

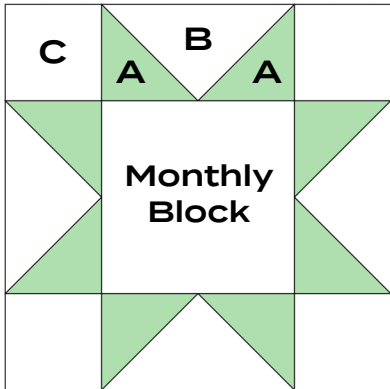
a Quilting Life

Block of the Month 2024

by

Sherri McConnell

January



Designer Note: Each block featured in the 2024 A Quilting Life BOM features a Star Border. Instructions for the Star Borders are given once in the January pattern. Either repeat the instructions each month individually, or complete all prep work in January. Star Borders can be made using up to (12) assorted prints for a unique fabric each month, or completed with just (1) fabric. Cutting Instructions below give quantities to cut for only (1) block, or complete all the blocks by repeating the cutting (12) times. The choice is yours! Choose between either 8" finished blocks, or 16" finished blocks.

You will need the following yardages to complete this portion of the quilt:

- **8" Block Quilt:** $\frac{3}{4}$ yard of Background and $\frac{1}{2}$ yard total of Star Border Print.
- **16" Block Quilt:** 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards of Background and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards total of Star Border Print.

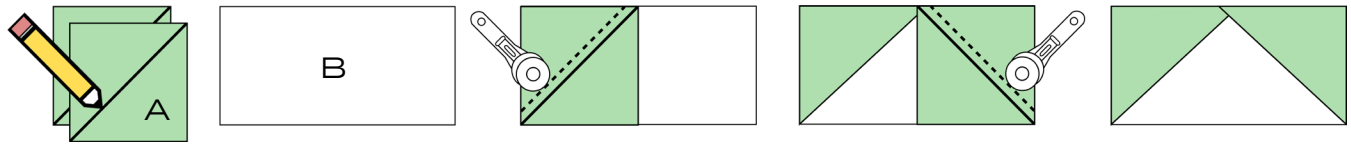
Cutting Instructions for Monthly Star Borders

Designer Note: Follow the block guide shown for fabric placement. Units are labeled A-C.

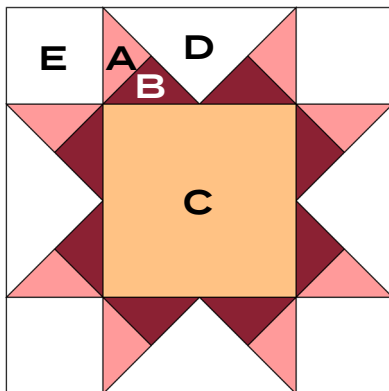
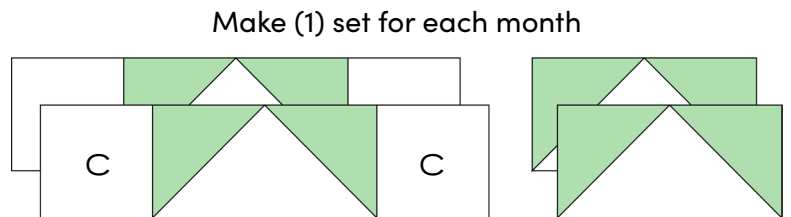
	8" Block (8 ½" unfinished)	16" Block (16 ½" unfinished)
Medium/Dark (A)	(8) 2 ½" squares	(8) 4 ½" squares
Light (B)	(4) 2 ½" x 4 ½" rectangles	(4) 4 ½" x 8 ½" rectangles
Light (C)	(4) 2 ½" squares	(4) 4 ½" squares

Piecing Instructions

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of (8) A – squares using an erasable marker or pencil.
2. Place (1) A – square onto the corner of (4) B – rectangles, right sides together.
3. Sew along the drawn diagonal lines as shown. Trim the excess corner fabric to a ¼" and press toward the corners.
4. Repeat stitch and flip techniques to attach an additional A – square to the adjacent corner of each B – rectangle to complete (4) flying geese units.
5. Use the following guide for flying geese unit sizes for 8" and 16" blocks:
 - a. 8" Block: 2 ½" x 4 ½" unfinished.
 - b. 16" Block: 4 ½" x 8 ½" unfinished.



- Sew (1) C – square onto both ends of (2) flying geese units to further prep for final block assembly. Press toward the flying geese units. There should be (2) flying geese units remaining.
- If you are prepping all (12) Star Borders in January, pin or clip the matching Star Border pieces together as you sew for organization.



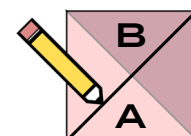
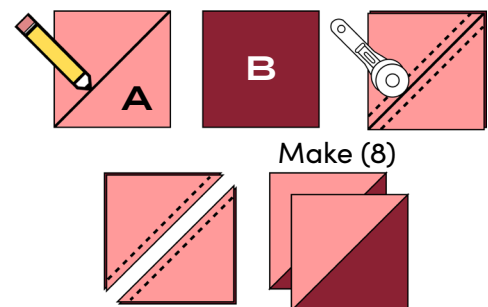
Cutting Instructions

	8" Block (8 1/2" unfinished)	16" Block (16 1/2" unfinished)
Medium (A)	(4) 2" squares	(4) 3" squares
Dark (B)	(4) 2" squares	(4) 3" squares
Medium (C)	(1) 2 1/2" square	(1) 4 1/2" square
Light (D)	(4) 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" rectangles	(4) 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" rectangles
Light (E)	(4) 1 1/2" squares	(4) 2 1/2" squares

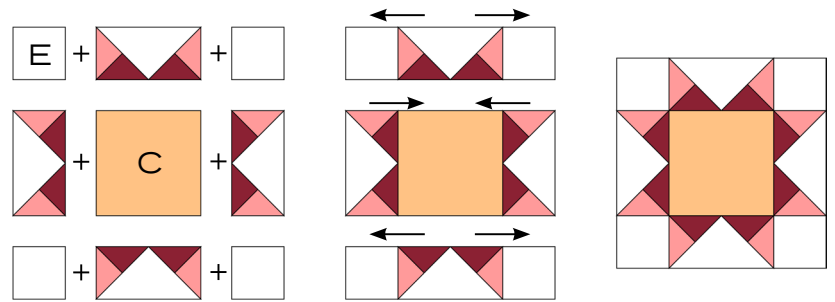
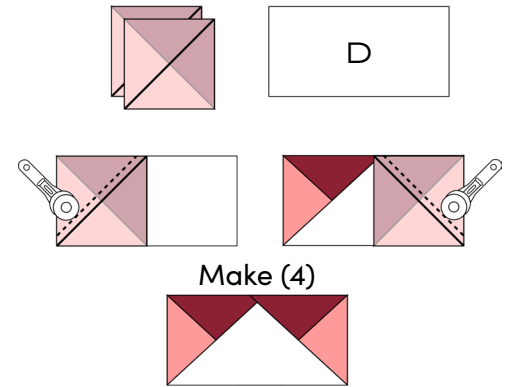
Designer Note: Follow the block guide shown for fabric placement. Units are labeled A-E.

Piecing Instructions

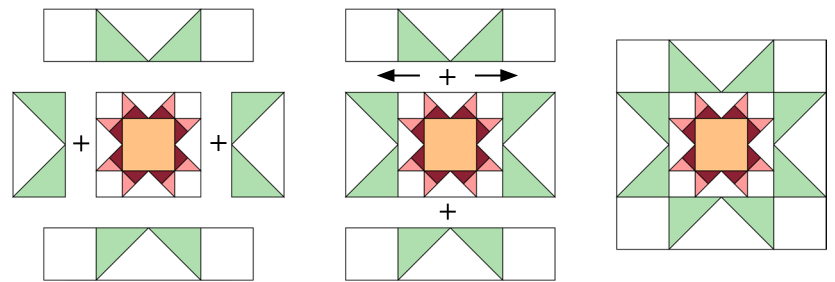
- Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of (4) A or B – squares (*whichever is lightest*).
- Place (4) A – squares with (4) B – squares, right sides together.
- Sew a 1/4" away from both sides of the drawn diagonal line on each square combination.
- Cut along the drawn diagonal lines, making (8) A/B HST units.
- Trim HST units using the following guide for 8" and 16" blocks:
 - 8" Block: 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" unfinished.
 - 16" Block: 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" unfinished.
- Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each HST unit that runs perpendicular to the seam. Reference the diagram.



7. Referencing the diagram, repeat flying geese unit assembly instructions described for the Star Border to make (4) flying geese units using D – rectangles and (8) HST units made in Steps 1-6. **It's important to follow the diagrams closely, placing the A and B sides of the HST unit correctly during assembly for an accurate flying geese unit.**
8. Use the following guide for flying geese unit sizes for 8" and 16" blocks:
 - a. 8" Block: 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" unfinished.
 - b. 16" Block: 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" unfinished.
9. Arrange the flying geese units, (1) C – square and (4) E – squares to form the January block center. Sew together, pressing seams away from the flying geese units.
10. Use the following guide for January block center sizes:
 - a. 8" Block: 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" unfinished.
 - b. 16" Block: 8 1/2" x 8 1/2" unfinished.



11. Arrange the prepared Star Border pieces around the January block center and assemble as shown. Reference the Cutting Chart for unfinished block sizes.



Pattern of the Month...

Start the year on a 'positive' note with the **Omaha 'Plus' Quilt Pattern!** This Charm Pack quilt is the perfect start to the new year and is sure to bring a positive vibe to your sewing space.

