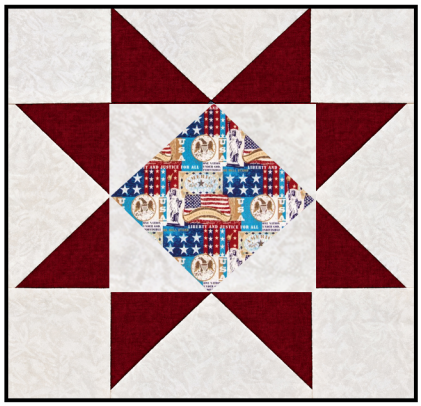
October
Block of the Month

10” Diamond in Square Star



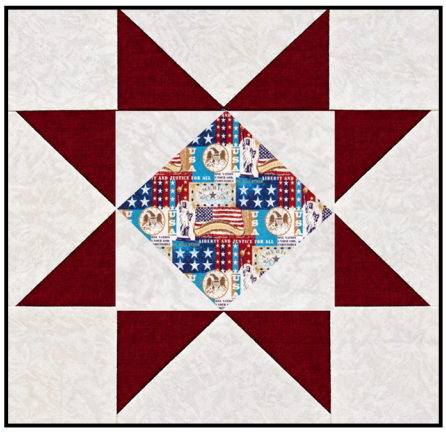


What is Sewcial Saturday?

On the first Saturday of the month, MOPHA will be sharing a new quilt block for you to make. You can make any variation of the block. Change colors, but don't change size. Each block will be an approximate 10.12” unfinished block.

We will collect unfinished quilt blocks at the end of March and send them off to be professionally quilted. The completed quilts will be unveiled and auctioned at the 2027 National Convention in St. Louis Missouri.

The quilt-block-of the-month and instructions will be on our website (under Patriotic Projects) and on Facebook. We understand that there are many ways to complete a quilt block. We are sharing the novice way to do this. No matter how you complete the block, HAVE FUN!

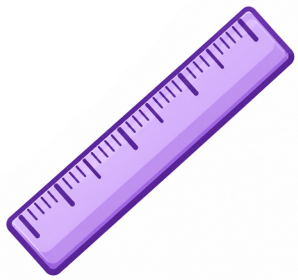
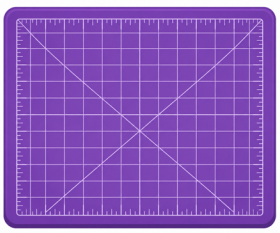


If you have questions or suggestions, reach out to webmaster.MOPHA@Gmail.com

What you need:











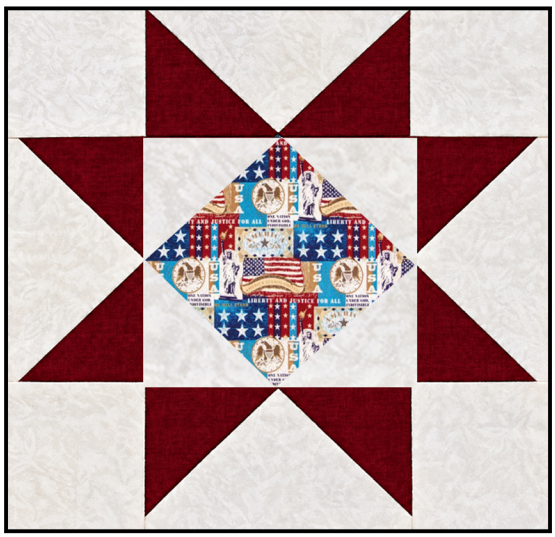
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

- Sewing/Quilting ruler with 1/4” seam guide and a 45 degree measurement lines.
- 1/4” Presser Foot attachment
- 2 different color non-bleedable fabric pens.



FABRIC:

Selected fabric can be found at Hobby Lobby Stores. The contract fabric is a wild-card. Have fun and use your creativity.





Red Linen Texture
Calico Cotton Fabric
1/8 Yard
SKU: 2520344



White Linen Texture
Calico Cotton Fabric
1/4 Yard
SKU: 2354710

-or-

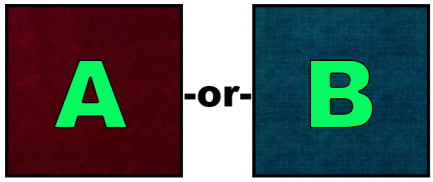


Blue Linen Texture
Calico Cotton Fabric
1/8 Yard
SKU: 2520336

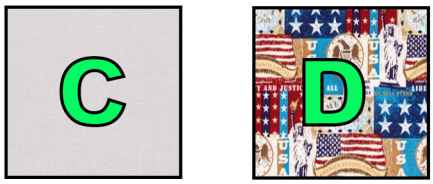


CONTRAST FABRIC: YOU CHOOSE
EXAMPLE: Patriotic Patchwork
Cotton Calico Fabric
1/16 Yard
SKU: 249037

Instructions:



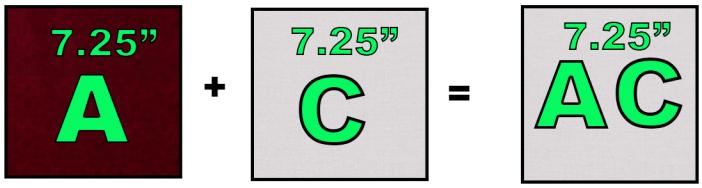
Words for the novice quilter:
Don't let the block intimidate you.
Thuis is a rather simple block.
If you can sew a straight line, you can make this block.



1) Cut 1 - 7.25" (A) or (B) fabric*.
2) Cut 1 - 7.25" (C) fabric.
3) Cut 1 - 5.25" (C) fabric.
4) Cut 1 - 5.25" (D) fabric.
5) Cut 4 - 3" (C) fabric.

***For this instructional, we will be using (A) fabric.**

6)



Place both (A) and (C) and put pretty-side to pretty-side together.
Keep lighter fabric on top.
Mark 2 diagonal lines from corner to corner, making an "X" with a fabric pen or pen that does not bleed into fabric.
Then mark 2 perpendicular lines from top to bottom and side-to-side, making a "+" with the same colored pen. Notice that the "X" and the "+" will cross perfectly in the center of the square.

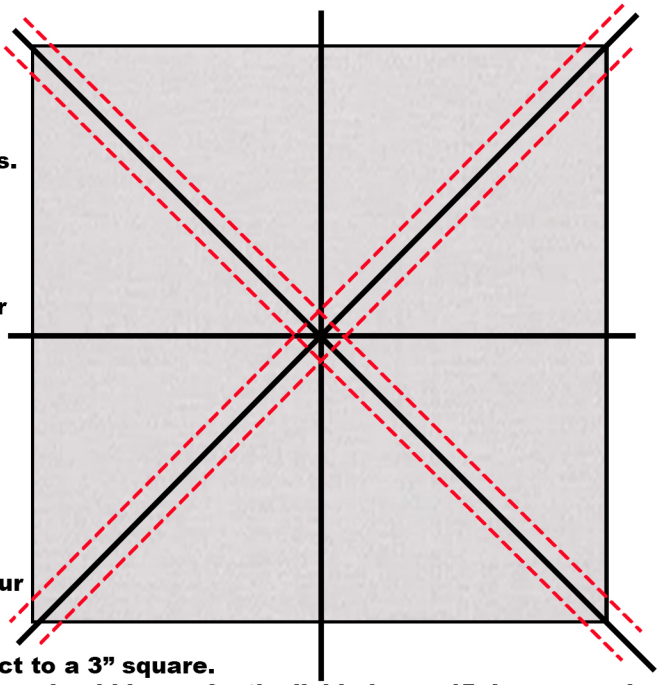
Pin or clip peices together to avoid shifting.

With a different colored pen, mark 1/4 away from each previously marked line on the "X". Mark on both sides of the "X" lines.

Sew along the 1/4 lines and only on those lines.

After sewing, then cut along each of the DRAW marks.

You will end up having 8 individual half-square-triangles.



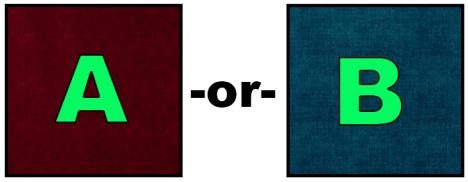
For each half-square-triangle, keep closed and with your iron, gently press on the sewing line to "set" the seam.

Flip upside down and peel apart seams and gently press them open and flat with your iron. (NOTE: you can press seams to one side or the other. If done this way, most people press seam toward the darker fabric but for this instructional, we will press seams open.

Flip over to the pretty side and gently press flat with your iron.

Then square-up the half-square-triangle and cut it perfect to a 3" square.
BE MINDFUL that the 2 halves of the half-square-triangles should be perfectly divided on a 45 degree angle. This is where a quiltong ruler helps.

Instructions:





7)



Place both (C) and (D) and put pretty-side to pretty-side together.
Keep lighter fabric on top.
Mark 1/4” seam allowance along the perimeter of the square.
Pin or clip fabric together to avoid fabric shifting.
Sew along the 1/4” seam allowance line.

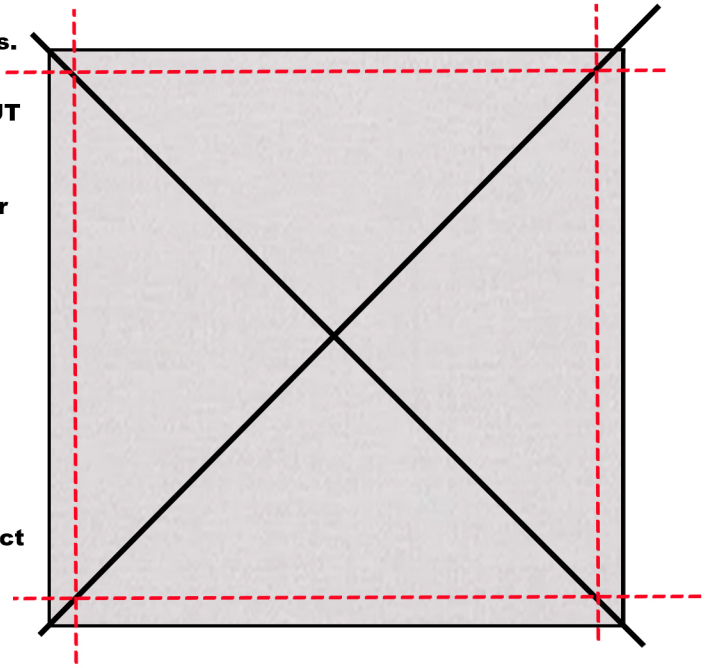
After sewn, mark 2 diagonal lines from corner to corner, making an “X” with a fabric pen or pen that does not bleed into fabric. (Note: Mark from where the seam marks are, not the fabric points. It technically should be the same, but just in case fabric shifted, this will avoid errors.

After sewing, then cut along each of the DRAW marks.

You will end up having 4 individual half-square-triangles.

DRAW & CUT

SEW



For each half-square-triangle, keep closed and with your iron, gently press on the sewing line to “set” the seam.

Flip upside down and peel apart seams and gently press them open and flat with your iron. (NOTE: you can press seams to one side or the other. If done this way, most people press seam toward the darker fabric but for this instructional, we will press seams open.

Flip over to the pretty side and gently press flat with your iron.

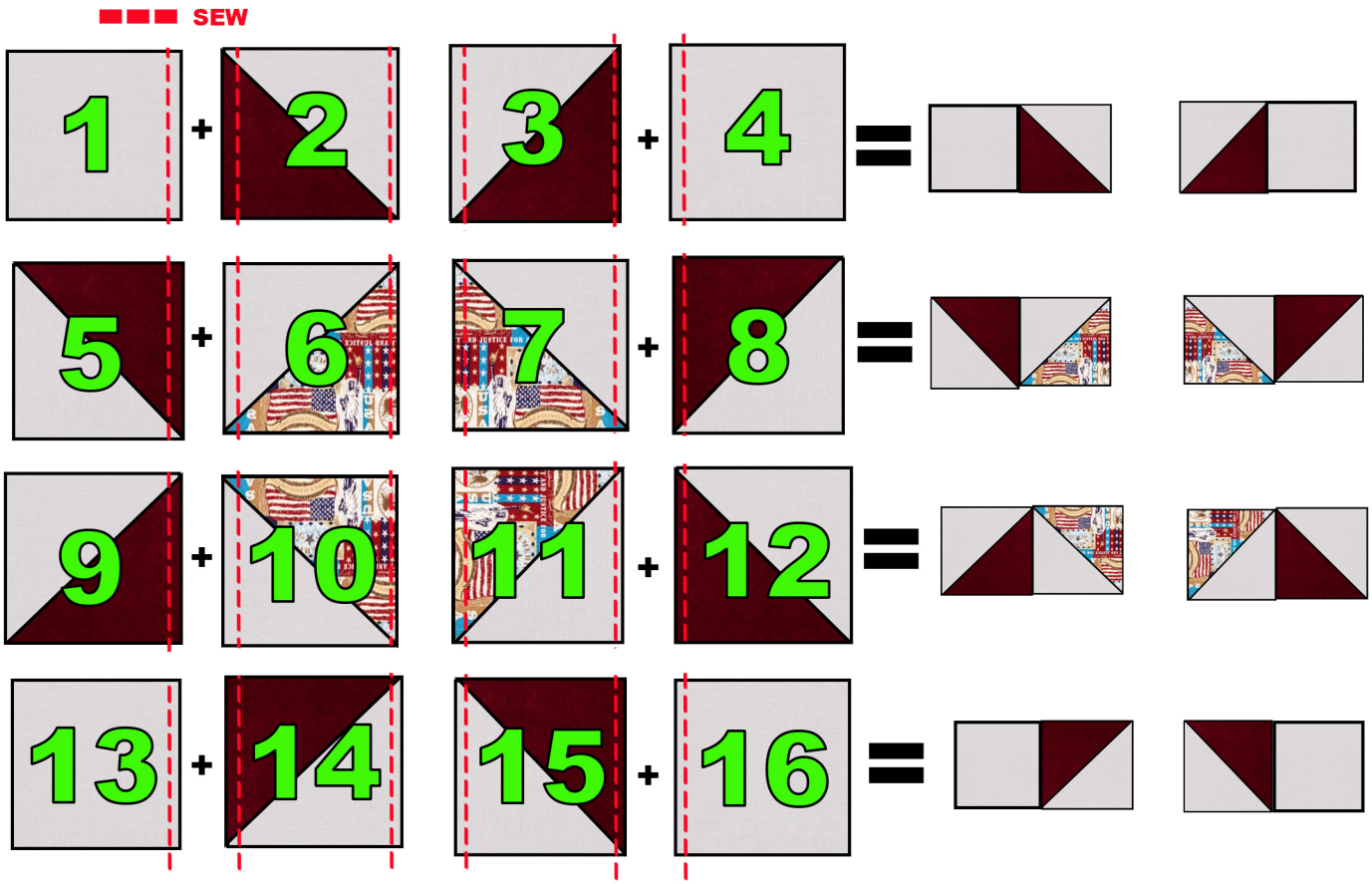
Then square-up the half-square-triangle and cut it perfect to a 3” square. BE MINDFUL that the 2 halves of the half-square-triangles should be perfectly divided on a 45 degree angle. This is where a quilting ruler helps.

Instructions:

8) **You should now have a total of trimmed and pressed:**
- **4 - 3” white squares.**
- **8 - 3” Red and white half-square-triangles.**
- **4 - 3” White and contrast colored half-squared-triangles.**

Set out the squares according to your desired design.

If following this tutorials color scheme, it should like this:



Begin by placing square (1) and (2) pretty side to pretty side and sewing both (1) and (2) together using a 1/4 seam allowance. Keep closed and gently press the seam to “set” the stitches. Then open and turn over and open seams and press flat. Turn over to the pretty side and press flat. Place the combined pieces in order.

Do the same for squares (3) and (4), (5) and (6), (7) and (8), (9) and (10), (11 and 12), (13) and (14), and finally (15) and (16).

For each piece, keep closed and with your iron, gently press on the sewing line to “set” the seam.

Flip upside down and peel apart seams and gently press them open and flat with your iron.
(NOTE: you can press seams to one side or the other. If done this way, most people press seam toward the darker fabric but for this instructional, we will press seams open.

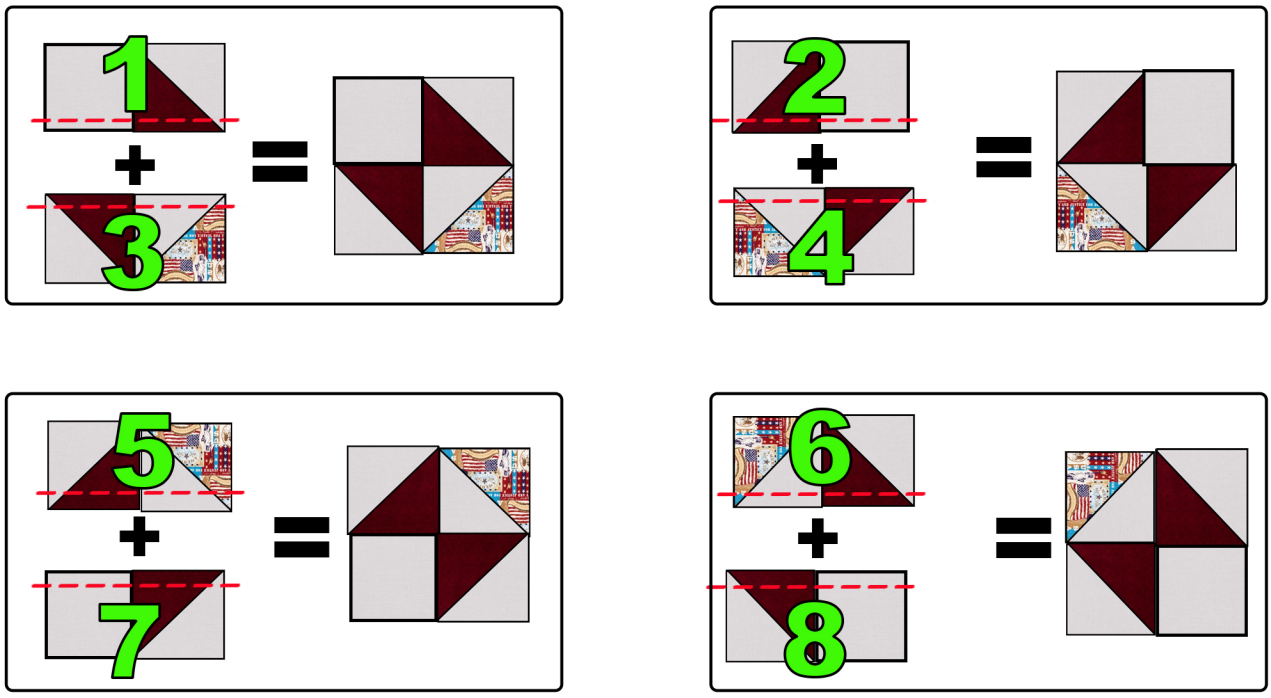
Flip over to the pretty side and gently press flat with your iron.

Then square-up the combined pieces and you should have a perfect 5.5” x 3” rectangle. Press again if needed.

Instructions:

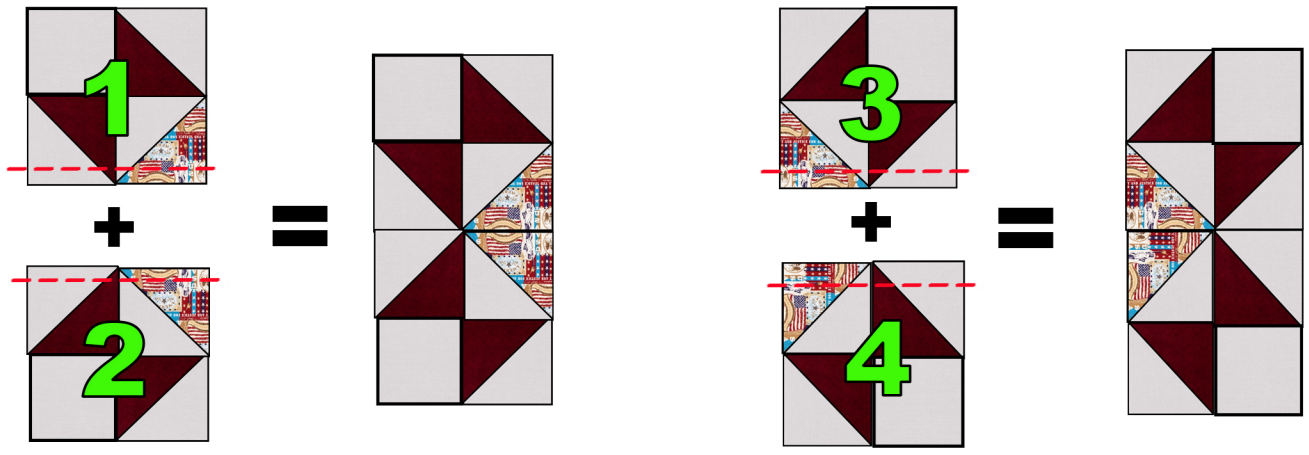
9) **Now flip the following pieces pretty side to pretty side onto one another, making very sure that the 45 degree lines are nestled together. Pin or clip in place.**
Sew (1) and (3), (2) and (4), (5) and (7), (6) and (8) with a 1/4” seam allowance.
Keep the pieces closed and press the seam to “set” the stitches.
Flip upside down and open up the seams and press again. Then flip over to the pretty side and press again making sure they are flat.
Cut the completed to make sure they are now 5.5” wide and 5.25” high and that the 45 degree angle is still perfect.
Place the squares in the position they should be.

SEW



10) **Now flip the following pieces pretty side to pretty side onto one another, making very sure that the 45 degree lines are nestled together. Pin or clip in place.**
Sew (1) and (2), and (3) and (4) with a 1/4” seam allowance.
Keep the pieces closed and press the seam to “set” the stitches.
Flip upside down and open up the seams and press again. Then flip over to the pretty side and press again making sure they are flat.
Cut the completed to make sure they are now 5.5“ wide and 10” high rectangle and that the 45 degree angle is still perfect. Place the squares in the position they should be.

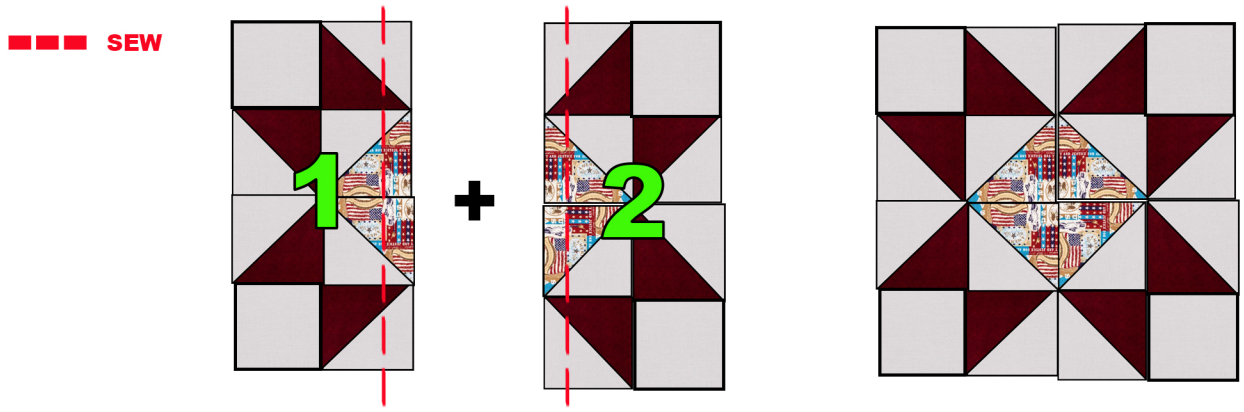
SEW



Instructions:

11) **Now you have the left side and the right side of the block remaining, Flip both pieces pretty side to pretty side onto one another, making very sure that the 45 degree lines are nestled together and the design is in-line with the other. Pin or clip in place.**

Seams may be thick due to the multiple layers so sew slowly and use pins to secure and avoid fabric shifting. Sew (1) and (2) together with a 1/4" seam allowance.



12) **Your block is complete. It should measure just a smidge larger than 10" square. Keep the 2 pieces closed and press the seam to "set" the stiches on both sides.**
Flip upside down and open up the seams and press again. Then flip over to the pretty side and press again making sure the seams are flat. The seams should be as neat as possible.
Fabric starch or a spritz of water will help flatten the seams.

Do not trim the block. If you are sending the block into Nationals, we will do this task for you.

Now that you are familiar with making half-square-triangles, the sky is the limit when it comes to quilt-block design. Continue to make variations of this block. Change colors and have fun!
Here are a few ideas.

