

How to make a 9-1/2" Favorite Star Block

Assemble:

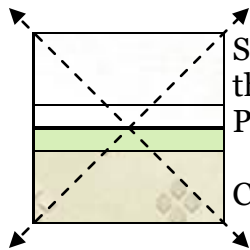
- (1) 3-1/4" wide x WOF (width of fabric) lt green strip
- (1) 3-1/4" wide x WOF (width of fabric) background strip
- (2) 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" yellow squares.



Using a 1/4" seam allowance, sew one of the 3-1/4" wide lt green strips to one of the 3-1/4" wide background strips, making a two-part strip about 40" long. *Press the seam open* (using spray sizing if you have it) and measure the middle part of the strip. It should be exactly 6" wide. If it is not, adjust your seam allowance accordingly.



Cut this strip set into (4) 6" x 6" squares. Sort these squares into pairs, placing them right sides together matching the seams but alternating the colors. In other words, when the right sides of these squares are together, the dark side will touch the light side and the light side will touch the dark side. The seams will lie along side each other. Pin these pairs together.



Sew all the way around these pairs, making a pillow with no way to get into the middle. You can chain stitch these by just doing one side at a time. Press using spray sizing.

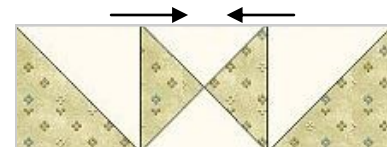
Cut each pillow on both diagonals, making an X. Open up each piece.

Each pillow will make two half square triangle blocks (HSTs) and two quarter square triangle blocks (QSTs.) Press the seam of the blocks open, then square them to 3 1/2" square. You will find a 3 1/2" square ruler very handy now!

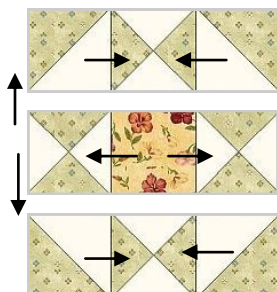
Use these blocks and the 3-1/2" x 3-1/2" yellow squares to make these rows. Press as shown. Sew these blocks in rows, pressing as shown.



Make 2



Make 4



Because of the way you pressed your seams, they should just nestle at the intersections when the rows are sewn together. Note that the individual blocks are pieced on the bias. This will help you ease any stubborn blocks into place, with the help of pins. Press and spray starch the final block, which should measure 9-1/2" square.

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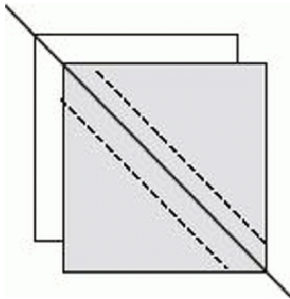
How to make a 9-1/2" Square Favorite Star Block

This block is created using (4) Half Square Triangle Blocks (HSTs) and (4) Quarter Square Triangle Blocks (QSTs), plus (1) 3-1/2" square yellow block for the center.



There are many different ways to make Half Square Triangle Blocks. (HSTs) The traditional method is given here.

You will be making two different sizes of HSTs. The larger size will be used to make the QSTs.



To create the corner HST blocks, place a 4" x 4" green fabric square right sides together with a 4" x 4" background square. Draw a diagonal line on the back of the background square. Sew 1/4" on both sides of that diagonal line. Cut on the line and press to the dark.

Make (2) sets to create (4) HSTs. Square up the HST blocks to 3-1/2" x 3-1/2". Don't skip this step!

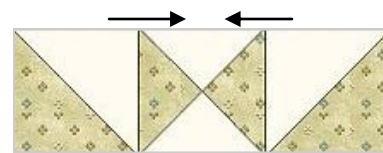
Quarter Square Triangle Blocks (QSTs) are made the same way as HST blocks by using larger HST blocks as the squares. To make these larger HST blocks, place a 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" green fabric square right sides together with a 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" background square. Draw a diagonal line on the back of the background square. Sew 1/4" on both sides of that diagonal line. Make (2) sets to create (4) HSTs. Cut on the line and press to the dark. **DO NOT** square up these blocks.

Place two HST blocks right sides together, pairing the light side with the dark side. Draw a diagonal line on the back of one of the HSTs going through the seam. Sew 1/4" on both sides of that diagonal line. Cut on the line and press the seam open. Square up these blocks to 3-1/2" x 3-1/2".

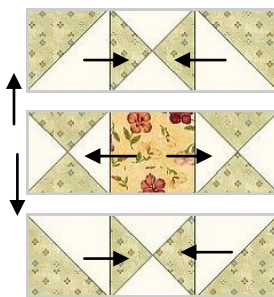
Sew the blocks into rows, pressing as shown.



Make 1



Make 2



Sew the rows into the block shown at the top of this page. Because of the way you pressed your seams, they should just nestle at the intersections when the rows are sewn together. Press and spray starch the final block, which should measure 9-1/2" square.

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