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Original Recipe



"Off the Grid" Sliced Nine Patch Quilt by John Adams

I'm so excited to be back for my second Moda Bake Shop tutorial! This time I'll share a quick and easy quilt pattern featuring my variation on the classic 9-patch block. Finishing out at approximately 50" square, this quilt would make a great lap quilt, baby quilt, or dorm room quilt to send off to your favorite college student. If you're inspired, maybe you can even whip one up this week for your Valentine!

Ingredients:



- 2 charm packs (*Note: you will need a total of 81 charm squares. My two charm packs of MoMo's "Wonderland" line only yielded 80 squares, so I cut my final square from my backing fabric.*)
- 1 honey bun of the same line
- 3 yards of a coordinating backing fabric
- 1 yard of a coordinating binding fabric

Original Recipe can be found at www.modabakeshop.com

Instructions:

Step 1:

Separate out your charm squares into nine groups of 9. You will be sewing these bundles into 9-patch blocks, so be cognizant of your mixture of color & pattern in each group.



NOTE: all of the squares will be cut down further in later steps *except for* the center square of each 9-patch. So if you have a large print that you want to feature, or an image that lends itself to fussy-cut squares, it would be good to include one in each of the bundles.

Step 2:

Sew your first group of 9 squares into a 9-patch block. Remember, the center square is the only one that will not be cut down further, so be aware of your placement of squares. Press your seams accordingly.



Step 3:

Select one of your 9-patch blocks. See how the block features 2 vertical and 2 horizontal seams? Using your cutting mat and straight-edged ruler, make a straight, vertical cut that measures 2.25" to the right of the right-hand vertical seam. (I lined the seam up against a vertical inch mark on my mat, and used the mat guides to measure 2.25" inches over.) This will slice through the squares in the third column of the block.

See my picture to help visualize this step:



Step 4:

Perform the same step, but this time measure 2.25" to the left of the left-hand vertical seam. This will leave you with 3 separate pieces of the block.



Step 5:

Select 4 honey bun strips. Be sure to select strips of colors and/or patterns that might not already appear in that 9-patch block. From each of the 4 strips, cut a 7.25" piece and an 8" piece. You should now have four 7.25" pieces (each of a different print), and four corresponding 8" pieces. Put the four 8" pieces aside for now.



Step 6:

Arrange the four 7.25" pieces into two "columns" of 2, in between the three pieces of the original block like so:

Sew the column pieces together:



Step 7:

Reassemble the block, with your newly created columns inserted where you had previously made the slices. Sew the 5 pieces back together.



Step 8:

Rotate your reassembled block 90 degrees. Once again, identify your two vertical seams. Repeat steps 3 & 4, making two more slices in your block.



Step 9:

Pull out the four 8" pieces that you had put aside in step 5. Arrange them to match up with the pieces you have already sewn into the block. Each of the four prints should connect, making a cross-like pattern. See the picture to help clarify:



Step 10:

Sew these new column pieces together, and reassemble the block again. Your finished block should now look like this:

Step 11:

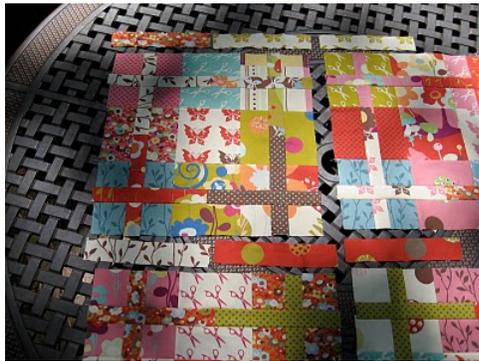
Repeat steps 2-10 for the remaining nine sets of charm squares, making a total of 9 "split nine-patch" blocks.

Step 12:

Now that we've made the 9 blocks for the quilt, the remainder of the tutorial will step through sashing the blocks.

Take an inventory of your remaining honey bun strips. (I don't know about you, but at this point I had a huge pile of cut-up strips. It's a good time to make sure you have what you need for the remaining steps.)

1. First, find 8 honey bun strips that have at least 16.75" in length each. (If longer than 16.75", trim down to size.) These can be prints that you haven't used in your quilt yet (preferred), or leftover strips from making your blocks. **Put these aside for now.**
2. Pull out 8 more honey bun strips of at least 16" in length each. These can be prints that you haven't used in your quilt yet, or leftover strips from your blocks. Cut two 8" pieces from each of these strips, yielding 16 total 8" pieces (2 of each print).
3. Find another 8 honey bun strips that have at least 9" in length each. These can also be prints that you haven't used in your quilt yet, or leftover strips from making your blocks.
4. Finally, find or cut 8 more 8" strips. These can be from any prints that you've used already in the quilt, or from any unused honey bun strips that you still have.



Let's recap this step. You should now have:

- 8 "A" strips, 8" in length each (8 different prints)
- 16 "B" strips, 8" in length each (8 different prints, two of each print)
- 8 "C" strips, 16.75" in length each (8 different prints)
- 8 "D" strips, 9" in length each (8 different prints)

Step 13:

Lay out your nine blocks in an eye-pleasing 3 x 3 grid. Pull out your 8" "A" & "B" strips. Working in vertical columns, pick two pieces to serve as sashing in between each block, as well as above the top block and below the bottom block.

In your first column, select four "A" strips and four "B" strips. (Remember, your "B" strips are the ones that each has a matching partner.) Your four "B" strips should occupy the right position of each sashing, closest to the center of the quilt:

Sew all of the sashing pieces together, and then assemble the entire first column:

Step 14:

In your middle column, select eight "B" strips. Lay them out to create sashing above, below, and in between the blocks. The first four should be the matches to what you've already used in the first column. These will occupy the left position of each sashing, matching each up with its partner in the first column.

Sew all of the sashing pieces together, and then assemble the entire middle column.

DO NOT sew the columns together yet.



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Step 15:

In your third column, take your remaining four "A" strips and four "B" strips. Again, lay them out to create sashing in between the blocks. Your four "B" strips should occupy the left position of each sashing, matching each up with its partner in the middle column.

Sew all of the sashing pieces together, and then assemble the entire third column.



Step 16:

We will now be creating vertical sashing in between the columns using our "C" and "D" strips.

Create four vertical sashes, each comprised of a D+C+C+D strip (in that order). In other words, you will start with a 9" strip, attach a 16.75" strip, attach another 16.75" strip, and finish with a 9" strip. These will all be sewn together on their 1.5" sides, creating a long, skinny continuous sashing strip.

We're not worried about matching any prints up here, so just arrange them in an eye-pleasing layout.



Step 17:

Lay your quilt out, from left to right, in the following order:

1. Skinny vertical sashing strip
2. Vertical column 1
3. Skinny vertical sashing strip
4. Vertical column 2
5. Skinny vertical sashing strip
6. Vertical column 3
7. Skinny vertical sashing strip

Sew all components together in this order.

Step 18:

Baste, quilt, and bind your quilt.

Yield:

A brand new quilt!



NOTE: you will have leftover honey bun strips for some other fun Moda Bake Shop projects!

If you have any questions, please let me know in the comments

below. And if you decide to make your own "Off the Grid" quilt, I would absolutely love to see it! Visit me at my blog.

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<http://www.quiltdad.com/>



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