



Double 4-Patch Tutorial

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Double 4-Patch Tutorial

Note: my methods are different than some, I feel that mine are faster easier and time saving. This is a Confident Beginner Level Tutorial.

Fabric Requirements:

Each finished block will measure 8" square.

My example (cover and right) is made with 96 blocks total

$(8 \times 12) =$ Quilt Top size 64" x 96"

You can use as few as 2 different fabrics, or as many as 48 different prints for a quilt this size. (I used 48)

How do I accomplish a pleasing finished layout with 48 different fabrics? My trick is to lay out the 8" blocks on my design wall and flex my artistic muscles moving them around until it works. For larger works like this you can arrange a few rows at a time on the design wall, sew them and then build the next section, finally sewing all sections together.

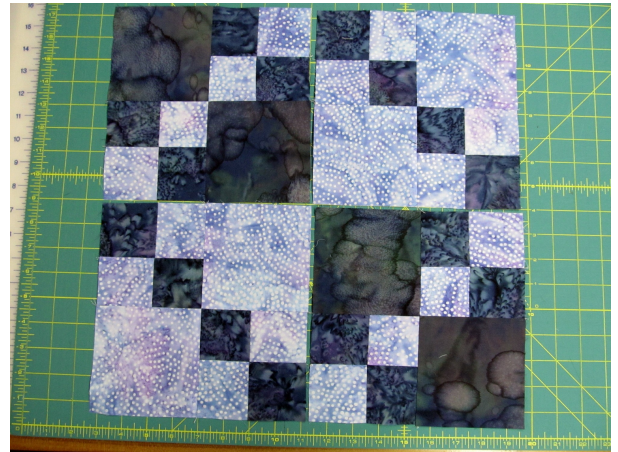


Do you have a design wall yet? They're portable, light weight and can easily be stored under a bed, behind a dresser....I couldn't live without one!

Let's take a look at what this pattern would look like with only two different fabric prints....on the next page.

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Each color set (one light fabric + one dark fabric) will produce four 8" blocks in only those two fabrics (as seen to the right); 2 blocks (upper right, lower left) will be primarily light and 2 blocks primarily dark.



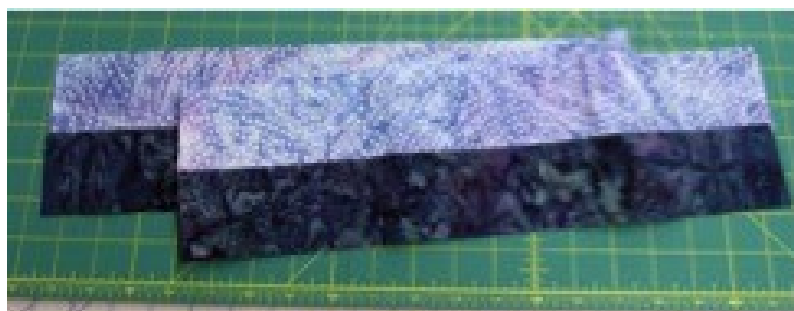
You'll need 1/4 yd. of each fabric (1/4 yd - light, 1/4 yd - dark) for every 4 blocks.

Cutting:

- Cut one 4½" strip and one 2½" strip from every fabric.
- From the 4½" strip: cut off four 4½" segments (squares) and set the rest of the strip aside.

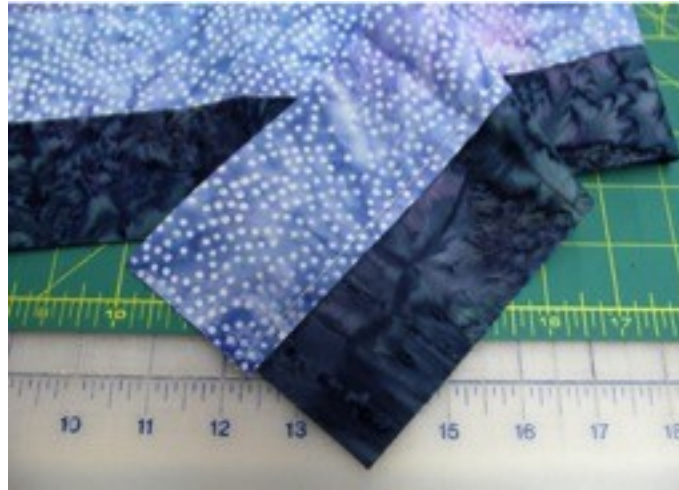
Let's Begin...

1. Create the smaller 4 patch blocks: Sew a light and dark 2½" strip together.

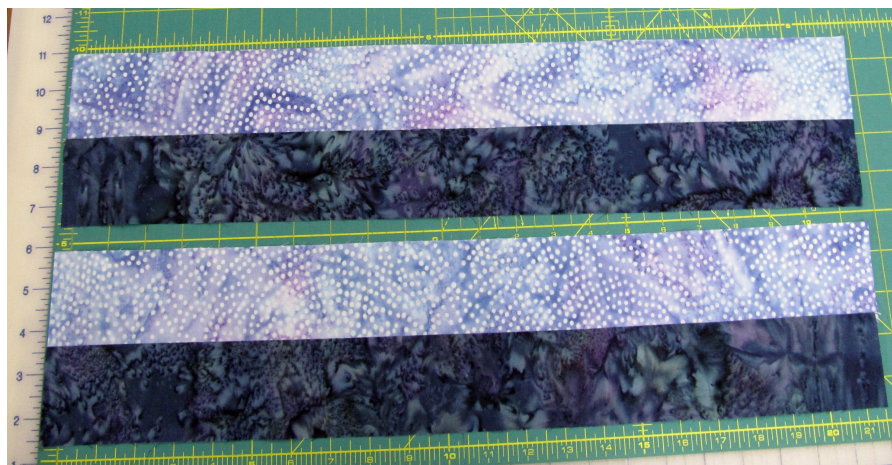


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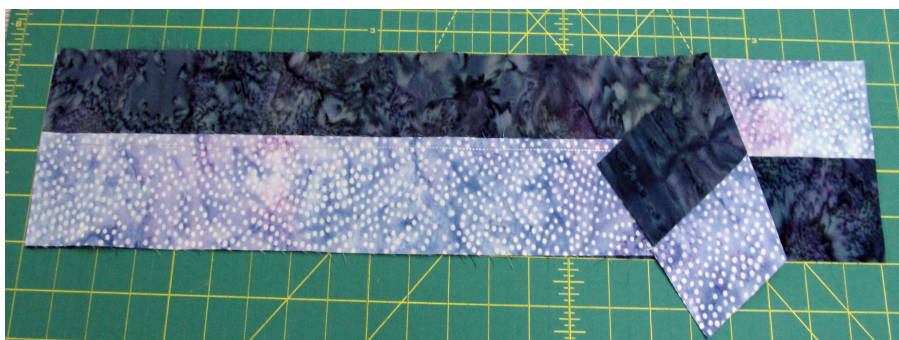
2. Press the seam allowance toward the dark fabric.



3. Cut the strip in half.

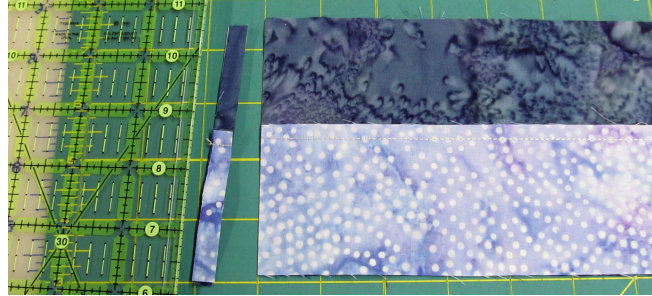


4. Layer the 2 half strips as shown. Seam allowances should lock together.

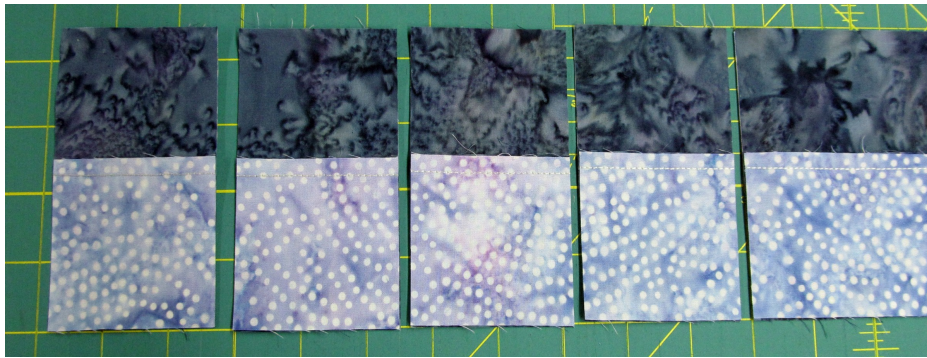


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5. Trim to have a straight edge at left.



6. Cut eight 2 ½" segments from the layered strips.

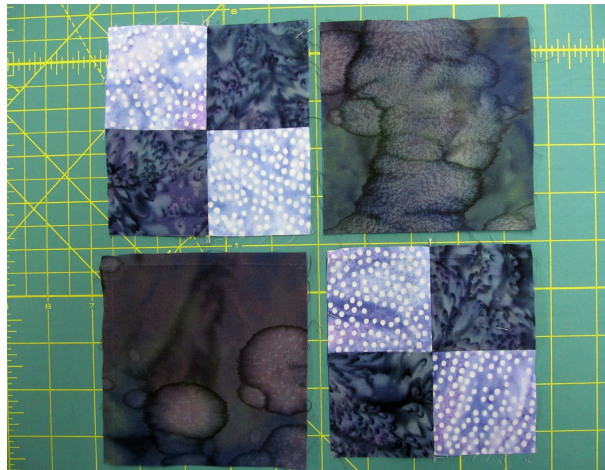


If your fabric is narrower than 40" wide, you can use the set aside pieces of 4½" wide strips to cut more 2½" strips and repeat the process for this color combination to have the total 16 segments necessary.

Pro Tip: Batik fabrics don't have white selvages so they have more inches to work with. If you prewash regular quilting cottons they might shrink to narrower than 40" of usable width.

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7. Sew the pieces into 4 patch units. Add two 4 ½" squares to two 4 patches to make each block.



You will have 2 light and 2 dark blocks of each combination of two fabrics. There should be a light chain diagonally in the dark blocks and a dark chain diagonally in the light blocks. You could sew the blocks together like this, or go on to design an artistic layout on the design wall.

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8. Layout with light chains going top left to bottom right and dark chains going the opposite diagonal direction.



Pro Tip: Create a one or two color quilt by combining both high contrast between the 2 fabrics in a block and lower contrast between the 2 fabrics. Use many different blues and many different greens rather than the same fabrics repeated.

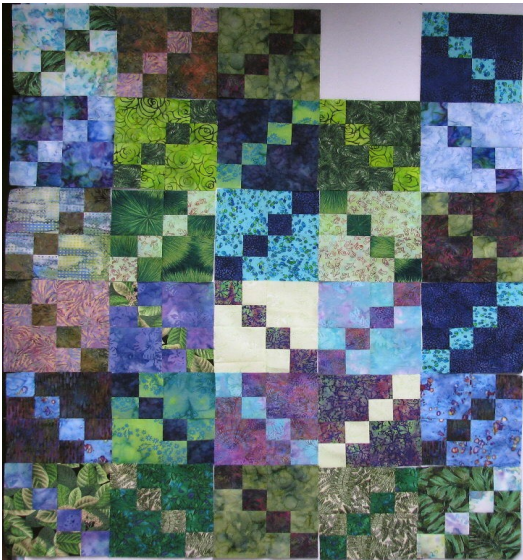
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Two more layouts:

These pictures are from the design wall as I was determining my desired layout.

Chains all diagonal same direction and alternating light and dark (right)

Radiating diamonds. (below)



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