

# I-Sew-Lation Polka Dot Party

By Mavis Reynolds  
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## 45" x 45" Finished Quilt

### Tools:

- 6" x 24" ruler
- Template plastic cut 2" x 10" (for paper piecing)
- Rotary Cutter
- Batting 60" x 60"
- Design Wall
- Sewing machine with 1/4" foot
- Thread and Stash!!

This is a Confident Beginner to Intermediate quilt pattern. It includes a bit of foundation paper piecing but please don't let that scare you. It sometimes makes the math so much easier!

It will make a cute wall hanging, baby quilt or even a table topper! Of course, you don't have to use polka dot fabric. I'm just kind of obsessed with it and was dying to use some!

### Fabric choices and yardage/colors:

Assume that all of your fabrics will touch some or all of your other fabrics and should accordingly have some contrast. Prints or solids will work, as will modern or traditional fabrics.

I chose two polka dot fabrics for my "constant". One is dark (white on black) and the other is light (black on white).

The constant fabrics will tie the scrappy fabrics together.

Though the light and dark fabrics call for more fabric, the rest can be from scraps. This is also charm pack friendly.

These are minimum yardage requirements. I usually always buy a tad more in case of cutting errors. Backing yardage is not included. (WOF = width of fabric)

	1-3/8 yards white polka dot fabric	
	1/4 yard	] or use one 5"x5" charm pack (they contain 40 charms normally)
	1/4 yard	
	1/4 yard	
	1/4 yard	
	3/8 yard	
	1/4 yard	
	1-1/4 yards black polka dot fabric	

## Cutting

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- If you are using a charm pack, choose 12 of your assorted colored charms and cut them in half on the diagonal. This will yield 24 triangles. *Put these in a bag marked "A".*

**\*OR\***

If you are using scraps, cut (12) 5" squares from your scrappy/colored fabrics.

Cut these in half on the diagonal. (Yield: 24 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "A".*

- From your white polka dot fabric, cut (6) 5" squares and cut them in half on the diagonal. (Yield: 10 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "B".*
- From your white polka dot fabric, cut (2) 13" squares. Cut these in half on the diagonal. (Yield: 4 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "C".*
- From your black polka dot fabric, cut (18) 5-1/2" squares. (NOTE change in size). Cut in half on the diagonal. (Yield: 36 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "D".*
- From your white polka dot fabric, cut (18) 5-1/2" squares. (NOTE change in size). Cut in half on the diagonal. (Yield: 36 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "E".*
- Take one of your charm squares OR cut one 5" colored square, and cut the square into (4) 2-1/2" squares. *Put these in a bag marked "F".*
- From your black polka dot fabric, cut (4) 2" strips WOF. *Put these in a bag marked "G".*
- From your white polka dot fabric, cut 24 rectangles measuring 1-1/2" x 8-1/2". *Put these in a bag marked "H".*
- From your assorted colors, cut (48) 2-1/2" squares. *Put these in a bag marked "I".*
- From your black polka dot fabric, cut (96) 2" x 2-1/2" rectangles. *Put these in a bag marked "J".*
- Take 2 matching charms or 5" squares and cut them in half diagonally. (Yield: 4 triangles). *Put these in a bag marked "K".*
- From the white polka dot fabric, cut (2) 5" squares and cut them in half diagonally. (Yield: 4 triangles) *Put these in a bag marked "L".*

If you wish to cut your binding now, cut (5) 2-1/2" strips (or whatever width you like to use for your binding). I chose the black polka dot for mine, but the choice is yours!

## Piecing Instructions:

### STEP 1: CREATE THE CENTER MEDALLION

**Materials needed:** Bags A, B and C

The medallion is made in four quadrants. It is not on point—it just looks that way.



Half square triangles will be built in rows as shown in the photo at right, using the white polka dot fabric between colored triangles.



Assemble your rows and then sew this assembled unit to the large white polka dot triangle as shown in Photo B.



**NOTE:** When sewing the colored triangles to the white polka dot triangles, make sure that you leave the dog ears showing as in Photo C. If you line the triangles up right to the edge, they will not be aligned properly.



## Piecing Instructions (cont.):

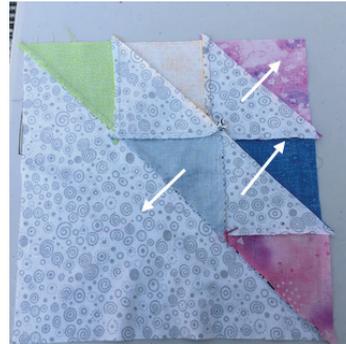
### Pressing notes:

The nesting of these blocks isn't natural because of the half square triangles and the rows all intersecting. I pressed one row towards the white polka dot large triangle and the two rows towards the dark. You won't have nicely nested seams on the medallion. Just press the best you can and try to avoid stretching the block as these are on the bias.

You will make four of these quadrants (blocks) to make up the center medallion.

Watch your color placement. I chose to have four different colors in the center.

When the four quadrants are done, trim the dog ears along the edges. Assemble the four quadrants as shown in Photo A. Join the top two together, pressing the seam to the block on the left. Join the bottom two and press to the block on the right. These will then nest as you sew them together into the center medallion (it's really just a big four patch!) Your finished block should measure 24-1/2". It will finish at 24" in the quilt.

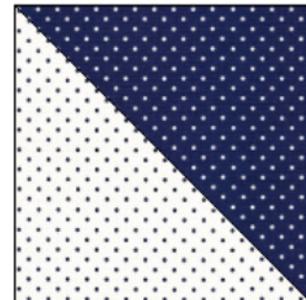


### STEP 2: ASSEMBLE HALF SQUARE TRIANGLES

**Materials Needed:** Bags D & E

Sew 36 half-square triangles using the fabrics from these two bags.

Press towards the dark side. Do not trim. They will be trimmed in a future step.



### STEP 3: ASSEMBLE FLYING GEESSE UNITS

**Materials Needed:** Bags H, I and J, plus attached foundation pattern

These are your colored and black polka dot 2-1/2" squares and white polka dot 1-1/2" x 8-1/2" rectangles. (Make 12 units.)

This step uses foundation piecing to make the math easier. If you have never done foundation paper piecing, you'll find lots of tutorials online. NOTE: Print one copy of the foundation page first and ensure that your print scale is set to 100%. The geese "boxes" should be 2 inches exactly.

If all is well, print 12 copies (or 13 if you want to have an extra to practice on with scrap fabric before using the good stuff!)



## Piecing Instructions (cont.):

### STEP 4: ADD THE FLYING GEESSE BORDER

**Materials Needed:** Bags K & L

Make 4 half-square triangles from fabric in bags K & L. Press towards the dark side.

Add geese borders to the two vertical sides of your medallion. Pay attention to their orientation so that your geese go in opposite directions.

Add the half square triangles you just created from bags K & L to the top and bottom of the remaining two geese borders, using the photo at right to check their orientation. Add the two borders to the medallion.



### STEP 5: ADD THE DARK POLKA DOT BORDER

**Materials Needed:** Bags F & G

Take the four colored 2-1/2" squares in Bag "F" and trim them to 2". These will be the cornerstones in the dark polka dot border (see Photo D--magenta in my quilt).

Measure your quilt through the middle from edge to edge now that the geese borders are on. This is called "measuring through the middle" and will help to keep your quilt square and your borders flat.

Cut four strips from the long strips in bag G to this measurement. Sew two of these strips on to two opposing sides of your quilt.

On the remaining two strips, sew the cornerstones on each end. Press toward the cornerstones.



Sew the remaining two strips onto the remaining two sides of the quilt.

Give your quilt top a good press (I use Mary' Ellen's Best Press to help flatten seams.) Press towards the borders.

### STEP 6: ADD THE HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLE BORDER

Measure the outside edge of your quilt top on all four sides. Mine was 32.5" unfinished. Divide this number by 8. (Mine comes out to 4.06.) This is why the blocks in Step 2 were NOT trimmed. You will trim them in this final step because, depending on your seam allowance, your size might differ from mine. It should be somewhere around 4.3 or less. This will help in making your borders lay flat.

Adjusting for this measurement, sew eight squares together in the orientation shown in Photo D for each side of the quilt. Each side has 8 units. As in Step 5 above, sew two sides first, Then sew the remaining 4 half square triangles on either end of the two remaining borders to create the cornerstones.



# Flying Geese border unit - print 12

