

# Easy Jelly Roll Irish Chain Tutorial!

(Updated with Sizes/Quantities Needed!)

By Liz Katsuro



“Irish Chain” is one of the oldest and most beloved quilt patterns around! It’s a classic, simple pattern suitable for brand new beginners. The best thing is it’s made even easier with our favorite convenience item – jelly rolls!!

This tutorial contains instructions for how to make the 2 different blocks needed for Irish Chain. I will be adding a supplement with sizes and quantities needed in the next few days.

Fabric choices: this is such a versatile block! It looks amazing using plain solids, single color/multiple print mix fabrics (like our [basic color rolls](#) with 10 fabrics), or lots of different colors/prints (like the [blender rolls](#) with 20 fabrics and more different hues). I prefer [white solid](#) and [white/white](#) for the background fabrics, but any contrasting color will do, so long as your main (chain) fabric stands out. These also look amazing using the “Amish” color schemes of bright colors on black backgrounds ([solid black rolls](#), and [print black rolls](#) would work in the place of the solid white and print white in that case).

## DIRECTIONS

1. First, you're going to be making 2 different sets of 3 strips, sewn together lengthwise. Choose 3 color/main strips, and 3 contrast strips. I'm using reds in this example, so I picked 3 different red strips, and 3 solid white strips.



2. Sew your long strip segments together lengthwise – one segment of main-contrast-main, and one of contrast-main-contrast.

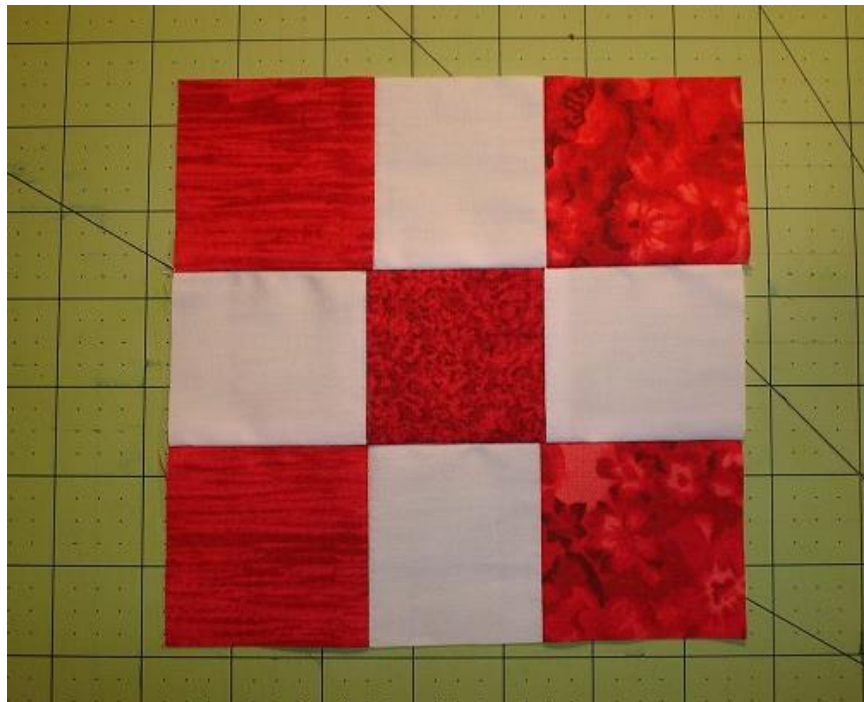
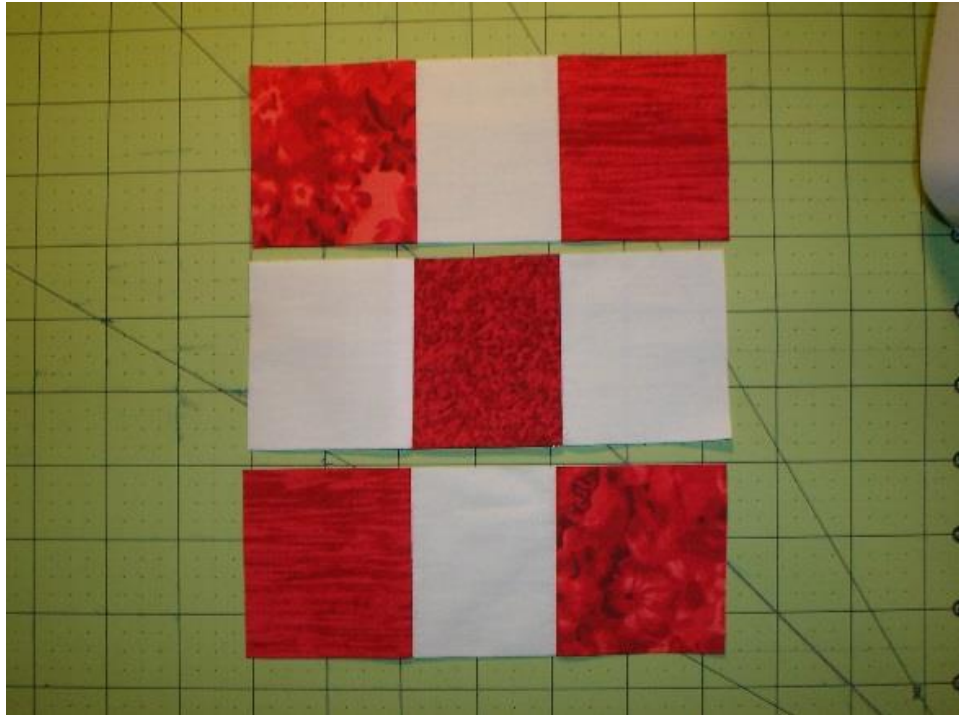
I used half strips for my example pictures – you'll want to use the whole strip. Press open toward the darker color.



3. Using a rotary board and cutter, cut each strip segment into 2.5" pieces.

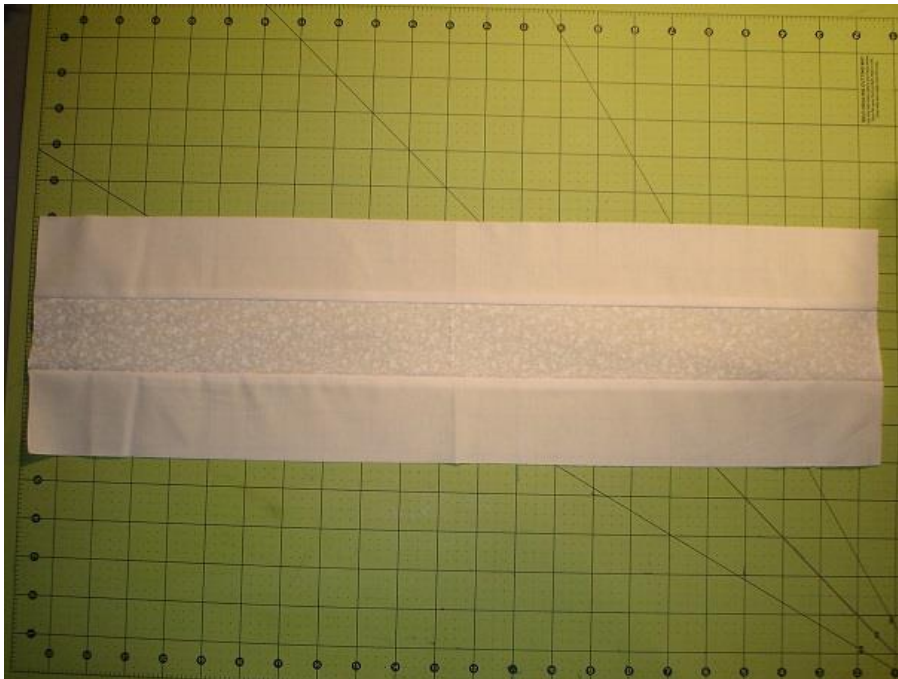


4. Create your chain block by connecting two of your main-contrast-main pieces to one of your contrast-main-contrast pieces.



I accidentally flipped my bottom segment when sewing. Oops!! No big!

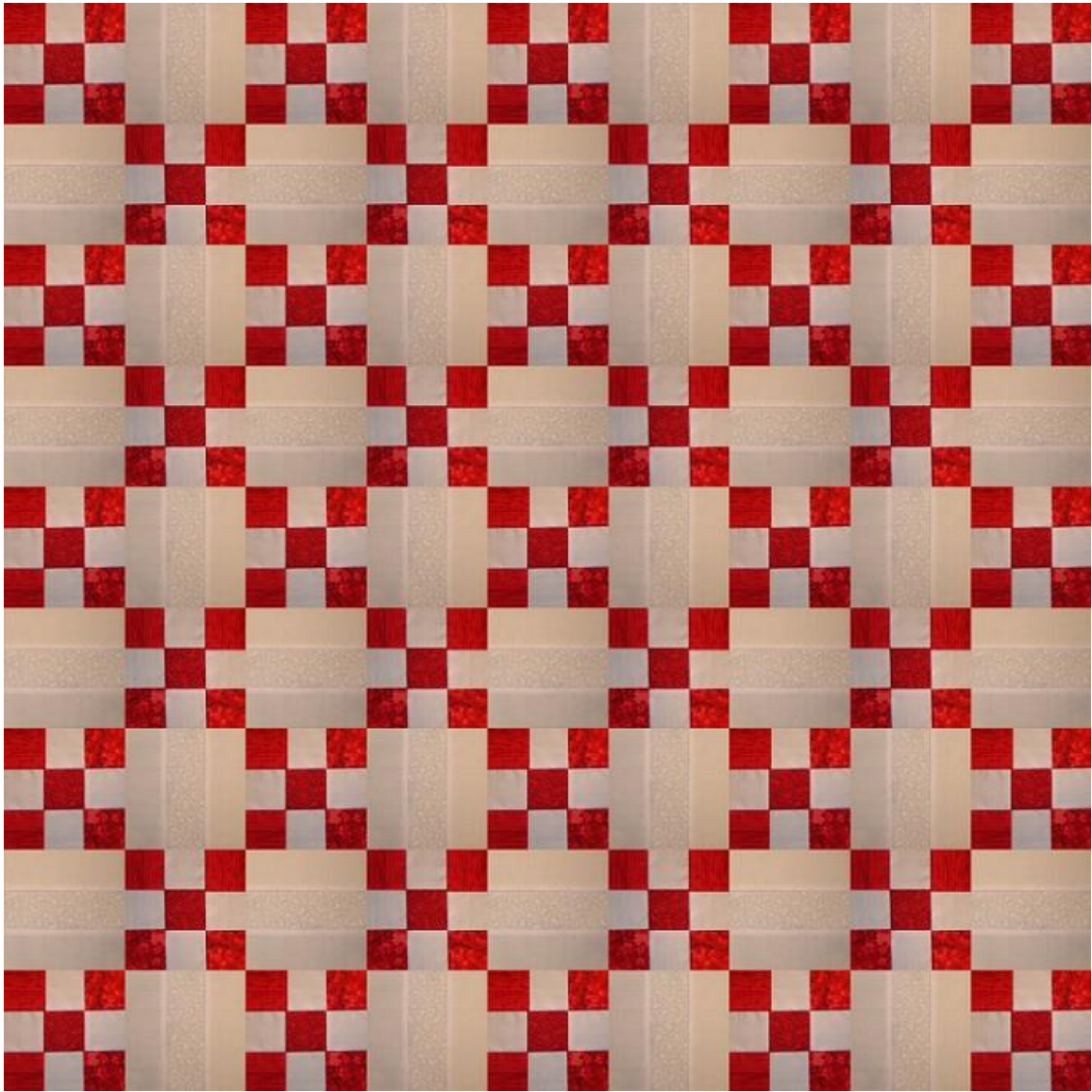
5. Next, you'll create the other block in the quilt. As in step one, you'll sew 3 strips together. I used solid white-white print-solid white to add some interest to the blocks.



6. Next cut the white segment into 6.5” blocks.



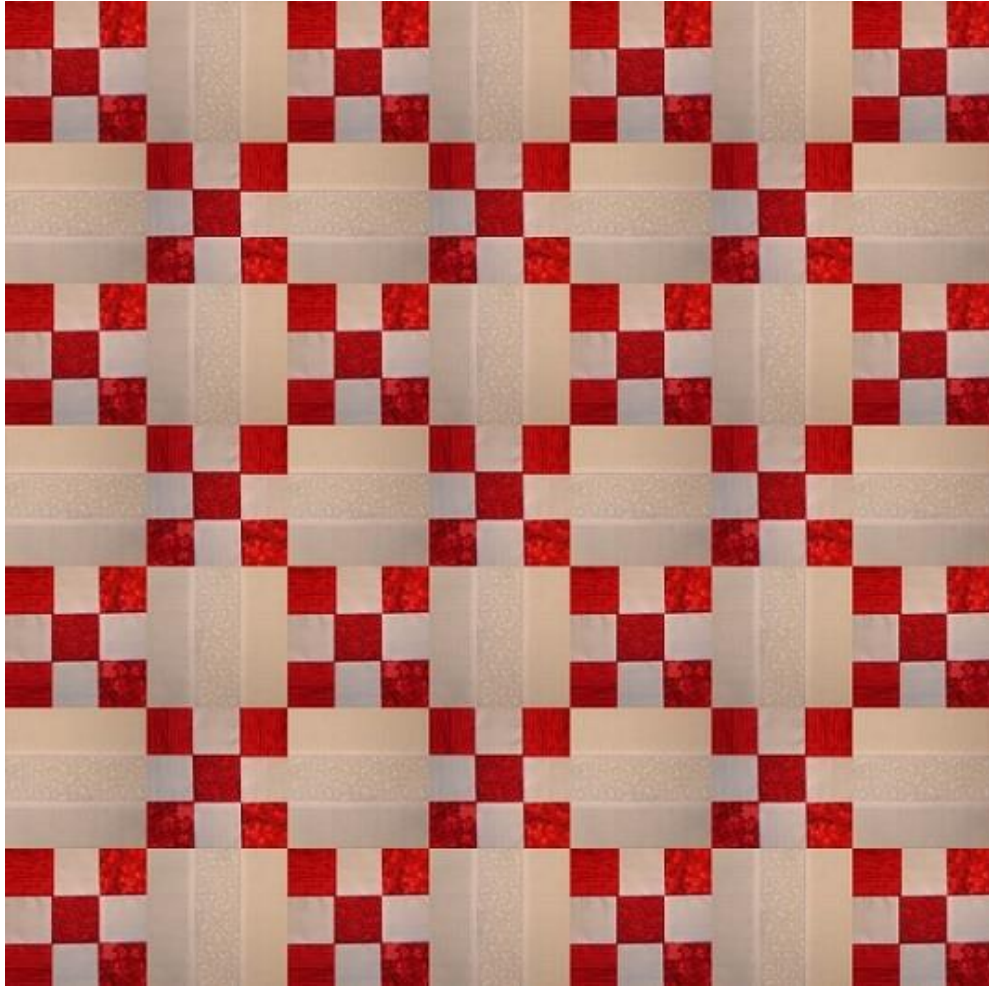
That's it for making these super easy blocks! Now,  
for what they look like put together!



Pretty amazing, right? If it were my first time making a jelly roll quilt – I'd challenge myself and go for this pattern!

Continue below to see each size and the quantities of strips needed and specific instructions for each.

# BABY – 42” x 42”



Layout: 7 across, 7 down

Make: 24 background blocks, 25 main blocks:

4 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 8 solid, 4 print strips

4 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 8 color, 4 solid white strips

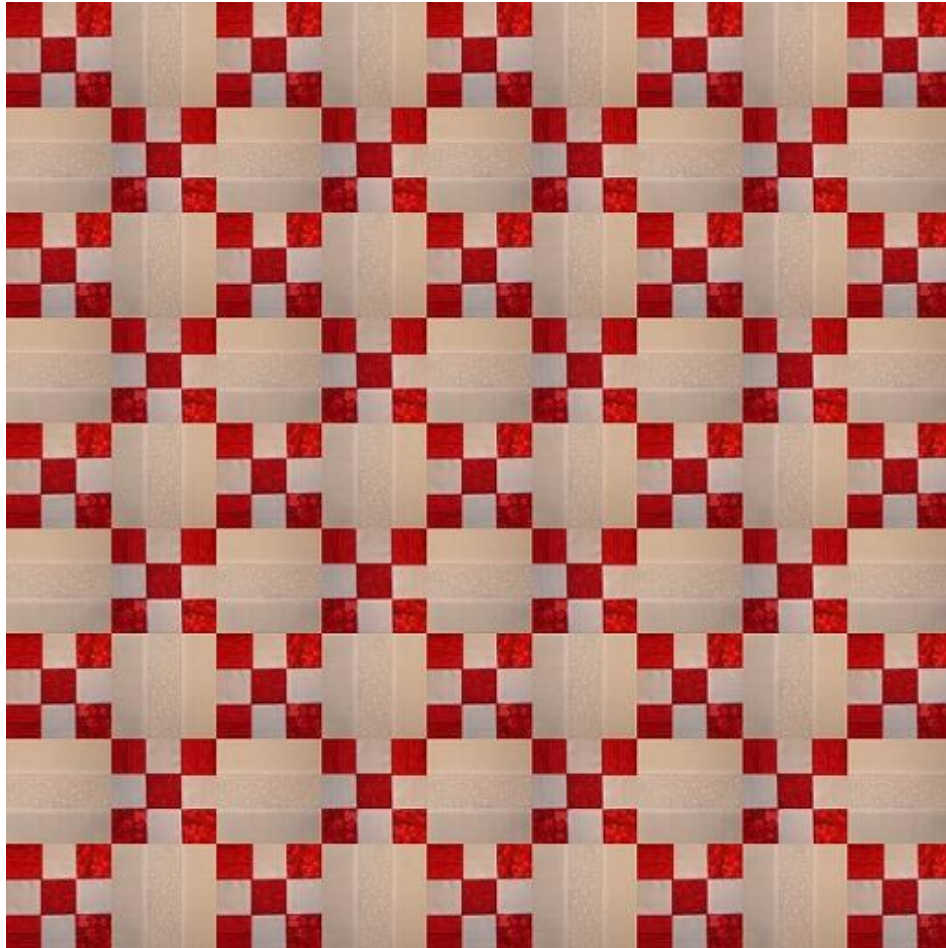
2 sets of solid white/color/solid white using 4 solid white, 2 color strips

Total needed: 10 color strips, 16 solid white, 4 print white (or just 20 solid white)

Add 4 extra white strips for a border, and/or 4 extra main fabric strips for binding

Assembly – sew 4 rows of 7 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 3 rows of 7 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

# LAP – 54” x 54”



Layout: 9 across, 9 down

Make: 40 background blocks, 41 main blocks:

7 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 14 solid, 7 print strips

6 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 12 color, 6 white strips

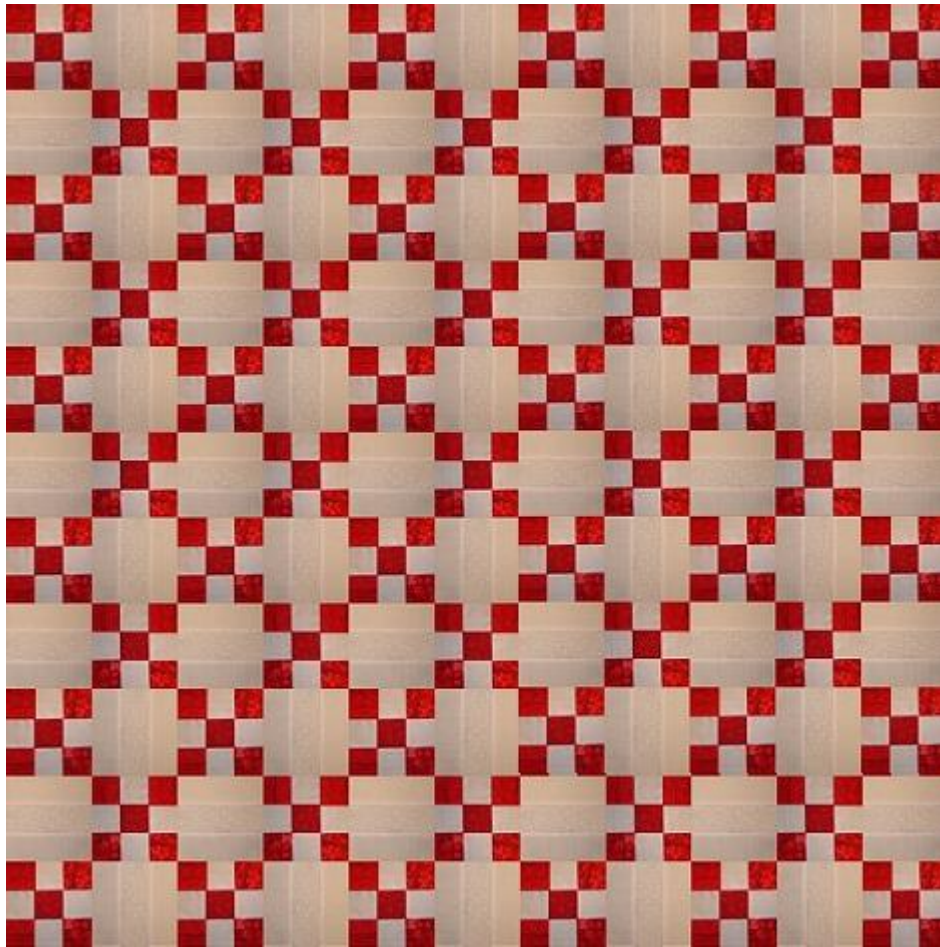
3 sets of solid white/color/solid white strips using 6 solid white, 3 color strips

Total needed: 15 color strips, 26 solid white, 7 print white (or just 33 solid white)

Add 6 extra white strips for a border, and/or 6 extra main fabric strips for binding

Assembly – sew 5 rows of 9 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 4 rows of 9 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

# LARGE “NAP” THROW – 66” x 66”



Layout: 11 across, 11 down

Make: 60 background blocks, 61 main blocks:

10 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 20 solid, 10 print strips

8 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 16 color, 8 solid white strips

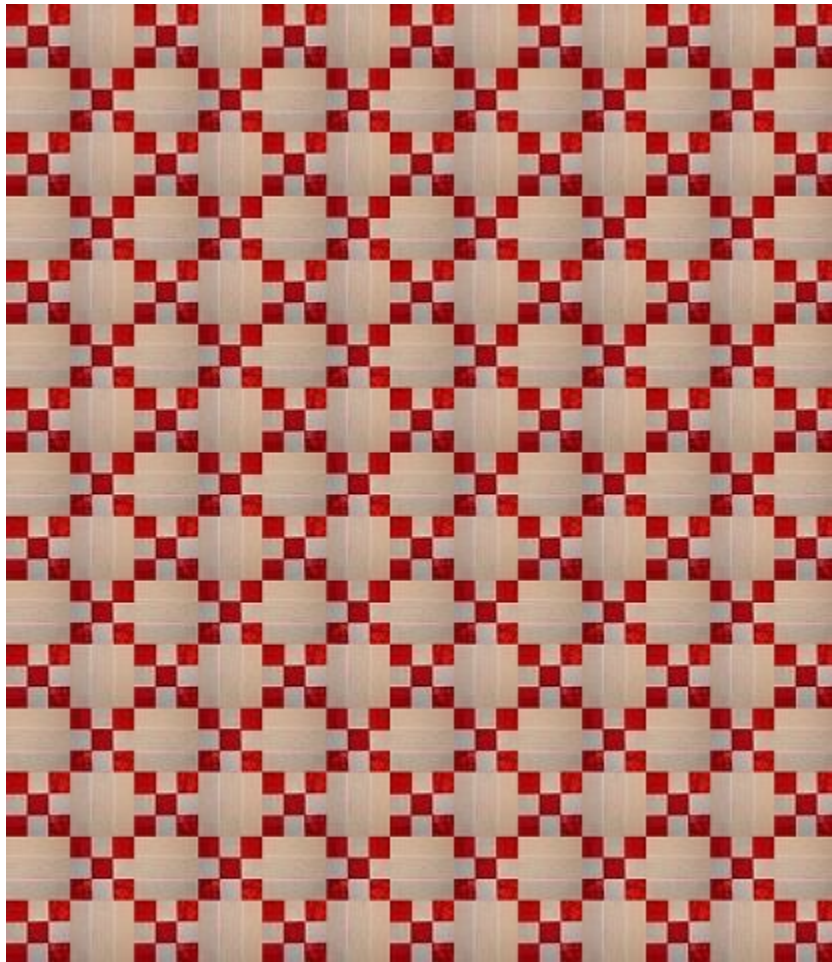
4 sets of solid white/color/solid white using 8 solid white, 4 color strips

Total needed: 20 color strips, 36 solid white, 10 print white (or just 46 solid white)

Add 7 extra white strips for a border, and/or 7 extra main fabric strips for binding

Assembly – sew 6 rows of 11 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 5 rows of 11 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

# TWIN – 78” x 90”



Layout: 13 across, 15 down

Make: 97 background blocks, 98 main blocks:

17 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 34 solid, 17 print strips

13 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 26 color, 13 solid white strips

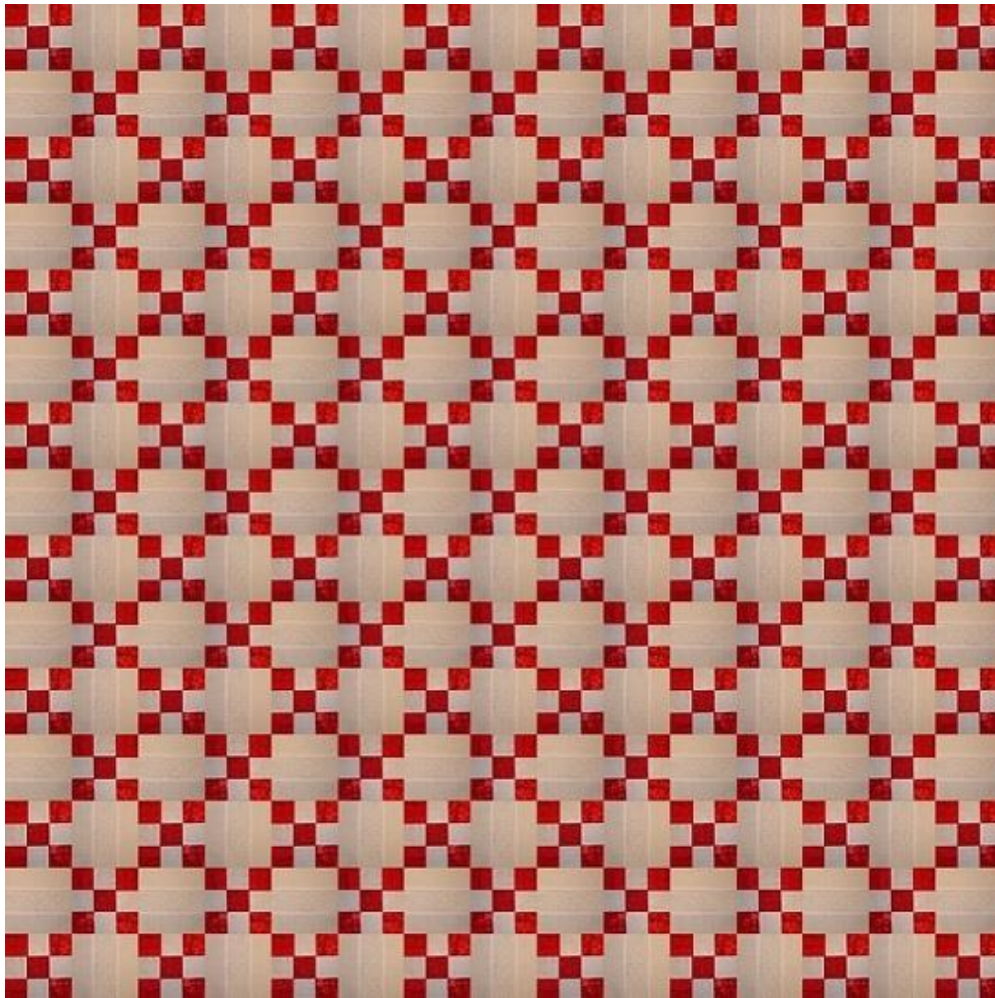
7 sets of solid white/color/solid white using 14 solid white, 7 color strips

Total needed: 33 color strips, 61 solid white, 17 print white (or just 78 solid white)

Add 8 extra white strips for a border, and/or 8 extra main fabric strips for binding

Assembly – sew 8 rows of 13 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 7 rows of 13 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

# QUEEN – 90” x 90”



Layout: 15 across, 15 down

Make: 112 background blocks, 113 main blocks:

19 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 38 solid, 19 print strips

15 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 30 color, 15 solid white strips

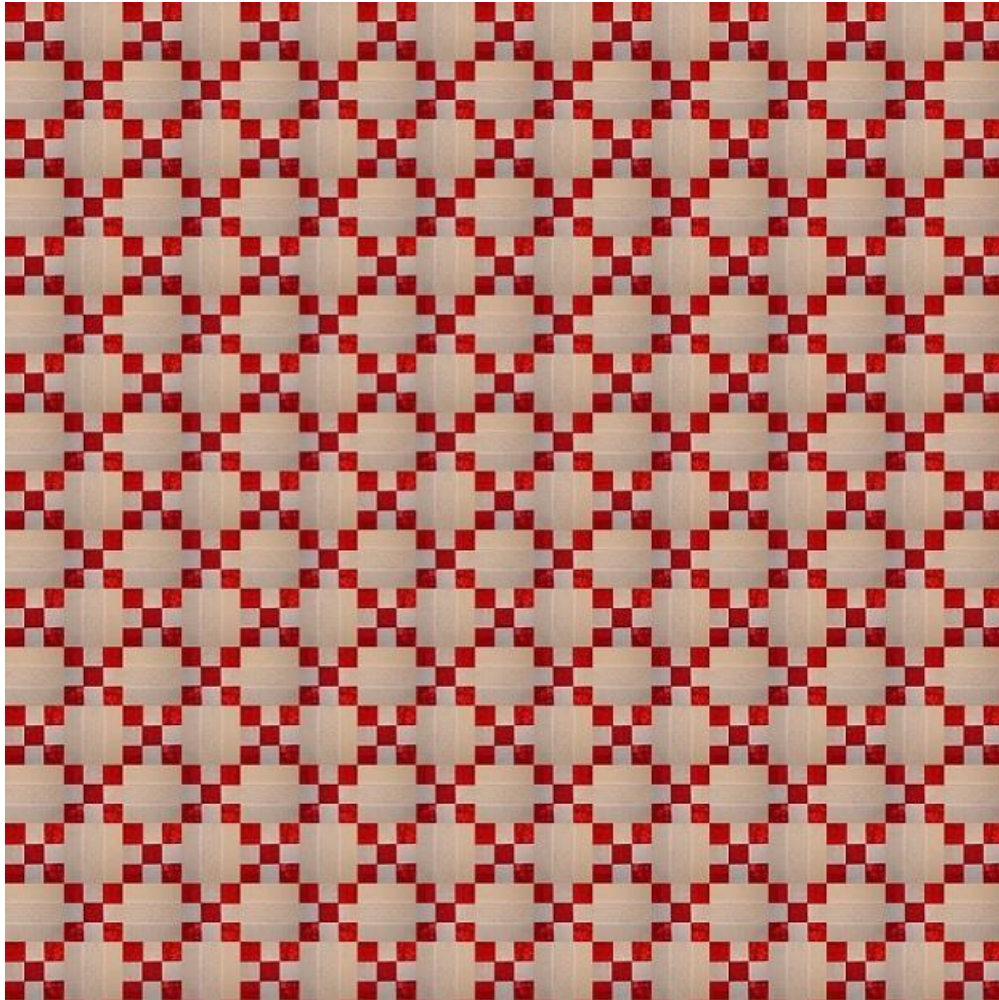
8 sets of solid white/color/solid white using 16 solid white, 8 color strips

Total needed: 38 color strips, 69 solid white, 19 print white (or just 88 solid white)

Add 9 extra white strips for a border, and/or 9 extra main fabric strips for binding

Assembly – sew 8 rows of 15 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 7 rows of 15 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

# KING – 102” x 102”



Layout: 17 across, 17 down

Make: 144 background blocks, 145 main blocks:

24 sets of solid white/white print/solid white strips using 48 solid, 24 print strips

19 sets of color/solid white/color strips using 38 color, 19 solid white strips

10 sets of solid white/color/solid white using 20 solid white, 10 color strips

Total needed: 48 color strips, 87 solid white, 24 print white (or just 111 solid white)

Add 10 extra white strips for a border, and/or 11 extra main fabric strips for binding (10 if not adding the border)

Assembly – sew 9 rows of 17 alternating blocks starting and ending with “chain block” – sew 8 rows of 17 alternating blocks starting and ending with background (white) block. Rows beginning and ending with the chain block will be at the top and bottom of your quilt. A chain block should be in each corner of your quilt.

Shopping list for [our store](#) (using 20-strip rolls); any [blender](#) or [basic](#) roll will work perfectly:

**Baby:** 1 color roll, 1 solid white, 1 print white (or just 1 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** If using the white print option, materials will cover a white print border and binding as well. If you're opting to use all solid white, you will need to add a second solid white roll for a border.

**Lap:** 1 color roll, 2 solid white, 1 print white (or just 2 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** You will need to add a second color roll for binding. You will have enough extra white to create a border in either print white, or solid white.

**Large Throw:** 1 color roll, 2 solid white, 1 print white (or 3 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** You will need to add a second color roll for binding. You will have enough print white for a border, or if only using solids, enough solid white for a border.

**Twin:** 2 color rolls, 4 solid white, 1 white print (or just 4 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** You will need to add a third color roll for binding. If using print white option, you will have enough solid white for a border. If using all solid white, you will need a 5<sup>th</sup> solid white roll for a border.

**Queen:** 2 color rolls, 4 solid white, 1 white print (or 5 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** You will need to add a third color roll for binding. Using either white option, you will have enough solid white for a border.

**King:** 3 color rolls, 5 solid white, 2 white print (or just 6 solid white)

**Border/Binding:** You will have enough color strips for binding. If using print white option, you will have enough of both solid white and print white to make a border. If using all solid white, you will need to add a 7<sup>th</sup> solid white roll for a border.

Happy Quilting!

Liz K., <http://jellyrollfabric.net>

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