

# PINWHEEL PLAY

The possibilities are endless with how to use this small throw-size project. Select soft pastels and create a baby blanket or bright and cheery florals for decorating your home. Designer Gail Abeloe kept the instructions simple, but the final impact is great.

## SUPPLIES NEEDED

All measurements include  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances and are based on 42" of usable fabric width. Sew with right sides facing unless otherwise indicated.

Background fabrics	8 fat quarters (18x21" pieces)
Pinwheel and border fabric	$\frac{3}{4}$ yard
Binding	$\frac{1}{2}$ yard
Backing	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards for backing
Batting	48x66" rectangle

## CUT FABRIC

Each fat quarter:

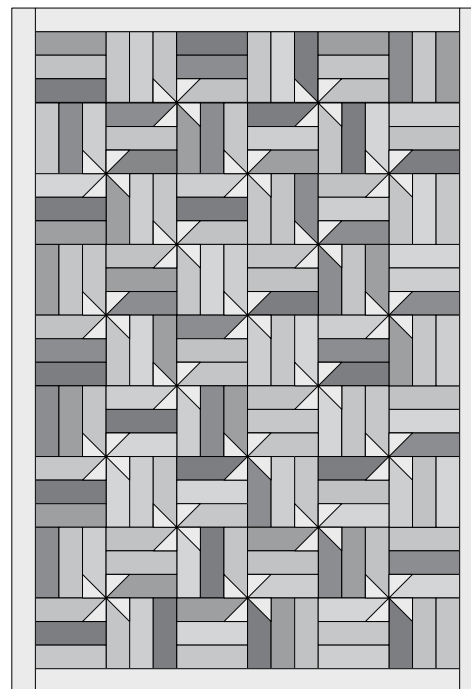
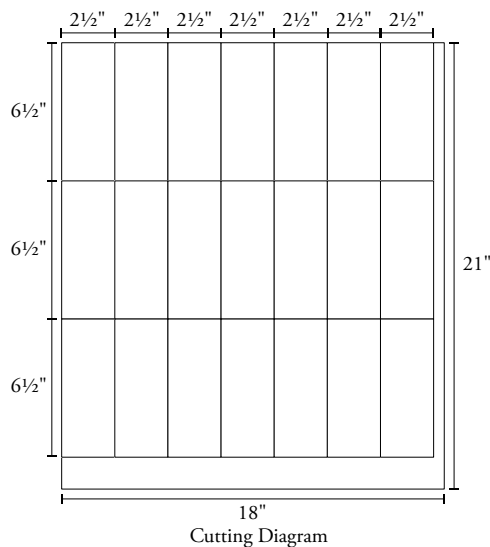
- 3— $6\frac{1}{2}$ x18" strips; cut strips into 21— $2\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles (see cutting diagram)

Pinwheel and border fabric:

- 5— $2\frac{1}{2}$ x42" strips for border
- 5— $2\frac{1}{2}$ x42" strips; cut strips into 80— $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares

Binding fabric:

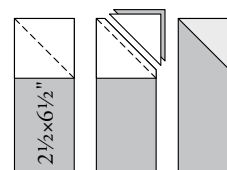
- 5— $2\frac{1}{2}$ x42" strips



Finished blocks: 6" square  
Finished quilt: 40x58"

## ASSEMBLE UNITS

1. Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square (Diagram 1).

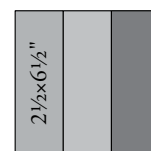


Pieced Unit, Make 80  
Diagram 1

2. Align a marked square at one end of a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle. Note position of marked line. Sew diagonally across small square from upper-left to lower-right corner (Diagram 1).
3. Trim  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from stitching line. Press triangle open to make one pieced unit (Diagram 1).
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to make 80 pieced units.

## ASSEMBLE BLOCKS

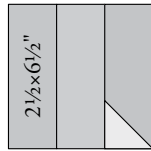
1. Join three assorted  $2\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles (Diagram 2). Press seam allowances in one direction. Repeat to make two Block A total.



Block A, Make 2  
Diagram 2

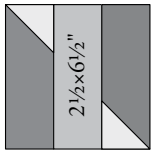
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2. Sew together one pieced unit and two assorted  $2\frac{1}{2}\times 6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles (Diagram 3). Press seam allowances in one direction. Repeat to make 24 Block B total.



Block B, Make 24  
Diagram 3

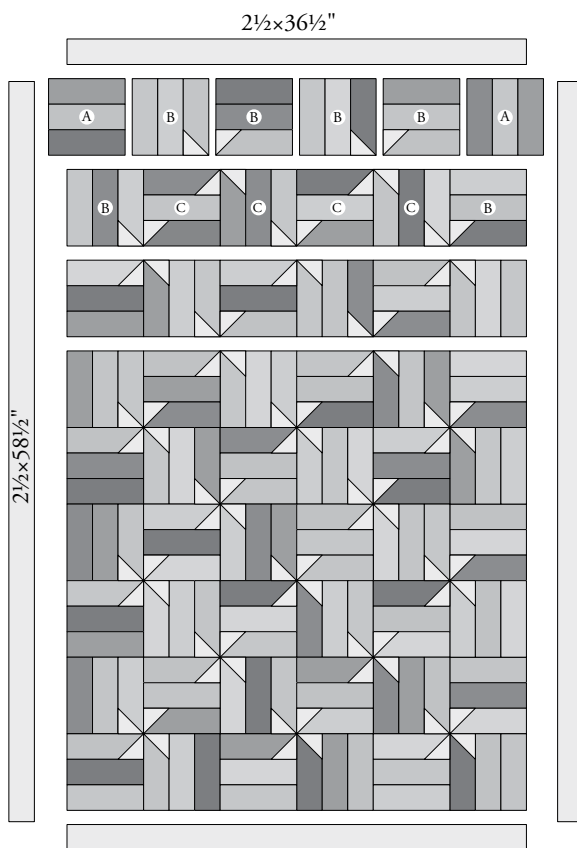
3. Join two assorted pieced units and one  $2\frac{1}{2}\times 6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle (Diagram 4). Press seam allowances toward center rectangle. Repeat to make 28 Block C total.



Block C, Make 28  
Diagram 4

### ASSEMBLE QUILT TOP

1. Referring to Quilt Top Assembly Diagram, lay out blocks in nine rows noting position of each A, B and C block.



Quilt Top Assembly Diagram

2. Join blocks in each row. Press seams in one direction, alternating direction with each row.
3. Sew together rows to make  $36\frac{1}{2}\times 54\frac{1}{2}$ " quilt center.

### ADD BORDER

1. Sew together  $2\frac{1}{2}\times 42$ " border strips, using diagonal seams, to make one long strip. Cut strip to make:
  - 2— $58\frac{1}{2}$ " long border strips
  - 2— $36\frac{1}{2}$ " short border strips
2. Join short border strips to top and bottom edges of quilt center. Add long border strips to remaining edges to complete quilt top.

### FINISH QUILT

1. Layer quilt top, batting and backing; baste.
2. Quilt as desired.
3. Bind with binding strips.

### FROM THE DESIGNER:

Quilt designer Gail E. Abeloe, owner of Back Porch Fabrics, Pacific Grove, California, chose monochromatic fabrics for this lap-size quilt background. Darker fabrics that are closely related in intensity and color make a good background, allowing lighter color pinwheels to pop off the darker field. The same pinwheel fabric is also used for the quilt border. Select binding fabric based on the look you like. A binding that matches the border will yield a quilt center that appears to be free floating; a binding that contrasts with the border will add the illusion of a frame around the bordered quilt top.

Abeloe recommends using a design wall to position blocks before stitching them into rows. Once the blocks are correctly placed, the pinwheels magically appear. Because blocks are placed at 90 degrees to the adjacent blocks, there will be few difficulties in sewing together the perfect joins required for this pattern. Seams from one block will always abut unseamed edges of the neighboring blocks.

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