



Jittery Wings Quilt Co.

Spellbinding Quilts + Patterns

Daydreamer Baby Quilt Pattern



Fat Quarter
Friendly

Complete Beginner Friendly Pattern

#makenewquilters

About the FREE Daydreamer Baby Quilt Pattern

The Daydreamer Baby Quilt Pattern was specifically designed to live into my goal of *making new quilters*. The pattern is free. The printed version you are reading includes the basics for putting the pattern together. On the Jittery Wings Quilt Co website, you can find details about how to accomplish each individual task. If you need extra help, I encourage you to visit there.

This printed version is not written like my other quilt patterns. They assume the maker knows the basics of quilting. This is a great pattern to start with if it is your first time making a quilt.

If it isn't your first time making a quilt, if you are making it because you simply like the pattern, refer to the quick notes and you won't need to read everything.

Finished Quilt Size: 40" x 56"

Block Size before it is Sewn into the Quilt: 8.5" x 8.5"

Finished (Sew In) Block Size: 8" x 8"

Rows and Columns: 5" x 7"

Total Number of Blocks: 35

Total 2.5" x 6.5" Pieces Needed: 140

Total 2.5" x 8.5" Pieces Needed: 35

Skill Level: New Quilter, Beginner

Materials List for the FREE Daydreamer Baby Quilt Pattern

This is the list of needs for making your Daydreamer Baby Quilt:

- **Fat Quarters:** 10 Different Fabrics
- **Backing Fabric:** 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards of a single fabric
- **Binding Fabric:** $\frac{1}{2}$ yard
- **Batting:** 1 Crib size batting that measures at least 45" x 60"
- **Thread:** A neutral color that matches all your fabrics for piecing. Like a grey. You will also need a color for quilting. One large size spool of Aurifil (as an example) will be plenty to do both if you use the same color.
- **Sewing Needles:** 80/20 Universal
- **Basting:** Either purchase large size "bent" quilting safety pins or a can of Odif 505 Basting Spray

Instructions for Cutting Your Fabric

Quick Cutting Guide for Experienced Quilters:

From each fat quarter cut 7, 2.5" by Width of Fat Quarter (WOFQ) strips. The strips should measure 21-22" when done. From the first two, sub-cut each into 2, 2.5" x 8.5" long pieces. From the remaining 5 strips, sub-cut each into 3, 2.5" x 6.5" shorter pieces.

Total 2.5" x 6.5" Pieces Needed: 140

Total 2.5" x 8.5" Pieces Needed: 35

Begin by cutting the first raw and uneven edge off the fat quarter. Lay one fat quarter on the cutting mat. You may also cut up to three fat quarters at a time if you feel comfortable.

Step 1: Line up the 21/22" edge of the fat quarter so the raw edge goes over the line on the mat you want to use as your first cut.

Step 2: After you make the first cut to create a clean edge, then move the ruler over 2.5" to make your first strip.

Step 3: I like to slide the strip over a bit, so I don't accidentally cut the remaining fabric. Line up both of the long sides of the strip along a line on the mat. Line up the ruler along the bottom selvage and cut that away.

Step 4: Then line up the bottom of the fabric with the 8.5" mark on the ruler. Line the sides of the strip up with the edge of the ruler and the 2.5" mark. This will allow you to cut across the top to make an 8.5" x 2.5" strip.

Step 5: For this first strip from the fat quarter, move the ruler up to the remainder of the strip and cut a second 8.5" strip like you just did. You can get two of your 2.5" x 8.5" pieces from a single strip.

Step 6: Now, go back to the rest of the fat quarter. Cut a new 2.5" strip and repeat the process to make two more 2.5" x 8.5" strips.

Step 7: After you cut 4 total 2.5" x 8.5" pieces from the fat quarter, cut a new 2.5" strip and repeat the process to make three of your 2.5" x 6.5" pieces. You can get three from each strip. The process is the same, except you line the ruler up on the 6.5" line. You can get 4 more strips which will give you a total of 15 of the 2.5" x 6.5" pieces from each fat quarter.

Step 8: Repeat this exact process with all your Fat Quarters. After some practice you can also stack up 2 or 3 fat quarters and cut them all at the same time. **Make stacks of your pieces and make sure you have 35 of the 2.5" x 8.5" pieces and 140 of the 2.5" x 6.5" pieces.**

Lay Out Your Blocks for Your First Quilt

I really like to have a design wall, which in its simplest form is a piece of batting hanging on something flat like a board or wall. You can also lay the blocks out on a table or the floor if clean.

You have two choices for layout. First, you can literally lay all your blocks out and then sew each block together. This will allow you to determine your color placement before sewing the blocks together. The second option is to sew 4 of your 2.5" x 6.5" strips together and then add the 2.5" x 8.5" to the end without planning ahead. After all your blocks are sewn together, then you can play around with them on the design wall. This is what I call, "controlled improv." You can read more about that [here](#). Regardless of the layout option you select, this is how you sew each of the blocks together.

Begin Sewing Together Your Blocks for Your First Quilt

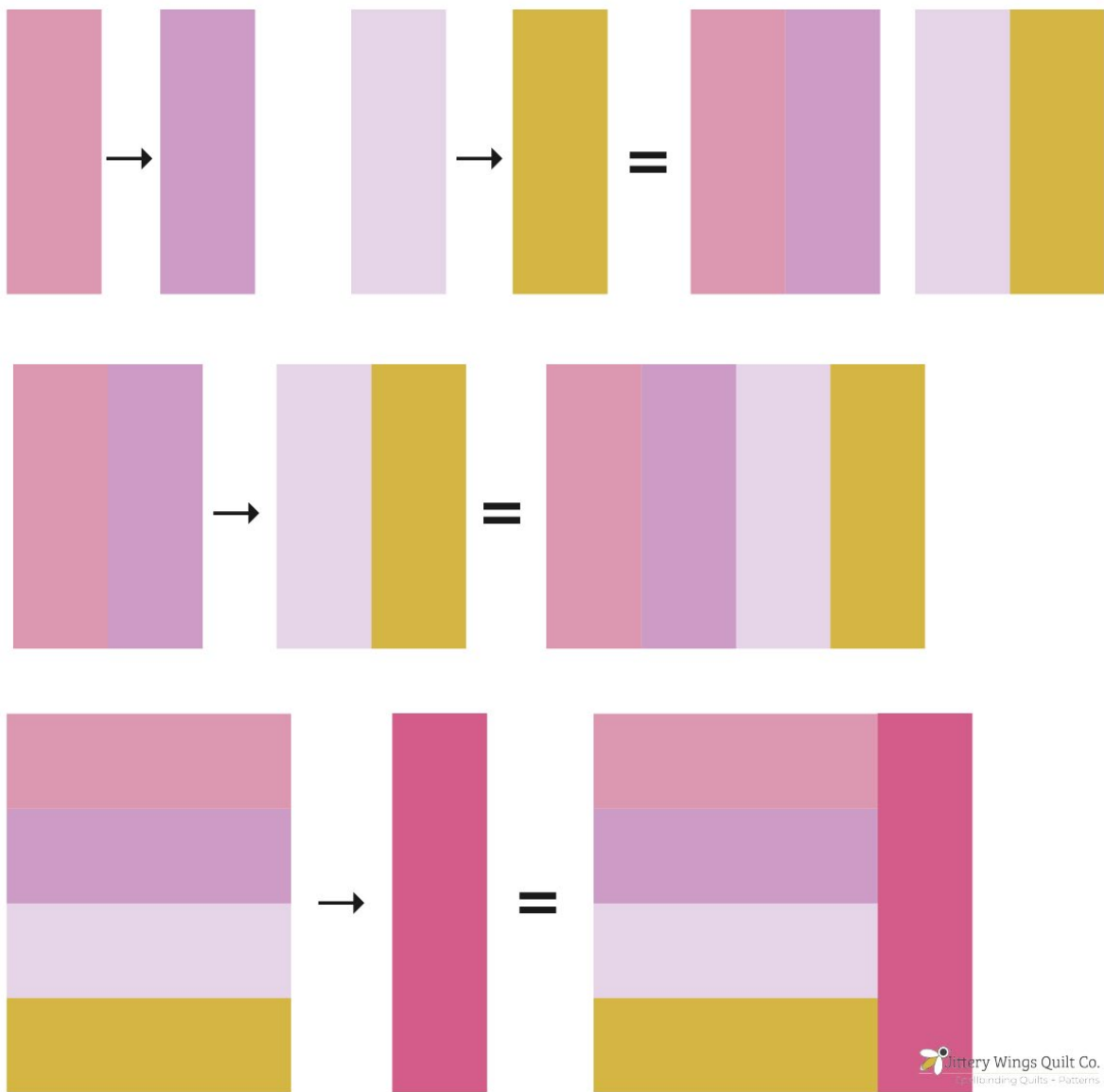
Quick Block Piecing Guide for Experienced Quilters:

Sew 4 of the 2.5" x 6.5" short pieces together as shown in the image. Press seams open. Then sew the 2.5" x 8.5" piece to one side of the section you just made. Repeat to make 35 total blocks.

Total Blocks Needed: 35

Now it is time to sew each individual block together. If you laid out all your blocks, you may lay the first block on a small board to bring it to your sewing machine.

Step 1: Begin by sewing the 2.5" x 6.5" strips together two at a time. You can sew these one right after the other. This is called Chain Stitching or Chain Piecing. Press the seams open.



Step 2: Sew the two sets together. Make sure your fabrics are right sides together, so all the seams are on the same side. Press that third seam open.

Step 3: Line up the 2.5" x 8.5" strip on one side of the piece you just completed in Step 2. Fabrics should be right sides together (RST). Be sure to line up the ends and one long side of the strip so that it isn't hanging out farther than the pieced section of the block. Place a clip on each of the seams to hold it in place. I also like to place a clip at the end of the block so that when it is going through my machine it doesn't slide apart.

Step 4: Sew a ¼” seam down this edge removing the clips as you get closer to them. Don’t sew over your clips. If you decide to use pins, also don’t sew over those. Place the 2.5” x 6.5” pieced section on top so you can see the seams.

Be sure to check both sides of the seam flaps that they are down as they go through the sewing machine.

Step 5: Press this seam open like you did the others, making sure not to press the earlier seams the wrong way as you move your iron down the seam. It happens.

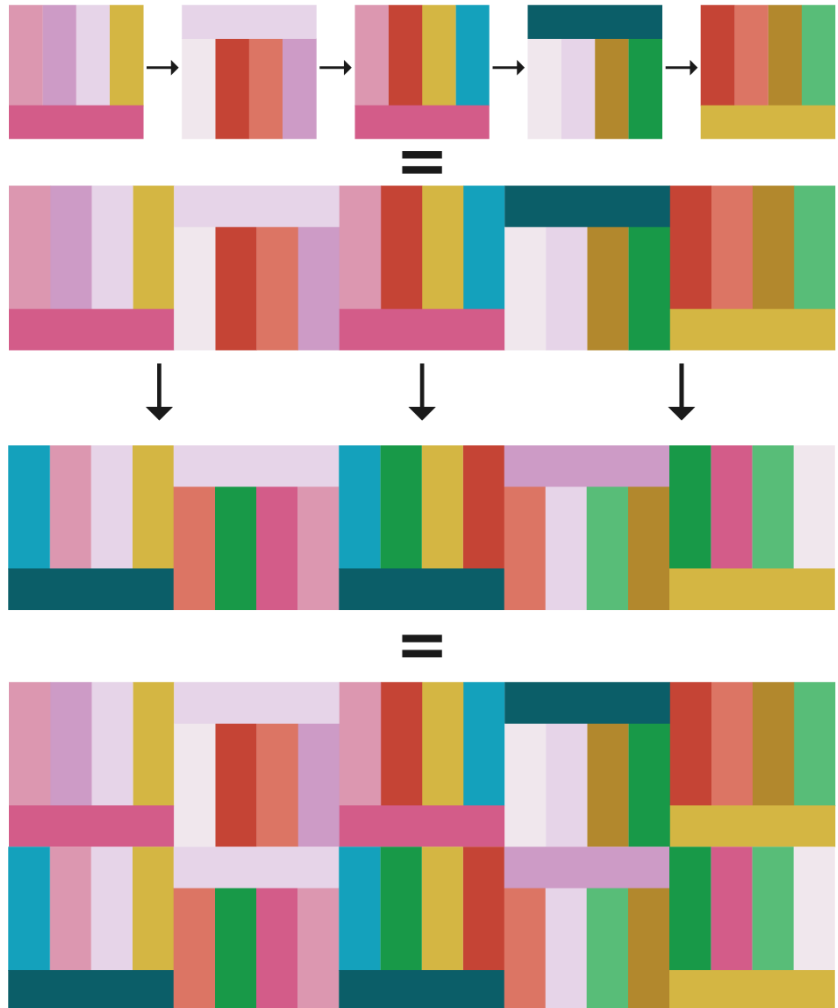
Step 6: Repeat to make all 35 blocks.

Quilt Top Assembly of Your First Quilt

Quick Assembly Guide for Experienced Quilters:

Lay your blocks out 5 across and 7 down. Every other block is turned the opposite direction. Begin sewing each row together pressing seams open.

Sew the top 4 rows together. Sew the bottom 3 rows together. Sew the top of the quilt to the bottom of the quilt.



Now that all the blocks are sewn together, it is time to lay the quilt top out and begin sewing the rows together.

Step 1: The 2.5" x 8.5" strip alternates on the top and bottom of the block as you go. Per the About this Quilt section above, you need 5 blocks across on the quilt and 7 rows down. This will use all 35 blocks.

Step 2: After all the blocks are laid out, place a pin in the left most block of each row. This will help you remember which direction the row is turned as you move them from the design area to the sewing machine.

Step 3: Starting at one end of the first row, flip the end most block, right sides together over the one next to it to line up which seam should be sewn together and place a clip on those edges to bind them together. You can either go straight to the machine and sew that seam now, or you can continue folding over and clipping each seam together so you can sew them all at the machine in one trip. Be sure to clip the flaps of the previous seams down so they don't fold over as you are sewing. I like to sew all of a row together at the same time. It looks like this on my sewing machine.

Step 4: Press all your seams open like before and then return the row to the design area to keep it in order. Check your pin to make sure the row is turned the correct direction.

Step 5: Sew all 7 rows together in this manner.

Step 6: Sew the first two rows together by folding the top row down over the second and matching up the seams and clipping them. Matching up seams is important. You want to clip each seam down the rows before beginning to sew the seam.

Check under as you go to make sure that your seam flaps are flat and open. Don't exaggerate your fabric this much. I only did this to show you in the image.

Step 7: Press the seams as you did above down the entire row.

Step 8: Sew the top 3 rows together. Sew the bottom 4 rows together. Then sew the top of the quilt to the bottom of the quilt. Press seams open as you go.

Quilt Sandwich Assembly for Your First Quilt

Quick Quilt Sandwich Guide for Experienced Quilters:

Make your quilt sandwich and quilt as desired. Bind when finished.

Step 1: Prepare backing by pressing it well. Lay it right side down, on a large flat surface (such as a table or floor) and secure it around all edges with masking tape, stretching it tight and flat.

Step 2: Spray the backing with Fabric Adhesive Spray following the directions on the can. Center batting on top, ensuring it is flat.

Step 3: Spray the top of the batting with adhesive. Complete your quilt sandwich by centering the quilt top over the batting with the right side up.

Step 4: Make sure batting and backing are showing around all sides of the quilt top. If you decided to use pins instead of spray, now is the time to add them through all three layers 4" apart all over the quilt sandwich.

Step 5: Mark off lines on your quilt where you want to quilt it. They can be $\frac{1}{4}$ ", $\frac{1}{2}$ ", or even 1" apart. I like to start with them wider. I can always go back and add more stitches in between. You can use painters' tape to tape off your lines so you can follow the tap as you quilt. You can also use a chalk marker and your ruler to mark off the lines.

Step 6: For your first quilt, I recommended adding your walking foot to your machine. This walking foot will help pull the bottom of the sandwich in line with the top of the sandwich.

If you don't have a walking foot.

If you don't have a walking foot, then you will walk to check your manual and set your machine, so the feed dogs are locked in the down position. Then, check the other feet that came with your machine. You will want the quilting or "darning" foot. There should be a picture in your manual. Using this foot and the feed dogs in the down position, set your foot at a steady pace (slow your machine down if you can) and begin stitching straight or just slightly wavy lines down the center of the quilt.

Step 7: Begin stitching down the center of the quilt following the tape or chalk to help you keep your stitches straight. When you get to the end, lock your stitches by taking 2 stitches backwards. Then, remove the quilt and reset at the top on your next marked offline. Follow to the end of the quilt again. Continue to repeat this process slowly moving from the center to the right side. After you finish one side, turn the quilt around and move from the “new top” to the right edge. This will help keep the bulk of the quilt to the outside of the machine.

TIP: Having enough table for you to lay your quilt on will help tremendously as you try to manage a heavy quilt.

Binding for Your First Quilt

I will be adding the binding tutorial to this soon.