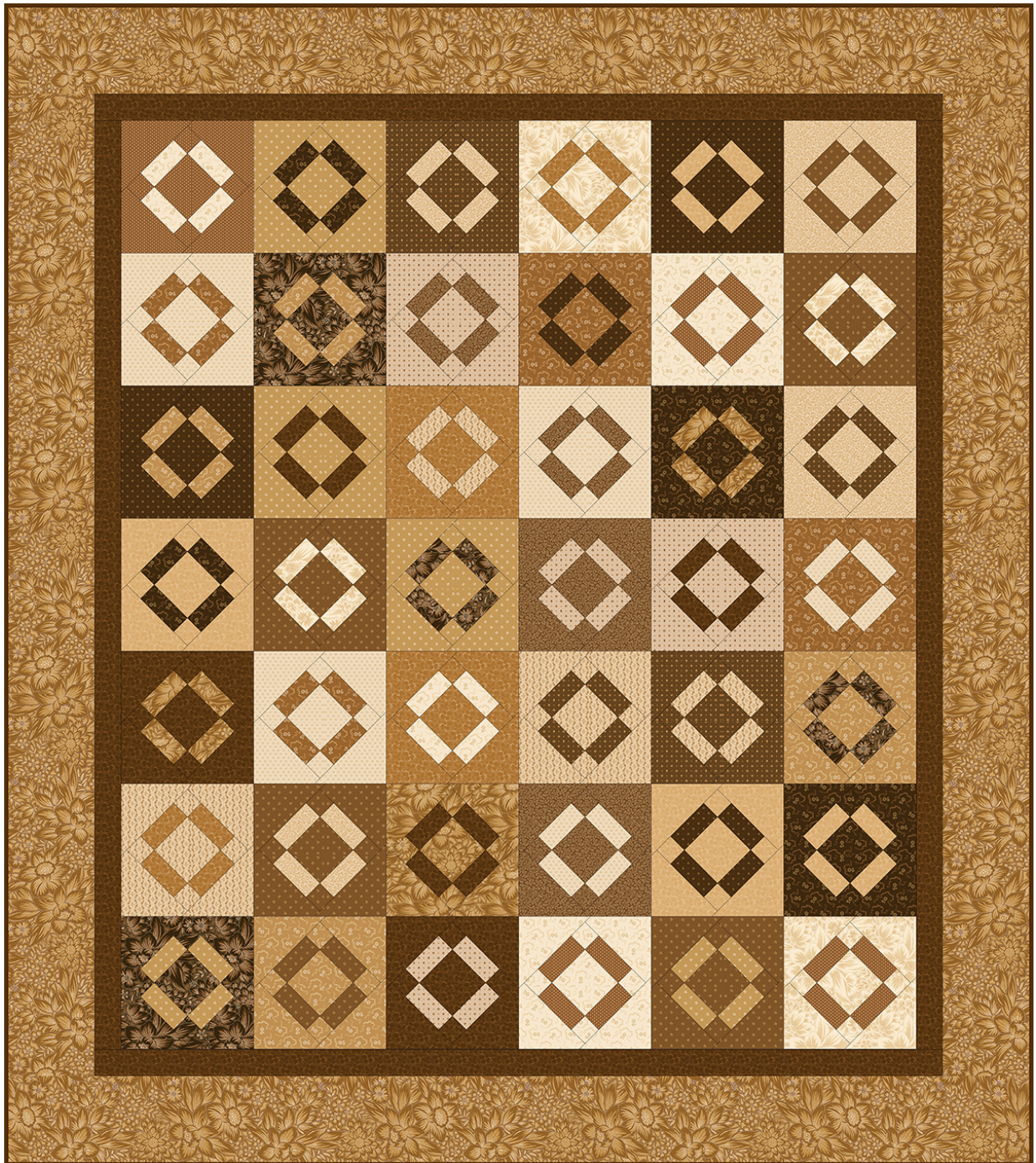


Carrie's Caramels & Creams

Fabric and Quilt by Carrie Quinn
of Pieceful Gathering Designs

"Czech Stew"



61" x 69"

My shop specializes in historic reproduction fabrics and quilts. My favorites are always the quilts from the Civil War Era that are scrappy - the more fabrics, the better! Shortly after we opened, we started cutting Snippets, or 10" squares, to sell in addition to the typical fat quarters. This was a great way for our customers to get more variety in their scrappy quilts, without having to purchase more fabric than they needed. To support these specialty cuts, I began designing traditional style quick cut patterns that used our snippets.

This pattern is called Czech Stew - kind of a play on words, since the original version of the pattern had a checked look. This one is actually the reversed version, although I have included instructions to make the original version if you want. You can see all of my Snippet Stew patterns on our website at www.piecefulgathering.com.

My Snippet Stew patterns are designed using the June Tailor Shape Cut Plus ruler, however most can be used with your regular ruler, and I have included instructions to do so. I do use the Shape Cut ruler all the time, and it is one of my favorites, so I highly recommend that you get one. Creative Grids makes a similar ruler, as well.

Please read all of the instructions before starting your cutting. This will help eliminate errors.

Instructions:

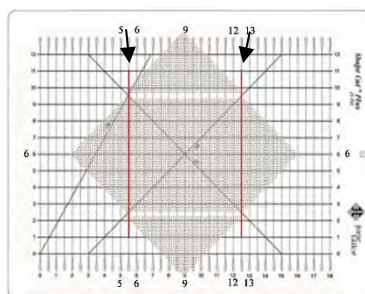
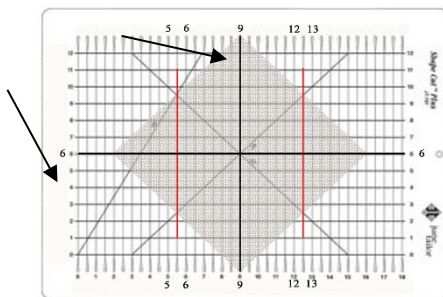
1. Arrange your snippets (10" Squares) in order from the darkest value, through medium, to the lightest value. Split the pile in half, and place as shown so that you can make pairs matching the darkest dark with the darkest medium and the lightest medium with the lightest light. You will have at least 2 of each fabric, so if you want to, you can switch them around a little so that all of your pairs are different. You should have 21 pairs which will give you 42 blocks.



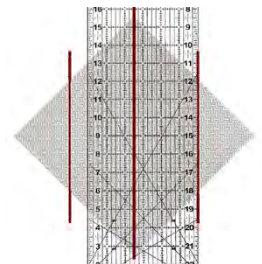
2. Stack all of your snippets pairs into one big pile, maintaining a light/dark order. You will be cutting a few at a time, but you will need to maintain the order of the pile. I like to turn the entire pile over, and work from the bottom up, turning them back over as I cut them. I cut as many as 10 at a time, but I don't necessarily recommend that. **There are just enough 10" squares to make the quilt, so you can't afford to make any mistakes.**



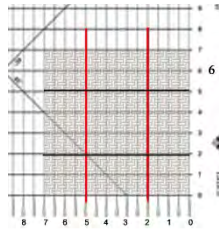
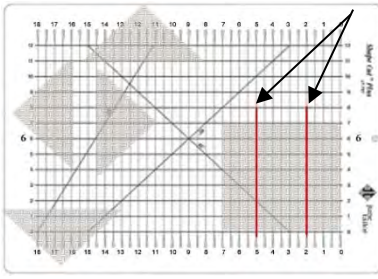
3. Turn your first group of trimmed snippets on point and use the slit at 9" and the line at 6" on your Shape Cut Ruler to center your stack.
4. Cut the corners off at the 5 1/2" slit and the 12 1/2" slit. Carefully turn the Shape Cut Ruler so that it is on point in the other direction, and cut again at the 5 1/2" and 12 1/2" slits to cut off the other two corners.



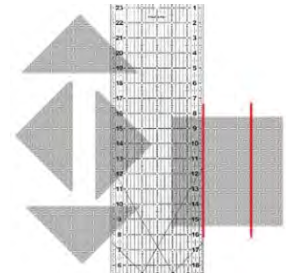
ruler, line up your 3 1/2" line with the center of the snippet and cut both sides as shown by the red lines. Turn and cut off the other two corners.



5. Set aside the corners. The remaining center square should measure 7". Cut a 2" strip, 3" strip and another 2" strip as shown.



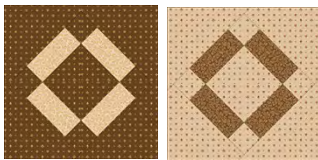
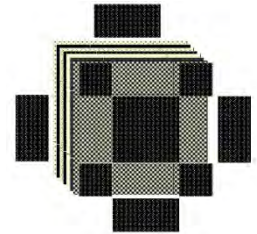
Use the standard ruler to cut 2" off of each side of your 7" square.



6. Carefully turn your ruler and make the same cuts from the other direction as shown. Stack each set with the others being careful to maintain the light-dark order.

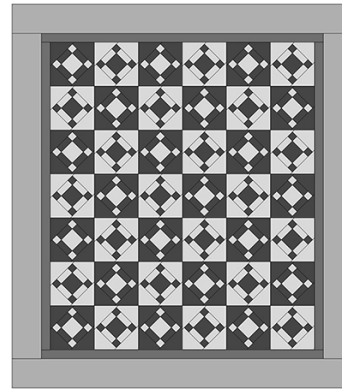
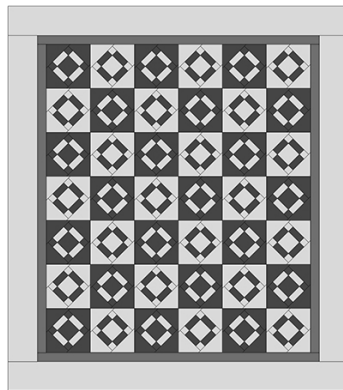
7. Shuffle the center 9-patch section of your stew by moving the four side sections to the bottom of your stack.

8. Sew the nine-patch units in the centers of the blocks together first, and then sew on the four corners to complete 42 blocks. In the cover quilt, I matched the side triangles to the center square of the blocks. You can also match your triangles to the side sections to get a completely different block.



Note: The center section is all bias, so be careful not to stretch it when sewing it together. Once you add the corners and turn the blocks back on point, they will be on the straight of grain.

9. Your blocks should measure 8.5" to finish to 8". Lay your blocks out according to the diagram. You should have five blocks across and six blocks down. Be sure to alternate positive and negative blocks as shown in the examples below.



Quilt with Reversed Blocks

Adding Borders:

1. At this point, your quilt center should measure 48 1/2" x 56 1/2". If your measurements are different, you will need to adjust the measurements for the borders accordingly.
2. For your inner border, you will need two strips that are 56 1/2" x 2" for the side borders and two strips that are 51 1/2" x 2" for the top and bottom borders. Sew the side borders on first, then the top and bottom borders.
3. For your outer borders, you will need two strips that measure 59 1/2" x 5 1/2" for the sides and two strips that measure 61 1/2" x 5 1/2" for the top and bottom borders. Sew the two side borders on first and then the top and bottom borders.
4. Quilt and bind as desired.



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*Pieceful Gathering Quilt Shop * 106 Northwest Highway * Fox River Grove, IL 60021 * www.piecefulgathering.com*

Fabric Requirements

One Set of 10" x 10" Squares of
Carrie's Caramels and Creams



Outer Border
R101015D - Honey

1 1/4 yards



Inner Border & Binding
R101017D - Brown

1 yard

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