



Big Bang



Big-block quilts look beautiful on a bed, and they're so much fun to put together. This is Jessi's interpretation of a big-block quilt, made with two variations of the same block.

Designed and made by Jessi Jung; quilted by Judy Howard

FINISHED QUILT: 72" × 84"
FINISHED BLOCK: 20" × 20"



Materials

Yardage is based on 42"-wide fabric.

4¼ yards of white fabric for block backgrounds, sashing, and border

¼ yard each of 5 fabric A prints for Star blocks (star and frame shape)

⅓ yard each of 5 fabric B prints for Star blocks (wreath shape)

⅓ yard each of 4 fabric C prints for Heart blocks (heart shape)

¼ yard each of 4 fabric D prints for Heart blocks (between heart shapes)

⅓ yard of fabric E for argyle diamonds

¼ yard of fabric F for argyle diamonds

¾ yard of aqua fabric for binding

5⅞ yards of fabric for backing

78" × 90" piece of batting

Cutting

Referring to the Star block and Heart block diagrams on pages 4 and 5, plan your fabric selections for fabrics A–F before cutting.

From the white fabric, cut:

1 strip, 4½" × 42"; cut into 4 squares, 4½" × 4½"

16 strips, 2⅞" × 42"; cut into 204 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞"

16 strips, 2½" × 42"; cut 12 of the strips into:

36 squares, 2½" × 2½"

20 rectangles, 2½" × 4½"

36 rectangles, 2½" × 6½"

6 strips, 2½" × 42"; cut into 12 strips, 2½" × 20½"

8 strips, 4¼" × 42"

From each fabric A print, cut:

4 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞" (20 total)

1 square, 4½" × 4½" (5 total)

4 rectangles, 2½" × 4½" (20 total)

4 squares, 2½" × 2½" (20 total)

From each fabric B print, cut:

12 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞" (60 total)

4 rectangles, 2½" × 8½" (20 total)

12 squares, 2½" × 2½" (60 total)

From each fabric C print, cut:

16 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞" (64 total)

4 rectangles, 2½" × 8½" (16 total)

4 rectangles, 2½" × 4½" (16 total)

From each fabric D print, cut:

4 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞" (16 total)

8 squares, 2½" × 2½" (32 total)

From fabric E, cut:

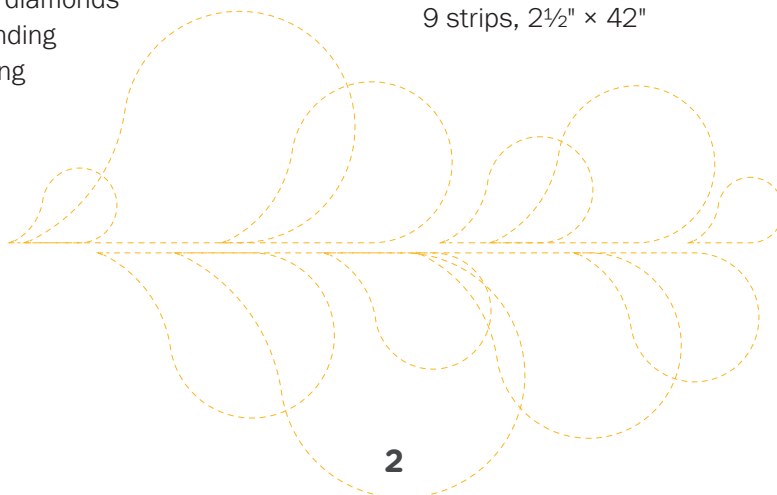
36 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞"

From fabric F, cut:

24 squares, 2⅞" × 2⅞"

From the aqua fabric, cut:

9 strips, 2½" × 42"



Making the Star Blocks

For ease of keeping all the fabrics in the block organized, instructions are for making one block at a time. After sewing each seam, press the seam allowances in the direction indicated by the arrows.

1. Mark a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of four white $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares. Layer each square on a fabric A $2\frac{7}{8}$ " square. Sew a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side of the marked lines. Cut the squares apart on the marked lines to make a total of eight half-square-triangle units that are $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.



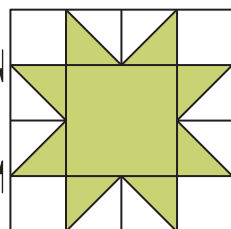
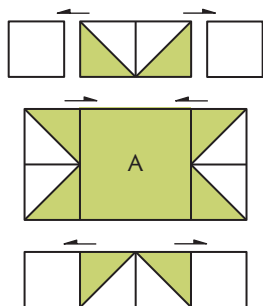
Make 8 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.

2. Join two half-square-triangle units to make a star-point unit that is $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$, including seam allowances. Make a total of four units.



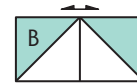
Make 4 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.

3. Lay out one fabric A $4\frac{1}{2}"$ square, four star-point units, and four white $2\frac{1}{2}"$ squares as shown. Sew the pieces together in rows. Sew the rows together to complete the center unit which should be $8\frac{1}{2}"$ square, including seam allowances.



Make 1 center unit,
 $8\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$.

4. Repeat step 1 using 12 white $2\frac{7}{8}"$ squares and 12 fabric B $2\frac{7}{8}"$ squares to make 24 half-square-triangle units. Press the seam allowances toward fabric B. Sew two half-square-triangle units together as shown. Make four units that are $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$, including seam allowances.



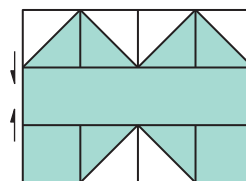
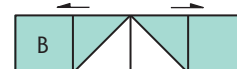
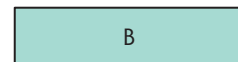
Make 4 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.

5. Join the remaining half-square-triangle units in pairs as shown to make eight units, $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.



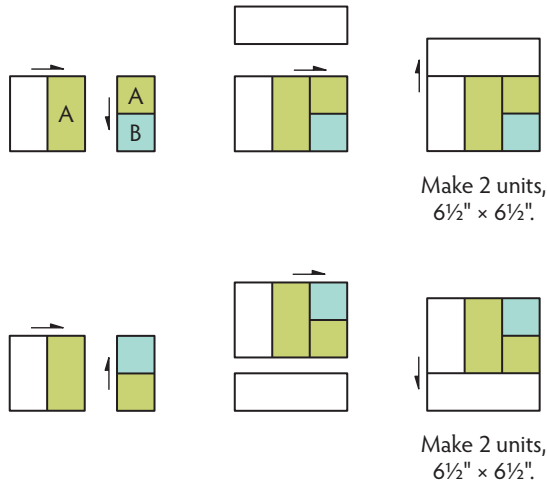
Make 8 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.

6. Lay out one unit from step 4, two units from step 5, one fabric B rectangle, and two fabric B $2\frac{1}{2}"$ squares as shown. Sew the pieces together in rows. Sew the rows together to complete a side unit that is $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$. Make a total of four side units.

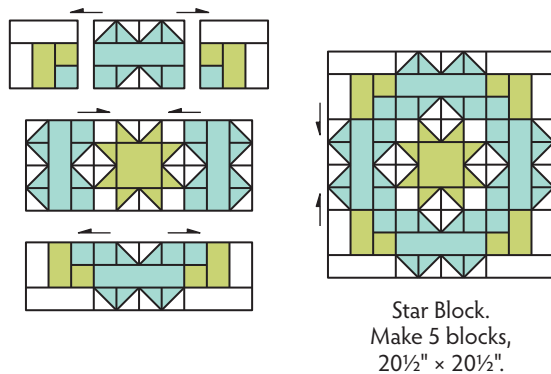


Make 4 side units,
 $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$.

7. Lay out one fabric A $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square, one fabric B $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square, one white $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle, one fabric A $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle, and one white $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $6\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle as shown. Join the A and B squares. Add the A and white $4\frac{1}{2}$ "-long rectangles. Then add the white $6\frac{1}{2}$ "-long rectangle to complete the corner unit. Make two of each corner unit measuring $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.



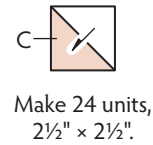
8. Lay out the center unit, the four side units, and the four corner units in three rows. Sew the units together in rows and then join the rows to complete a Star block which should measure $20\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Repeat to make a total of five Star blocks.



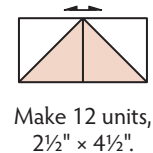
Making the Heart Blocks

For ease of keeping all the fabrics in the block organized, instructions are for making one block at a time. After sewing each seam, press the seam allowances in the direction indicated by the arrows.

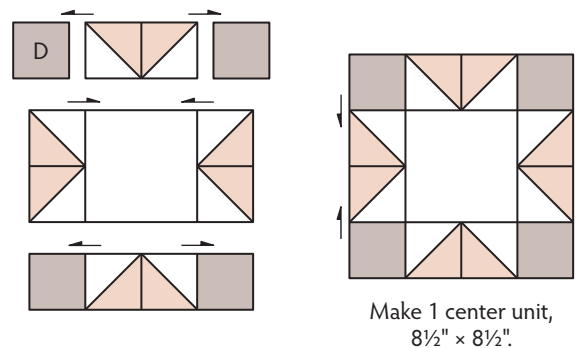
1. Referring to step 1 of "Making the Star Blocks," on page 3, use 12 white $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and 12 fabric C $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares to make 24 half-square-triangle units that are $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.



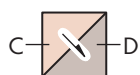
2. Join the half-square-triangle units in pairs as shown to make a total of 12 units measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $4\frac{1}{2}$ ", including seam allowances.



3. Lay out one white $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, four units from step 2, and four fabric D $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares as shown. Sew the pieces together in rows. Join the rows to complete the center unit which should measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " square, including seam allowances.

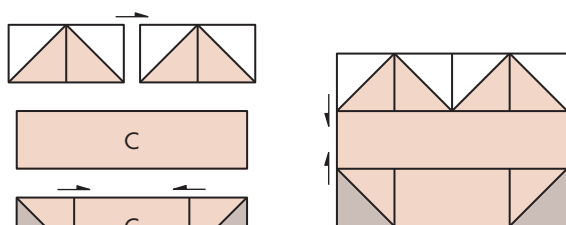


4. Repeat step 1 using four fabric C $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and four fabric D $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares to make eight half-square-triangle units. Press the seam allowances toward fabric C.



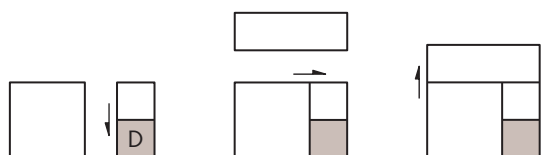
Make 8 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.

5. Lay out two units from step 2, two units from step 4, one fabric C $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle, and one fabric C $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle as shown. Sew the pieces together in rows. Join the rows to make a side unit that is $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$, including seam allowances. Make four side units.

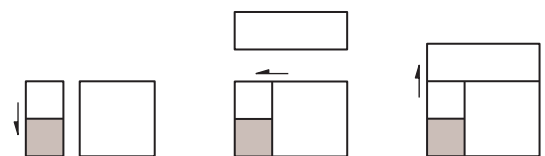


Make 4 side units,
 $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 8\frac{1}{2}"$.

6. Lay out one white $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square, one fabric D $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square, one white $4\frac{1}{2}"$ square, and one white $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 6\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle as shown. Sew the $2\frac{1}{2}"$ squares together. Add the white $4\frac{1}{2}"$ square and then the white rectangle to make a corner unit. Make two of each corner unit measuring $6\frac{1}{2}"$ square, including seam allowances.

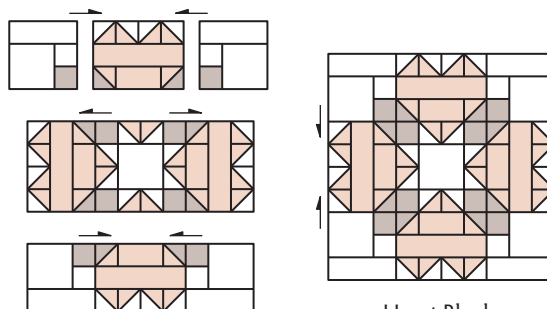


Make 2 units,
 $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 6\frac{1}{2}"$.



Make 2 units,
 $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 6\frac{1}{2}"$.

7. Lay out the center unit, the four side units, and the four corner units in three rows as shown. Sew the units together in rows and then join the rows to complete a Heart block that measures $20\frac{1}{2}"$ square. Repeat to make a total of four Heart blocks.



Heart Block.
Make 4 blocks,
 $20\frac{1}{2}" \times 20\frac{1}{2}"$.

Making the Argyle Strips

1. Use 36 white and 36 fabric E $2\frac{7}{8}"$ squares to make 72 half-square-triangle units that are $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square including seam allowances. Press the seam allowances toward fabric E. In the same way, use 24 white and 24 fabric F $2\frac{7}{8}"$ squares to make 48 half-square-triangle units. Press the seam allowances toward fabric F.



Make 72 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.



Make 48 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$.

2. Sew together two matching units from step 1 as shown. Do not press the seam allowances at this time. Make the number of units indicated of each fabric combination.



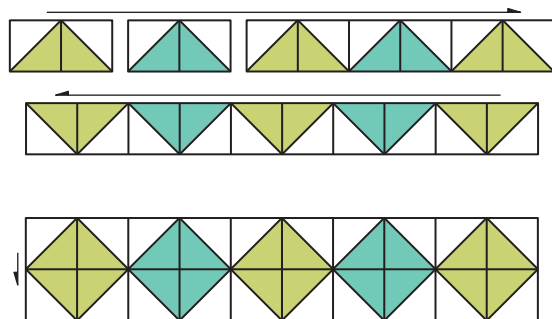
Make 36 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.



Make 24 units,
 $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.

3. Lay out six fabric E units and four fabric F units in two rows as shown. Sew the units together in rows and press the seam allowances in opposite directions as indicated. Sew the two rows together and press the

seam allowances in one direction. Make six argyle strips, $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 20\frac{1}{2}"$, including seam allowances.



Make 6 strips,
 $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 20\frac{1}{2}"$.

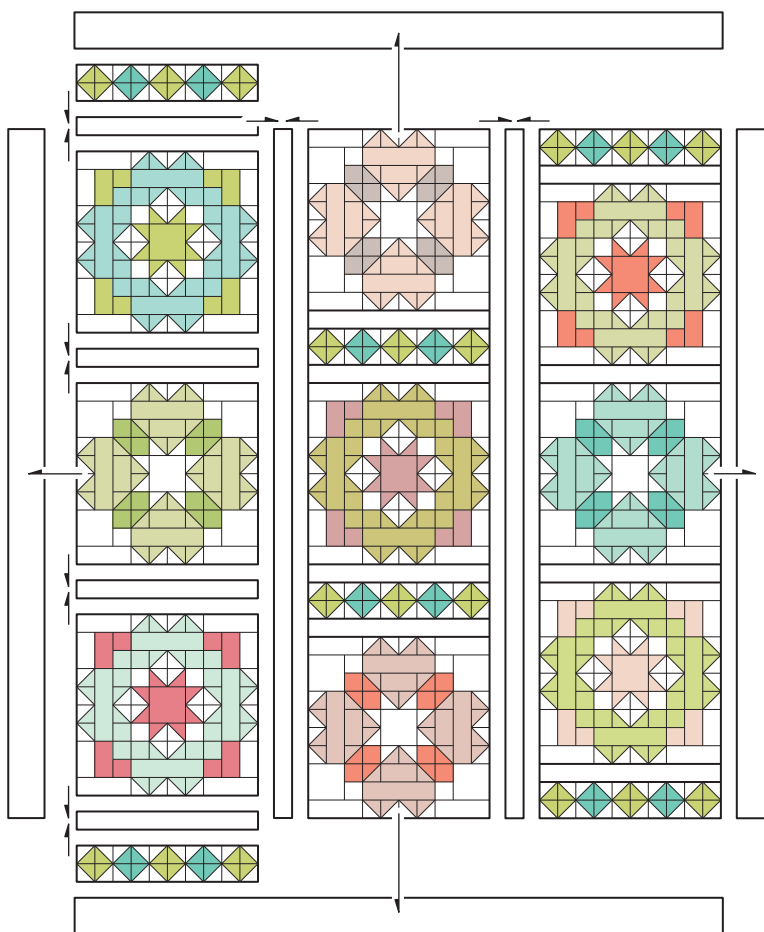
2. Join the remaining white $2\frac{1}{2}"$ -wide strips end to end. From the pieced strip, cut two $76\frac{1}{2}"$ -long sashing strips. Sew the vertical rows and two sashing strips together, making sure to align the horizontal sashing strips. Press the seam allowances toward the sashing strips. The quilt center should measure $64\frac{1}{2}" \times 76\frac{1}{2}"$.
3. Sew the white $4\frac{1}{4}"$ -wide strips together end to end. From the pieced strip, cut two $76\frac{1}{2}"$ -long strips and sew them to opposite sides of the quilt top. Press the seam allowances toward the borders. From the remaining pieced strip, cut two $72"$ -long border strips and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt top. Press the seam allowances toward the borders.

Assembling the Quilt Top

1. Referring to the quilt assembly diagram below, lay out the blocks, argyle strips, and white $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 20\frac{1}{2}"$ strips in vertical rows as shown. Join the pieces in each row and press the seam allowances toward the sashing strips. The rows should measure $76\frac{1}{2}"$ long.

Quilting and Finishing

1. Cut and piece the backing fabric, and then layer the quilt top with batting and backing. Quilt! (See page 7 for quilting ideas.)
2. Using the aqua $2\frac{1}{2}"$ -wide strips, make double-fold binding; attach the binding to the quilt.



Quilt assembly



The Big Bang quilt shown is filled with delicate texture created by single feathers and the occasional heart.