It is called H-Seam backing and it only works with quilts up to 54" wide. From the backing fabric cut two lengths: one 53" x WOF and another 27" x 42". Cut the 53" x WOF piece in half lengthwise so that you have two pieces approximately 21" x 53". Cut the second piece in half so that you have two pieces 21" x 27". Sew the two 21" x 27" pieces together end to end so that you have a single strip 21" x 53½". Trim to 21" x 53". Sew the three backing pieces together so that you have a back that measures approximately 53" x 62". Press all of the seams open.

12 Layer the quilt backing piece right side down, batting and the quilt top, right side up, to make a quilt sandwich. Machine or hand quilt as desired.



13 Trim away excess batting and backing leaving an extra 1/8" of batting and backing beyond the quilt. This will help ensure the binding is full and even on both the front and back of the quilt.

14 Binding. Sew the 2 1/4" x WOF strips cut from the binding fabric together end to end and press seams open until you have one long strip of fabric. Press the long binding strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together. Leaving 5" loose and the raw edge of the binding aligned to the raw edge of the quilt sew the binding to the quilt, batting and backing stopping 1/4" before the corner. Remove the quilt from the machine, fold the binding up at a 45° angle and then down along the next side of the quilt (see binding images). Start stitching again at the top of the fold. Repeat around all four sides leaving a 5" tail loose. Trim the loose tail so that it sits 1/2" over the loose start of the binding. Open the binding up, join the tails together using a 1/4" seam with RST then finger press the seam open, refold the binding and sew in place. Fold the closed edge of the binding strip over the quilt and hand stitch in place on the back.

