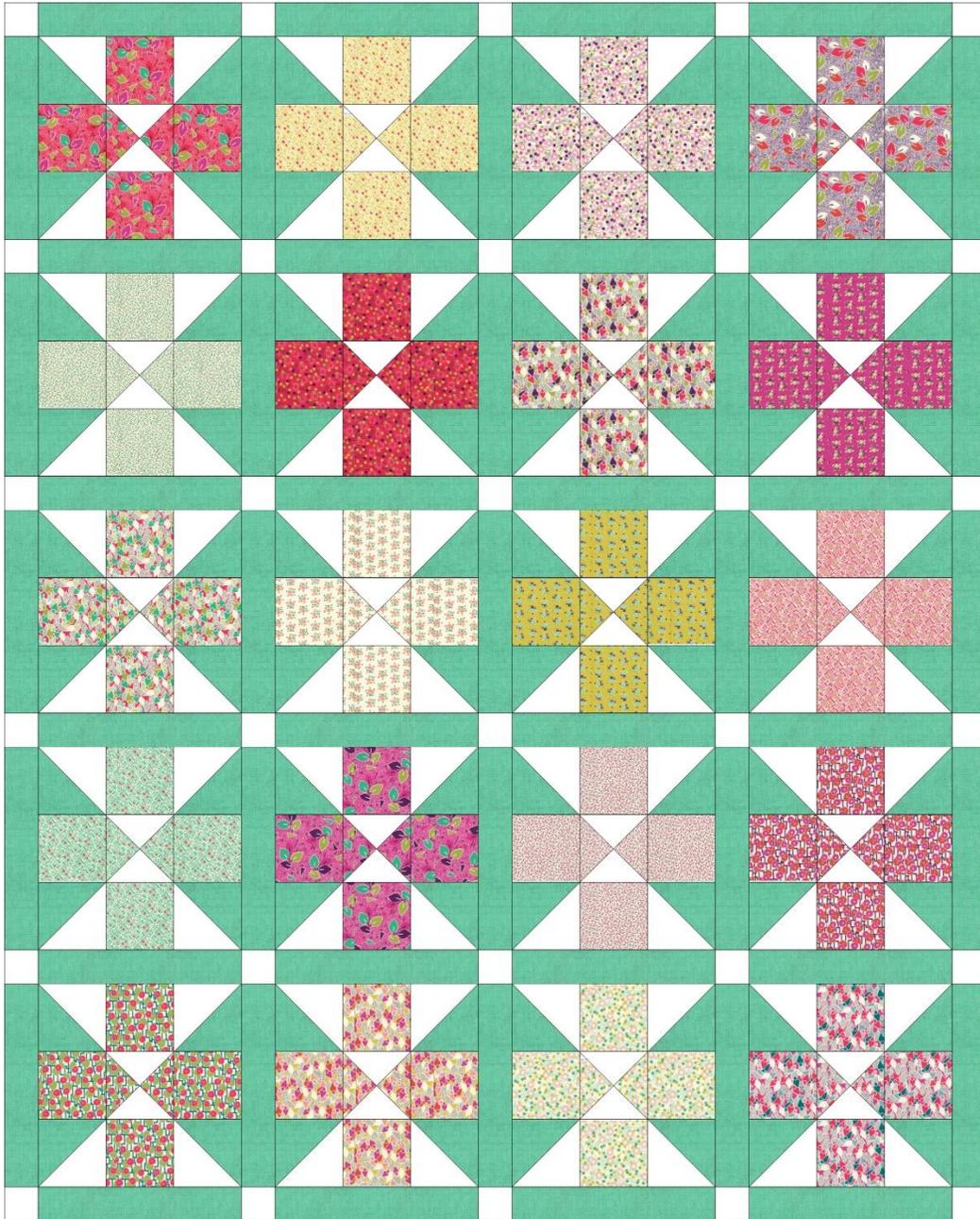


# FRESH PICKED

by Karen O'Connor

for Crafter's Companion



FRESH PICKED is a beginner friendly quilt pattern designed with Crafter's Companion Build-A-Block® die cut system and Gemini® Die Cutting Machine in mind. I was inspired by two things. First of all, one of my most treasured possessions is a quilt that my Great Grandma McKinstry made years before I met her when I was a tiny baby. She passed not long after that and having this quilt today is a special reminder of where my quilting gene comes from. The second inspiration for my quilt pattern, Fresh Picked, was the Build-A-Block® system itself and the shapes of the dies it offers. Squares, half square triangles, and quarter square triangles are staple shapes in so many quilt block designs and I wanted to incorporate each of them into this quilt for you.

~ Fresh Picked quilt finishes at 58" x 72". Every measurement is in inches and should be sewn with a ¼" seam allowance. You will be using the 4½" sized dies from your Build-A-Block set.

#### *What You'll Need -*

*Background fabric* – 2¼ yards ● Grunge Basics in Aqua or a vintage mint solid  
– 1½ yards ● Grunge Basics in Composition White or a crisp white solid

20 Fat Eighths or 20 Fat Quarters (If using FQs you will have extra fabric, but that's okay!)

*Binding* – ½ yard (cutting (7) 2 ¼ inch strips)

*Backing* – 3½ yards print of your choice!

#### *Cutting Instructions -*

##### *A. Sashing & Cornerstones...*

*Sashing* – from Aqua fabric cut (3) strips 12½ x WOF  
Subcut (49) 2 ½ x 12 ½ sashing strips

*Cornerstones* – from white fabric cut (2) strips 2½ x WOF  
Subcut (30) 2½ x 2½ squares

## B. Units for blocks using Crafter's Companion Build-A-Block die cutting system & Gemini®...

\* Square = SQ · Quarter Square Triangle = QST · Half Square Triangle = HST

It's important to remember to place your fabric in the plastic cover/metal & plastic shims where you will be cutting along the grain line. Note page 2 of the BLOCK PATTERN GUIDE book in your Build-A-Block system for further instruction. The sandwich equation that works best for me is the following:

plastic cover + metal shim + fabric + die facing down + plastic shim + plastic cover

\* SQs & QSTs – You'll need (4) SQs and (2) QSTs in each print, totaling (80) SQs & (40) QSTs, and (40) white QSTs.

1. Using the precut of your choice, cut (1)  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " x WOF (21" long on a F8th and FQ). Layer two strips together, folding the layered strips over once. Place the  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " SQ and QST dies with the pointed side facing down on the fabric. Make sure to leave room to make one more SQ cut in a second pass through the Gemini® machine. Using the sandwich equation above, feed through the Gemini machine.

2. Cut (3) 4" x WOF of white solid yardage. Fold one WOF strip over once and following the directions in step 1, cut (16) QSTs. Repeat with remaining strips to make a total of (40) white QSTs.

\* HSTs – You'll need (4) HSTs of both aqua and white solids, totaling (80) HSTs in both.

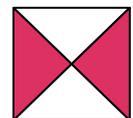
3. Cut (5)  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF of both aqua and white solids. Fold one WOF strip over once and following the directions in step 1, cut (16) HSTs. Repeat with the remaining aqua and white strips to make a total of (80) HSTs in each color.

## C. To make one Fresh Picked Block...

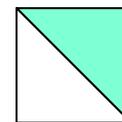
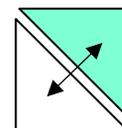
1. Sew together all QSTs for each block. Pair (2) white QST quarters with (2) matching print QST quarters.

2. Once you have sewn the contrasting colors together as shown in the diagram, press seams toward the dark side.

3. Nesting your seams, sew both units together to create your QST unit. Press seams open. Repeat to make a total of (20) QSTs measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".

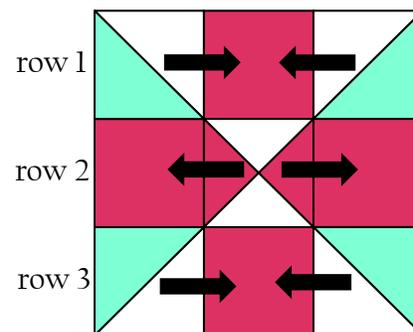


4. Sew together all HSTs for each block. Pair (2) white HST halves with (2) aqua HST halves as shown in the diagram. Press seams toward the dark side. Repeat to make a total of (80) HSTs measuring 4½” x 4½”.



5. Sewing together the Fresh Picked block is easy if you stay organized. I chose to sew each block together individually. Lay out (1) QST, (4) HSTs, and (4) Sqs as you see in the diagram below. Sew the top left HST to the top center square, and then the square to the right top HST.

Note that both the top and bottom square unit will be flanked by the white triangle in each HST. Continue until the block is together.



6. When pressing rows together follow the arrow direction. Press top and bottom rows towards the center square, and press the center row towards the outer squares.

8. Repeat steps 5 – 7 to make a total of (20) Fresh Picked blocks measuring 12½” x 12½”.

### *D. Sewing sashing and cornerstones...*

1. After you’ve decided on the layout for your quilt, it’s time to start sewing it together. First thing to do is sew sashing to blocks, creating the five rows of blocks needed. Reference the quilt diagram below and sew a 2½” x 12½” sashing strip to the sides of blocks as shown, totaling (5) rows. Press seams towards sashing strips in the block rows.

3. Sew the cornerstone/sashing rows together as shown in the quilt diagram, totaling (6) rows. Press seams towards sashing strips.

4. Carefully pin the top sashing row to the first block row, taking care to nest seams to make for precise sewing and matching seams. Taking this time to pin will make for a clean design. Press seams towards the sashing row. Repeat until your quilt top is complete.

5. Quilt and bind using your preferred methods. Enjoy!

