

Diamonds 2 Bonus Quilt!

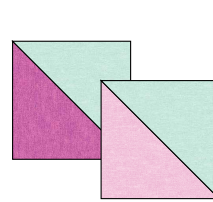
Note: You don't need to buy anything extra to make this 42-1/2" x 54-1/2" quilt top - it is pieced from the "stitch-and-flip" corners you cut off when making the original Diamonds 2 quilt. If you'd like a bigger quilt you can add borders.

You'll need to add 3 yards backing and 1/2 yard binding of your choice (or make a scrappy binding) when we quilt the piece.

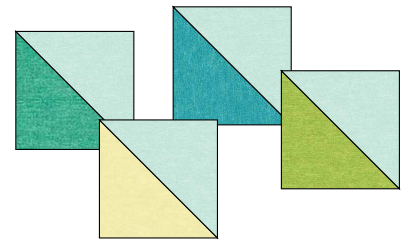
Half-Square Triangles

Join together the long sides of the triangles of Cotton Shot fabrics that you cut off when using the "stitch-and-flip" technique. You don't even need to separate them - they are already right-sides together! Press the seams open.

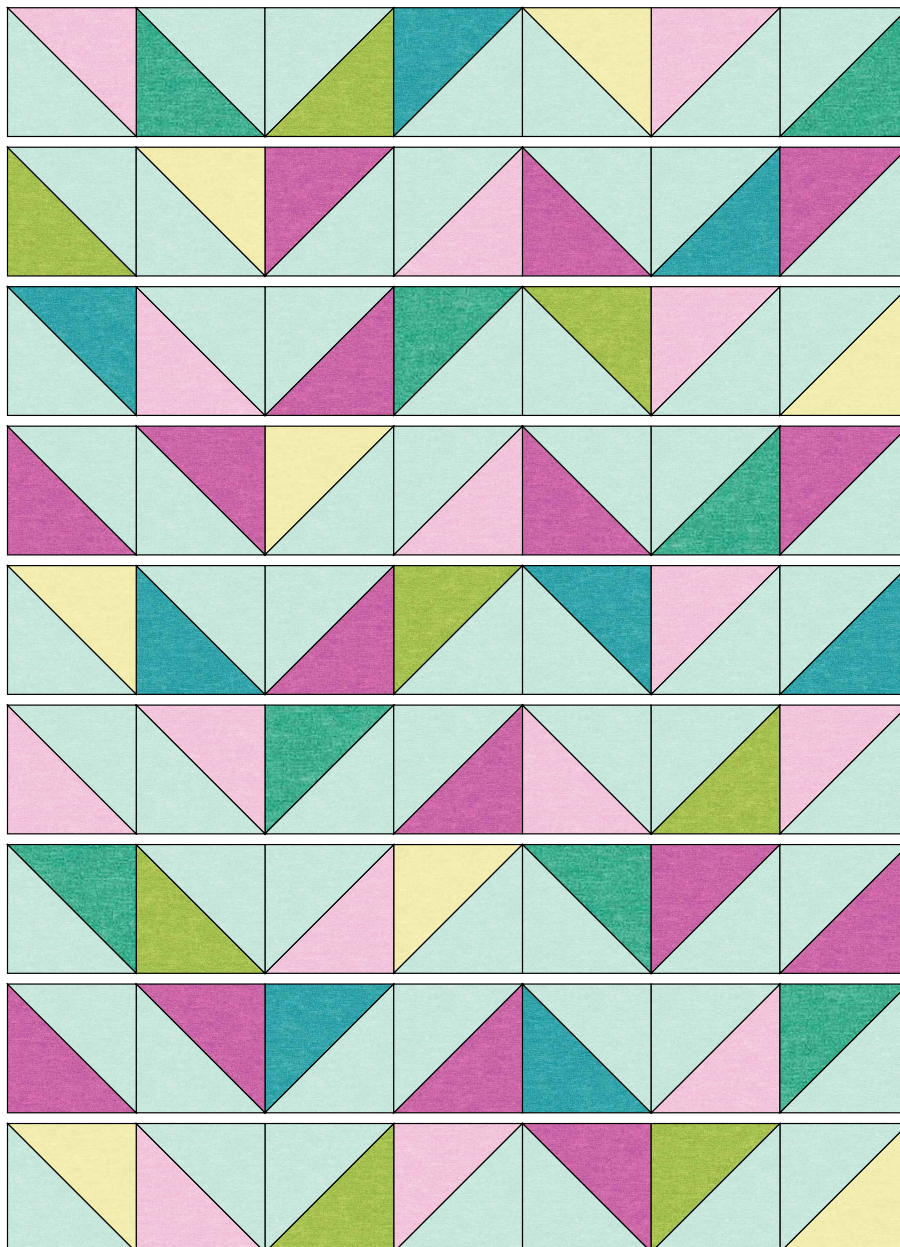
Trim each resulting half-square triangle to the same size. I was able to trim mine to 6-1/2" x 6-1/2", but 6" x 6" would work just as well - it will just make a slightly smaller finished quilt. My 6-1/2" Good Measure Block Trimmer is great for this!



Make 16
of each



Make 8
of each

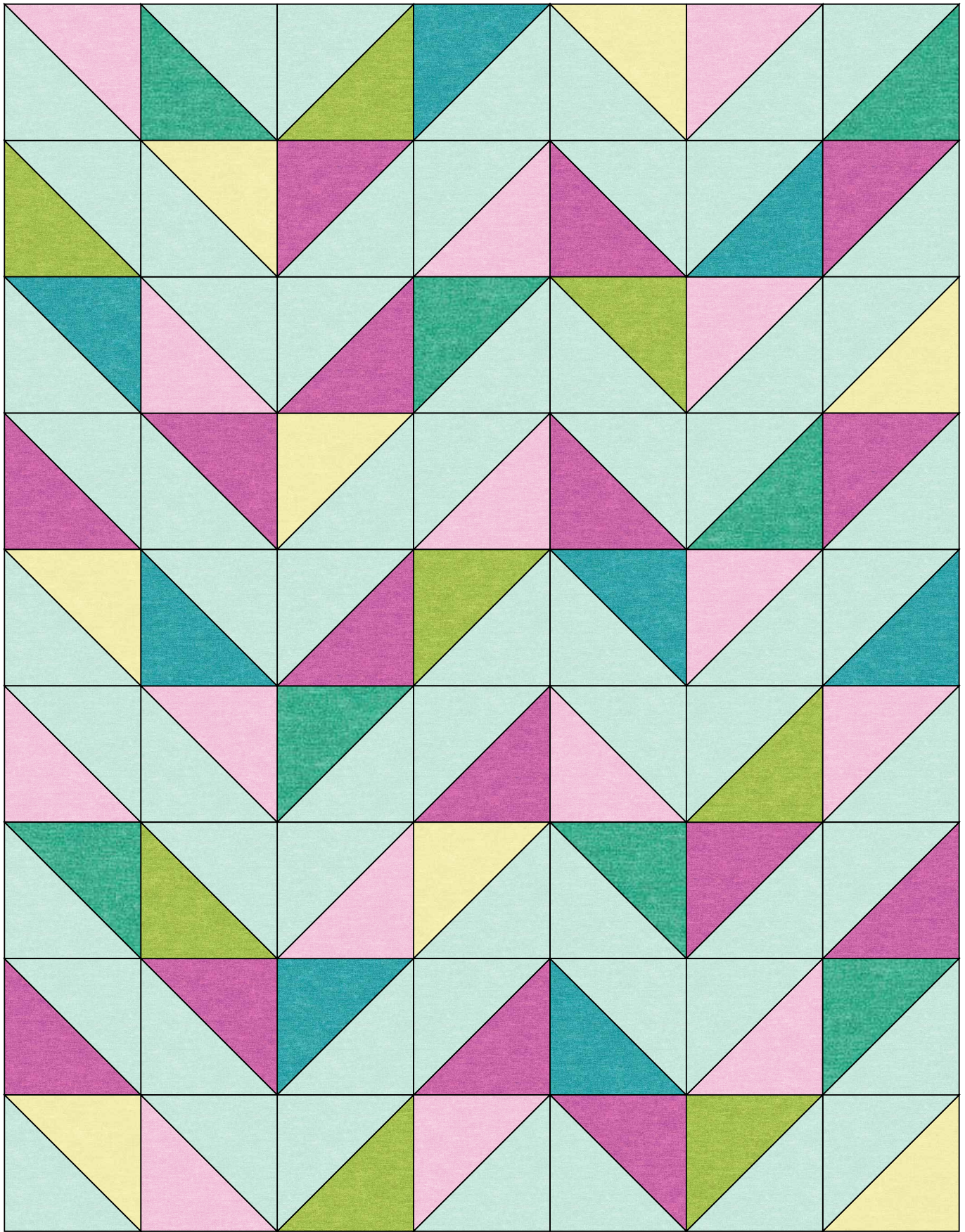


Assembly

Use 63 of the 64 half-square triangles to lay out the quilt, following the diagram on the left.

Join the blocks into rows, alternating the direction you press the seams in each row.

Join the rows, pressing the seams open.



Diamonds Bonus Quilt

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"

Backing

If you aren't using wideback, cut the backing yardage into one 66" length and one 33-1/4" length. Trim off the selvage from each. Cut down the center of the 33-1/4" piece vertically and join the narrow ends together to make a rectangle 66" x approximately 21". Join this unit to the larger piece.

Binding

Cut 5 strips 2-1/4" x WOF. Join binding strips into 1 continuous piece. Press, folding in half length-wise.

IMPORTANT: If you are quilting on a frame, quilt each zigzag row completely as you come to it, working from the top of the quilt down. Begin by quilting the bottom seam of a row, and then fill in that row with the rest of the quilting before proceeding to the next.

If you are quilting on a sit-down machine, you'll do all the "along-the-ditch" quilting, followed by all the rulerwork, followed by all the free-motion, gradually building up the quilting density across the quilt top. I would start in the center row and work out for each step of the process.

The order for sit-down quilting is what is shown on the following pages...



Quilting Option A

Step 1

Using the Every Angle template (or a walking foot) and a thread that matches the background, quilt along the diagonals of the quilt from edge to edge, as shown in black.

Note I would quilt this step in aqua, but it is shown on the diagram in black because it is easier to see.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Step 2

Switch to a thread that looks nice over the various triangle colors (*I'd recommend a pastel version of one of the block colors or a white*) and quilt echo lines 1/2" in from the edge of Triangle Channels as shown.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Step 3

Quilt a line down the center of the Triangle Channels and then quilt echo lines 1/2" on both sides of that line as shown.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Step 4

Use chalk to mark the center of the Background Channels.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Step 5

Switch back to the background thread. Quilt on top of the marked lines, rounding out the corners with a 5" circle template as shown.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Step 6

Quilt leaves on both sides of the spine, working from the left side to the right side of the quilt top each time.

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option A

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



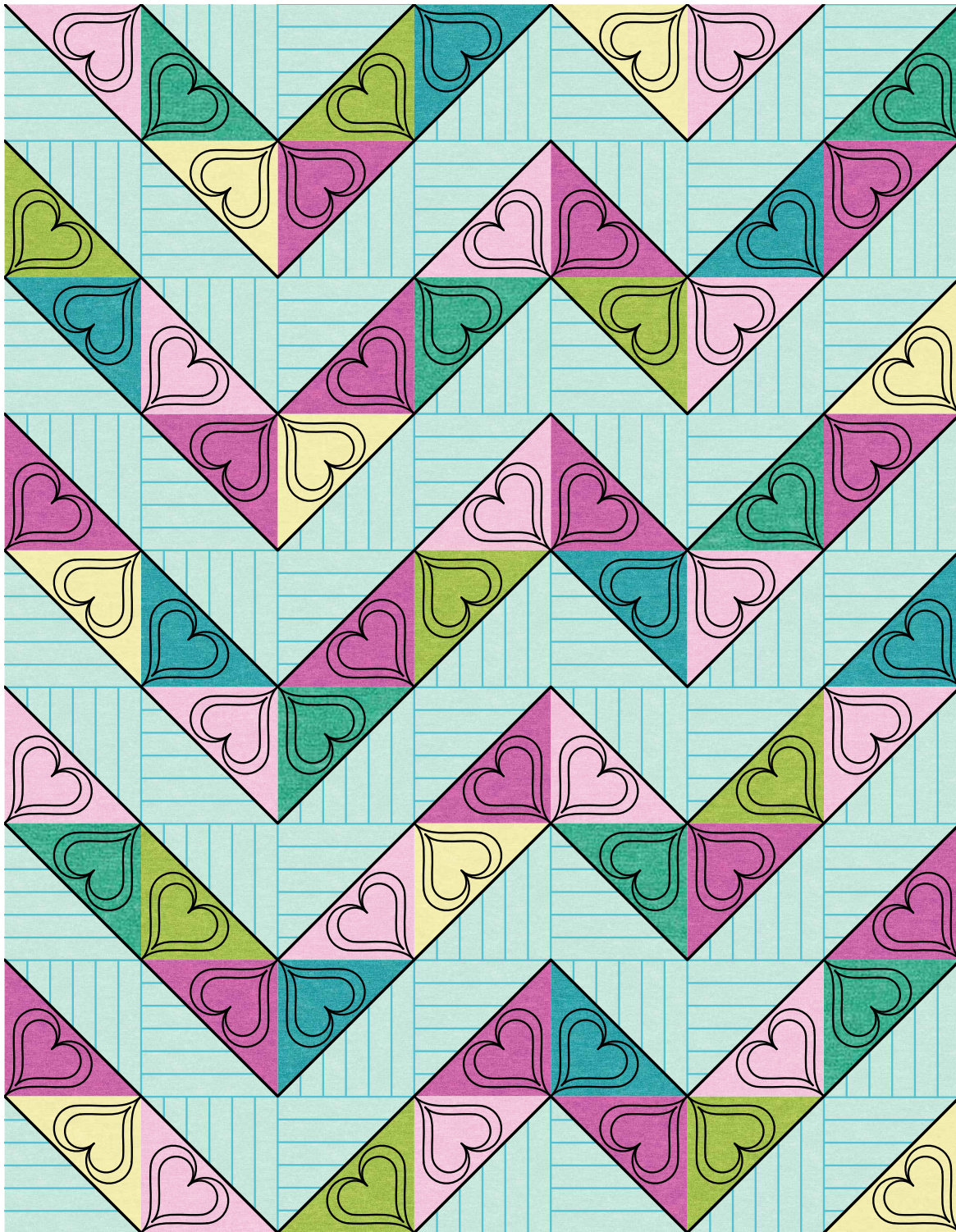
Step 7 (Optional)

For a more heavily quilted look, switch back to the thread you used on the colored triangles and quilt loops, fishbones, or ribbon candy in the channels as shown.

Trim, bind and enjoy!

Quilting the Diamonds Bonus Quilt Option B

42-1/2" x 54-1/2"



Quilting Option B

Here is a second (and more lightly quilted) option for your quilting, comprised of parallel lines that are 1" apart and my 3" and 4" Every Heart templates. (If desired, you can quilt the background of the zigzag rows behind the hearts. If you are quilting on a sit-down machine, you'll do all the "along-the-ditch" quilting, followed by all the rulerwork, followed by all the free-motion, gradually building up the quilting density across the quilt top. To quilt this on a frame, you'll quilt each zigzag row entirely you work down the quilt.