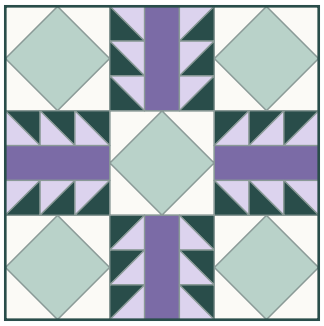
A QUILTPLAN BLOCK PATTERN

MOTHER'S DREAM

Five diamonds and a cross of bars.



77 pieces, 5 fabrics

Five diamonds set in squares, joined by four bars edged with half-square triangles, so the block reads as a cross of bars with a diamond in every corner and one at the heart. Nine units of the same size go together like a nine-patch, which makes it a satisfying big block.

SKILL Confident beginner

SEAMS ¼″ throughout

SIZES 9″ and 18″ finished



Cutting

Cut, for one block	9″	18″
1 Diamonds: cut 5 squares The diamonds, set on point. Cut exactly this size, never bigger: trimming would cut their points off.	2 5/8″ sq	4¾″ sq
2 Background: cut 10 squares, for triangles Cut each once corner to corner: 20 triangles, four for each diamond. A little big on purpose; each unit is trimmed.	2¾″ sq	4¼″ sq
3 Accent: cut 12 squares, for triangles For half-square triangles, two at a time with the Gray squares. Trim each to half an inch bigger than its finished size.	2″ sq	3″ sq
4 Gray: cut 12 squares, for triangles For half-square triangles, two at a time with the Accent squares.	2″ sq	3″ sq
5 Bars: cut 4 rectangles The four bars that run from the center to the edges.	1½″ × 3½″	2½″ × 6½″

Fabric, for one block

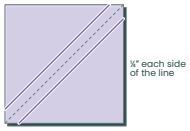
Buy at least	9″	18″
Background	¼ yd	¼ yd
Diamonds	¼ yd	¼ yd
Accent	¼ yd	¼ yd
Gray	¼ yd	¼ yd
Bars	¼ yd	¼ yd

Worked out the way QuiltPlan's shopping list does it: 42″ of usable width, 15% for waste, rounded up to the quarter yard. For a whole quilt, place the block in the app and it totals every block for you.

Good to know

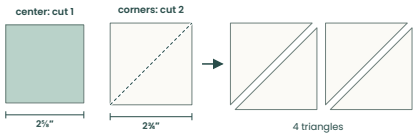
- Make all 24 half-square triangles and trim them before you start the columns: trimmed units stack, and a column of three is only as straight as its pieces.
- Lay all four side units out around the center diamond before sewing anything together. The half-square triangles only look right one way round, and it is much easier to see on the table than after the seam is sewn.
- **Why these sizes?** At 9″ and 18″, a piece or two does not land on an eighth inch and is rounded to one; the steps say where to trim. At other sizes the app still works out the cutting for you.
- **Want a different size or a whole quilt?** Mother's Dream is in QuiltPlan's block library. Place it on a quilt and the app gives you the cut list, the yardage and the shopping list for every block at once.

Sewing it

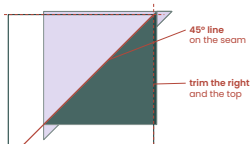


1 · Make 24 half-square triangles

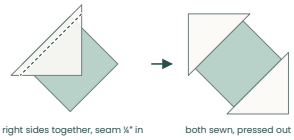
Draw a line corner to corner on the back of each 3 square. Lay each on a 4 square, right sides together, sew a quarter inch either side of the line, cut on the line and press toward the Gray. Twelve pairs make 24. Follow the Half-Square Triangles guide.



2 · Trim them

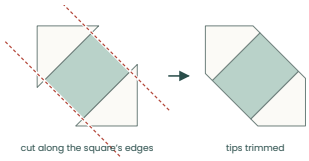


Lay a square ruler's 45 degree line on the seam, trim two sides, turn the unit, line the cut edges up and trim the other two. Each measures 1½" for a 9" block, 2½" for 18", the seam running exactly into two opposite corners.



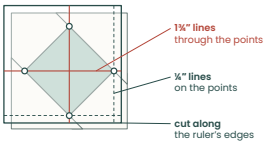
3 · Cut the diamond pieces

Each diamond is a square in a square. Cut every 2 square once corner to corner: 20 triangles, four for each diamond. The 1 squares are the diamonds themselves, already cut to their exact size.



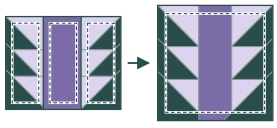
4 · Sew two opposite triangles

Crease the middle of each side of a 1 square and of each triangle's long edge; that edge is bias, so handle it by its corners. Lay a triangle on one side, creases matched, tips hanging past each end by the same amount, and sew. Sew one to the opposite side and press toward the triangles.



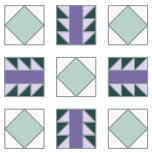
5 · Trim the tips, add the last two

Trim the tips level with the square's other two sides. Sew the last two triangles on the same way and press toward them. The unit is a little big on purpose. Follow the Square in a Square guide.



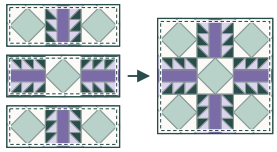
6 · Trim the diamonds

Trim each unit to 3½" for a 9" block, 6½" for 18", the ruler's lines at half that size running through the Diamond's points and its quarter inch lines sitting on two points. Turn and trim the other two sides. Make 5.



7 · Make 4 side units

Sew three half-square triangles into a column, every Accent half on the same side, and make 8 columns. Sew one to each long side of a 5 bar with the Accent halves against the bar, and press toward the bar.



8 · Lay it out

Three rows of three: a diamond unit at each corner and in the center, a side unit between each pair, its bar running from the center diamond out to the edge.

9 · Sew the rows, then the block

Sew each row, pressing toward the side units so the diamonds' points lie flat and the rows' seams face opposite ways. Join the rows, nesting the seams, and press the two long seams open: diamond points meet them from both sides. The block measures half an inch more than it will finish.

Background Diamonds Accent Gray Bars