## How to Make a Quilt with 8 Star Quilt Block Patterns and Quilted Star Designs



FAVEQUILTS 栭

# Spectacular Quilt Star Patterns：How to Make a Quilt with 8 Star Quilt Block Patterns and Quilted Star Designs 

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Letter from the Editors

Hi Quilters,

With so many quilt designs out there, finding a truly outstanding pattern isn't easy. If you want to make a quilt with some real star power, what better pattern is there to start with than a star quilt?

We've put together a series of projects that we know will shine no matter where they are. Find star quilt block patterns, small quilt projects, and stellar full star quilt patterns that have year round appeal.
They're easy to change up an d personalize as well, so pick out your favorite fabrics and make a real allstar pattern.

Happy Quilting!

You can find more quilted bag patterns, techniques, and quilting tutorials at www.FaveQuilts.com.

Our eBooks, like all our quilting projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our quilting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our free e-mail newsletter.

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## Small Quilt Star Patterns

## Starbright Quilted Potholder

By: Kerry Green from VeryKerryBerry
A simple way you can include star patterns in your everyday home décor is through a cute little potholder/mug rug pattern like this. It never goes out of style, but can easily fit in with holiday themes as well.


FINISHED SIZE: 8" square

## MATERIALS:

- $1 / 4$ yard fabric for background
- $1 / 4$ yard contrasting fabric for triangles - or scraps
- Contrasting scrap for centre square
- $1 / 4$ fabric for backing
- $1 / 4$ yard of insulbrite thermal padding (Optional)
- $1 / 4$ yard cotton batting (or less if using insulbrite as well)
- $1 / 4$ yard fabric for binding or $44^{\prime \prime}$ readymade bias tape
- Ribbon or tape for a hanging loop, about 4" will be ample


## Instructions:

1) Cut background fabric into 8 squares, each 3 1/2" square
2) Cut centre fabric into 1 square, $31 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square

3) Cut triangle fabrics into 4 squares, $41 / 2$ inches" and then stack the squares and cut along the diagonal to make 8 right angled triangles


To make the star follow Victoria's wonderful tutorial or reference Gwen Marston's Liberated Quilting 2
4) Place your completed star over your backing fabric as a guide and cut out a back piece slightly bigger that the top.
5) Repeat for the batting. I used a layer of insulbrite and a layer of cotton batting. You could use 2 or 3 layers of cotton batting instead of a layer of insulbrite. Make your quilt sandwich- backing fabric right side
down, cotton batting, insulbrite shiny side up, star square right side up.


As this is quite small I didn't spray baste, tack or pin but if you want to go ahead.
6) I used a Hera tool to make a crease corner to corner and then quilted from that point. I used a stitch length of 3 and the walking foot as a line guide.


I went for quite a dense textured pattern but do whatever you fancy.

7) Trim the edges making everything nice and square. Before I add binding I always zig zag around the edges of any quilted project, mini size or full size.

8) Now is the time to add a hanging loop. Stitch in the $1 / 4$ " seam allowance and secure with straight stitch and zigzag. Make sure the loop is pointing inwards out of the way of where the binding will go.


You could add a label or decorative tape as well- festive message maybe?

9) I use a single binding on small projects like this to. Cut your binding strips $11 / 4$ " wide. Straight grain is fine; there are no curved edges so it doesn't need to be bias cut.
10) Trim the start of the binding at a 45 -degree angle- it will make life easier later.


Make sure your hanging loop is pinned down and tucked out of the way. A good finish to your binding will lift the whole project, so before you attach it, trim off all stray threads, cut the tips off the corners of the quilted square- just the tiniest amount, it will reduce the bulk on the binding corners.


I found a very helpful single binding tutorial here by Rachel at Contented. She has gone a bit wider with the binding at $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$. I like mine tighter so l opted for 1 1/4".
11) Take your time, use your iron on the corners, keep your seam to $1 / 4$ " and look at my tutorial for mitred corners if you find these tricky. Rachel is adding this to her binding tutorial as well.

12) You can stitch your hanging loop on to the finished binding or leave it as it is.


A useful little present or something to hang up and keep for yourself!

Fabrics: Green dots (binding) and aqua dots- Kei Honeycomb
Centre Square- Ellie in Amber- Michael
Miller- all available from Kate at M is for
Make
Red gingham print- Farmers Market Sandi
Henderson, Red/white dots- local fabric
store and Kitchen print Elsie's Pantry
Windham Fabrics- from my stash


Who doesn't appreciate a little handmade, homemade love?


## Color Power Folded Star

By: Ann from A Girl in Paradise

If you want to break away from blocky patterns, there's no easier way to do that than with this unique wall hanging quilt. Bring out the best in your home décor with a matching color scheme.


FINISHED SIZE: Approx. 15 " diameter

## MATERIALS:

- Sugar Creek fabrics by Denyse Schmidt:

Sugar Creek - Diamond Blue
Sugar Creek - Gingham Nut Meadow
Sugar Creek - Wavy Check Cornflower
Sugar Creek - Floral Meadow
Sugar Creek - Kitchsy Tile Cornflower


- $1 / 2$ yard of fabric one
- $1 / 2$ yard of fabric two
- $1 / 2$ yard of fabric three
- $3 / 4$ yard of fabric four
- $3 / 4$ yard of fabric five
- $1 / 2$ yard of muslin for foundation
- $1 / 2$ yard for binding and backing


## CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

## Folded Star

- Cut a large piece of Muslin no smaller than an 18 " square
- Cut $21-4^{\prime \prime}$ squares of fabric one
- Cut $21-4$ " squares of fabric two
- Cut $21-4$ " squares of fabric three
- Cut 48-4" squares of fabric four
- Cut 48-4" squares of fabric five


## Backing Fabric

- From your $1 / 2$ yard piece cut 1-18" square


## Binding Fabric

- With what is left cut enough $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ bias strips to equal about 60"


## FOLDED STAR CONSTRUCTION

1) Press each 4 " square in half with wrong sides together, fold left side into the center meeting at the bottom and press, then fold right side into the center meeting at the bottom and press again. All your raw edges should meet at the bottom.


Note: Since this is a large piece, I only pressed a couple of rows at a time to keep my triangles crisp.
2) Take your muslin and a 4" square that you cut from fabric one, fold it into fourths and press to form your guidelines. This will be the foundation of your folded star.
3) Line up the guidelines of your muslin with your guidelines of your 4" square. Then pin the remaining 4 triangles along those guidelines with all 4 points meeting in the
center.

4) Take it to your sewing machine and sew triangles onto the foundation. Open the flaps of the triangle and stitch just inside the fold lines.

5) Add the second row in two layers. Place the first layer on top of the first row measuring down a $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ from the center, pin, and stitch into place.

6) The second layer is also placed a $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ from the center but is placed and centered in between the triangles of your first layer. Stitch and press.

Note: Pressing after you stitch each row will help keep things flat and manageable.

7) The third row is done in the same manner.
8) For the fourth row, you are doubling your triangles and expanding your circle, so you must stitch down your first layer of 8 and press.

9) The second layer of the fourth row is done in the same manner as before. Centered in between the triangles of your first layer, but when you are stitching this layer, lift the triangle next to the one you are stitching so you can stitch one triangle at a time.

10) Rows $5,6,7$, and 8 are done in the same manner.
11) For the ninth row, you are doubling your triangles and expanding your circle again, so you must stitch down your first layer of 16 and press.

12) The second layer of the ninth row is done in the same manner as before. Centered in between the triangles of your first layer, but when you are stitching this layer, lift the triangle next to the one you are stitching so you can stitch one triangle at a time.

13) Row 10 is done in the same manner, and then you are done. Now you are ready to back your mini and bind.

14) Take the $1 / 2$ yard piece of fabric you have for the backing and binding, and cut a piece that is large enough to cut your circle for the back.

15) With the remaining piece of backing fabric, cut and sew together enough $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ strips, cut on the bias to equal 60 " or the circumference of your circle. Then fold in half the long way so the raw edges meet and press. Set aside.
16) Now we need to make our quilt top and our backing into a circle. In a perfect world, it would be great if you could use a large drafting compass to achieve this, but like me, you might not have one of these hanging around the house. So get creative. My large hoop that I use for hand quilting did the trick. Pin the 2 layers together, wrong sides facing each other. Trace your circle with disappearing ink and cut.

17) Take your binding strip and pin all the way around your circle. Measure how much you will need and then unpin enough of the binding so you can sew the beginning to the
end. Re-pin all the way around.

18) Once it is all re-pinned, sew a $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ from the edge all the way around.

19) Turn your binding over to the back and hand stitch all the way around with a ladder or invisible stitch.


Here is what your Modern Folded Star Mini

Quilt should look like all finished.


Enjoy!

Want to customize your Folded Star Mini? Here is a breakdown of exactly how many 4" squares you will need for each row. Feel free to change the color pattern or do each row in its own color or fabric. The possibilities are endless.

- $5-4$ " squares for row one
- $8-4$ " squares for row two
- $8-4^{\prime \prime}$ squares for row three
- 16-4" squares for row four
- $16-4^{\prime \prime}$ squares for row five
- $16-4$ " squares for row six
- 16-4" squares for row seven
- $16-4$ " squares for row eight
- $32-4^{\prime \prime}$ squares for row nine
- $32-4^{\prime \prime}$ squares for row ten


## Star Quilt Block Patterns

## Scrappy Rainbow Star Quilt Block

By: Melissa Corry from Happy Quilting

Put together one of the most popular star quilt patterns, the Lone Star, using your most colorful quilt scraps.


FINISHED SIZE: 16" block

MATERIALS:


- White yardage and scraps sorted by color


## INSTRUCTIONS:

We'll start by cutting squares from our yardage.

1) For a $16^{\prime \prime}$ finished block, you will need (4) 4 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares and (4) $51 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares. Now set those squares aside.

Note for size changes: If you want a larger 20 " block, do (4) $5 \frac{1}{2 \prime \prime}$ and (4) $6 \frac{112 \prime}{2 \prime}$, if you want a smaller $12^{\prime \prime}$ block, do (4) $31 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ and (4) $41 / 22^{\prime}$ block. Basically, you are doing the math for a 16 patch block and on the second set of squares adding an inch : )

2) And now you are ready to start building some scrappy blocks. So pick a color of scraps to start with and grab 2 scraps. These do not have to be the same size, just make sure you have 2 straight edges. Use a $1 / 4$ " seam to sew the entire block. Sew the 2 straight edges together and press towards either side.

3) Now time to start adding. The basic thing you need to remember when adding is to have a straight line. Now this could simply be to the right of the 2 scraps we just sewed, but I like my crazy patch to have lots of angels. So, just lay your ruler at any old angle along the two scraps and create a new straight line. Then add a new scrap to the straight line created. Always press towards the piece you just added.

4) Once again, create a new straight line and add a new piece. When creating new straight lines, you don't have to cut an entire side, you can create new sides by cutting off portions, as long as the line is straight, you are good to add.


Also remember, don't bother trimming pieces as soon as you have added them. Often times, you find that having extra hanging over comes in handy when trimming because it allows for greater angles to be cut.

5) And lastly, if you find you have a long line you want to add to but want to keep the scrappy look, you can always sew 2 scraps together first and then add it to the straight line created.

6) Just keep making straight lines and adding until you have at least a $51 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares. (If you are changing the size of your block, make your square the size of the larger white squares.) You can spin your ruler at any angle to get it to fit. (Also, as
you get toward the outside of your block, don't be afraid to add bigger scraps as about $3 / 4$ " from the outside will be trimmed down).

7) Once your block is large enough, cut a 5 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square from it. (And if you want to make more than one block, be sure to save those scraps you cut off, they make great starts for a new block).

8) Repeat this process to make a total of (8) 5 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 2^{\text {" }}$ squares, one in each of the aforementioned colors.

9) Now, cut all your scrappy squares once diagonally to create 2 triangles each. Also, cut your white $51 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 51 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ squares once diagonally.

10) Match your triangles as follows. One white triangle with 1 of each color triangle And then match the remaining 8 triangles as so aqua and green, yellow and orange, blue and purple, and pink and red.

11) Place each set of triangles with right sides together. Sew a 1/4" seam along the long side. If the color-color combo's get a little off because of all the seams don't stress, that's why we trim down. Press the seams towards the white of those triangles and open for the color-color combo triangles.

12) Trim all of your newly formed squares down to $41 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ using the diagonal seam as a guide. If you are unsure how to do this, see the 6th and 7th steps of this tutorial :) (If you changed the size of your block, trim down to the size of your smaller white square).


14) Start your block by placing your 16 squares into pairs of 2,2 sets for each row with right sides together. Sew a $1 / 4$ " seam along the edge. (You might want to pin due to the scrappy nature of the block.) Press the color/color seams open. Press the color/white seams towards the white.

15) Now, you can sew those pairs into 4 quadrants. Place the top pairs from rows 1 and 3 onto the bottom pairs of rows 2 and 4 with right sides together. Take care when pinning to nest those center seams so you get nice points. Sew a $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ seams along the pinned edge. Press open.
13) Now you are ready to layout your block. Place your squares, including your set aside $41 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ white squares as follows.

16) Now sew the quadrants into 2 rows. Place the right hand side quadrants onto the left hand side with right sides together. Once again, take care to nest those center seams. Sew a $1 / 4$ " seam along the pinned edge. (See next picture for note on stitching). Press open.

17) In order to get really nice sharp points, watch for the little white triangle made in the seam of your piecing. Sew directly along the bottom of that white arrow to get a perfect point every time.

18) Lastly, sew your 2 final pieces together. Lay them with right sides together taking care to once again, nest all of your seams. That center seam is going to be awfully bulky but is the most important so take the time to line it up perfect. Sew a $1 / 4$ " seam along the pinned edge, once again, sewing along the bottom of your little white triangles in the seams. Once your sewed edge is complete, go ahead and trim some excess out of your center seam. Not more than $1 / 8$ " but just enough to allow you to lay it flat.

19) Now just press your seam open and give your entire block a good starching so it will lay nice and flat. Now just enjoy your finished scrappy rainbow star!!!


Doesn't that center look so amazing!!! I so
love it!!!!


## Split Drunkard's Path Star Block

By: Tracey from The Peony Teacup

Use die cuts or your own quick cuts to make one of the most gorgeous and unique star quilt patterns out now.


## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Choose up to 8 coordinating fabrics - 2 for the "background" and 6 for the star. I cut my Drunkard's Path blocks using my Accuquilt GO! cutter and my 3.5" Drunkard's Path die. If you were using this block on its own for a quilt it would look amazing done with the 7" DP die. You will have left over DP pieces, which you can use for other stars, or put aside for another project.
2) Cut a total of 16 DP blocks, consisting of: 8 x "Background Fabric \#1" (Outer curve pieces)

- $8 x$ "Background Fabric \#2" (Inner curve pieces)
- $4 x$ "Star Point Fabric \#1" (Outer curve pieces)
- $4 x$ "Star Point Fabric \#2" (Inner curve pieces)
- $2 x$ "Star Centre Fabric \#1" (Outer curve pieces)
- $2 x$ "Star Centre Fabric \#2" (Outer curve pieces)
- $2 x$ "Star Centre Fabric \#3" (Inner curve pieces)
- $2 x$ "Star Centre Fabric \#4" (Inner curve pieces)

3) Pair the DP block pieces, alternating the "Star Centre Fabrics" (eg \#1 + \#3, \#1 + \#4, \#2 + \#3 and \#2 + \#4). Sew using your preferred piecing method. I pinned the blocks for the first 2 stars, and am now using a Curvemaster foot to piece the blocks for subsequent blocks.. seriously, much more consistent on the seams, with no pinning!

4) Pair up 4 of the "Background" blocks with 4 of the "Star Point" blocks, and the 4 "Star Centre" blocks, matching the inner pieces.

5) Pin and mark a line diagonally through the centre of the block.

6) Sew $1 / 4$ " on either side of the line. (as shown above with grey stitching + white stitching)

7) Using rotary cutter cut along the penciled line so that you have $2 x$ blocks. Press open.

8) Lay out your blocks to form a star shape. The 4x corner "Background" blocks will be larger than the other blocks as they haven't been cut up, but don't panic.. we'll trim them up!

9) Sew the pairs of "Star Points" and the "Star Centres" together, making sure to match the curves. Attach one set of "Star Points"
at the top and the bottom of the "Star Centres" to make a column. Press seams.

10) Trim your 4 "Background" blocks to match your other blocks. I trimmed the outer curve pieces and left the inner curves at full size, but you could trim it evenly all the way around if you prefer.

11) Sew the "Background" blocks to the remaining "Star Point" blocks so that you end up with 3 "columns" of blocks (as shown above). Press seams and then sew columns together making sure to match seams. Press again, and you're done! (Square up blocks as required)


My first Split Drunkard's Path Star complete!


And a second one so you can see it in a different colour

## Full Star Quilt Patterns

## Bedtime Wall Hanging

By: Melissa from Sew Bittersweet Designs

Any room will look brighter with a contemporary looking start quilt pattern like this hanging on your wall.


## MATERIALS:

- 1 copy of the cutting templates
- 16 copies of the paper piecing templates (printed on Carol Doak's Foundation Papers)
- A layout diagram
- Fabric - $1 / 4$ yard of Avalon Black Diamonds, $1 / 4$ yard of Avalon Black Medallion, $1 / 4$ yard of Avalon Blue Diamonds, $1 / 4$ yard of Avalon Blue Floral Medium, 1/3 yard Kona White, $1 / 3$ yard of Kona Block, $1 / 4$ yard of Blue Solid for binding (all of these fabrics are available from Fat Quarter Shop and were generously provided for this tutorial)


## HELPFUL SUPPLIES:

- Fabric Glue Stick
- Pins
- Light Box or hiking head lamp


## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) I like to start by lowering my stitch length; this makes it easier to tear off the paper when you are done with your piecing. I lower mine down to 1.6.

2) Using your cutting templates, with the fabric right side up, cut the following (I like to cut mine slightly larger (about $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ ) than the templates - gives you a little wiggle room):

White - 16 pieces with A2
Black - 16 pieces with B2
Black Medium Diamond - 8 pieces with A1 Black Medallion - 8 pieces with A1
Blue Medium Diamond - 8 pieces with B1
Blue Floral Medium - 8 pieces with B1


Starting with the B Sections follow the picture tutorial:
3) If you have a clear plastic sewing table - like the one that came standard with my machine, I recommend putting a light underneath it - this will help you arrange your pieces to be perfectly in line with your paper piecing template.


As you can see in the picture below, the bright light from underneath will help you align your pieces and it allows you to not only sew at night when you can't look out your window for natural light, it also saves fabric - you can more precisely line things up and won't have to use big pieces.


You are now ready to sew!

Note: It is important that you sew each piece in the order l've listed - this will help you match up your seams when you piece your sections together!
4) Secure B1 in place with fabric glue stick. Use head lamp/light box to ensure proper placement

5) Secure B2 in place with a pin turn over and sttich along dotted line. Finger press open.

6) Finger press open B1 \& B2. Secure A1 with fabric glue

7) Pin A2 in place. Sew along dotted line. Finger press open

8) Make all 16 of the paper pieces. Then bust out your iron and press the sections down.
9) Cut your sections apart along the outer dotted lines.


Remove your paper backing - if you are using the Carol Doak's Foundation Papers, they will virtually fall off! Don't worry, with a small enough stitch length regular printer paper will come off fairly easily too.

10) Next, pull out your diagram and match up your sections, place them in two piles white pile and black pile.

11) Remember how I had you sew your sections together in a VERY specific way...this is because it will make joining your sections super easy. Your seams will lock together.

12) I love chain piecing, I think I have said that about 10 other times on this blog, and here again I am employing it. If you don't already chain piece, I would highly recommend it! Saves lots of time!

13) You will have sixteen 6 inch blocks, I press mine open and trim the dog ears.
14) Next layout your blocks and sew your stars together.

Note: When sewing your squares into blocks - it is more important that seams match up rather than the squares fit perfectly together. The seams matching up (interlocking together) is what will give you the perfect star points!

a great statement, but I wanted the quilting to blend.


You will need three strips for the binding in a solid blue. Feel free to follow my binding tutorial.

Bind and voila!


If you are not a fan of this particular design, here are a few other options, all made with the same paper pieced template and the same number of segments.
15) Time to quilt! I used black thread to quilt mine so it would blend in nicely. White would have stood out beautifully and made


## Friendship Star Baby Quilt

By: Jenna Excell from SewHappyGeek
Make a super sweet quilt for the new baby in your life with the quirky, energetic friendship star.


FINISHED SIZE: Approx. $40^{\prime \prime} \times 40^{\prime \prime}$
Center Block: 18 " x 18 " square
Smaller Blocks: 9" x 9" finished

## MATERIALS:

- 4 white floral/print Fat Quarters
- 3 or 4 feature colour (green in my case) floral/print Fat Quarters
- $1 / 3$ yard or 30 cm of white
- 1 yard/metre red solid (or whatever solid you choose)
- 4 binding strips (for 2.75 " wide binding, that's $11^{\prime \prime}$ or 30 cm )
- $43^{\prime \prime} \times 43^{\prime \prime}$ batting
- $43^{\prime \prime} \times 43^{\prime \prime}$ backing ( 1 metre + a $6^{\prime \prime}$ strip)


## INSTRUCTIONS:

## For the 9" blocks, cut:

- $\{24 x\} 4^{\prime \prime} \times 4^{\prime \prime}$ feature colour print
- $\{24 x\} 4^{\prime \prime} \times 4^{\prime \prime}$ white print
- $\{24 \times\} 4^{\prime \prime} \times 4^{\prime \prime}$ red solid
- $\{12\} 3.5^{\prime \prime} \times 3.5^{\prime \prime}$ for block centres (I used feature colour/green print in the small blocks)
- $\{24 x\} 4^{\prime \prime} \times 4^{\prime \prime}$ white solid

For each block, you'll need to make a total of 8 HST units. Here are the pairings (each pairing yields 2 HSTs):

- white print and feature colour print: 1 square each
- red solid and white print: 1 square each
- white solid and feature colour print: 1 square each
- red solid and white solid: 1 square each

So to piece the whole quilts' worth of HSTs in one go, you'll need to pair them up in this way:

- $\quad\{12 x\}$ white print with $\{12 x\}$ feature colour (green) print
- $\{12 x\}$ red solid with $\{12 x\}$ white solid
- $\{12 x\}$ white solid with $\{12 x\}$ feature colour (green) print
- $\{12 x\}$ white print with $\{12 x\}$ red solid


## Assembly:

1) For more information on Half Square Triangle construction, see my HST tutorial. Then when you've got the HSTs made, you'll assemble them in rows. Here are the steps:

2) Lay out the centre square and your freshly made and trimmed HSTs as shown above.

3) Sew the top, middle and bottom rows together as shown above.

4) Then sew the rows together, making sure you line up the seams as best as you can. Do this step for each of the 12 blocks.

## For the centre block, cut:

- $\quad\{2 x\} 7^{\prime \prime} \times 7^{\prime \prime}$ red solid
- $\{4 x\} 6.5^{\prime \prime} \times 6.5^{\prime \prime}$ white print
- $\{1 \times\} 6.5^{\prime \prime} \times 6.5^{\prime \prime}$ green print
- $\quad\{2 x\} 7 " x 7^{\prime \prime}$ white print

5) Make 4 Half Square Triangle units using the 7" x 7" red solid and white print squares, pairing each red solid square with a white print square.

6) Assemble block by sewing the top 3 squares together, then the middle 3 and the bottom 3. Sew these together, being careful to match seam lines, just as you did the 9" square blocks above.

Then sew your blocks together in this formation:

## Adaptable Star Quilt

By: Deanna from Wedding Dress Blue
If you're looking for a star quilt pattern that says simplicity and charm, there's nothing better than this versatile design that can be made with almost any kind of fabric.


Note: All dimensions are in inches (") and sewing assumes a $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ seam allowance.

This design is special because it can use ANY size square you have on hand, or might wish to create. Really. My sample blocks were sewn with charm ( 5 -inch) squares, but the finished quilt shown below used 3 -inch squares. The directions are the same!

## PREPARATION:

First you need to decide what size your base square will be.


Here's a little size information to get you started

| Base Square Size | Finished Block <br> Size |
| :--- | :--- |
| $21 / 2$ inches | $31 / 2$ inches |
| 3 inches | $41 / 2$ inches |
| 4 inches | $61 / 2$ inches |
| 5 inches | $101 / 2$ inches |
| 6 inches |  |

Once you have settled on a block size, you need to decide how many blocks you need to build the quilt you have in mind. Again, a few suggestions.

Note: Don't let all those numbers scare you. I am not totally happy with this chart, but wanted to have some suggestions. The flexibility of this pattern leaves a lot of decisions to the imagination of the quilter. That said, please let me know of any ideas you have to present the information more clearly. Thanks!

FAVEQUILTS
Quilts, Fabric and More

|  | Throw | Twin | Queen |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Base <br> Square Size | Block layout/Finished size | Block layout/Finished size | Block layout/Finished size |
| 21/2" | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \times 17,591 / 2 \times 59 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $20 \times 25,70 \times 871 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ | $27 \times 30,941 / 2 \times 105^{\prime}$ |
| $3 \prime$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13 \times 13,5^{8} 1 / 2 \times 5^{8} \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $16 \times 20,72 \times 90^{\prime \prime}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \times 23,941 / 5^{\prime \prime} \times 103 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ |
| $4^{\prime \prime}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 9 \times 9,5^{8} 1 / 2 \times 58 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 11 \times 13,711 / 2 \times 84 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \times 17,971 / 2 \times 110 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ |
| 5 " | $8 \times 8,68 \times 68^{\prime \prime}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 9 \times 11,761 / 2 \times 93 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $11 \times 12,931 / 2 \times 102^{\prime \prime}$ |
| 6" | $6 \times 6,63 \times 63^{\prime \prime}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \times 9,731 / 2 \times 94 \\ & 1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \end{aligned}$ | $9 \times 10,941 / 2 \times 105$ |

## Full size here

## MATERIALS:

Once you have decided the size of your base square and the number of blocks you need, multiply the number of blocks by six. That is the total number of squares you will need to complete the quilt. Half (three per block) will be light and half will be dark.

For example, if I were building a throw out of 5 " base squares, I need a total of 64 blocks, which, when multiplied by 6 equals 384 . Divide that in half. I need 192 dark squares and 192 light squares. Clear as mud?


You will also need batting, backing and binding in accordance with the size of the quilt you finish. If I can help in determining yardage, please let me know.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Your base squares will be used three different ways:

1. As base squares. No additional cutting required.
2. As half squares. Each square is cut in half with a single cut. This yields a bar shape. For example, a five-inch square, cut in half, becomes two half squares that are $21 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime}$.
3. As quarter squares. Each square is cut in even quarters with two cuts. This yields four small squares. For example, a five-inch square, cut in quarters, becomes four quarter squares that are $21 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$.

There are two basic versions of the block: light center and dark center.

For each "dark center" block you need


Dark: 1 base square, 8 quarter squares (two base squares, cut in quarters)

Light: 4 half squares (two base squares, cut in half), 4 quarter squares (one base square, cut in quarters).

For each "light center" block, you need the opposite


Dark: 4 half squares(two base squares, cut in half), 4 quarter squares (one base square, cut in quarters).

Light: 1 base square, 8 quarter square (two base squares, cut in quarters)

1) I cut all of my base squares first. Then, as I was ready to piece each block, selected my six pieces, three light and three dark, and cut and laid them out. That way I didn't have too many small pieces floating around at once.
2) I built my flying geese-type shapes using the four half squares and the eight quarter squares.

Mark a diagonal line on the back of each of the eight quarter squares. This is your stitching line. Line each quarter square up with one end of each half square. Stitch along stitching line.

3) Do the same with another quarter square on the other side.

4) Repeat for all four half squares. Trim off corners $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ away from stitching line.

5) Iron open.(Color change here, don't be confused)

6) Prepare to assemble your blocks.

7) I like to sew my blocks into three strips first.

8) Then iron so your seam allowances will nest well.

9) Sew the three strips together and, ta-dah, a finished block.


The block goes together really easily once you get the hang of it.

## My Blue Heaven Bed Quilt

By: Bonnie Hunter from Quiltville
There's no quilt pattern as heavenly as this full sized bed quilt pattern. Your bedroom décor will be filled with classic charm as soon as you spread this out.


FINISHED SIZE: 81" x 89 "

Note: This is a two-block quilt! A modified puss in the corner block, and an hourglass star block, both in 8" finished size. You can make this quilt as big or small as you would like depending on the number of blocks you make. This quilt uses 45 star blocks and 45 puss blocks. The 90 blocks are set 9 across by 10 down.

## MATERIALS:




The easy angle ruler is available in a 4.5 ", $6.5^{\prime \prime}$ and $10.5^{\prime \prime}$ sizes. All will work for this quilt, but I find the $6.5^{\prime \prime}$ the easiest to handle and the most versatile.

## Fabric Supplies:



I started by digging through my strip bins for $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ strips in neutrals, and in blues!

If you don't already trim your scraps into useable widths, you can cut these pieces from your scraps or from fat-quarters and yardage.


## INSTRUCTIONS:

## Hour Glass and Puss Blocks

Let's start with the basic units! The one unit that both blocks and the border have in common is the "hour glass" unit. This unit is a square divided on both diagonals into 4 triangles. These quarter-square triangles all need to have the straight of grain on the outside edge of the triangle. There are convoluted math formulas so that you can cut out individual squares, and then cut those squares twice on the diagonal to come up with the right size needed for the hourglass units, but since I was working with $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ strips, I just grabbed my favorite "companion angle" ruler by EZ. This ruler has all the math built into it so you don't have to think too hard...just get to the fun stuff! For $1 / 2$ square triangles, I use the "easy angle" ruler also by EZ. These two rulers work terrifically together. Besides these two, you will need your regular rotary ruler. I have a 6.5" X $12.5^{\prime \prime}$ that I really like from Creative Grids.


It took me a bit to think this way...so I'm going to tell you right off!

1) I cut through 2 to 4 layers of fabric depending on how long my strip is.

In the first pic, I just plopped my companion angle ruler down on the folded strip, aligning the bottom of the strip with the $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ line on the ruler and made my first cut. Makes nice triangles! But what about that left end? It was too small to use for anything and I soon realized I'd have a lot of "waste" triangles if I didn't think differently.
2) So...the next strip...I grabbed the easy angle ruler to make the FIRST cut after squaring off the end of the folded strip.

We are working with $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ strips, so you align the $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ triangle mark which will make a $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ UN- finished $1 / 2$ square triangle square...when sewn into a block, the unit will finish at 2".)

Back to the hourglass triangles!


3) This is where the power cutting/power sewing comes in. For this quilt, you will need 174 completed hourglass units or 696 individual blue hourglass triangles. Use a variety of blues from light to dark. Sew the triangles right sides together into pairs. Press seams to one side. Match the pairs together and sew into 174 completed blue hourglass units. 90 of these units are for the blocks. The remainders are for the border.

4) The next step is to cut $2.5^{\prime \prime} \times 4.5^{\prime \prime}$ neutral rectangles. You will need 180 neutral rectangles as each of the 45 puss blocks uses 4 of them.

5) I power sewed 45 of these rectangles first to one side of the hourglass block units, and 45 more to the opposite side!

6) I had these all chained together......and I would lie these out on top of my ironing board, press the seams towards the light strips, and then snip between the units. You can see how they trailed on the floor! (This is how I generally chain press after chain piecing.) I press first, all in a row, and then cut the treads between the units.
7) Next step! I rummaged through my bin of $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ cut squares to pull out all the blue ones I had in there. You need 180 blue $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ squares.

8) Sew a blue $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ square to each end of 90 2.5 " X 4.5 " rectangles! Press squares TOWARD the light.
9) Now I know if you wanted to "speed piece" this another way, you could sew two 2.5 "blue strips to either side of a $4.5^{\prime \prime}$ neutral strip, press, and then cross cut in to 2.5 " sections if you wanted to do this faster. I was doing this using up scrap squares that I pre-cut and had saved, so I was content with chain piecing the old-fashioned way, one pair at a time. Do what works for you!


Construct the puss blocks by sewing the rectangle/squares units to both sides of the partially completed blocks. Press. Your blocks are half done!

## Hourglass Blocks

You've already got the star centers made since we did those along with the hourglass puss blocks and border sections. You are farther along with this quilt than you realize you are!
10) The next thing we are going to do is make some flying geese units. There are many ways to make geese units and you are welcome to do them the way you like. I did mine with this quilt using the companion angle and easy angle rulers since I was using pre-cut 2.5" strips.

We need 180 flying geese units that measure $2.5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{X} 4.5^{\prime \prime}$ before they are sewn into the block.

11) Just as with the blue strips, I folded my neutral strips into halves or fourths. Make a straight cut on one end, and then position the easy angle ruler at the $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ mark so you can make your first cut to give you the right angle to use with the companion angle
ruler. Trim the rest of the strips this way, until you have 180 quarter-square triangles for the geese units. Set the $1 / 2$ square triangles you cut from the beginning of the strips aside. They will be used in another step.

12) For the "wing" part of the flying geese units you will need 3602.5 " half-square triangles cut with the easy angle. You will already have SOME of them from when you trimmed the ends of the strips when cutting the blue quarter square triangles. Cut more blue half-square triangles until you have enough.

13) See how nicely these fit together? I like to lay my triangles so the notched part is at the top and the points in the bottom corners are even. Stitch blue triangles to the right side of all the geese quarter square triangles. Press towards the dark and trim points.

14) Sew the remaining blue $1 / 2$ square triangles onto the opposite side of the geese unit.
Press and trim points.

15) The next step is to sew a geese unit to either side of 45 hour glass units. Press seams towards the hour glass unit.

MORE CUTTING! Now you could have cut more triangles earlier, but I was in a power sewing mood, remember? I wanted to sew more than I wanted to cut, so I was cutting as the need arose.

16) We now need 180 blue and 180 neutral $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ half square triangle squares to be sewn into corner units so we can complete the star
blocks. Remember, even though I say 2.5"....that isn't the cut measurement. That is the measurement on the ruler. The unfinished measurement of the half square triangle squares before they are sewn into the block. If you are cutting them with any other method, they would be $27 / 8$ ". Some of these you have already cut. Just cut more to give you the number that you need so that you have 180 blue/neutral $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ unfinished half square triangle squares. Sew the triangles with right sides together and press towards the darker fabric. Trim excess points.

17) Sew a pieced triangle square to either side of the geese units as sewn. You want the blue triangle towards the corners of the blocks. Press seams towards the half square triangle squares.

18) Sew the goose/square unit to either side of your center block section to complete star blocks! Press.


At this point, you should have two piles of blocks and enough hour glass units left over for the outside border!


This is my quilt center laid out on the floor before sewing blocks together. When assembling I like to do what I call "webbing the top".
19) Sew the blocks into rows, and sew the rows together to complete the quilt top center.

20) I finished the quilt by adding a $2.5^{\prime \prime}$ cut inner border of a tan/brown stripe. Then after that, I sewed the hour glass units together and added them to the quilt top. There are 21 units across and 23 units down! Machine quilting was simply done

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