

Summer Dash



A classic Churn Dash looks extra sweet in a scrappy mix of sunny florals and plaids. Surrounding alternate blocks with matching sashing is a simple way to add pop to the design, as it makes some of the blocks appear larger than others.

Designed, pieced, and quilted by April Rosenthal

FINISHED QUILT: 60½" × 76½" FINISHED BLOCK: 6" × 6"

Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric. Fat quarters measure approximately 18" x 21".

16 assorted print fat quarters for blocks and sashing
2½ yards of white solid for blocks and border
½ yard of green plaid for binding*
4¾ yards of fabric for backing
68" x 85" piece of batting

*April used a plaid printed on the diagonal. If you use a woven plaid, you'll need to cut binding strips on the bias to get the same look, which will require ³/₄ yard of plaid.

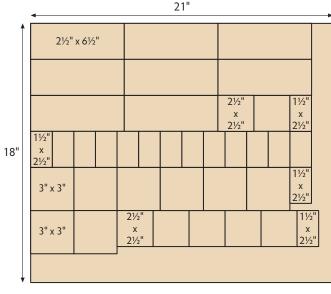
Cutting

All measurements include 1/4"-wide seam allowances. For the fat quarters, refer to the cutting diagram below to ensure you have enough fabric.

From each of the print fat quarters, cut:*

8 rectangles, 2¹/₂" x 6¹/₂" (128 total) 16 rectangles, 1¹/₂" x 2¹/₂" (256 total) 8 squares, 3" x 3" (128 total) 7 squares, 2¹/₂" x 2¹/₂" (112 total)

*Set aside the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles and 3 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares from each fat quarter for the sashing.



Fat-quarter cutting

From the white solid, cut:

10 strips, 2¹/₂" x 42; crosscut into 252 rectangles, 1¹/₂" x 2¹/₂" 10 strips, 3" x 42"; crosscut into 126 squares, 3" x 3" 7 strips, 3¹/₂" x 42"

From the plaid, cut:

8 strips, 21/2" x 42"

Making the Churn Dash Blocks

Press all seam allowances as shown by the arrows in the illustrations.

 Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of each white 3" square. Pair each marked square with a print 3" square, right sides together. Stitch a scant ¹/₄" from each side of the marked line. Cut on the marked line and press. Trim each half-square-triangle unit to 2¹/₂" square. Repeat to make 252 units.

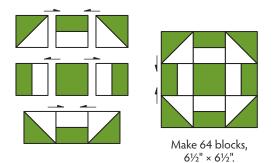


Make 252 units.

2. Pair each white $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle with a print $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle. Stitch along one long side; press. Make 252 rectangle units.



 Lay out four matching half-square-triangle units, four matching rectangle units, and a matching 2¹/₂" square as shown. Sew the units into rows and press. Stitch the rows together; press. The block should measure 6¹/₂" square, including seam allowances. Make four blocks from each print for a total of 64 blocks. (One block will be extra.)





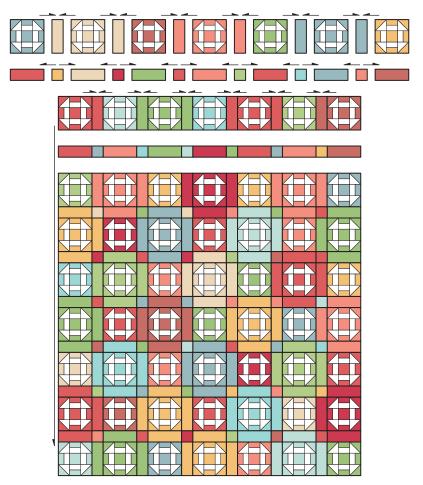
Assembling the Quilt

- Lay out the blocks in nine rows of seven blocks each as shown below. When you're happy with the color placement, add the 2¹/₂" x 6¹/₂" sashing rectangles so that the sashing fabric matches every other Churn Dash block. Place the assorted 2¹/₂" sashing squares randomly. You'll have extra sashing rectangles to use in another project.
- 2. Sew the blocks and sashing pieces together in rows and press. Stitch the rows together, nesting the seams. Press.
- **3.** Join the white $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x 42" strips into one long strip. Measure the width of the quilt through the center. It should measure $54\frac{1}{2}$ ". Cut two white strips to this

length and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt. Press the seam allowances toward the border. Measure the length of the quilt through the center. It should measure $76\frac{1}{2}$ ". Cut two white strips to this length and sew them to the sides of the quilt top. Press the seam allowances toward the borders.

Quilting and Finishing

- **1.** Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top; baste the layers together. Quilt! (See page 4 for quilting ideas.)
- **2.** Use the plaid 2¹/₂"-wide strips to make double-fold binding; attach the binding to the quilt.



Quilt assembly





April machine quilted her quilt with a simple egg-and-dart pantograph. For more complex quilting, you can overlap the motifs.

