

Hugs and Kisses

65" square (36 squares) or 56" X 74" (35 squares)

Based on a swap of 40 ea. 10" squares of polka dot fabrics
(20 light and 20 dark)

In addition, you will need:

Accent and Border: 3 1/2 yards

Cut 65" from length and set aside for border.

Cutting:

Each 10" Swap square should be cut into 4 ea. 5" squares

Accent:

Cut 20 ea. 2 3/4" Width of Fabric Strips

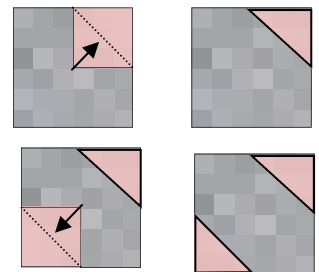
Cut these strips into 288 ea. 2 3/4" squares

Assembly:

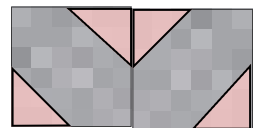
1. To snowball an accent square on a 5" square, place the squares right sides together matching the raw edges in one corner of the 5" square. Fold the accent on the diagonal as a guide. Then open the accent square and stitch along the guideline. Fold once more to form the triangle. Repeat for diagonally opposite corner. Trim as desired. Press. Make 144.
2. Choose two like Step 1 blocks. Stitch together as shown at right, watching orientation and always sewing together like squares. Make 72.
3. Choose two like Step 2 blocks. Stitch together as shown at right, watching orientation, always sewing like blocks. Make 9 light and 9 dark "O" blocks (18 total).
4. Choose two like Step 2 blocks. Stitch together as shown at right, watching orientation, always sewing like blocks. Make 9 light and 9 dark "X" blocks (18 total).
5. Stitch together, alternating "X" and "O" blocks, into 6 rows of 6 blocks or 5 rows of 7 blocks, randomly spacing the light and dark blocks.
6. Cut the 65" length of border fabric into 4 strips 65" X 6 and 5 strips 65" X 2 1/2". Use the 6" ones for borders and the 2 1/2" ones for binding. And, of course, quilt as desired!

OPTION: Make all your "X" blocks light and "O" blocks dark or Vice Versa!

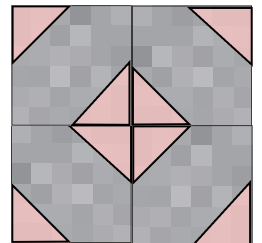
5X7 layout



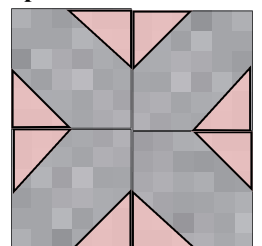
Step 1 Make 144



Step 2 Make 72



Step 3 Make 18 O Blocks



Step 4 Make 18 X Blocks



Squares of Stairs

by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen



Fast and fun!! A great use for jelly roll strips, especially darks and lights. A few medium values are OK, but not too many.

For this quilt, you will need lots of 2.5" wide strips. For each square, you'll need 2 strips of light and 2 strips of dark. The length of the strip is usually 40" long (width of fabric), but if you're using lengthwise grain or scraps, you need a 72" length for each color in one square.

For one square:

2 dark 2.5" wide strips

2 light 2.5" wide strips

For this 46" x 64" quilt

24 dark 2.5" wide strips

24 light 2.5" wide strips

Sewing: For one block, sew those long strips together, press seam toward the dark. *Check to be sure your new width is 4.5" wide. If its not, you need to adjust*

your scant quarter-inch seam.

Cut those strips into 4.5" squares. Checking with the photo, layout the block. Sew the pieces together using "Webbing the Quilt" (Bonnie Hunter does a good job explaining this: www.tinyURL.com/MJwebbing) . Of course you don't have to use this method but once you get the hang of it (its not hard!), you'll be amazed how much time and upping and downing you save.

Layout: use your design wall, or a bed or floor, to layout your blocks. Once you have a layout you like, TAKE A PICTURE. Again, web the quilt to get all the blocks sewn together in order.

You can put a border on this quilt, or not. You can use wider or narrower strips if you want, you just adjust the sub cutting so you get little squares.

Rag Rug

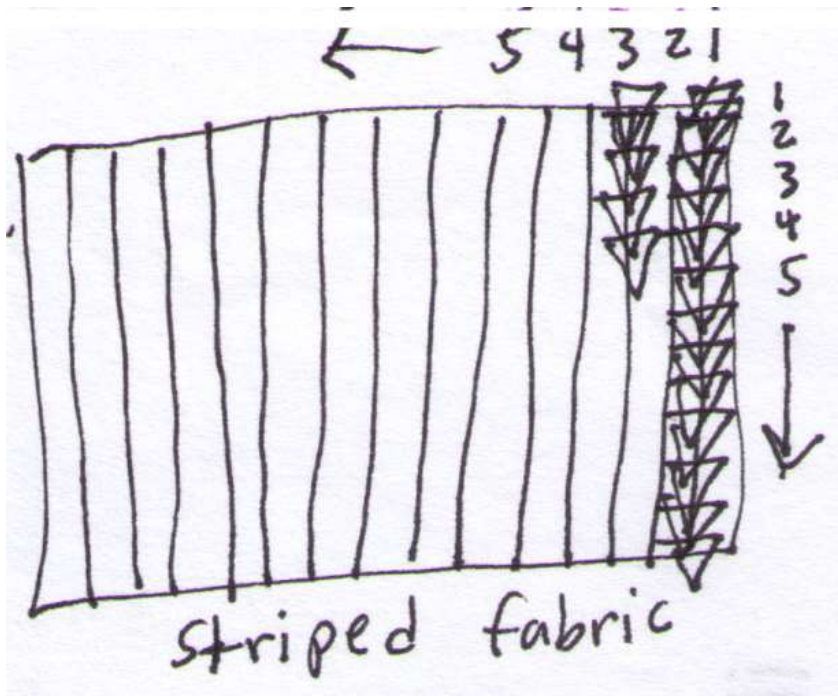
By Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen

Cut a piece of STRIPED upholstery fabric about 20" by 30". If you don't have striped upholstery fabric, you can use one layer of striped quilting cotton, placed on top of a piece of upholstery fabric. The stripes really help you sew a straight line.

Gather your scraps: if they are not already very small (around 2"), you will want to cut them up into 2" or 3" squares. Triangles also work, as do rectangles. This rug is very forgiving, so look into the deep dark recesses of your sewing room for Ziploc bags of little scraps you forgot about.

Install your walking foot, medium grey thread, and a heavy (90 or 100) needle.

Start on the top right corner of your rug fabric, and start laying those scraps down. Make sure the first scrap overlaps the edge of the striped upholstery fabric so it won't show.



Fold your little squares and rectangles into triangles, and lay them down, marching down a straight line on your striped fabric. You can lay them as close or as far away as you want, but I recommend overlapping them so the first triangle peeks out about 3/4 of an inch from the edge of the next triangle:

Continue to build top to bottom, right to left, using up all those beautiful scraps. Be sure to backstitch at the top and bottom of each column.

Feel free to **wash and dry** your rug, it will just keep getting softer.

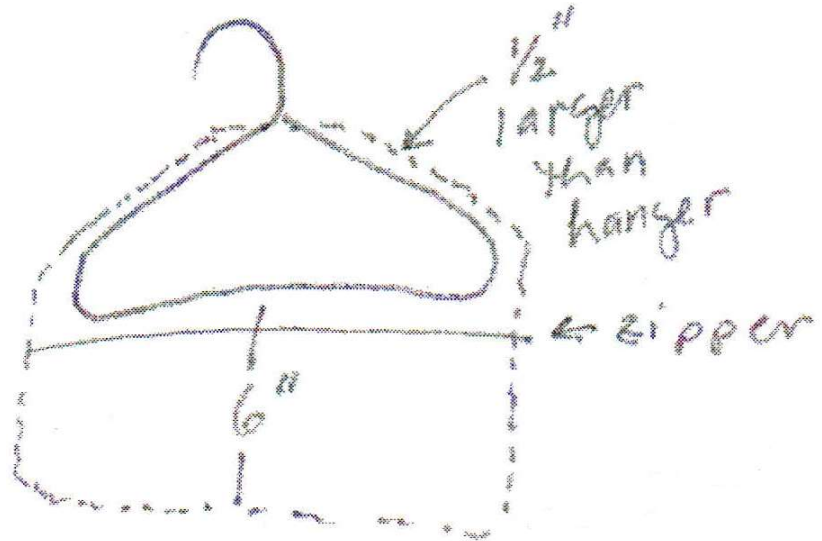
Garment Safe

By Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen

Use this nifty little safe to stash your valuables in the closet, innocuously hung between your blouses. You can make it long or short, lots of pockets or none, embroidered/personalized as a gift...the possibilities are endless. This is a great gift for someone who travels. Another idea: use an old shirt as the 'fabric' and it will **really** blend in.

You will need

- 1 hanger
- Half yard of fabric
- Matching zipper, the length of the width of your hanger
- Thread to match
- 4 inches of $\frac{1}{2}$ " steam-a-seam fusible tape (optional but nice)



Fold the fabric in half, wrong side out.

Lay the hanger down on the wrong side of the fabric and draw around the top and sides of the hanger with chalk or a sharpie pen.

Decide how long you want to make the safe. I choose 6" past the bottom of the hanger.

Cut out the 2 layers of fabric, allowing $\frac{1}{2}$ " extra fabric around the top and sides of the hanger. (Better to be a little too big than too small !)

Fuse 2" of the SaS tape at the top and fuse a nice hem where the hanger loop will pop out. Do for both sides. Or sew the hem down instead of fusing.

Cut a horizontal line in one of the pieces, below the hanger, to insert the zipper.

Sew the zipper in, using your favorite method.

Note: this is the time to do any embroidery or embellishment of the front piece (with the zipper)

Lay the two pieces right sides together, and sew all the way around, except for the top hole.

- Make sure the zipper is partially open so you can turn the thing right sides out
- Consider rounding the bottom corner so tiny items don't get lost in the corners.

Turn right side out, press

Sew vertical lines below the zipper for optional pockets.

Insert hanger.