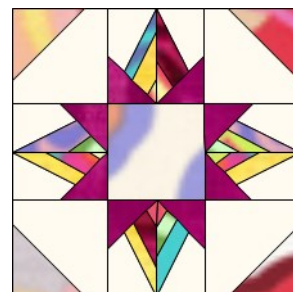


Star Fusion



Class Description: *Get your glow on with the technique-fusions from Bloc Loc Rulers and learn how to make your star blocks explode! By using several seemingly unrelated techniques and the newest ruler set from Bloc Loc you'll be able to make a wide variety of new stars while adding to your quilter's toolbox of tricks.*

Objective: *Students will learn six un-related piecing techniques and then fuse these skills in various combinations to create the incredible, glowing Star Fusion block.*

Technique #1—*Students will make string set before class.*

Techniques #2 to #6. *This is a learn & play section where the students will learn each technique and then practice, advancing (as a class) from technique to technique. Also during this class, students will be using their skill-builder worksheets to help them customize how they want their stars to shine.*

Students will combine all six techniques to create their own Star Fusion block.

Materials List:

Sewing machine with either 1/4" foot

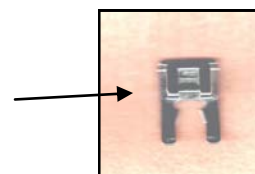


OK



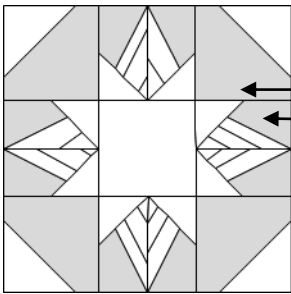
BETTER FOOT
W/FLANGE ON RIGHT

and some type of open toe foot that allows for a better view (see arrow)



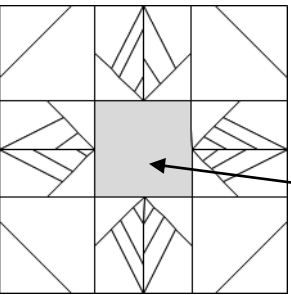
Also: rotary cutter (small size is best) & mat, ruler (small, around 6" x 12"), mechanical pencil or Frixion pen, travel iron, 6x6" template plastic, fine Sharpie marker .

Itemized Fabric List: The list below is just enough to make a few blocks.



Background fabric: light or white fabric — **you'll need to Cut: (4) 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" squares and (4) 3" x 6" rectangles**

After cutting your squares, please label them "Background Fabric" on a small piece of paper and pin this to all units.

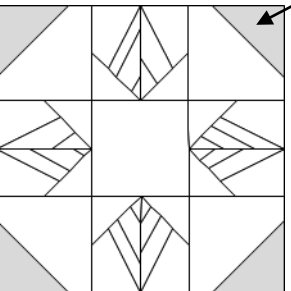


Star center: Small-medium multi-colored print on white—**you'll need to Cut: (1) 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" square**

I used *Pastel Rings* by Brandon Mably (www.gloriouscolor.com)



Label the Star Center square as well.

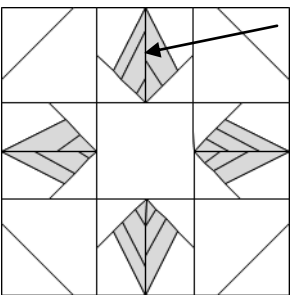


Outer Triangles: Medium multi-colored print on grey—**you'll need to Cut: (4) 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" squares**

I used *Grey Kite Tails* by Kaffe Fassett (www.gloriouscolor.com)

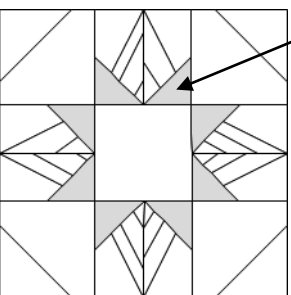


These outer triangles, together with the sashing, form the secondary star pattern. After cutting, label as "outer triangles".



Back of Star: 1/4 yd (each) approximately of 5-6 colors

For the back of the star, choose 5-6 colors: one dark, one or two light and the rest in the middle range. **Cut these into strips ranging from 1" to 2" wide x width of fabric (keep all lengths the same).**



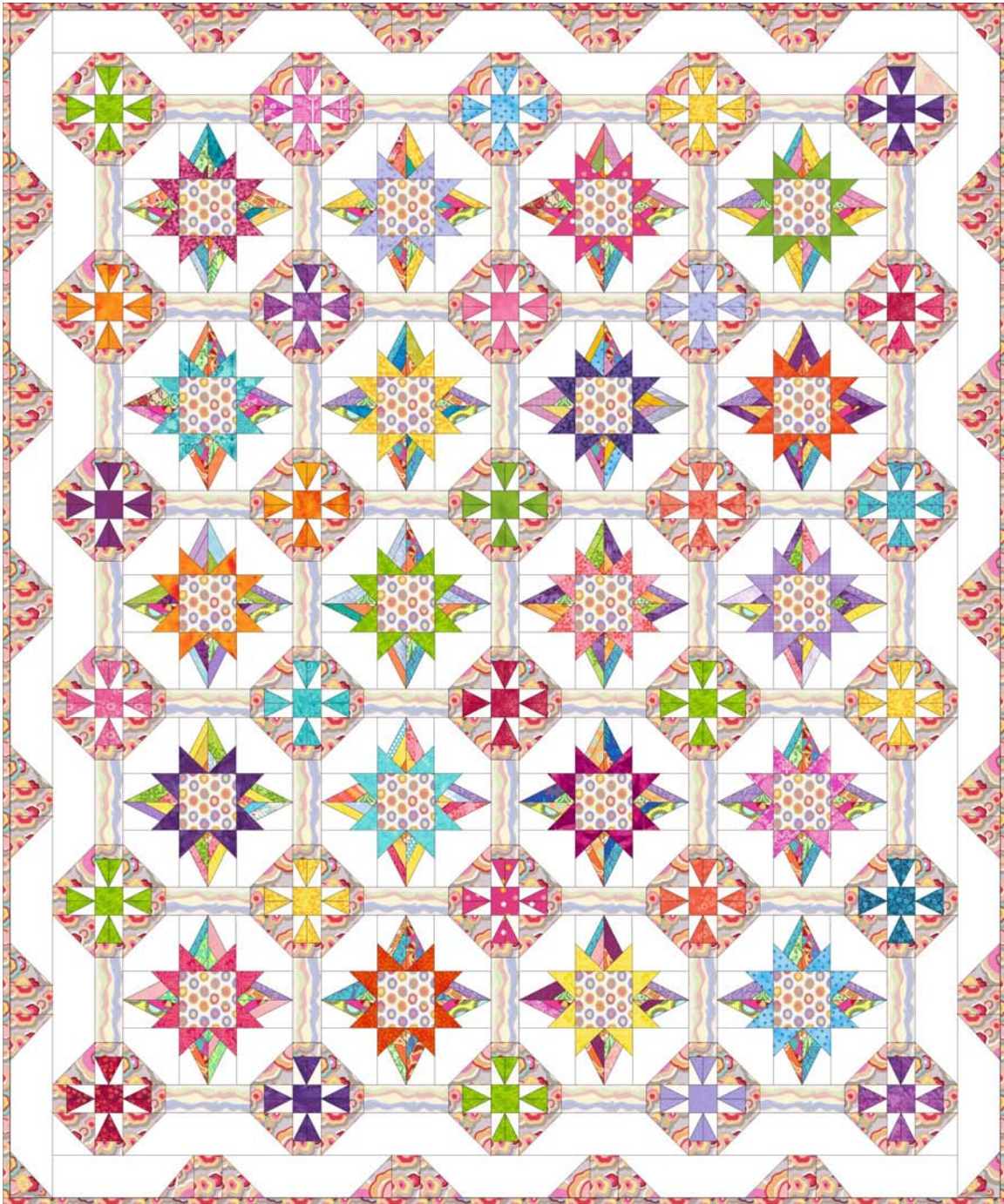
Front of Star: 1/8 yd approximately of one color

The front of the star uses one color, usually darker, brighter, or more intense. Choose the one that gets more of your attention! Label these too.

Cut: (8) 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" squares

Bring to class about 1/4 yard of (2) different scrap fabric that you don't mind ruining in case of mistakes while learning HRTS.

Star Fusion



Star Fusion quilt shown above measures 71 1/2" x 85 1/2" un-quilted top. Your Star Fusion pattern is a multiple size pattern so you can make this quilt in Twin, Double/Full, Queen & King.

Skill Builder Worksheet Technique #1: String Piecing

What is a string set? Strings are narrow lengthwise cuts of fabric, usually scraps (but not always) and can vary in width and regularity. In the past, strings have been sewn to a stabilizer which may be a base of fabric or paper, but for this class, your string set will be narrow cuts of fabric ranging from 1" TO 2" WIDE X THE WIDTH OF FABRIC (WOF) AND THEN SEWN TOGETHER LENGTHWISE. They will not be stitched to any stabilizer.

TIPS FOR BETTER STRING SETS

- ◆ Stitch length 2.0 (recommended) and 1/4" seams.
- ◆ Press the fabric so there are no fold lines and use either a spray starch or sizing. These products help shrink the fabric and help to stabilize thinner fabrics. If you use starch or sizing, use it on *ALL* strings, not just some of them.
- ◆ Cut all strings from the same length of fabric, preferably the entire width of fabric which is generally 40" of usable width.
- ◆ Cut your fabrics in varying width. They do not have to all be the same, in fact, it's better if they're not because then you won't have to match these seams later on. Cut one string 1 1/8" and next 1 3/4" and another 1 1/2" and so on.
- ◆ Keep your cutting lines straight because uneven cut edges make sewing into string sets more difficult and can cause some seams to be less than 1/4".
- ◆ You will need to sew enough strings to make a string set that measures approximately 14" wide x wof but before you do that, read the next bullet about pressing first.
- ◆ Fabric choices can be a full topic unto itself and there are so many options: jelly rolls are nice for the color coordination, but there are also ombre fabrics that produce amazing optical effects, you can have your strings go from dark to light or vice versa or just do what I did, use scraps.
- ◆ Not sure what fabric to put next to each other? It's easy—just put two together that you like, and another two, and so on. After your block has been put together, all you'll really see are two-three fabrics at the most and as long as you're putting colors together that you like, then you'll be happy with your blocks.
- ◆ Sew your strings together into pairs first and then after sewing many pairs you will need to press the seams open. This is important because trying to press the seams after a large string has been joined together is virtually impossible to do well. When pressing each seam open, finger press the seams open from the wrong side and along the entire length of the pair first to get it started and then flip the string set right side up and double check to make sure the seam allowance is open underneath. Press from the right side and move the iron along the seam and not across the seam. (Note: I actually now take this one step further and secure one end of the string pair with a pin to the ironing board and then gently tug on the opposite end and secure that with another pin. At this point I lightly starch it again and press until the entire string pair is dry. After it's completely dry, then I remove the pins and set it aside.)

- ◆ Sew the pairs **into** pairs. Finger press these seams open from the wrong side just as before and then press them again from the right side as before. When you are pressing the pairs open it's a good idea to use a tool called, The Strip Stick. You can get them mailed to you from the manufacturer and I highly recommend them. These sticks are covered with batting and muslin and they help pop a seam open, help to keep them straight and they elevate the seam so that your iron doesn't accidentally press another seam while you are trying to press the intended one. The Strip Stick can be purchased at www.thestripstick.com.
- ◆ Keep sewing the pairs into pairs until your string set is approximately 14" wide and roughly 40" long.

Star Fusion Class

Hi Everyone,

I'm so excited to come and show you how to build Star Fusion! This letter explains the pre-cutting and sewing that will be very helpful for you in the long run so that we'll be able to fit everything in.

I've included the sheets that are given to students about the string sets ahead of time and if you will all make ONE string set and then do the pre-cutting we'll have more than enough time to really learn this well and maybe have a little time for learning how to make your star glow in different directions (I'll have to explain that one later).

On page 2, I've added (2) 1/4 cuts of fabric that are scrap for you to use to learn how to make these HRT units before you actually cut into your string sets and so if you wouldn't mind bringing this it will help you enormously.

Please read through the Skill Builder Worksheet about String Sets—it will help you make one that you will need for class.

I'll be bringing some extra patterns and enough rulers for all of you to make the pattern, a few extra here and there and also our catalog. All students who take my classes receive the pattern for free, free class handouts and a one-time only offer of 25% off current rulers/book/patterns, so if you are able to visit our booth to pick up your supplies with your discount prior to class, that would be great.

Janna