

moda

BAKESHOP

Original Recipe



Charm Crossing Quilt

Hi everyone! My name is Tammie Schaffer, and you'll find me over at craftytammie.com. I try to make something everyday, and I love quilting! I'm here today with an easy, charm pack friendly quilt project. I've always called this an Hourglass block, but I recently learned when you put four of them together, it's called a Yankee Puzzle Block. The quarter square triangle blocks stitch up quickly and with a little planning, the layout is easy too. Perfect for solids, it also makes a really fun scrappy quilt as well!

Ingredients:

2 charm packs Bella Solids white
2 charm packs Bella Solids 2012 colors
3 yards Bella Solids white for sashing and backing

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1/2 yard each Bella Solids Indigo, Peacock, Citrine, and Berrylicious
1/2 yard Bella Solids Graphite for binding

Garnishes (optional):

A design wall is recommended for laying out the quilt. If you don't have one, you can use an inexpensive flannel backed tablecloth tacked to the wall.

Instructions:



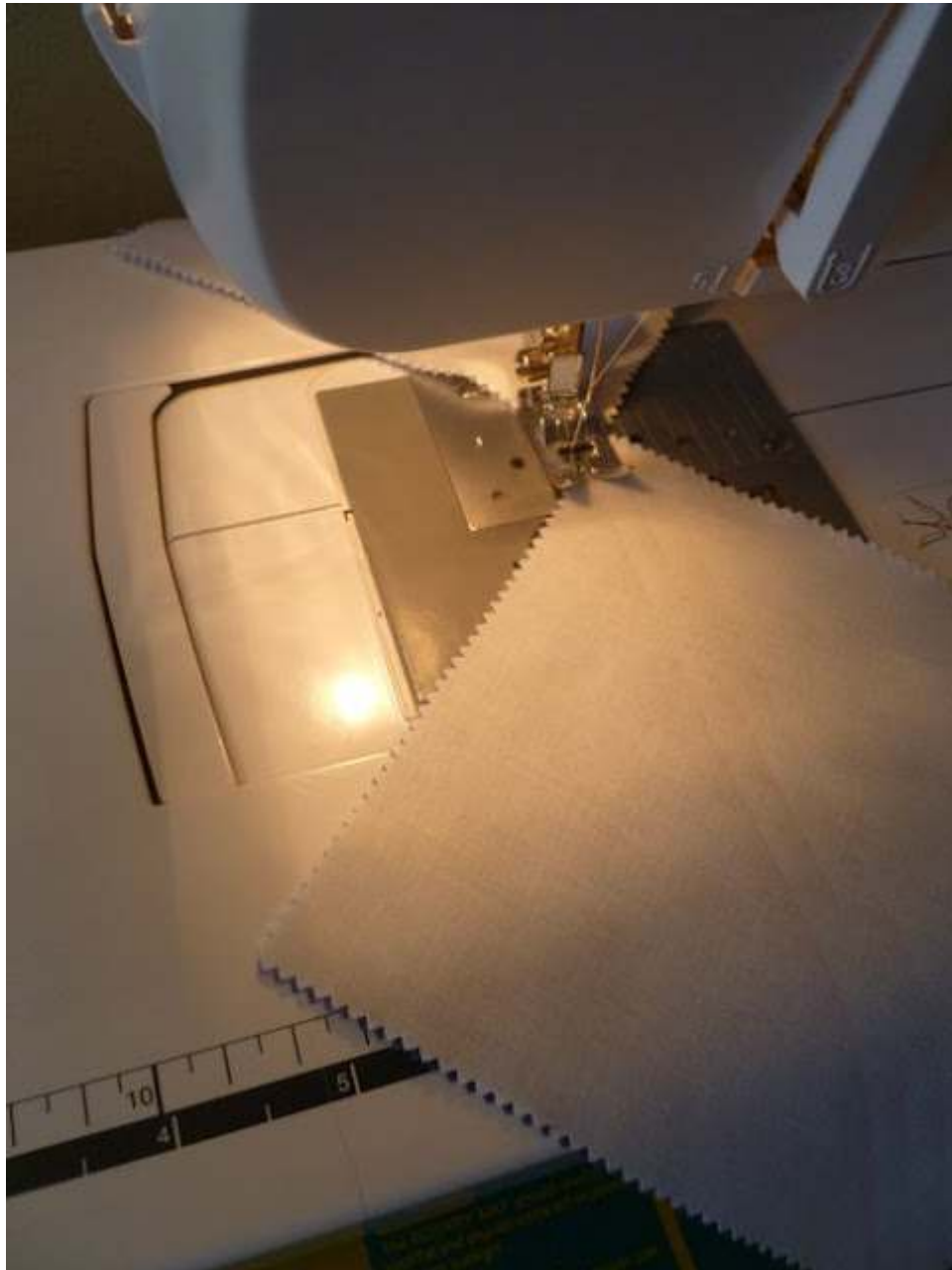
Ok, let's begin by sorting our charms. The 2012 colors charm pack comes with 20 colors, 2 each of most and three each of the indigo, sand, and graphite. Set aside the 2 off white charms (9900-200) in each pack for another use. Then pair up a bright white charm with a color charm, until all your charms are matched up. You won't need all of them - I made extras to have options. You need 50 pairs for the Yankee Puzzle blocks. The border and backing uses a few extra.

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Next you'll want to mark the diagonal lines on the white charms. There are many methods to do this, I prefer to use a quilter's ruler to mark both the stitching and cutting line. I feel like I get a more accurate HST when I do this. But you can use whatever method you prefer.

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Chain stitch your blocks. There's something so satisfying to me about chain stitching! Be sure to press them flat before cutting apart. Then press again.

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You now have a pretty stack of HST. Begin matching them up, solid to white, lining up the seams. I like to pin each end, and feel along the center seams to make sure they have nested evenly.

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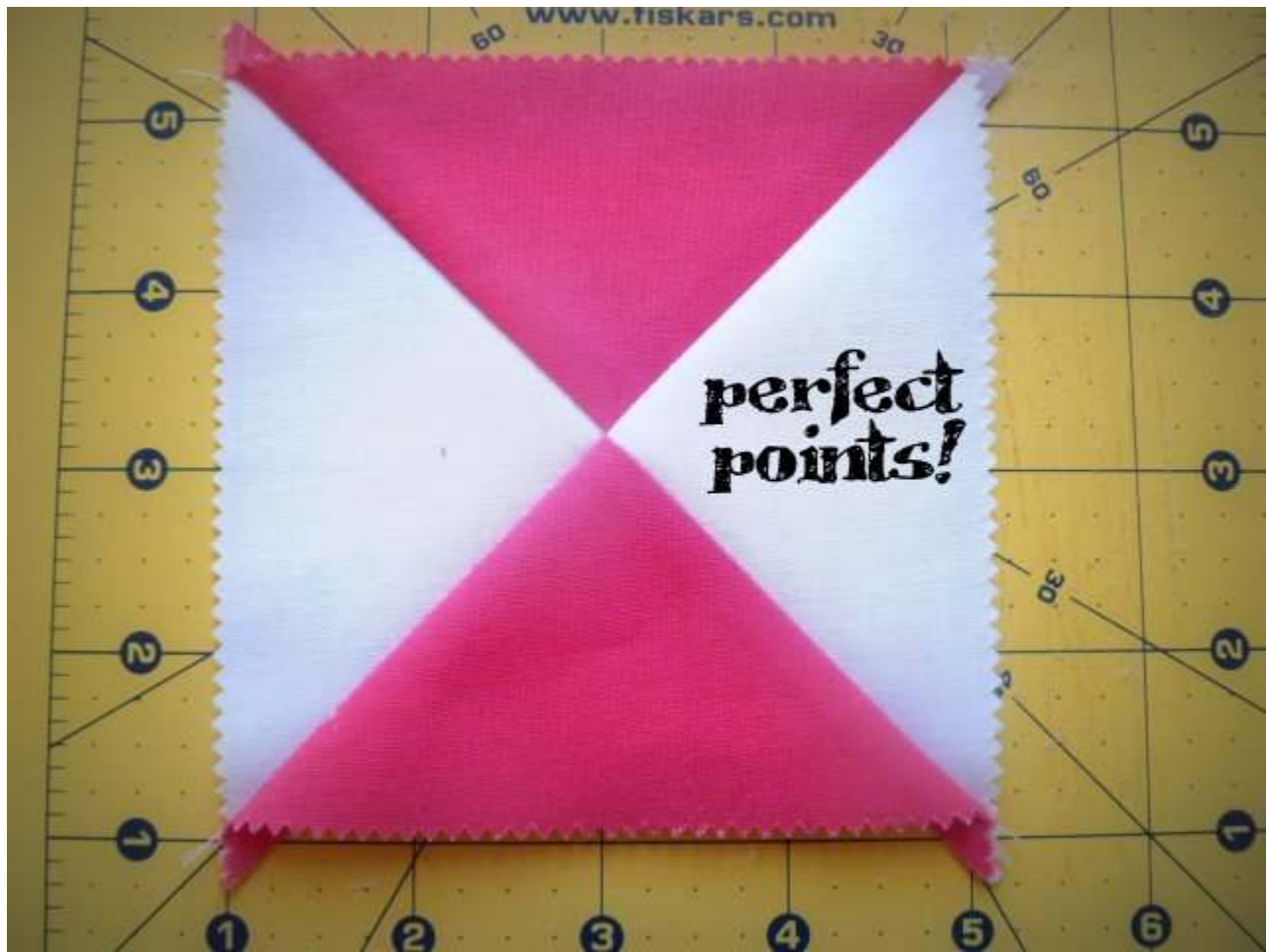
Again, mark your diagonals, and chain stitch your blocks. Press, cut apart, and press again.

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Yay! Look at your perfect points and pretty quarter square triangle blocks!

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You'll want to square up your blocks and cut off the dog ears at this point. I use a square ruler and a rotating cutting mat to make this step go faster. Square them to 4 inches. I like to keep it all in a basket I can carry with me around the house - squaring up at the kitchen counter, or while I watch TV.

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Now the real fun begins! Start putting together groups of 4 blocks. We'll be making a block I recently learned is called a yankee puzzle block. Using 4 quarter square triangle blocks, arrange them as shown. 12 of them start with a horizontal hourglass in the top left corner, block A.

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The other 13 should have a vertical hourglass in the upper left corner (block B).

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That is pretty important. Before you stitch your blocks together, make sure they are all going the way they should! This is where I recommend using a design wall (or floor) and taking a photo of it before stitching. When I see it in a photo, it's easier to see if the colors are balanced, or if I have any blocks turned the wrong direction.

Stitch these groups of four together. You should now have 12 blocks of A, 13 blocks of B. Lay them out on your design wall.

Now you will cut your sashing pieces. you will need 25 rectangles of white measuring 4" x 7.5". Place one rectangle between each set of blocks, as shown in the photo.

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Stitch the blocks and rectangles together into rows, matching up seams. Stitch your rows together. I use a pin at each seam, just to help keep everything lined up properly. I also use a post it note in the top corner of each row.

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Cut your border fabrics. I chose to do a 5" border. Cut 6 strips 5" x WOF. I also used some of my leftover hourglass blocks in the border, simply continuing the pattern in one spot on each side. To do this, I pieced a 1 1/2" strip of white along the outside of the block. Then attach a strip of white border fabric on each end. Attach the top and bottom border pieces first, then the side borders.

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Yay! The top is finished! Let's piece the back. I used four of the colors - indigo, peacock, berrylicious, and citrine - and simply laid them out in a staggered row. I chose 7 leftover hourglass blocks, stitched four of them in a row, and randomly placed them in the open spaces. I used white to float the blocks. Then just for fun, I used a piece of Moda twill tape and added it to the side of one of the hourglass block.

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Quilt as desired. My friend Ariane from Callie Grace Quilts quilted this for me, and it's just beautiful! She chose a paisley design for all the white, and a loopy outline in the hourglass blocks. It is awesome.

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I used Graphite for the binding, and used four leftover charms at each of the places where I had a hourglass in the border. Another little use of the extra charms! I cut my binding, 5 strips, 2 3/4" by WOF.

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If you make this, I'd love to see it! Be sure to add it to the Moda Bakeshop flickr pool. Stop by my blog to see another version of this quilt, and there might be a little giveaway going on too...

Yield:

One lap quilt, 42" x 60"

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