



# Sweet Sixteen

A quick and easy reversible "Charm Square" tote bag.

The squares can be used straight from the pack or used to make a selection of blocks (such as square in a square or quarter square triangles) for a more interesting effect.

Finished bag measures 12 inches using 5 inch squares. You can make a larger bag by using bigger squares.

## Requirements

- Thirty two assorted charm squares. (These can be any size you wish. 5 inch (13cm) squares were used in this sample.)
- 1/2 meter (5/8 yd) fusible pellaon.
- Fat eighth or 10 cm (1/8 yd) fabric for handles
- Two 1.5 cm (5/8 inch) diameter buttons.

## Equipment

- Sewing machine
- Rotary cutter, ruler and mat
- Fabric Scissors
- Marking pencil
- 14 flower head pins
- General sewing supplies

## Preparation

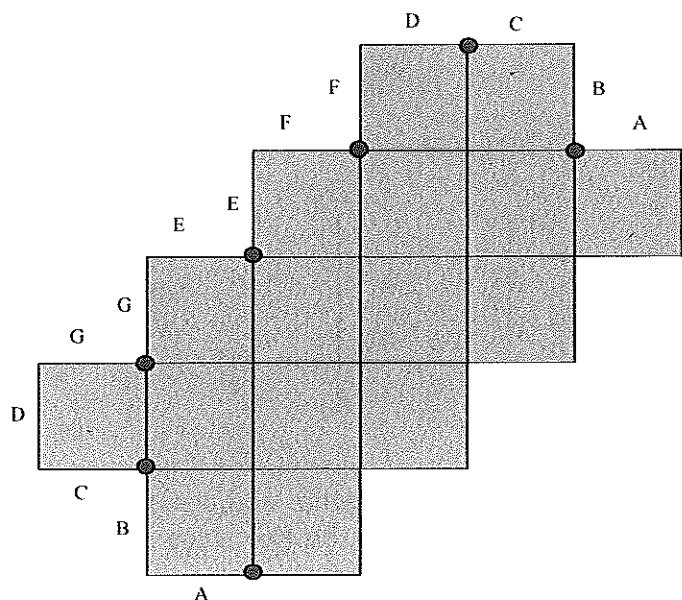
### Step 1

Divide the squares into two groups (one group for the bag and one for the lining), sixteen squares to each group.

Working on the first group of sixteen, arrange in five rows as shown in the diagram below. Take time to arrange the squares to give a variety of colour and/or tones.

Rows 1 and 5 have two squares each, rows 2, 3 and 4 have four squares each.

**Note:** The top edge of the bag will be formed by the squares on the right hand edge of rows 2 to 5. You may like to select the design squares with this in mind.



80-  
100 cm - lining

### Step 2

Using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam, join the squares together in rows. Press the seams to the left in rows 1, 3 and 5 and to the right in rows 2 and 4.

Join the five rows together as shown in the diagram on the previous page.

Press the seams to one side.

**Note:** All seams marked with a red dot should be stitched to a point  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the end of the seam and finished off securely. This will make it easier to join the seams in step 4.

### Step 3

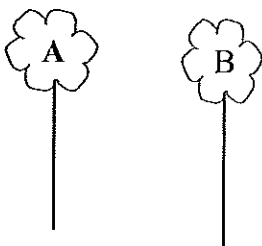
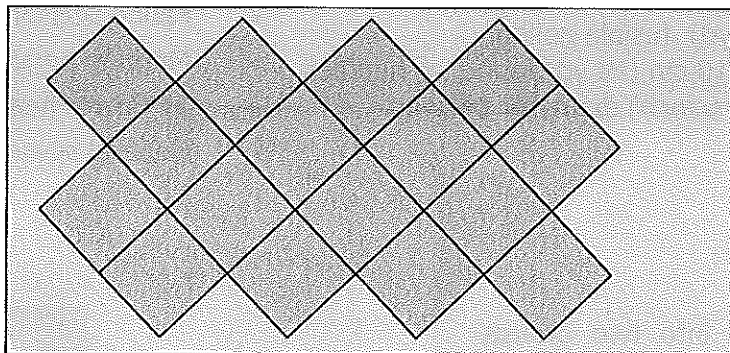
Pin the work right side up onto the fusible side of the pellon as shown below.

Mark all around the outer edge.

Unpin the piece and cut the pellon  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch **inside** the marked line. This will leave a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch gap around the edge and will avoid bulky seams in the finished bag.

Place the work, wrong side up on the ironing surface and position the cut pellon, fusible side down, on top so that there is a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch gap all around. (This will avoid bulky seams).

Fuse the pellon onto the fabric with a hot iron until both pieces are securely bonded.



Referring to the diagram on page 1, mark the edges of the work alphabetically.

**Tip:** Use a series of fourteen flower head pins to identify the edges. Mark them with a permanent marker pen.

### Step 4

With right sides together and using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam, join the two sides marked 'A'.

Begin and end the stitching  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in from the edge, making sure that the ends of the stitching are firmly secured.

