

# Plus Signs

DESIGNED AND MADE BY PAM ROCCO

**Pam Rocco of Santa Cruz, California, made this fun and easy quilt as the second in a series of scrappy quilts using a stack of bright fabrics she loved, including florals, small-scale prints and novelty prints. The leftover strips from the first**

in the series, a log cabin variation, became *Plus Signs*. Bright squares placed at the ends of the sashing strips extend into the borders – for which Rocco used a neutral toile print – and help tie the look of the whole quilt together. If you’ve ever been hesitant to use fabrics that don’t have anything in common with one another in

the same quilt, *Plus Signs* is a great way to cozy up to the idea that scrappy quilts are definitely more than the sum of their parts.

You can read Rocco’s full column, “Words to Quilt By,” in the June/July 2013 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*. *Plus Signs* was machine quilted by Linda Barbin of Hollister, California. ▶

### MATERIALS AND CUTTING

Requirements are based on 42” fabric width. Borders are cut lengthwise except as indicated. Yardage in parentheses is for borders cut crosswise and pieced. Borders are the exact length required plus seam allowances.

**BLOCK SIZE:** 5” **QUILT SIZE:** 50” x 50”

MATERIALS	YDS.	CUTTING
Bright Solids	5/8	36 A*, 72 B*, 8 C
Bright Prints*	2/3	144 C
Dark Solids	1/3	2 sashing strips 2 1/2" x 34 1/2", 6 D
Light Print*	2 (1 1/4)	2 borders 6 1/2" x 50 1/2", 2 borders 6 1/2" x 38 1/2"**, 8 D, 4 E
Binding	1/2	6 binding strips 2 1/4" x 42"
Backing	3 1/4	2 panels 28" x 54"
Batting		54" x 54"

\*Read step 1 of the assembly before cutting patches.

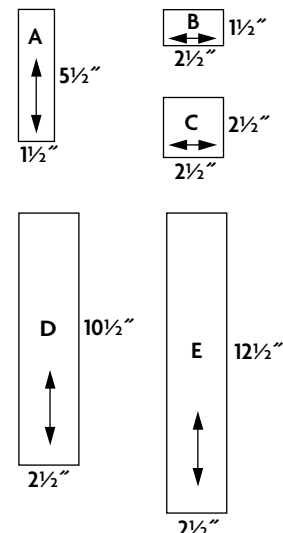
\*\*Cut these borders crosswise.

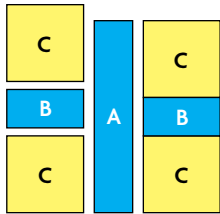
**TECHNIQUES USED:** machine piecing, pieced borders, machine quilting



### ROTARY CUTTING

Measurements include 1/4” seam allowances. Align arrows with lengthwise or crosswise grain of fabric.





**BLOCK PIECING**  
Make 36

**ASSEMBLY**

**1** Wash, starch and press fabrics. Cut the patches listed in the materials and cutting box and shown in the rotary cutting diagrams. Cut and sort bright solids in sets of 1 A and 2 B's. Cut and sort bright print C's in sets of 4. If you're using a directional light print, cut the 50½" borders, 2 D's and E's lengthwise; cut the 38½" borders and 6 D's crosswise.

**2** Referring to the block piecing diagram and working with one set of bright solid patches and one set of bright print patches at a time, join 1 A, 2 B's and 4 C's to make a block. Make 36.

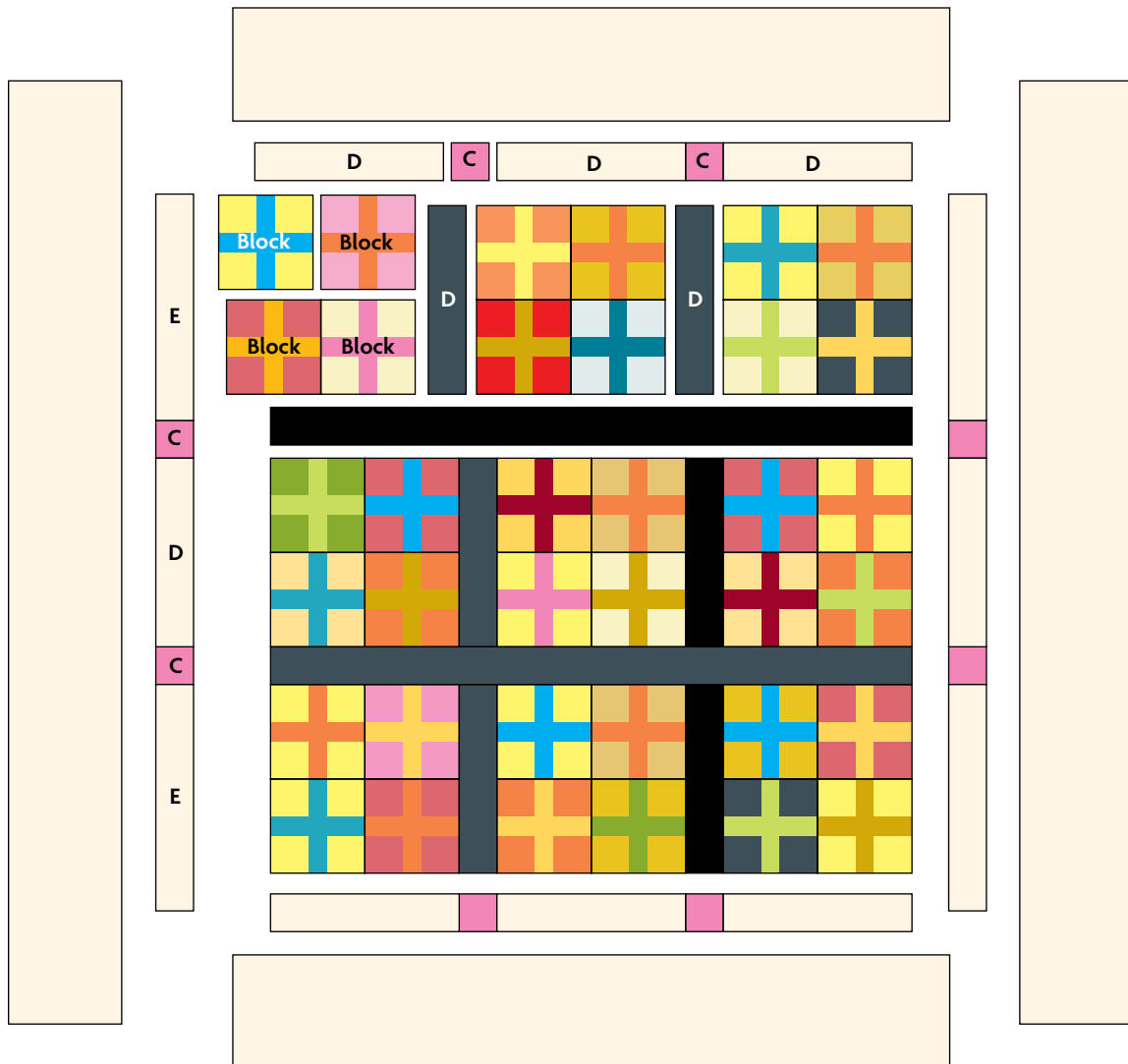
**3** Referring to the quilt assembly diagram and working on a design wall or large, flat surface, arrange the blocks and dark solid D's in 3 horizontal rows. When you are satisfied with the arrangement, join the blocks and D's into rows. Join the rows alternately with the dark solid sashing strips.

**4** Referring to the quilt assembly diagram, join 3 light print D's alternately with 2 bright solid C's to make a top inner border; if you are using a directional print, use D's cut crosswise. Repeat to make a bottom inner border. Join these borders to the top and bottom of the quilt, noting the direction of the light print if applicable.

In a similar manner, join 2 bright print C's, 1 light print D and 2 E's to make a side inner border, again taking note of the direction of the light print if applicable. Repeat. Join these borders to either side of the quilt.

**5** Join the 38½" borders to the top and bottom of the quilt. Join the 50½" borders to either side of the quilt.

**6** Layer the backing, batting and quilt top. Baste. Quilt an allover design or quilt as desired. Bind the quilt to finish.



**QUILT ASSEMBLY**