

## Walk in the Park Baby Quilt Using Strip Piecing

This quilt is based on the Walk in Spring quilt found in the Quick Creative Quilting book edited by Jeanne Stauffer and Sandra Hatch.

The finished size is 39 x 39 inches.

### Materials:

$\frac{1}{4}$  yard of five different fabrics for the center of the quilt

$\frac{1}{3}$  yard of the border fabric

$1\frac{1}{4}$  yard of backing fabric

40 x 40 inches of batting

Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler

### Cutting Directions:

Cut five strips 8 x 44 inches long. This is for the center of the quilt.

Cut four strips 3 x 44 inches long. This is for the border.

**Sewing Directions:** Note: All seams are  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

Sew the five 8 x 44 inch strips right sides together along the 44 inch side. Continue until all five pieces are sewn together into one large 37 x 44 inch piece of fabric. Press all seams one direction.

Cut 4 inch strips across all five fabrics so that each 4 inch strip has all five fabrics in it.

Sew the first two 4 inch strips together so they are off set by half of one of the fabrics. This means the fabrics will not match at the ends. There will be about 4 inches hanging that will not be sewn on each end after the sewing is done.

Continue sewing the pieces off set making the third 4 inch strip match the end of the first strip. The fourth 4 inch strip will match the end of the second strip. This makes the zigzag pattern in the quilt. Press the seams in one direction.

Once all of the 4 inch strips are sewn together, trim the ends of the 4 inch strips so that all sides are square. This will cut off the 4 inch overhanging pieces off of each end of the center of the quilt.

Sew on two of the 3 inch strips on opposite sides to each other. Trim the ends so that they are even with the rest of the quilt. Sew the last two 3 inch strips on the other two opposite sites to complete the border. Press the seams away from the center of the quilt.

To complete the quilt, lay out the backing fabric right side down. Lay the batting on top of the backing and lay the quilt top face up on top of the batting. Use basting spray or pins to hold all three layers together. Make sure each layer is centered. There should be some batting showing on all four sides of the quilt.

Stitch in the ditch along the last stitching lines on the quilt top. These are the lines that do not break and go from one end to the other. Then stitch in a ditch around the center along the border fabrics on all four sides.

Trim the backing fabric so that it is at least one and a half inches more than the quilt top on all four sides. This should be a little larger (about half an inch) than the batting.

Fold the half inch of backing fabric over the batting on all four sides and press it with the iron. Then fold the extra batting over the top of the quilt on one of the sides. It should overlap about half of an inch. Edge stitch along the backing fabric so that it is sewn to the top of the quilt. Repeat this on the opposite side of the quilt before doing the other two sides.

This technique is instead of the normal binding technique. If you wish to use a more traditional binding technique, then trim the backing and the batting to be the same size as the top of the quilt and bind as you wish. The binding fabric for this technique is not included in the materials list.