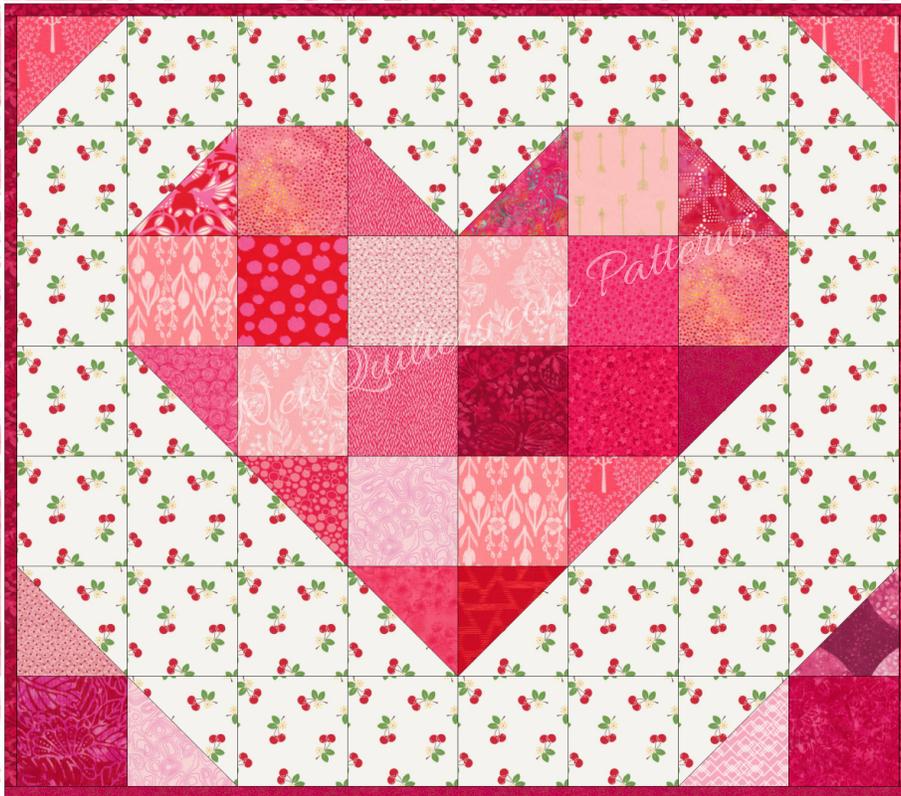


Scrappy Valentine Heart Quilted Wall Hanging

36" x 32 1/2" (91 cm x 83 cm)

Skill level: Beginner



Show the world the love in your heart with this easy quilted wall hanging. It goes together quickly from 5" charm squares and half-square-triangle blocks.

Tools and Supplies

- **(Optional) [pinking blade](#) for your rotary cutter.** A pinking blade cuts a zigzag edge that minimizes fraying on the raw edges of the block's top layers. (I also think a pinked edge looks really cute.) You only need this if you make the half-square triangle blocks using [the layered method](#).
- **(Optional) basting spray.** I use [505 Spray & Fix brand basting spray](#).
- **40- or 50-weight thread** in light grey or beige for piecing and machine quilting. I use Aurifil thread, but there are many good brands of thread. Ask your local quilt store if you have questions. You may also want to use white and pink or red threads if you decide to do free-motion machine quilting.

Fabric You Will Need	
	<p><u>If you use the pieced method</u> to make the half-square triangle blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 assorted pink or red 6" squares. • 14 assorted pink or red 5" squares <p><u>If you use the layered method</u> to make the half-square triangle blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 assorted 5" pink or red squares
	<p>White background print.</p> <p><u>If you use the pieced method</u> to make the half-square triangles: $\frac{7}{8}$ yard</p> <p><u>If you use the layered method</u> to make the half-square triangles: $\frac{3}{4}$ yard</p>
Backing	$1\frac{1}{8}$ yard
Batting	$1\frac{1}{8}$ yard of a thin batting such as cotton or bamboo
Binding	$\frac{1}{3}$ yard

Cutting Chart	
Half-Square Triangle Blocks	<p><u>If you use the pieced method</u> of making half-square triangles, cut eight 6" white squares and eight 6" pink or red squares</p> <p><u>If you use the layered method</u> of making half-square triangles, cut 40 white 5" squares. Cut eight of the 5" red or pink squares in half diagonally.</p>
Backing	Cut one piece 38" x 35".
Batting	Cut one piece 38" x 35".
Binding	Cut four strips 2½" by the full width of the fabric.

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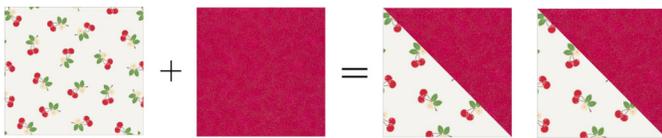
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Making the Half-Square Triangle Blocks

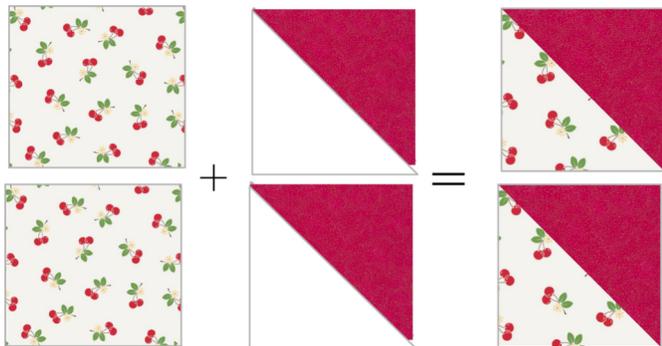
This quilt is built from 5" charm squares and half-square triangle blocks.

The fabric requirements and cutting charts give you instructions for two different ways of making the half-square triangle blocks:

- [The traditional piecing method](#) that uses two squares to make two triangle blocks. If you decide to use this method, you will need to cut some of your squares to 6" instead of 5". (See the yardage and cutting charts for exact instructions.) The triangle blocks will get trimmed down to 5" before you sew the quilt together.



- [A layered method](#) (my favorite) that uses only 5" squares and doesn't require any marking or trimming. This method uses more background fabric than the pieced method. (See the yardage and cutting charts for exact instructions.)



1. Choose one of these methods and use it to make sixteen 5" half-square triangle blocks. If you need help making your triangle blocks, [click or tap here for a tutorial on the pieced method](#) and [here for a tutorial on the layered method](#).
2. If you use the pieced method, trim your triangle blocks to 5" square. Blocks made with the layered method don't need to be trimmed down.

Sewing the Quilt Top Together



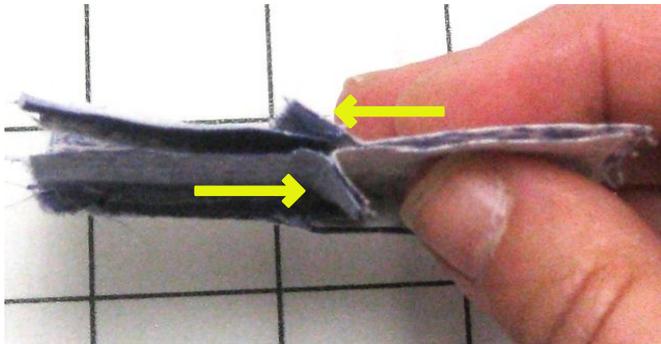
1. Arrange the blocks and squares on a large flat work surface, using the diagram above as a guide.
2. Sew the squares into rows, using a scant 1/4" seam. I usually start with the top row and work my way down.
3. Press the seams in the rows in opposite directions. This will help you align the seams in the next step

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4. Sew the rows together, nesting the seam allowances together at the places where seam lines join. I like to pin the joins to keep them in place for sewing.

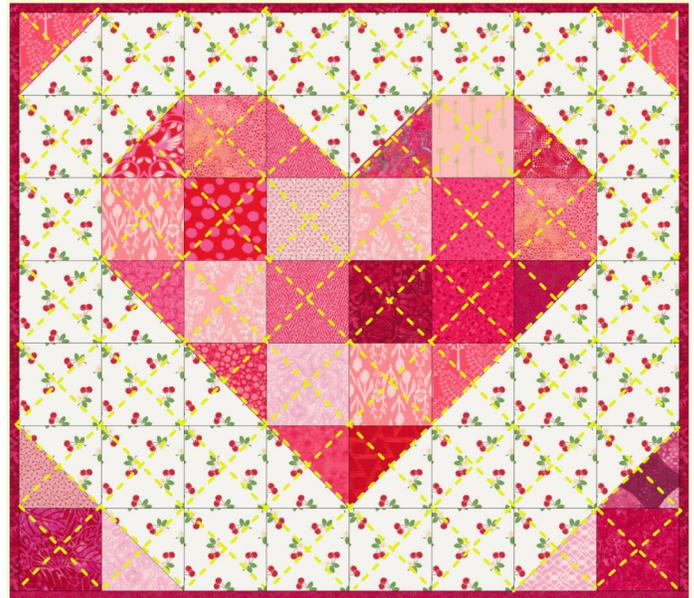
Here's how nested seams should look, with the seam allowances on the top and bottom pointing in opposite directions:



Finishing the Quilt

1. Cut the batting and backing fabric as described in the cutting chart.
2. Layer and baste the backing, batting, and quilt top. If you need help with basting, see this [tutorial on spray basting](#) or this [tutorial on pin basting](#).
3. Quilt the layers together. I like to start by stitching in the ditch between all the seams on the quilt top. If you need help with this, see my [tutorial on stitching in the ditch](#).
4. If you like, you can stop there. But you can also add extra quilting. The large background sections and the heart make an ideal place to practice your free-motion quilting. I'd suggest using a different motif in the heart than you use in the background. I'd suggest trying [a stipple](#) on the background and [spirals](#) inside the heart.

5. If that feels too complicated, you could also stitch the whole quilt with a grid of straight-stitched diagonal lines, as shown on the right. Use your walking foot to do this, if you have one.



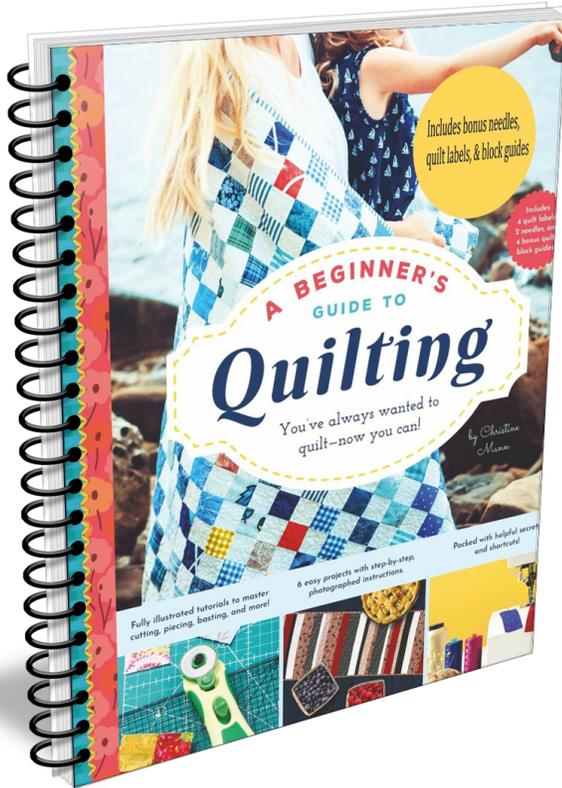
6. Once you finish quilting, square up the quilt.
7. Cut the binding strips and [make the binding](#).
8. [Make a hanging sleeve](#) so you can hang the quilt on the wall.
9. Stitch the hanging tube and binding to the quilt. Here's my favorite way to [sew binding to a quilt](#).
10. Hang the quilt on the wall and enjoy it!

Cautionary note: if you wash the quilt, make sure to use a couple of [color catchers](#) or some [Synthrapol](#) detergent to keep the red or pink fabrics from bleeding onto the background. Fabrics in the red spectrum are notoriously prone to dye bleeding, as I have found to my sorrow.

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Books for Beginners from New Quilters



[A Beginner's Guide to Quilting.](#)

Everything you need to love making your first quilts is right here in this book: detailed photo tutorials that show you every step of making a quilt from start to finish, five fun and easy quilt patterns, four bonus fabric quilt labels, four bonus quilt block guides, AND a set of quilting needles.



[A Beginner's Guide to Rag Quilting.](#)

The complete guide to one of the easiest and most accessible styles of quilting. Includes 12 beautifully simple rag quilt patterns with tutorials, plus complete guide to the basics. BONUS extras: lie-flat spiral binding, 4 quilt labels, 2 bonus pillow patterns, and 2 quilting needles.



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