

Exclusively  
**Q** Quilters

# Baby Crackers

42" x 42" Quilt

Skill Level - intermediate



"Past Perfect"  
Exclusively Quilters  
Style No. 4111

Designed for Exclusively Quilters  
By Terry Albers  
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*Please read all the instructions thoroughly before you begin.*

If you are unsure of any of the methods or techniques described in this pattern, please contact your local quilt shop or visit [www.quilting.about.com](http://www.quilting.about.com) for help.

Fat 1/4 = 18" x 20"    Fat 1/8 = 9" x 20"

### Fabric Requirements

"Past Perfect" Style No. 4111

A		61384-3	Purple	1-Fat 1/8	J		61386-20	Blue	1-Fat 1/8
B		64384-4	Yellow	1-Fat 1/8	K		61386-60	Green	1/2 yard
C		61384-10	Pink	1-Fat 1/4	L		61387-3	Purple	1-Fat 1/8
D		61384-20	Blue	1-Fat 1/8	M		61387-4	Yellow	1-Fat 1/8
E		61384-60	Green	1 yard	N		61387-20	Blue	1-Fat 1/8
F		61385-3	Purple	1-Fat 1/8	O		61387-60	Green	1-Fat 1/8
G		61385-20	Blue	1-Fat 1/8	P		400-100	White	2 yards
H		61386-4	Yellow	1-Fat 1/4			Backing	----	2-3/4 yards
I		61386-10	Pink	1-Fat 1/8			Batting	----	50" x 50"

Suggested tools/notions:

Water soluble or other temporary marker  
9" or larger square ruler

A note from Exclusively Quilters:

*An extra 1/8 to 1/2 yard is added to all yardages to account for shrinkage, straightening, cutting errors and prints that may require special cutting to get the best results.*

*You should protect your investment in time and fabric by making sample blocks before cutting into your fabric because Exclusively Quilters will take no responsibility for replacing fabrics.*

*Shops who wish to kit this design are responsible for figuring yardage for their kits if they wish to reduce yardages.*



## Cutting instructions:

- Remove all selvages before cutting.
- All seams are  $\frac{1}{4}$ " unless otherwise noted and seam allowances are included in the cut sizes.
- WoF = Width of Fabric

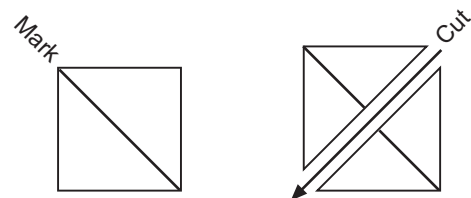
- A. Floral, purple  
Cut 4 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- B. Floral, yellow  
Cut 4 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- C. Floral, pink  
Cut 6 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- D. Floral, blue  
Cut 4 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- E. Floral, green  
Cut 4 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 7 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares  
Cut 5 strips -  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x WoF for binding
- F. Purple Hashtag  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- G. Blue Hashtag  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- H. Yellow Bubbles  
Cut 4 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 6 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- I. Pink Bubbles  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- J. Blue Bubbles  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- K. Green Bubbles  
Cut 6 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 7 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- L. Purple Confetti  
Cut 2 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- M. Yellow Confetti  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- N. Blue Confetti  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- O. Green Confetti  
Cut 2 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangles and 3 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
- P. White  
Cut 1 strip -  $5$ " x WoF; from this, cut 13 -  $2$ " x  $5$ " rectangle  
Cut 8 strips -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x WoF; from this, cut 61 -  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares  
Cut 5 strips -  $2$ " x WoF for border
- Backing  
Cut 2 pieces -  $49$ " x WoF

## Making Crackers Blocks:

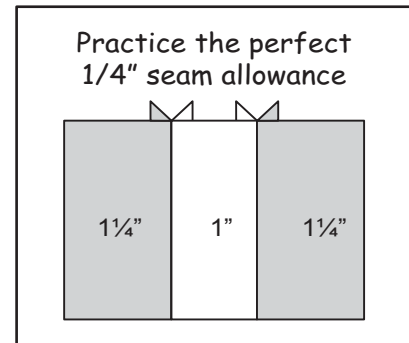
Each block is made up of 2 color rectangles, 1 matching  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, 1 white rectangle and 1 white  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Sort into groups to make 13 blocks:

E(2), F, G, H(2), I, J, K(2), M, N, O

Mark one diagonal, on the wrong side of each square, using a water-soluble marker or disappearing pen.  
Cut on the other diagonal as shown at right.



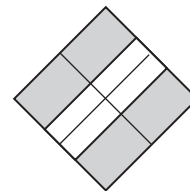
Consistent seam allowances are very important to keep your finished quilt straight and square. This exercise will improve your results.



Start with three strips of fabric exactly  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. Sew together as shown and press seams open. Finished "block" should measure exactly  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " with individual strips measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $1$ " and  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". Adjust your technique until you can get consistent results.

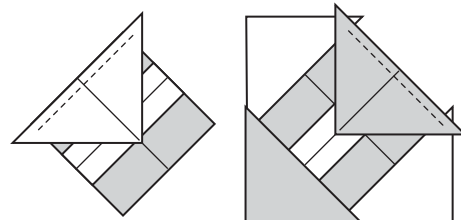
### Assembling the Center Square:

Sew 2 - 2" x 5" color rectangles to one 2" x 5" white rectangle to make the center squares. Press seams toward the color. Squares will measure 5". Mark centers in both directions on the right side of fabric.



### Adding the corners:

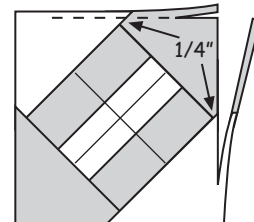
Pin white triangles to colored sides of square, matching center marks. Stitch and press away from center. In the same manner, add color triangles to remaining sides.



Assemble all (13) blocks before trimming.

### Trimming the blocks to size:

Using a 9" or larger square ruler, line up the 3 1/2" mark on the diagonal with the center point of the block. Trim top and right sides. Rotate the block and align the ruler in the same way. This time, the trimmed corner should line up under the 7" point of the ruler. Trim remaining sides so that the block is evenly trimmed to 7", and 1/4" seam allowance remains at center-square points.

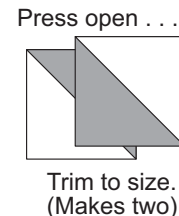
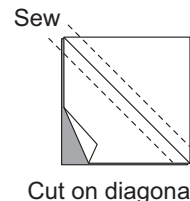


### Making Pinwheel Blocks:

You will need to make the following number of Half-square Triangles (HST's):

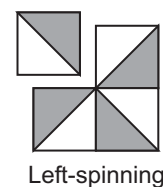
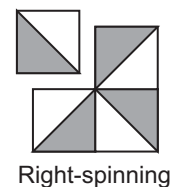
Fabric: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O  
 HST's: 8 8 11 8 9 4 4 8 4 4 9 3 4 4 4

Each color square will be matched up with a white square to make the HST's. Draw a line on the diagonal of each white square and pin right sides together with the color squares. Stitch 1/4" away from both sides of the line, as shown. Cut on the centerline and press open, pressing seams toward the color fabric. Square each block to 3 3/4".



### Assembling the Pinwheel Blocks

Please note that there are two different pinwheel blocks. All "right-spinning" blocks will have the white portion of the HST in the upper right of the first HST. All "left-spinning" pinwheels will have the white in the lower left of the first HST.



Make 12 pinwheel blocks using the color combinations shown in the chart below.

Right-spinning						
Left-spinning						

The remaining HST's will be used for the outer rows of the quilt.

## Assembling the Top:

Referring to layout on page 6, arrange blocks into rows, paying close attention to the orientation of each block. The right-spinning pinwheel blocks go into rows 1, 3 and 5. The left-spinning pinwheel blocks go into rows 2 and 4. Sew blocks into rows, pressing seams toward the right in odd-numbered rows and toward the left in even numbered rows. Sew one row at a time and return each row to the layout as it is sewn.

Referring again to the layout on page 6, arrange HST's at the ends of all rows. Sew into pairs, paying close attention to the orientation of the blocks so that they continue the pattern. Pin pairs to the ends of the rows and stitch, pressing in the same direction as the rest of the row.

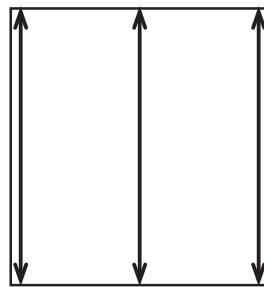
Arrange HST's into top and bottom rows. Sew and press seams toward the left.

Pin and sew rows together, matching points. Press seams toward the bottom of the quilt.

Quilt should measure  $39\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $39\frac{1}{2}$ ".

### Well-behaved Borders . . .

A word about borders: It is very important that you measure properly, trim the borders to size and pin in place before stitching. This will keep the quilt square and flat as you go and avoid stretching, distorting or rippling in the border. When you sew the first border to the quilt, sew with quilt on top and border strip against the bed of the machine so that you can see and control the block seams.



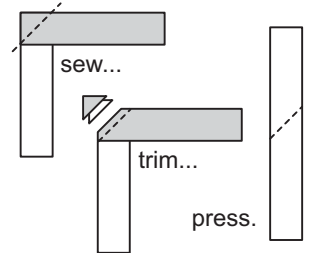
### Get the Borders right!

Measure from top to bottom through center of the quilt and both outside edges. Add these measurements together and divide by 3 to figure the average length for the side borders. In the same manner, measure from side to side through the center, top and bottom to find the average width.

## Adding the Borders:

Referring to Well-behaved Borders section above, measure width of quilt and trim 2 - 2" white border strips to size. Pin and stitch to top and bottom of quilt. Press seams toward border.

Stitch remaining 2" white strips together, end to end on the diagonal as shown. Trim seam allowances and press seams open to reduce bulk. Measure length of quilt and trim border strips to size. Pin and stitch to sides of quilt. Press seams toward border.



Quilt should measure  $42\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $42\frac{1}{2}$ ".

## Making the Binding:

Sew binding strips together, end to end on the diagonal as shown above.

Trim seam allowances and press seams open to reduce bulk. Fold and press entire length of binding in half, wrong sides together.

## Making the Backing:

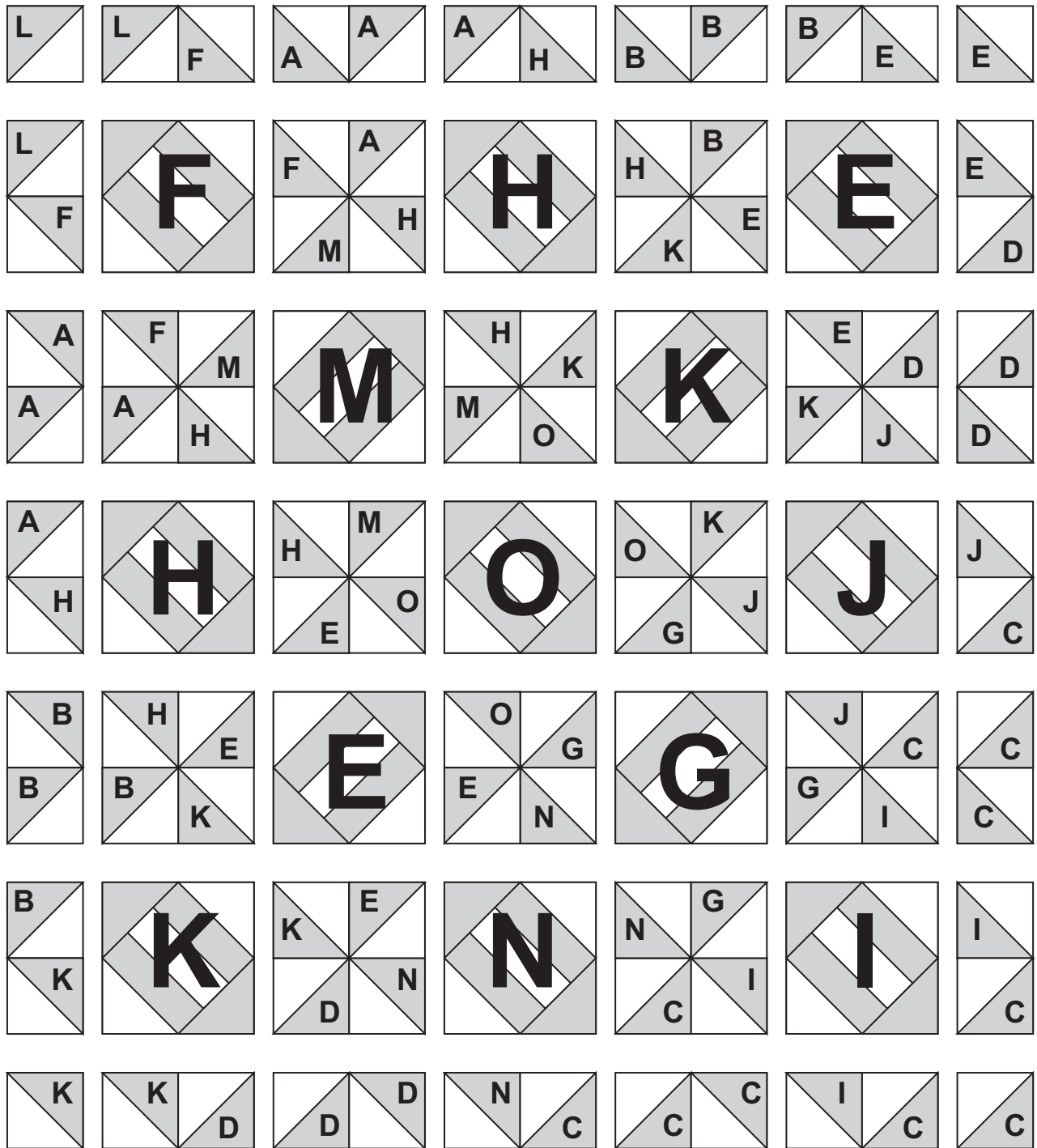
Remove selvages and stitch long edges of quilt backing together, using a  $1/2$ " seam allowance. Press seam open to reduce bulk.

## Finishing:

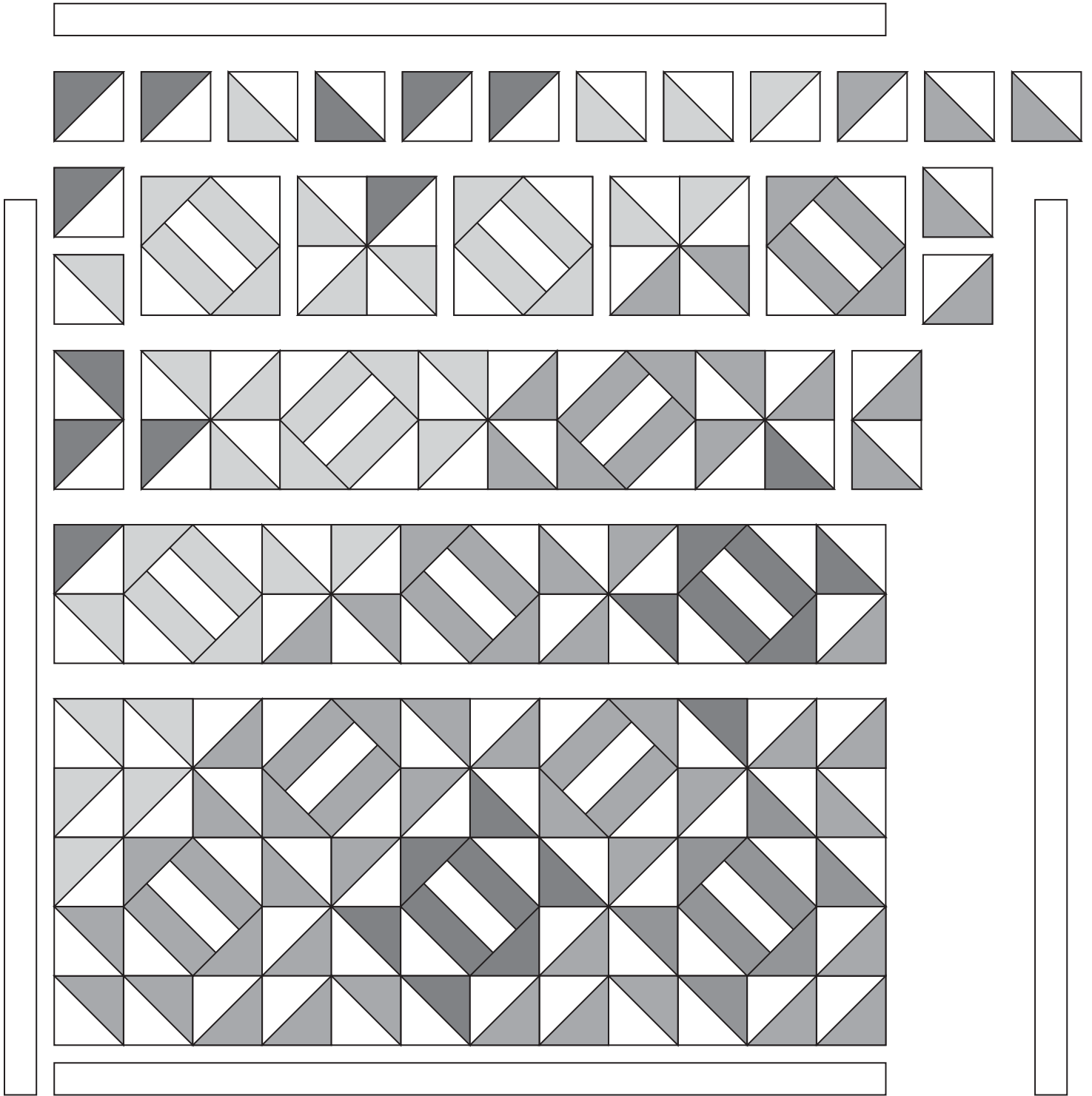
Layer, baste and quilt as desired.

Using rotary cutter and ruler, trim borders of quilt to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, trimming away excess backing and batting and squaring up quilt as you go.

Bind quilt, using your favorite method.



Color Layout Guide



Quilt Layout