



Sweet Stars



Big and little stars dance across this scrappy, fat quarter-friendly quilt. The triangles begin as small squares stitched to a larger one and ultimately become two flying-geese units, meaning you're never cutting or fussing with individual triangles as you make perfectly crisp star points.

Designed and made by Melissa Corry

FINISHED QUILT: 80½" × 80½"

FINISHED BLOCKS: 8", 16", 24", and 32" SQUARE

Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric. Fat quarters are 18" × 21".

20 fat quarters of assorted pastel prints for block
4 $\frac{1}{8}$ yards of white solid for background
 $\frac{2}{3}$ yard of apricot diagonal stripe for binding
7 $\frac{3}{8}$ yards of fabric for backing
89" × 89" piece of batting

Cutting

All measurements include $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances. The quilt consists of one extra-large 32" Star, four large 24" Stars, eight medium 16" Stars, and 16 small 8" Stars. Cut and sort the pieces for each Star block to keep them organized.

From the assorted fat quarters, cut the following pieces for each block size:

EXTRA-LARGE STAR

4 matching squares, 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ "
4 matching squares, 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ ", that contrast with large squares.
4 assorted squares, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

LARGE STARS

4 sets of 4 matching squares, 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ " (16 total)
16 assorted squares, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

MEDIUM STARS

8 sets of 4 matching squares, 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " (32 total)
1 square, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", from each of the 8 prints used for the 8 sets above (8 total)

SMALL STARS

16 sets of 4 matching squares, 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " (64 total)
16 assorted squares, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

From the white solid, cut:

1 square, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
4 squares, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
9 squares, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
1 strip, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 42"; crosscut into 4 squares, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3 strips, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 42"; crosscut into 16 squares, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3 strips, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 42"; crosscut into 16 squares, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
5 strips, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 42"; crosscut into 36 squares, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4 strips, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 42"; crosscut into 64 squares, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

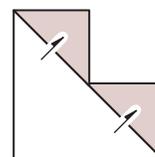
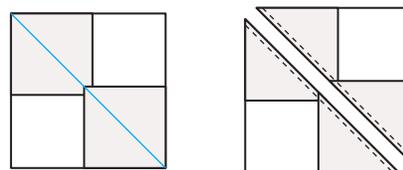
From the apricot stripe, cut:

9 strips, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 42"

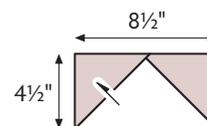
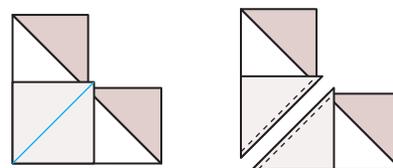
Making the Flying-Geese Units

Press all seam allowances as indicated by the arrows.

- Starting with the print pieces designated for the Extra-Large Star block, place matching print 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " squares on opposite corners of a white 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " square with right sides together, aligning the edges as shown. Draw a diagonal line from the top-left corner to the bottom-right corner. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from both sides of the drawn line. Cut along the drawn line to yield two units.



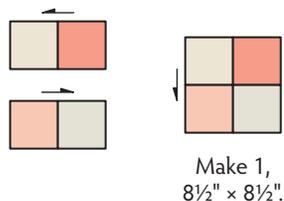
- Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of a matching print 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " square. Place the marked square on the corner of one of the step 1 units with right sides together, aligning the raw edges as shown. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from both sides of the drawn line. Cut along the drawn line to yield two flying-geese units that measure 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances. Repeat to make four units.



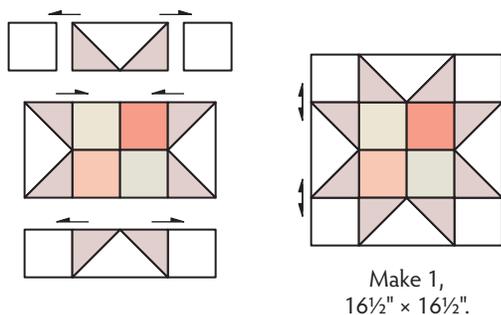
Make 4.

Making the Extra-Large Star Block

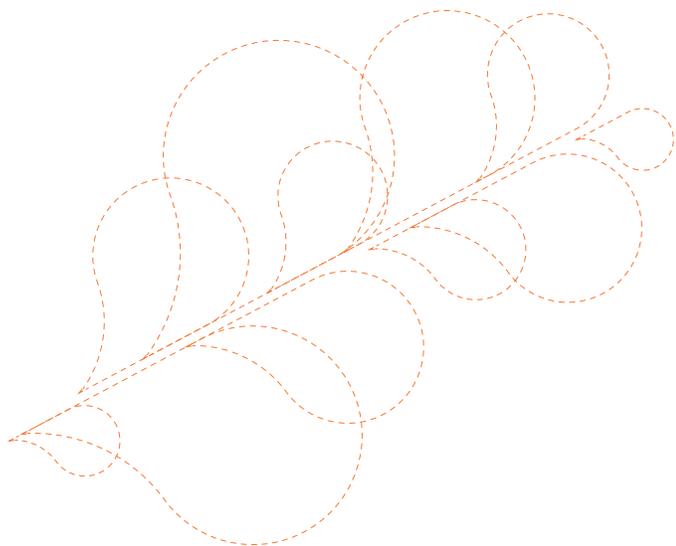
1. Lay out the four assorted print $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares in two rows of two. Join the squares in each row, and then join the rows to create a four-patch unit that measures $8\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.



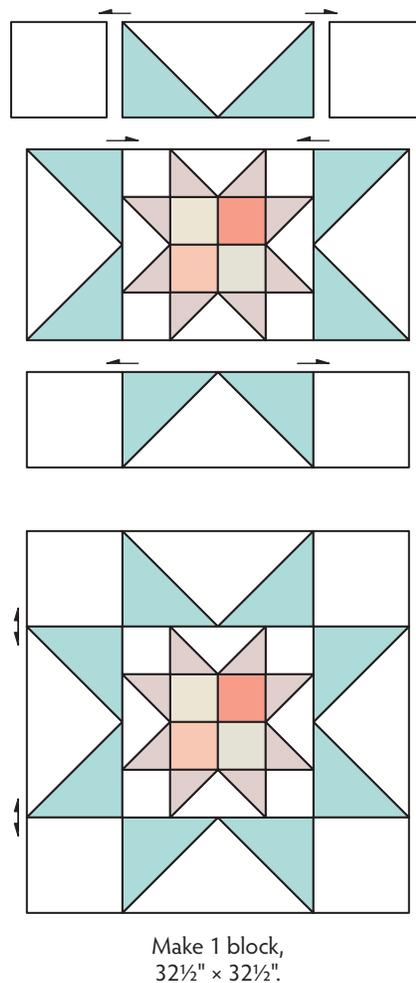
2. Lay out the four flying-geese units, four white $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and the four-patch unit in three rows as shown. Join the units in each row, and then join the rows to make the block center measuring $16\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.



3. Using four matching $8\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and one white $17\frac{1}{4}$ " square, follow the method in "Making the Flying-Geese Units" on page 2 to make four flying-geese units that measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $16\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances.

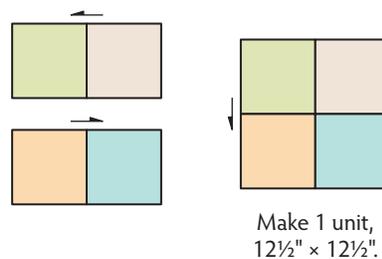


4. Lay out the four flying-geese units, four white $8\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and the block center in three rows as shown. Join the units in each row, and then join the rows. The Extra-Large Star block should measure $32\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.

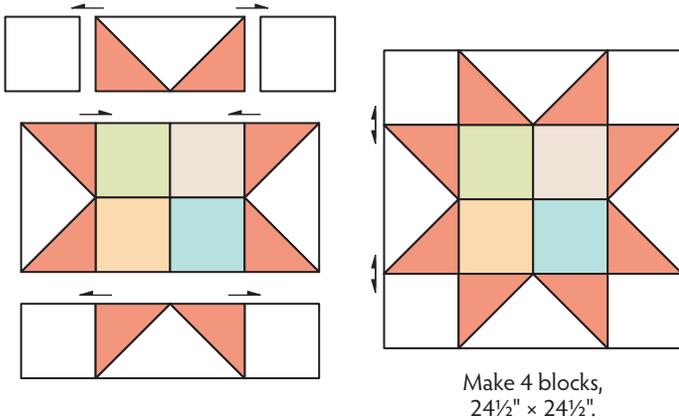


Making the Large Star Blocks

1. Use four assorted print $6\frac{1}{2}$ " squares to make a four-patch unit. The unit should measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.

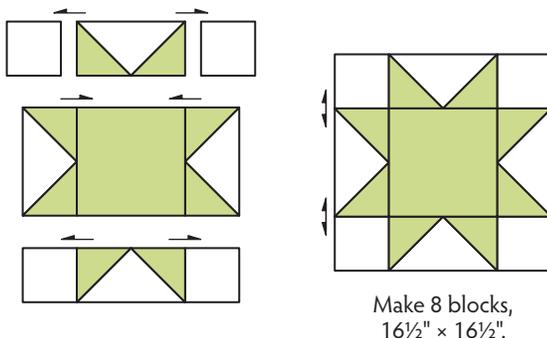


- Using four matching print $6\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and one white $13\frac{1}{4}$ " square, follow the method in "Making the Flying-Geese Units" to make four flying-geese units that measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $12\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances.
- Use the four-patch unit from step 1, the flying-geese units from step 2, and four white $6\frac{1}{2}$ " squares to make a Star block. The block should measure $24\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances. Repeat to make four Large Star blocks.



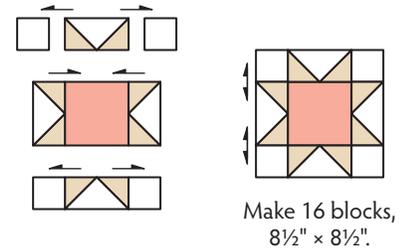
Making the Medium Star Blocks

- Using four matching print $4\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and one white $9\frac{1}{4}$ " square, follow the method in "Making the Flying-Geese Units" to make four flying-geese units that measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $8\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances.
- Lay out the flying-geese units from step 1, four white $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and a matching print $8\frac{1}{2}$ " square in three rows. Join the units in each row, and then join the rows. The block should measure $16\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances. Repeat to make eight Medium Star blocks.



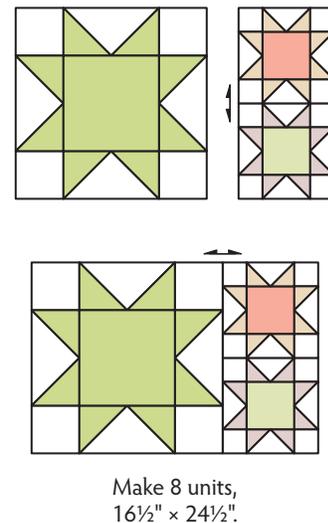
Making the Small Star Blocks

- Using four matching print $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and one white $5\frac{1}{4}$ " square, follow the method in "Making the Flying-Geese Units" to make four flying-geese units that measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $4\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances.
- Lay out the four flying-geese units from step 1, four white $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and a contrasting print $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square in three rows as shown. Join the units in each row, and then join the rows. The block should measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances. Repeat to make 16 Small Star blocks.

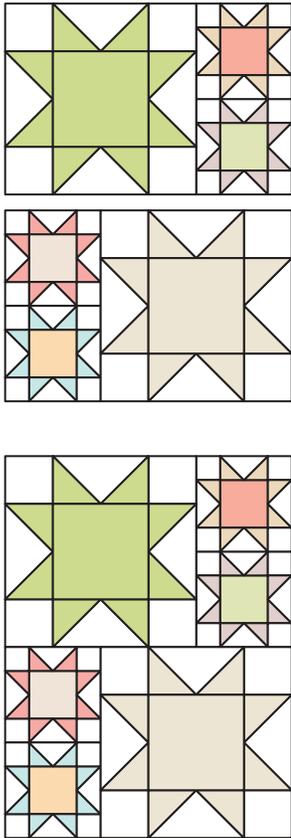


Assembling the Six-Star Units

- Lay out two Small Star blocks and one Medium Star block as shown. Sew the Small Star blocks together, and then join them to the Medium Star block. The unit should measure $16\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $24\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances. Make eight three-star units.

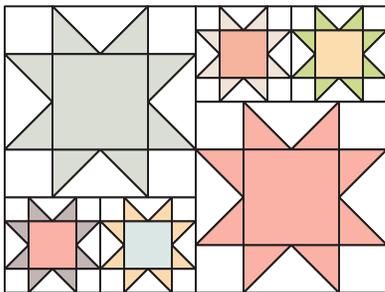


- Lay out two three-star units, alternating the placement of the Medium Star blocks as shown. Join the units. Repeat to make two units that measure $24\frac{1}{2}'' \times 32\frac{1}{2}''$, including seam allowances.



Make 2 units,
 $24\frac{1}{2}'' \times 32\frac{1}{2}''$.

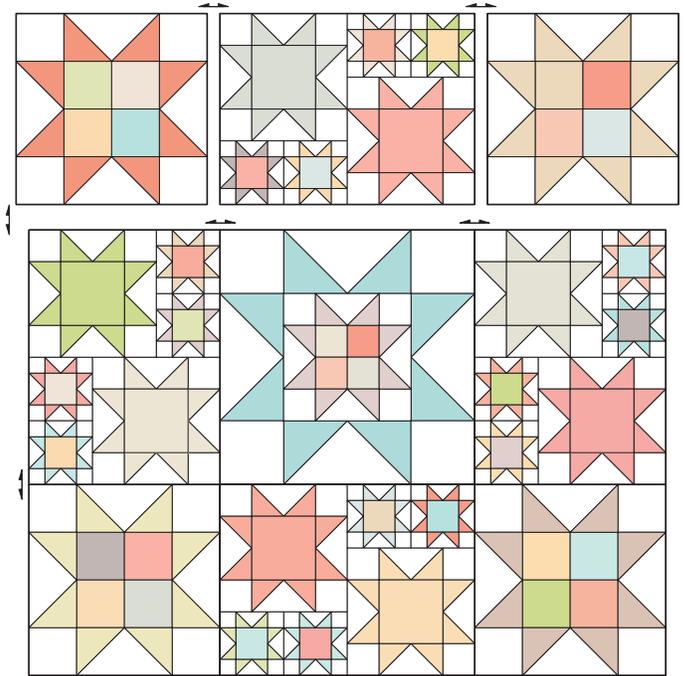
- Repeat step 2 but reverse the placement of the Medium Star blocks as shown. Make two units that measure $24\frac{1}{2}'' \times 34\frac{1}{2}''$.



Make 2 units,
 $24\frac{1}{2}'' \times 32\frac{1}{2}''$.

Assembling the Quilt Top

- Lay out the blocks and six-star units in three rows as shown in the quilt assembly diagram below.
- Join the units in each row, and then join the rows. The finished quilt top should measure $80\frac{1}{2}''$ square.



Quilt assembly

Quilting and Finishing

- Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top; baste the layers together.
- Quilt it! (See a close up of the quilting on page 6.)
- Use the apricot diagonal stripe $2\frac{1}{2}''$ -wide strips to make the binding and then attach it to the quilt.



The four sizes of Sawtooth Star blocks are enhanced with an echoing orange peel design in each star and swirls in all the background areas.