

# Modern Squares Quilt Pattern

Bought to you by



Designed by Christine Vinh, *StitchesnQuilts*

Quilted by Sue Bentley

**Chris Vinh:** the updated *Artistic Artifacts Modern Squares Quilt* uses 8-inch squares and 2-inch strips cut from yardage of coordinated fabrics to create 23 squares, each one uses one 8-inch square and two pairs of the 2-inch strips for borders around each square. My example quilt, pictured here, features *Earth Made Paradise* by Kathy Doughty.

Suggested fabric requirements for the finished lap quilt sample is 49" by 66". I usually err on the side of more than required as I use the leftovers to piece the back. There were enough squares left to make a larger quilt, but these were used on the pieced backing.

- 1 yard each of two (2) focus fabrics
- ½ yard of 6-8 fabrics
- 1 yard solid (I used *Palette* by Marcia Derse in a cream color)
- ½ yard for border (I used *Dear Stella Moonscape* in Burgundy)
- ½ yard fabric for binding

## Cutting:

From the two focus fabrics, cut 2 (two) 8-inch wide strips and 2-4 (two to four) 2-inch strips the width of the fabric (WOF).

Cut one of the 8-inch strips into 5 (five) 8-inch squares. From the second 8-inch strip, cut 2 (two) 8-inch squares, and then 4 (four) 2-inch strips the remaining width of strip long.

From your assorted ½ yards of fabrics a combination of 8-inch strips cut into blocks and strips (as above). If you have chosen fabrics with stripes, cut fabric length wise.

From the solid fabric, cut 18 (eighteen) 2-inch strips.

— Continued —



## Block Assembly:

Lay your 8-inch squares out and randomly select 2 (two) strips to go with each block, making sure you have a variety of combinations. I leave the strips the width of the fabric rather than pre-cutting to fit.

Using one square, sew two strips to the right and left sides, press seams towards the strip, trim and then sew to the top and bottom. Repeat this process for the second row of strips, using the same sequence (sides then top/bottom). Once all squares are sewn, square up the blocks so they are all the same size. Then cut each block in half vertically, and then in half again horizontally. You will then have four identical quadrants of your original block.

## Layout:

Now the fun begins! You will be laying out 7 (seven) of the smaller blocks across and 10 (ten) rows down. Lay out using your design wall or open floor space or bed top. The options of placement are endless. I started somewhat in the middle and worked my way out using several of the blocks as “whole” blocks, using all four small blocks from the same original blocks. You could choose to be completely random without having any “whole” blocks. The design is all up to you!

Once you have an arrangement you love, carefully stack each row to keep the order you selected. I mark each stack of blocks with a number to indicate which row it is, with an indication of which is the top of the square to help stay on track.

## Finishing:

After sewing the blocks together, add the border strips. I added a corner block to my borders for fun, but this is not required. As previously noted, if you work with a lap quilt size, you will end up with some unused strips and small blocks. I love to piece together my backing fabric to add interest!

Once your top is layered with batting and backing fabric, machine or hand quilt as desired. Use leftover fabric from the yardage to piece your binding, or you may choose to use a complementary fabric. Bind your quilt using your choice of techniques.

*Our interpretation was inspired by a free pattern from Erica Jackman of Kitchen Table Quilting named “Simply Styled Stacked Square Quilt,” which uses pre-cut 10” squares and 2 roll up bundles — [www.kitchentablequilting.com/2013/06/simply-style-stacked-squares-quilt.html](http://www.kitchentablequilting.com/2013/06/simply-style-stacked-squares-quilt.html).*