

# Sliced Pairs

Designed by Catherine Senecal, 2011

**This pattern works best with contrasting fabrics:** call them LIGHT and DARK. They can also be ALL REDS and ALL BLUES, or ALL PRINTS and ALL WHITES, etc.

**5" squares** yield  $4\frac{3}{4}" \times 8\frac{1}{4}"$  blocks. 50 DARK squares + 50 LIGHT sq = 50 blocks =  $42\frac{1}{2}" \times 38\frac{3}{4}"$

**6" squares** yield  $5\frac{1}{2}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}"$  blocks. 48 DARK sq + 48 LIGHT sq = 48 blocks =  $40\frac{1}{2}" \times 60\frac{1}{2}"$

**8" squares** yield  $7\frac{1}{2}" \times 14\frac{1}{4}"$  blocks. 24 DARK sq + 24 LIGHT sq = 24 blocks =  $42\frac{1}{2}" \times 65"$

## METHOD:

1. **Cut** an equal number of DARK and LIGHT squares (or cut strips by the square measurement).
2. **Sew pairs** of DARK and LIGHT squares (or sew pairs of strips). **Press** to the DARK fabric.
3. If you have sewn strips, **subcut** by the square measurement.  
If you started with **5" squares**, you now have **5" x 9 1/2"** rectangles.  
**6" squares**, you now have **6" x 11 1/2"** rectangles.  
**8" squares**, you now have **8" x 15 1/2"** rectangles.
4. **Place the first pair RIGHT SIDE UP** on your cutting board with the DARK in the **bottom position**.  
Place a **different pair RIGHT SIDE UP** on top of it with the DARK in the **top position**.
5. Using a ruler, **slice** diagonally from corner to corner once. (Slice some pairs of pairs left to right and others right to left to get a variety of angles in the finished blocks.)
6. Make two new pairs from the slices by **sewing** the left of one pair to the right of the other. When sewing, do NOT try to match the center seam. Just leave an equal amount of the long pointy ends jutting out at the beginning and the end of the seam. **Press** the seam to one side.
7. All the blocks must be **trimmed**:  
If you started with **5" squares**, trim to **4 3/4" x 8 1/4" rectangles**.  
**6" squares**, trim to **5 1/2" x 10 1/2" rectangles**.  
**8" squares**, trim to **7 1/2" x 14 1/4" rectangles**.
8. **Lay out rows:** hold the block with the short measurement side to side and the long measurement top to bottom. Horizontal rows of blocks are sewn side to side first and pressed. These rows add vertically.

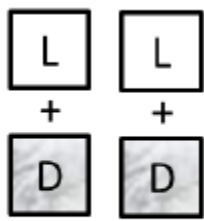
**Lay the blocks out** in a pleasing arrangement, and play with the shapes which appear. If you varied the cutting direction when cutting some of the pairs, you will have a larger assortment of choices. You can also leave out some pairs and use uncut rectangles of one of the fabrics instead.

If you started with **5" squares**, lay out **5 rows of 10 blocks each**. Cut  $3\frac{1}{2}"$  borders to add to the top and bottom to make  $42\frac{1}{2}" \times 44\frac{3}{4}"$ .

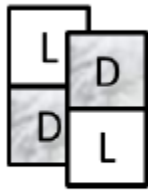
If you started with **6" squares**, lay out **6 rows of 8 blocks each**:  $40\frac{1}{2}" \times 60\frac{1}{2}"$

If you started with **8" squares**, lay out **4 rows of 6 blocks each**:  $42\frac{1}{2}" \times 56"$ . Add  $3\frac{1}{2}"$  cut borders top and bottom to make  $42\frac{1}{2}" \times 60\frac{1}{2}"$ .

9. **Cuddle Quilts:** cut **8 DARK and 8 LIGHT 6" squares**. Make **8 blocks**  $5\frac{1}{2}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}"$ . **Set 2 rows of 4 blocks each**, plus a  $2\frac{1}{2}"$  cut border, to make a Cuddle Quilt  $24" \times 24"$  before quilting.



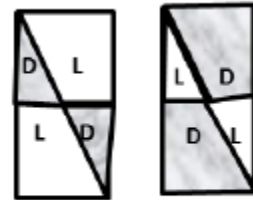
Make Pairs



Stack Pairs



Slice Pairs



New Pairs

