

While in Lancaster one time I saw a truly elegant quilt hanging on a clothes line. I stopped and asked the lady of the house if I could take a closer look and she said yes, but it wasn't for sale. I thanked her for letting me look, and we got to talking about the pattern. She pointed out to me the block and I was truly surprised at the simplicity. Immediately I knew this had to be a future project for me.

(Sadly I did NOT get a photograph, it was an Amish home and the lady was standing there and her children running around, so I thought it would be rude to whip out the camera, as much as I wanted to.)

This quilt uses two fabrics. The two fabrics need to contrast. You need a light and a dark, or a medium and a dark, or a light and a medium, as long as they have true contrast. Without the contrast the pattern will not show up, and you will have wasted your fabric and time. You may use either color in either position, but it must stay either Color One or Color Two at all times. Meaning... you may have a dark background with light accents or vice versa.

I am going to offer your two different size blocks for this project. If you are making a lap or child's quilt I suggest you make the 6 inch finished blocks. If you are going for a larger quilt, then you should use the 12 inch finished blocks.

If you are using the 6 inch finished blocks, you do not want to use a large print as the print will get lost in the cutting. The largest cut will be 2 inches so use that as a guideline when choosing your fabric. For the 12 inch finished blocks your larger cuts will be 3 1/2 inches.

### Fabric Requirements:

12" finished blocks	Color One	Color Two
Twin 5x7 60 x 84	4 1/2 yards	2 yards
Double/Full 7x7 84x84	6 1/4 yards	2 1/2 yards
Queen 8x8 96x96	8 1/4 yards	3 1/4 yards
6" finished blocks	Color One	Color Two
Childs quilt 6x6 36" square	1 5/8 yards	1 yard
Lap quilt 7x7 42" square	2 1/4 yards	1 1/8 yards

**Precutting:**

**12 inch finished blocks**

Fabric	Size	# in twin 5x7	# in Double 7x7	# in Queen 8x8
Color One	3 1/2 inch strips	26	36	47
Color One	2 inch strips	28	40	52
Color Two	2 inch strips	28	40	52

**6 inch finished blocks**

Fabric	Size	# in child's 6x6	# in lap 7x7
Color One	2 inch strips	15	20
Color One	1 1/4 inch strips	19	25
Color Two	1 1/4 inch strips	19	25

**Step one:**

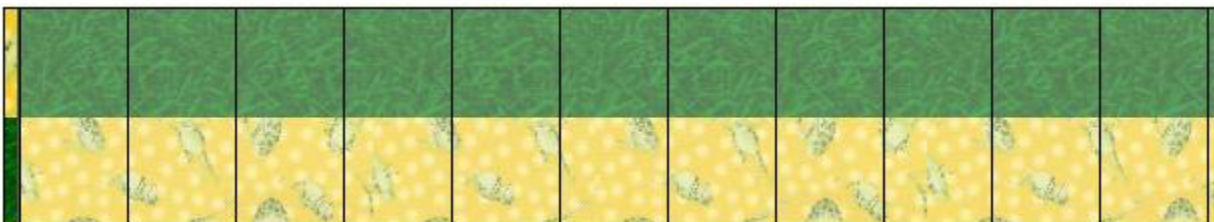
Sew together all of your small Color One and Color Two strips. Yes, all of them. Press neatly with the seam allowance to the darker fabric.

**Step two:**

Now pair them up with opposite sides against each other. They should nestle neatly together as one, the seam allowances going in opposite directions.

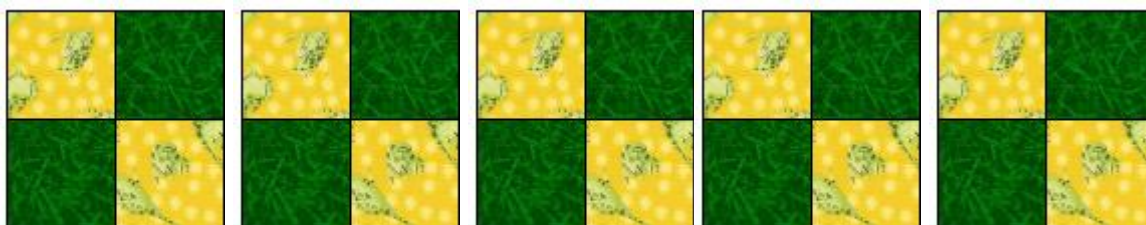


Cut into segments equal to the original strip. (2 inch for large blocks and 1 1/4 for small blocks)



**Step three:**

Sew each section on one side with a 1/4 inch seam allowance. Open and then press your four patch blocks open.



**Number of four patches needed  
12 inch finished blocks**

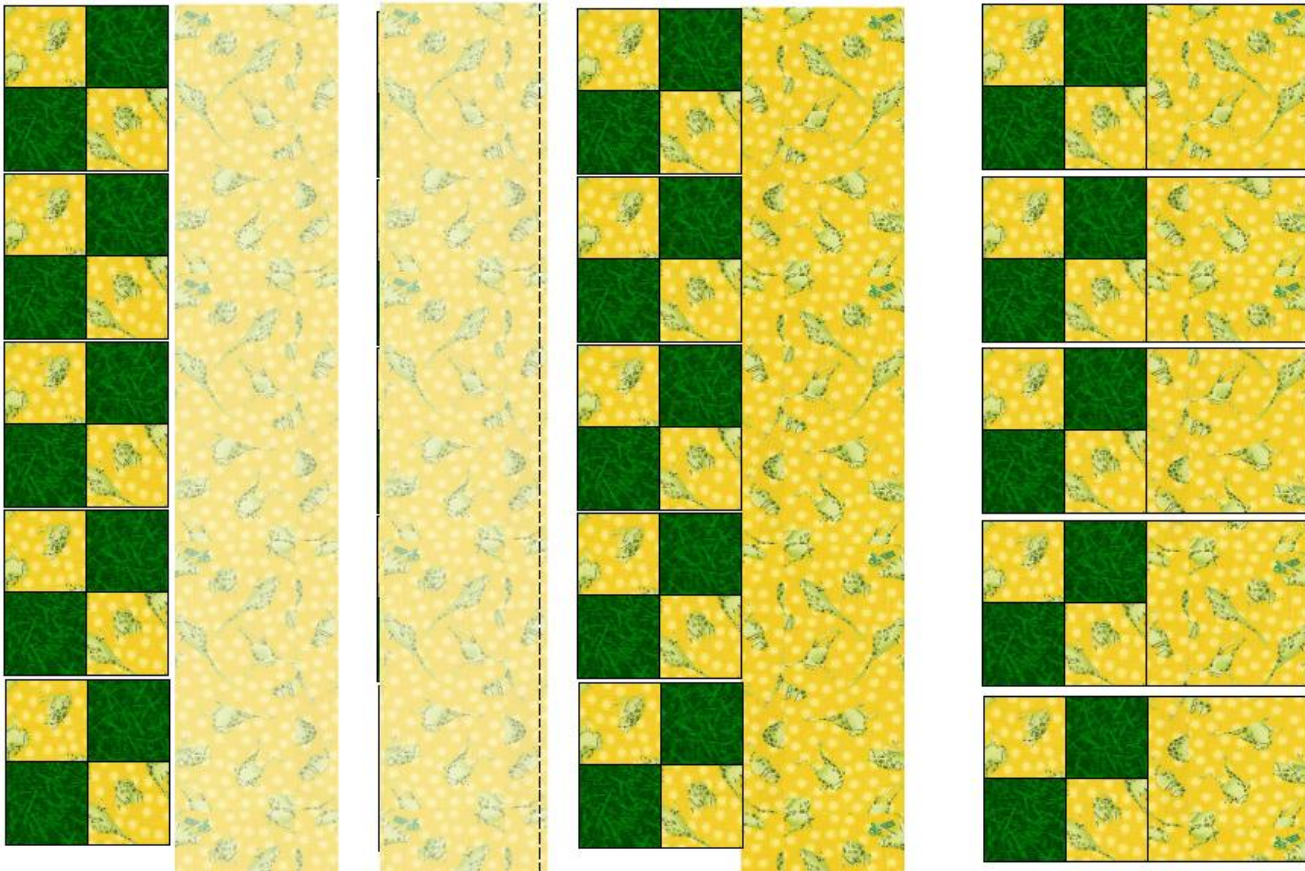
# in twin 5x7	# in Double 7x7	# in Queen 8x8
280	392	512

**6 inch finished blocks**

# in child's 6x6	# in lap 7x7
288	392

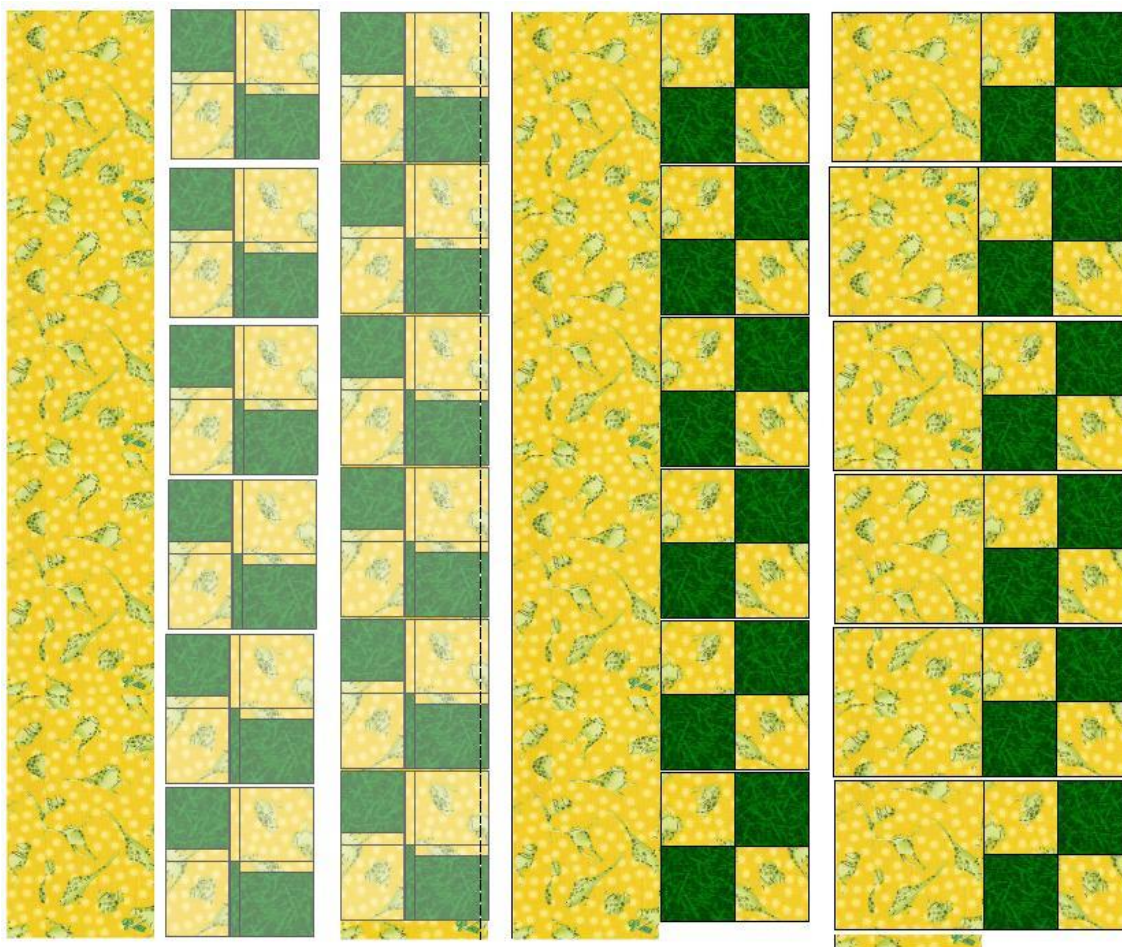
**Step four:**

Next sew a large strip (3 1/2 for large blocks and 2 for the smaller blocks) of your Color One together with your four patch units. What is VERY IMPORTANT is that you sew them ALL THE SAME. You want the Color Two squares to be in the upper right hand corner if you are placing the large strip on top of the four patches.



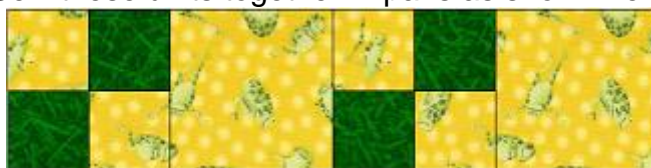
Sew them together and then cut carefully between each four patch block. Press all the same.

If you prefer sewing with the four patches on top, then follow this diagram. Remember it is important that Color Two be in the upper right hand corner next to the Color One large square in all of your units.



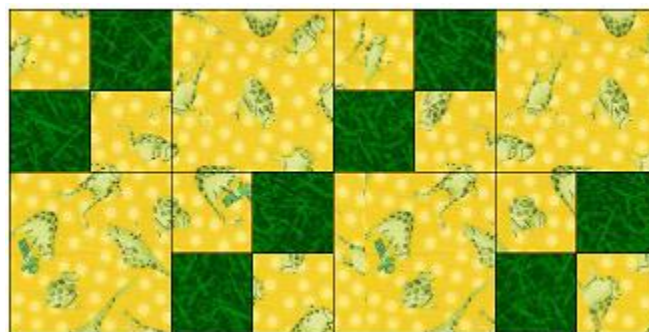
**Step five:**

Sew these units together in pairs as shown here.



**Step six:**

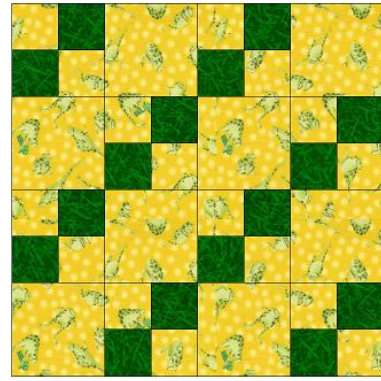
Turn one unit around and sew together in sets like this



**Step seven:**

And then sew them together into blocks

Alternating the direction your blocks go together takes these simple blocks to an elegant quilt.



Childs quilts made with 6 inch blocks



Lap quilt made with 12 inch blocks