

Little Leaptrog

a quilt pattern



baby size
approximately 42" x 54"

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This is a free quilt pattern. Feel free to share with others, and to sell quilts made from this pattern. However, please do not sell this pattern or claim as your own.

----- materials -----

Quilting weight cottons:

Prints:

- 6 fat quarters – non-directional prints are best
- (1/4 yards may be used instead of fat quarters, but you will need the full 9". Be sure the cut is generous and straight so there is enough fabric after washing and drying.)

Solid:

- 1 1/4 yards

Backing:

- 1 2/3 yards

Binding:

- 1/2 yard

Batting:

- crib sized batting –(you can buy this prepackaged or cut a piece at least 43" x 55" from the bolt)

Other materials:

- cutting mat, rotary cutter, and ruler;
- thread for piecing, thread for quilting;
- iron and ironing board
- straight pins
- basting pins
- washable fabric marker or other means to label rows
- masking tape or painters tape for basting
- walking foot or free motion foot for quilting
- 6 1/2" square ruler (optional, but handy)

* Prewash, dry, and press your fabrics.*

* All seam allowances are 1/4"*

-----Cut-----

From the **background** fabric cut:

- 6 strips from selvage to selvage, each 3.5" by the width of fabric
 - sub cut each strip into 6.5" x 3.5" rectangles (**D pieces**)
- 6 strips from selvage to selvage, each 1.5" by the width of fabric
 - sub cut these strips into 1x5" x 6.5" rectangles (**C pieces**)
- 3 strips from selvage to selvage, each 2.5" by the width of fabric
 - sub cut these strips into 3.5" x 2.5" rectangles (**A pieces**)
- 2 strips from selvage to selvage, each 2.5" x by the width of fabric
 - sub cut these strips into 1.5" x 2.5" rectangles (**B pieces**)

From each ¼ **yard or fat quarter print** cut:

- 6 squares, each 6.5" (**large squares**)
- 6 squares, each 2.5" (**small squares**)

From the binding fabric cut:

- 6 strips from selvage to selvage, each 2.5" by the width of fabric
 - (this is for cross grain, double fold binding)

To summarize, here is a chart of the pieces you will be using:

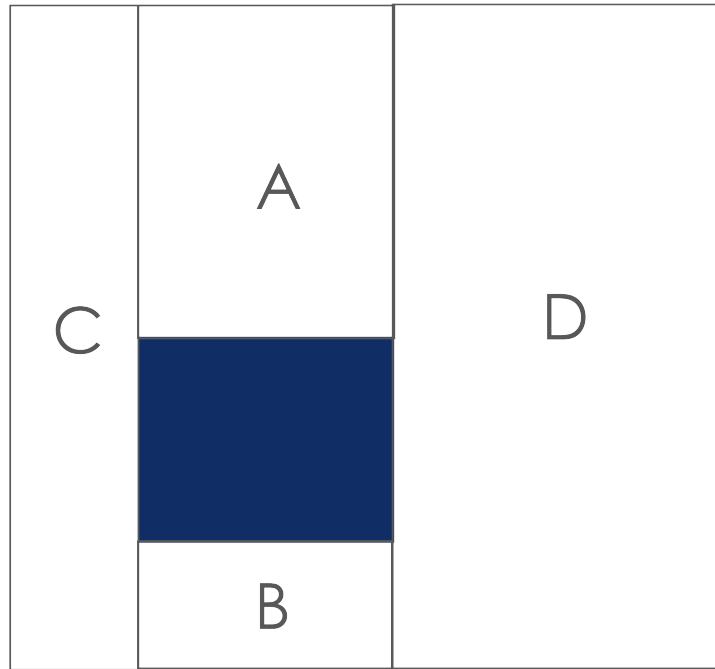
piece	fabric	dimensions	quantity
A pieces	solid	2.5" x 3.5"	32
B pieces	solid	2.5" x 1.5"	32
C pieces	solid	1.5" x 6.5"	32
D pieces	solid	3.5" x 6.5"	32
large squares	print	6.5" x 6.5"	31
small squares	print	2.5" x 2.5"	32

-----Sew-----

1. Sew one small print square to each A piece, along the 2.5" edges.
2. Then sew one B piece to the opposite side of each square, along the 2.5" edge.
Press seams open.

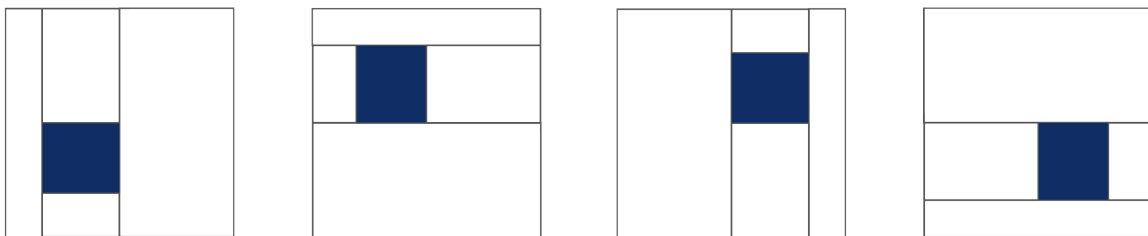


3. Sew one C piece along the left side.
4. Sew one D piece along the right side. Press seams open.



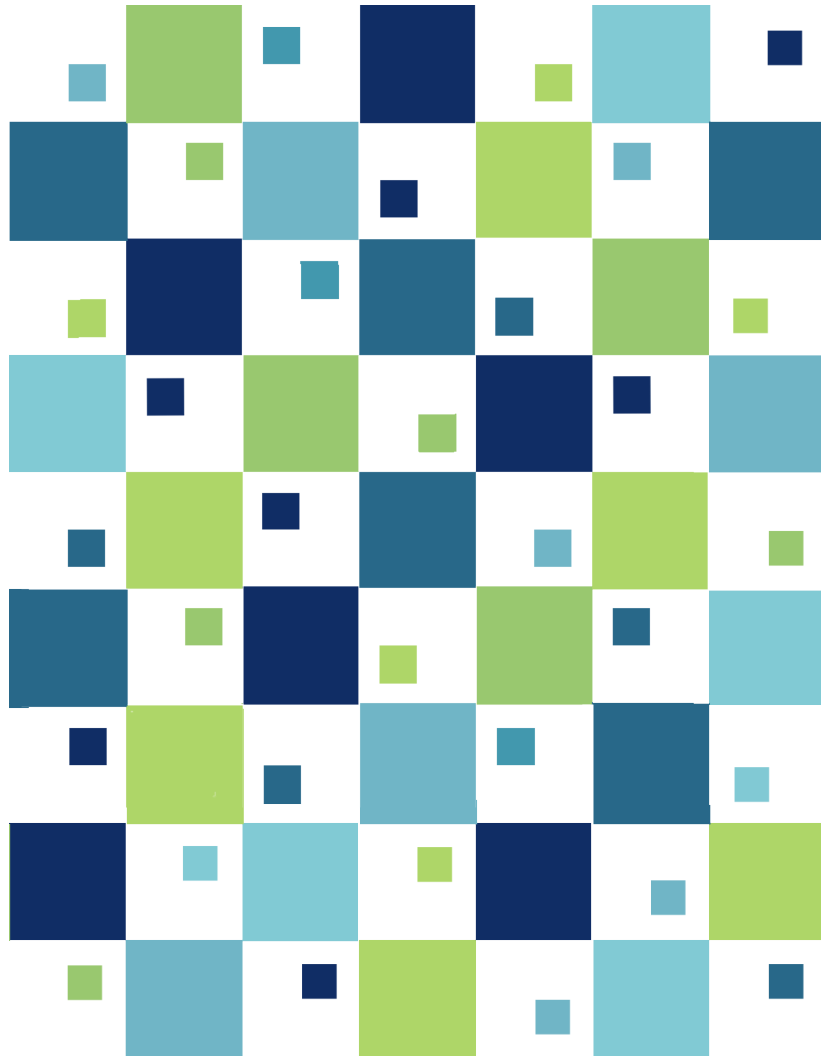
5. Press the finished blocks and square to 6.5" if needed. You will make 32 of these pieced blocks.

NOTE: To keep things simple, you will sew all the blocks in the above manner. The placement of printed squares within the pieced blocks will be determined by turning the blocks in the finished layout.



-----layout-----

6. Layout your quilt top by arranging 63 squares in a 7x9 grid. 32 of these blocks are pieced, and 31 are **large squares**. (Your prints yield 36 large squares, but you will only use 31.) Alternate pieced squares with large squares. See the diagram below.
7. Find an arrangement that is pleasing to you; try to spread values and colors evenly.
8. Rotate the pieced squares so to vary the placement of the print centers.



-----Sew-----

9. Sew the blocks of row #1 together in side by side pairs. Then join pairs, and so on until all the blocks in row #1 are sewn together. Label the row by number, using a washable fabric marker or other means (post-it notes and pins work well)
10. Repeat step 9 for rows #2-9.
11. Press seams in row #1 to the right. Press seams in row #2 to the left. Continue this pattern, so all odd numbered rows are pressed to the right and even numbered rows are pressed to the left.

12. Now pin row #1 to row #2, right sides together, along the longest edges. Because the seam allowances were pressed in opposite directions, the intersections should nest together easily. Pin at the intersections of each block, at the ends of the row, and once in the middle of each block. Gently stretch or ease in the fabric if needed to make sure the blocks are aligned.
13. Sew row #1 to row #2. Press seams open.
14. Continue sewing rows together, just as in steps 12-13, until all 9 rows are joined.
15. Press seams open. Press quilt top well.

Your quilt top is now complete!

Baste, quilt, and bind as desired.
Links to resources on these topics can be found under 'Quilting Basics'
at Project12quilts.com.