

Double Star Quilt Block Pattern

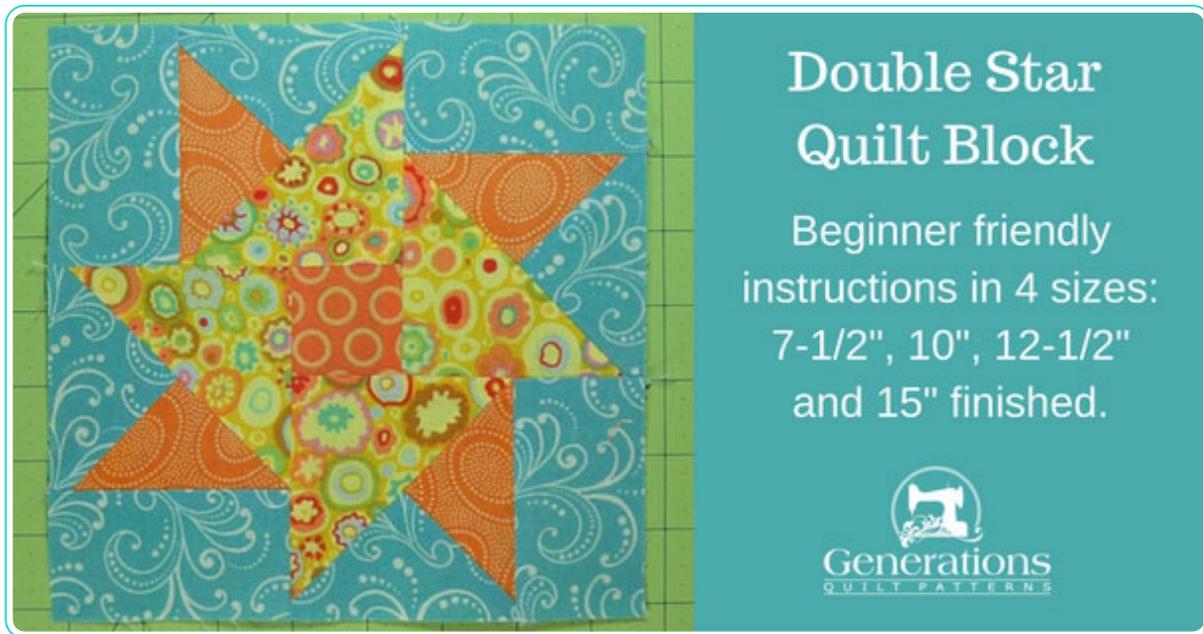
A Lesson in Partial Seams Piecing

This post contains [affiliate links](#) for which I receive compensation.

Skill Level: Confident beginner

The Double Star quilt block pattern is made from a hybrid of a half and quarter square triangles, and rectangles and a square. It uses four fabrics.

In order to piece the unit we'll use a technique known as 'partial seams' or 'puzzle piecing'. No special tools, rulers or templates are required. The patches are all rotary cut.

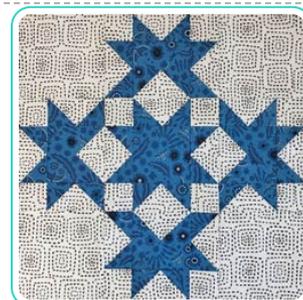


[*Remember to PinIt for later!*](#)

It's a fun little block to make that looks more complicated than it is. A couple of pins makes everything easy.

Not the Double Star pattern you were looking for?

'Double Star' is a common block name. There are many others.



[*Check out the instructions to make the variation shown here.*](#)

General Instructions

[If you need help printing this page, you'll find it here.](#)

The sample Double Star in this tutorial is 7-1/2" finished/8" unfinished.

All seam allowances (**SA**) are 1/4".

Several common abbreviations are used on this page. They are:

- **SA** - seam allowance
- **QST** - quarter square triangle
- **RST** - right sides together
- **BAC** - Background fabric

When you are instructed to press, first press the pieced unit flat to set the seams.

Then open the patch, pressing from the front.

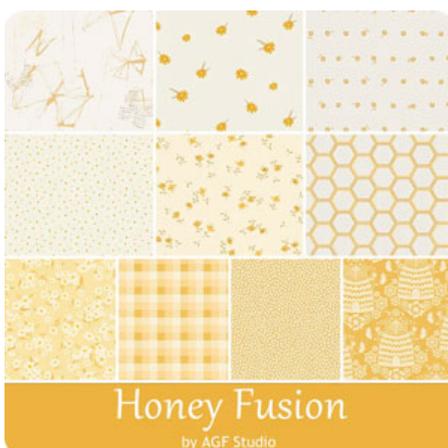
The direction to press the **SA** is included at each step in this tutorial.

The fabric used in this tutorial was starch before cutting with a 50/50 mix of [StaFlo starch liquid concentrate](#) and water. Stiff fabric is easier to cut accurately and fingerpresses beautifully.

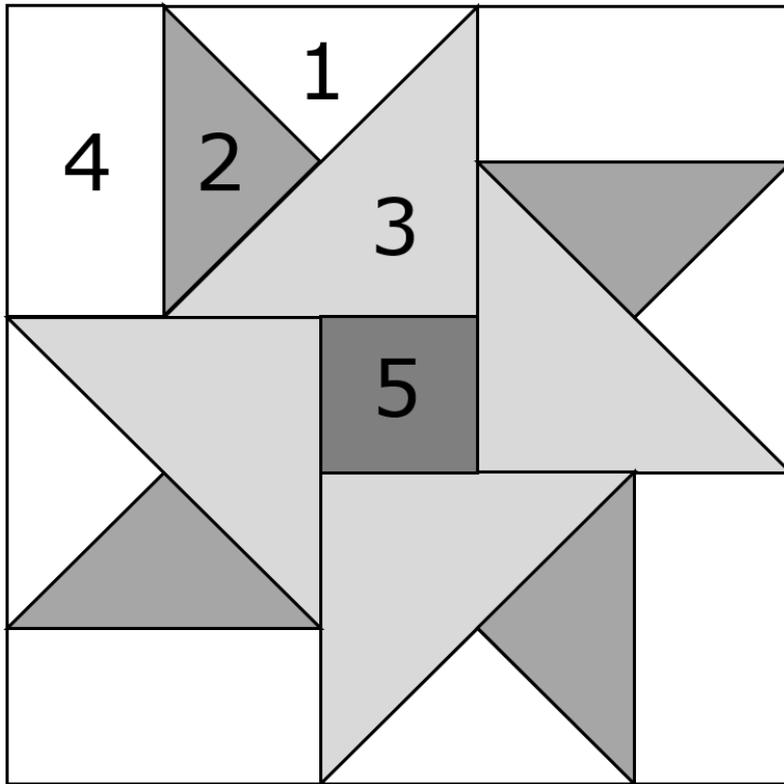
[Best Press](#) is a nice alternative, however the resulting fabric is 'crisp' rather than 'stiff'.

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Step 1: Cut the Double Star patches



Double Star design

Sample Size: 7¹/₂" finished / 8" unfinished

Grid: 5x5

Attributed to: Nancy Cabot

AKA: Hope of Hartford (Farm Journal)

Design Type: Partial Seams/Puzzle Piecing

For QST units, I like to start with over-sized patches and trim to actual size after stitching.

For the patches marked with an asterisk (*) in the chart below, I added an extra 3/8" to the listed dimensions before cutting.

After stitching, I cut them down to the perfect size (there's a chart in the instructions right where you need this information.)

While the block design is colored with a light (white) background above, in the sample I chose a medium blue value for the effect that I wanted.

Choose fabrics in the colors that work best for you! You want fabrics with enough contrast so that your piecing handiwork shows!

As always, as you cut label your patches for easy identification throughout the piecing process.



Cutting Chart for a Double Star Quilt Block

~Traditional Piecing~

Patch	Fabric	Qty	Finished Block Size				Sub Cut
			7½"	10"	12½"	15"	
*1	BAC	1	4¼" x 4¼"	5¼" x 5¼"	6¼" x 6¼"	7¼" x 7¼"	☒
*2	Med	1	4¼" x 4¼"	5¼" x 5¼"	6¼" x 6¼"	7¼" x 7¼"	☒
*3	Light	2	3⅞" x 3⅞"	4⅞" x 4⅞"	5⅞" x 5⅞"	6⅞" x 6⅞"	☐
4	BAC	4	2" x 3½"	2½" x 4½"	3" x 5½"	3½" x 6½"	na
5	Dark	1	2" x 2"	2½" x 2½"	3" x 3"	3½" x 3½"	na
Unfinished Size			8"	10½"	13"	15½"	--
Grid Size			1½"	2"	2½"	3"	--



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In the photo below I have not yet sub-cut the Large Star Points (yellow print) squares.



Step 2: Assemble the Double Star units

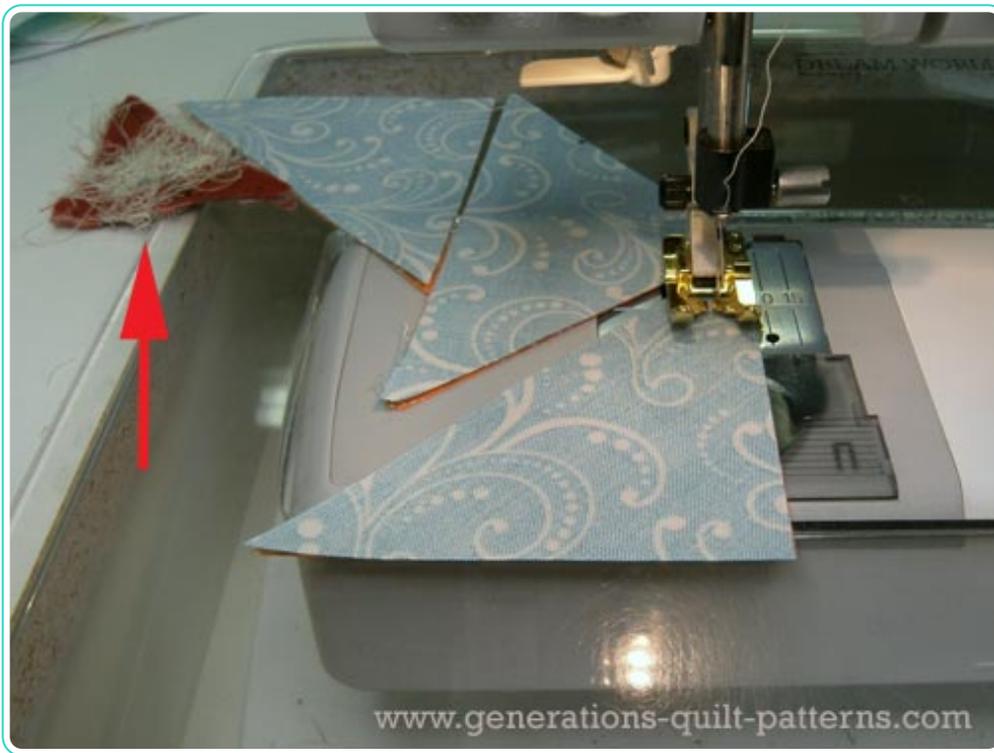
QST units

Make 4

The **QST** units in this block are pieced from individually cut patches. The units are identical. There is no mirror imaging.

With **RST**, align the edges of one background triangle (#1) to one Small Petal triangle (#2). Double check the position of the patches to insure they are in the right position. Stitch.

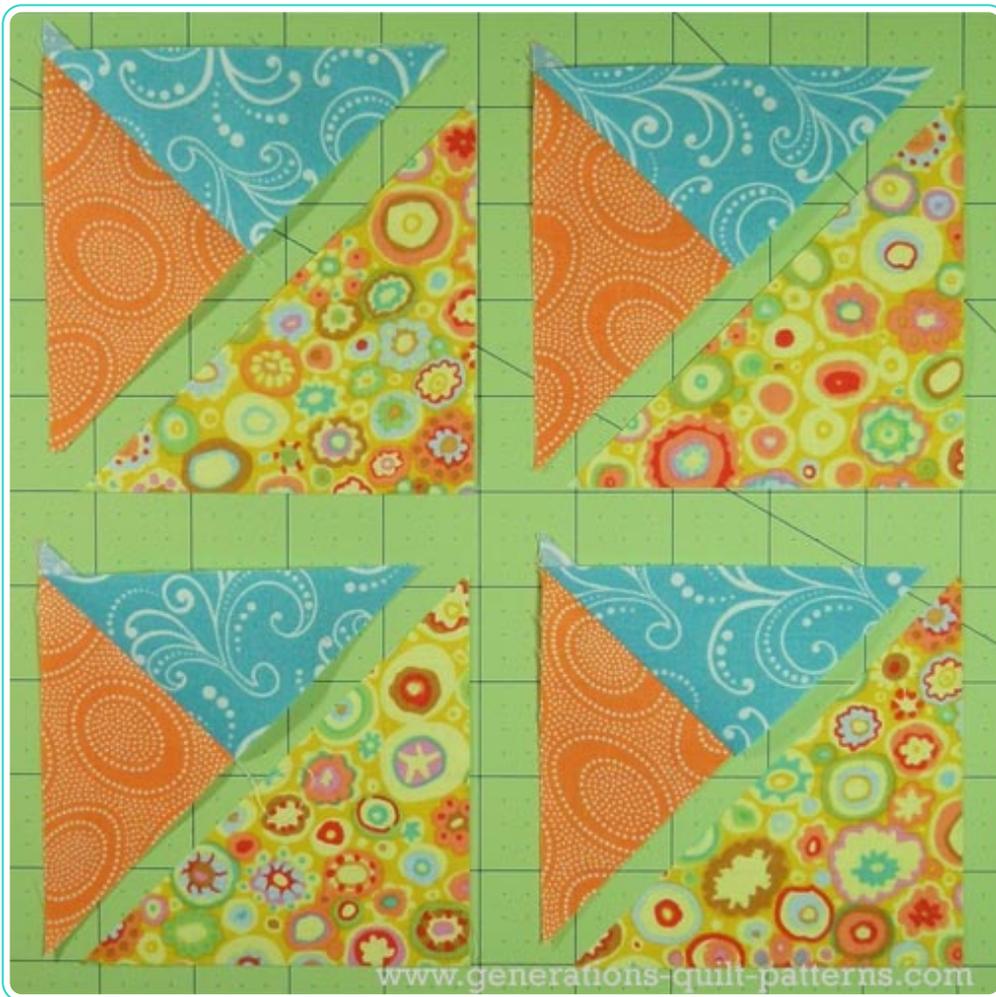
Repeat for the three remaining pairs. To prevent sewing errors, keep the patches in the same order—the blue background fabric is always on top in the photo.



The red arrow points to my anchor cloth

Press **SA** toward the darker patch. In this sample block it's toward the blue #1. If you use a lighter background fabric this may be toward #2 instead.

You're ready for the next seam.



Align the long edge of this pieced #1/#2 unit with the long edge of the Large Petal triangle (#3).
Stitch.



Press **SAs** toward the larger triangle(#3) to reduce bulk.

If you cut your QST patches larger, like I did, you'll need to trim them to size. Use the chart below to find the needed measurements.

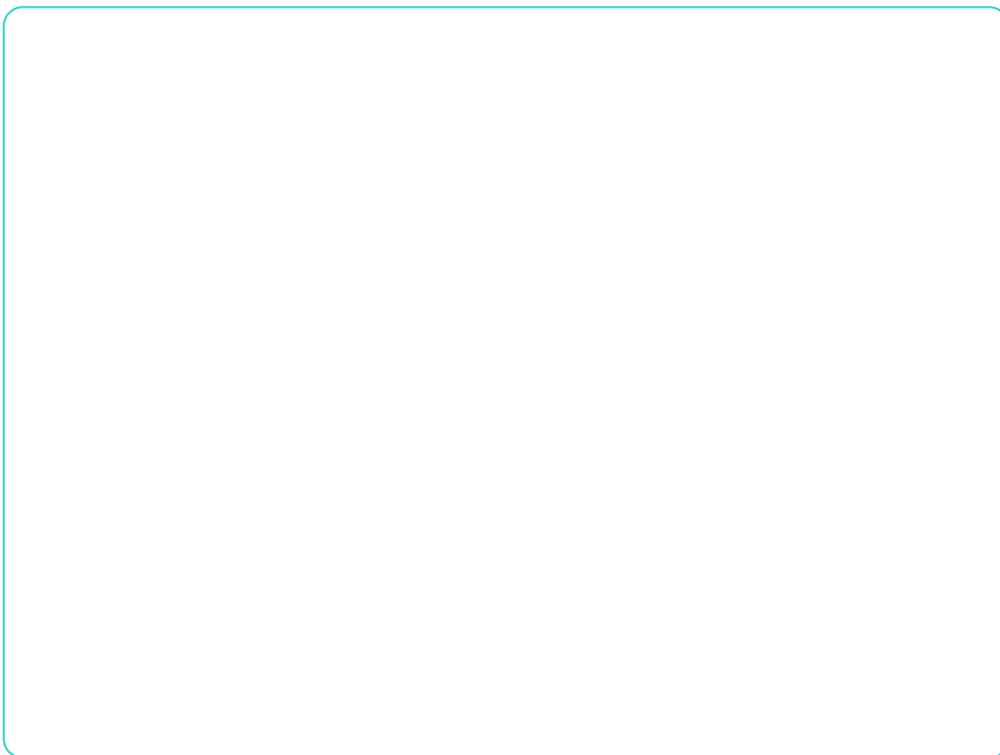
If you cut them exactly to size, use the chart to check your accuracy using the far right column. Make any adjustments needed.

For a refresher on trimming **QST** units to size, click here to review this technique in [Quarter Square Triangle, Technique #1, Steps 6-7](#).

The center measurement for this QST in our 7-1/2" finished Double Star quilt block is 1-3/4".

Finished Block Size	The center of the QST unit is at...	Trim QST unit to...
7 1/2"	1 3/4"	3 1/2"
10"	2 1/4"	4 1/2"
12 1/2"	2 3/4"	5 1/2"
15"	3 1/4"	6 1/2"

After trimming/checking for accuracy and pressing, with RST add the #5 background rectangle to the QST.2 side of each QST unit as shown below.



The units are stitched together with the pieced QST on top. That way, I can ensure that the seam allowances don't flip over and twist during stitching.

Press. **SA** toward the background fabric. Repeat for the 3 remaining pairs.

Step 3: Assemble the Double Star block

To construct this block the first seam is a partial one. This is done to create an edge equal in length to the remaining units.

With **RST**, align the center square (#5) with the corner of the Large Petal fabric. Pin if needed. You will stitch along the long side of the QST unit for a little more than half the length of the center square.

Our stitching is between the black lines.



Sew a bit more than half the seam to attach the center square to the first quarter square triangle unit

Press with **SA** towards the center square.

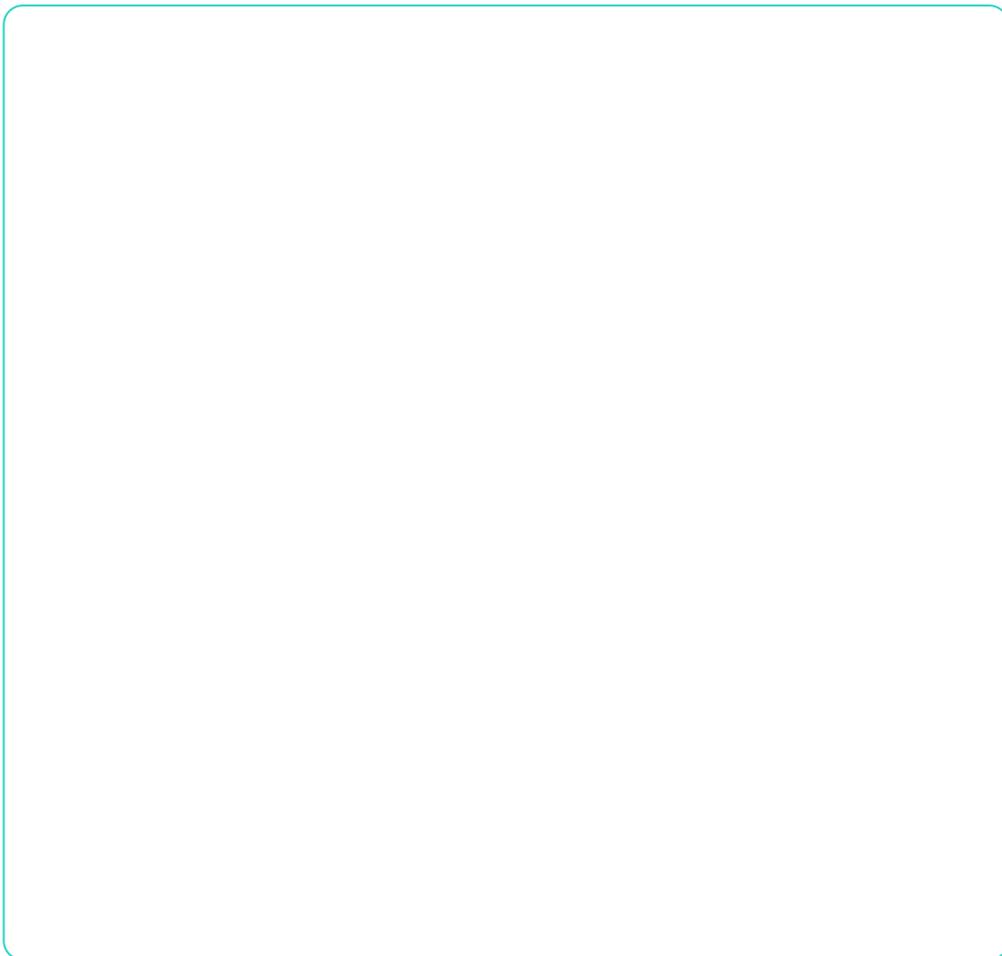
With **RST**, align the next **QST** unit with the edge of the Center/QST unit. Stitch.

Press.

Seam allowance towards the **QST**.



Repeat for the third unit, pressing towards the center square.



Add the fourth. Pins were helpful to keep the layers evenly together during sewing. Press the sewn **SA** away from the center.

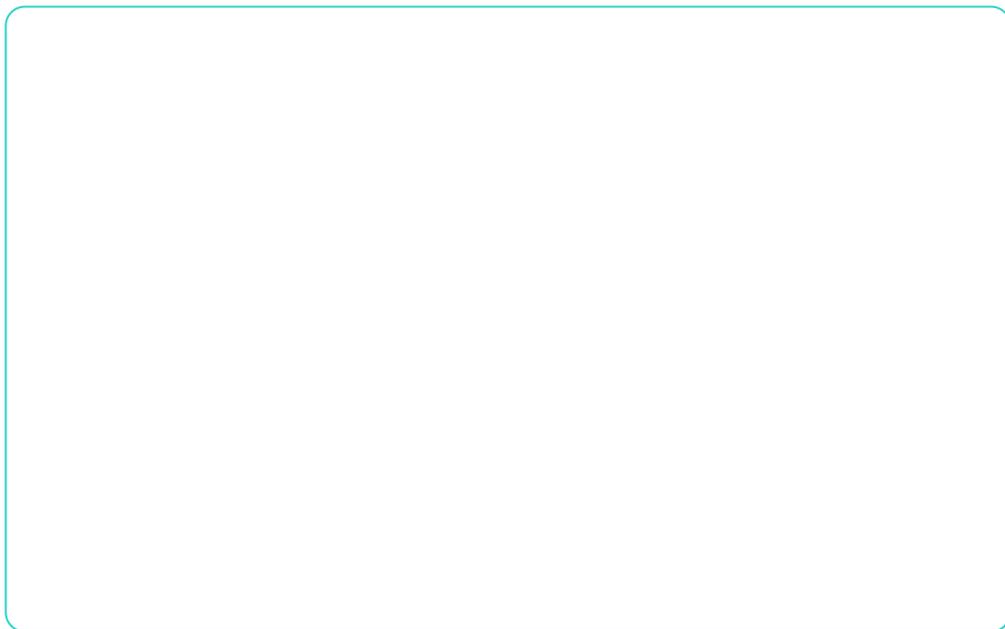


This is how the block looks from the front before pinning the last, partial seamline.



Now things can get a bit lumpy. Nothing that a few pins can't tame.

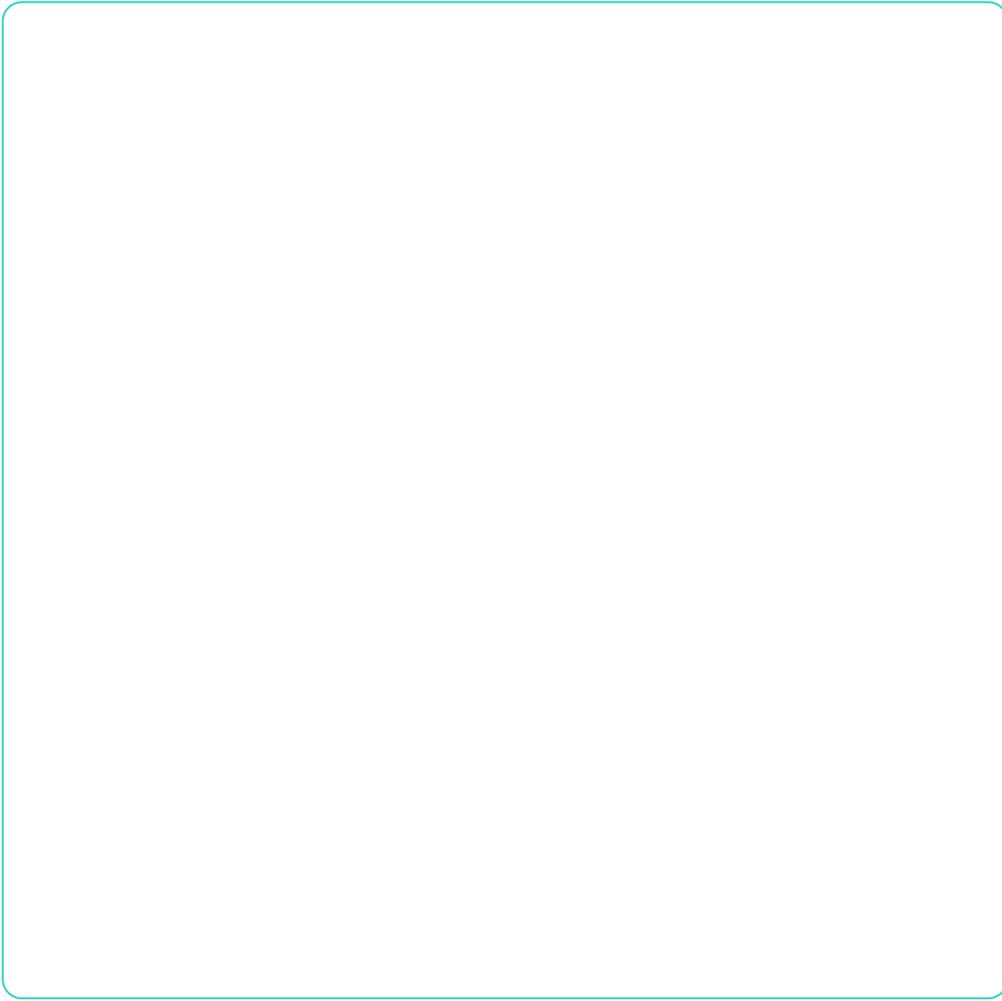
In the photo below, you can see how I've pinned to align and hold the edges. The far right pin is inserted past the original stitching line. This is to help hold things flat and out of the way.



Stitch this final bit.

Press, SA towards the center square.

This is how the block looks from the back.



Your finished Double Star Quilt Block from the front.



Ready for more star-spangled quilt block patterns?

You've finished your Double Star quilt block and you're ready for more!

Check out our [Free Quilt Block Patterns Library](#) to find other star blocks to make your next quilt sparkle!

For a star-studded quilting experience, choose from 50+ bedazzling star quilt patterns—for beginners and beyond—[click here](#).

If you need a different size block...

[For a list of all the quilt block patterns on this site, start here.](#)

If you know the name of the block, you can shorten your search by using these alphabetical links:

[A-D](#)

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[N-Z](#)

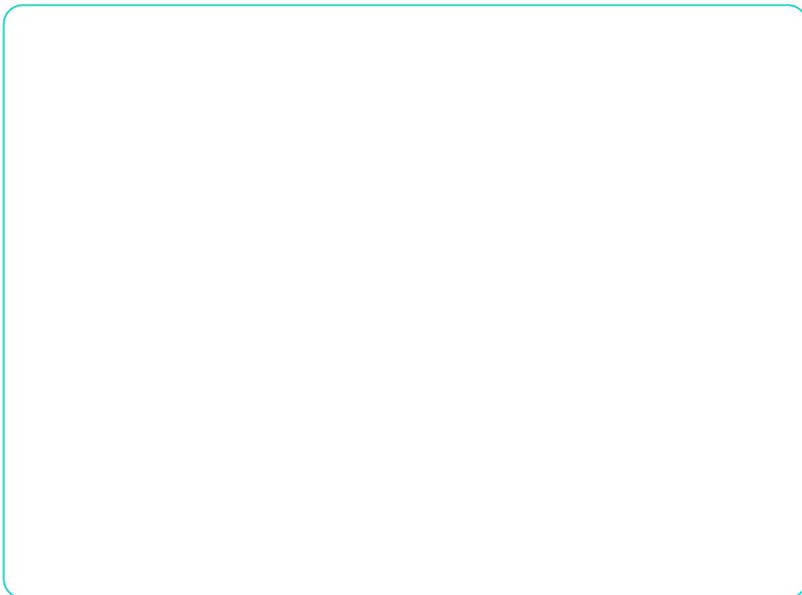
[Click here if you're looking for blocks with at least some paper piecing.](#)

[Click here if you're looking for the basic building blocks of quilting](#), i.e. Flying Geese, half square triangles, quarter square triangles, etc., along with several techniques to make each.

And finally, use these links to find blocks in these finished sizes:

- [4-1/2"](#)
- [5"](#)
- [6"](#)
- [8"](#)
- [12"](#)

For even more blocks to make...



For you, are quilt block patterns like potato chips?

You can't have just one?!!

Check the fantastic resources I rely on for the majority of the quilt block designs you see on this website.

[To see if they're worthy of a spot in **YOUR** quilting library, read about them **HERE**.](#)

NOTE: All the attribution and alternate names shared in the Free Quilt Block Patterns Library came from these four resources.

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