

Stellar

60" x 60"

Pattern by

Laura Jane Taylor

www.needlespinsandbakingtins.com



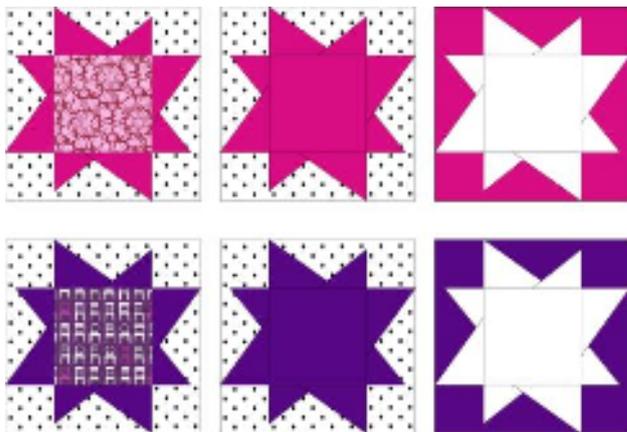
Stellar is a simple but striking quilt pattern, suitable for beginners and experienced quilters the like. It was designed specifically to be used with the Sew Solid Crew monthly stash club available at www.SimpleSolids.co.uk. We will be quilting along, making 3 blocks per month with our solid stash-builder bundles.

Materials Needed

36 fat quarters of different Kona Solids
2 5/8 yards background fabric (2.4m)
4 yards backing fabric (3.7m)
1/2 yard binding fabric (0.5m)
2 yards 90" wide cotton batting (1.8m)

Instructions

As the blocks for this quilt may be made up monthly, we have given cutting instructions for just one block as well as for the whole quilt. Remember if you are making the blocks monthly to save enough solid fabric to cut the sashing strips when you come to make up the quilt! Alternatively, follow the instructions to cut the sashing as you go, and keep in a safe place until needed.



The fabric requirements and instructions are given for solid stars as in the main image above, but note that you could swap the centre square for a co-ordinating print, or reverse the placement of solid and background to create a negative space star.

Please read through the whole pattern before you start.
Note that all seams are 1/4" unless otherwise stated.
WOF means width of fabric, which we understand to be 42".

Cutting for one block

From your background fabric cut:

4 squares, 2.5" x 2.5"

4 rectangles, 2.5" x 4.5"

From your solid star fabric cut:

4 squares, 3.5" x 3.5"

From EITHER solid, OR a co-ordinating print cut:

1 square, 4.5" x 4.5"

Cutting for the whole quilt

From your background fabric cut:

9 strips, 2.5" x WOF – subcut into 144 2.5" squares

9 strips, 4.5" x WOF – subcut into 144 2.5" x 4.5" rectangles

2 strips, 1.5" x WOF – subcut into 49 1.5" squares

6 strips, 2.5" x WOF – reserve for borders

From each of your 32 solid FQ's cut:

4 squares, 3.5" x 3.5"

2 strips 1.5" x 8.5"

1 square, 4.5" x 4.5" (OR cut from a co-ordinating print)

From a further 12 of your 32 solid FQ's cut:

1 strip 1.5" x 8.5"

From the binding fabric cut:

6 strips, 2.5" x WOF

Making the star blocks



Collect the pieces as shown. Note that here we are using a print square for the centre of the star. This is an option, as shown at the beginning of the pattern.

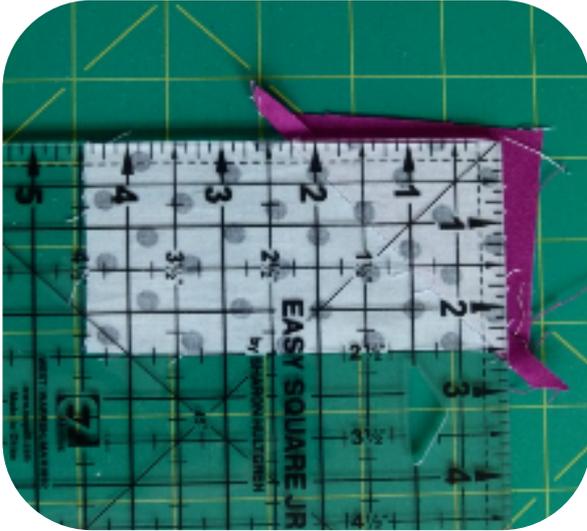


Cut all 4 of the solid 3.5" squares in half on the diagonal.



Take one of the rectangles of background fabric, and lay a triangle of solid fabric on top, right sides together as shown. Sew these together, following the line of the triangle, with a 1/4" seam.

Tip: It is very important that the triangle, when flipped over and pressed, will cover the entire corner of background fabric. You will get used to this as you make more of the geese units, but to begin with make sure to test your piece by flipping over and finger pressing before sewing.



Press the triangle over the background rectangle, and then flip the whole unit to the reverse side. Line up a ruler with the edge of the background rectangle and trim the solid triangle to size.



Flip the unit to the right side, and fold back the solid triangle. Line up the 1/4" mark on your ruler with the stitching line, and cut off the remainder of the background rectangle.



Repeat for the other side, and for all 4 geese units. You can make the star more or less wonky looking by varying the angle of the solid triangles.



Lay the pieces of the star as shown. Piece into columns with a 1/4" seam.

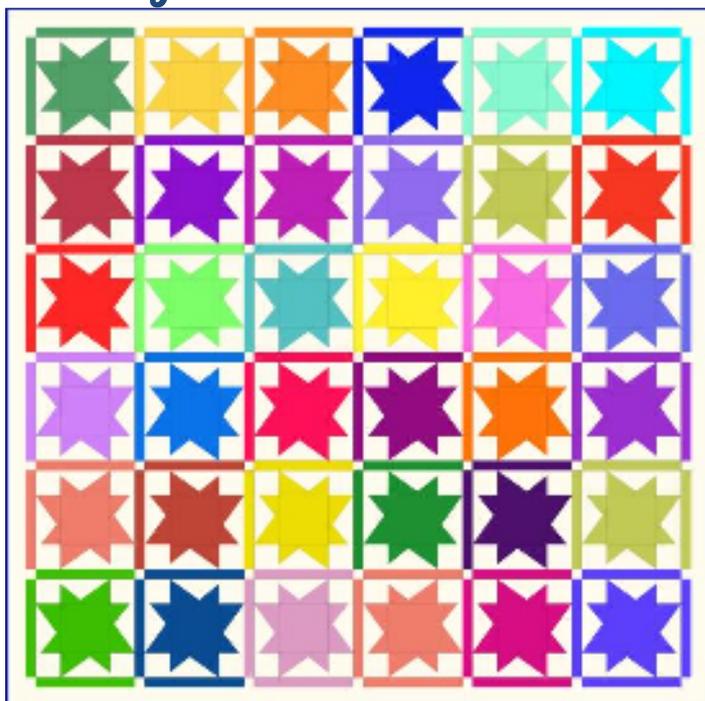


For the two outside columns, press the seams outwards toward the edges. For the centre column, press seams inwards. This is to ensure the seams nest and to reduce bulk.



Piece the columns together, taking care to match and nest the points. Press seams open.

Piecing the rows



You will now make the horizontal sashing rows for the quilt. Piece 7 of the 1.5" background squares, and 6 of the solid sashing strips into a row, alternating between square and strip. Repeat a further 6 times to make 7 rows. Press seams toward the sashing.

You may wish to have some order to the sashing strips, or go for a random arrangement.

Arrange your star blocks in a pleasing layout as shown above, with a pieced sashing row in between each row of un-pieced blocks. You will now sew a vertical sashing strip to each block.



Starting with the left most block on the first row, stitch a vertical sashing strip to its left hand side. Repeat for its right hand side. Now take the second star block in the row and sew this to the right hand side of the previous block unit. Repeat until all 6 star blocks from the row are sewn together, ending with another sashing strip. Press seams toward the sashing.

Sew the rows together to form the quilt top, taking care to match and nest seams. You may wish to pin at each join.

Making the borders

Take the (6) 2.5" strips of background fabric and piece together to form one long strip. Use this strip to attach borders to the top and bottom of the quilt. Repeat for the left and right side of the quilt. Press seams toward the borders.

Quilting and Finishing

Take the 4 yards of backing fabrics and cut in half to form (2) 2 yard pieces. Sew these together down one long side to form the backing of the quilt. Make a "quilt sandwich" of the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste, and quilt as desired.

Sew the binding strips together end to end, press all seams open and press the long strip in half lengthways. Attach binding to the quilt using your preferred method.

Yield: 1 60" x 60" stellar quilt!