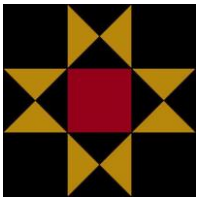


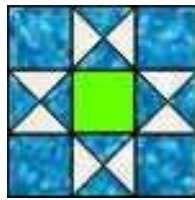
Month 4 (April): Ohio Star - 12” and Eight Point Star Variation -12”

Ohio Star - 12”

Fabric Keys:



Color A = Black
Color C = Gold
Color D = Red



Color A = Blue
Color C = Light
Color D = Green

History: The Ohio Star block is a nine-patch block from the early 1800s and surged in popularity in Depression era and post-Depression quilts of the 1930s. It was a popular pattern among Scottish and Irish immigrants in the Midwest and frequently used by Amish quilters.

Techniques: Quarter Square Triangles (QSTs)

Cutting Instructions:

Black/blue colors [A]: Cut two 5 ¼” squares

Cut four 4 ½” squares (corner squares)

Gold/light colors [C]: Cut two 5 ¼” squares

Red/green colors [D]: Cut one 4 ½” square (center square)

Note: To make the units scrappier, use multiple fabrics for A and C colors.

Formula for the QSTs: Cut two different fabric colored squares 1 ¼” larger than the finished size square.

Construction:

Quarter Square Triangles (QSTs):

- Mark the back side of a C 5 ¼” square with two diagonal lines, ¼” either side of the corners as for the half square triangles (HSTs) in January’s Ribbon Star block (Figure 1).
- Layer the C square atop an A 5 ¼” square right sides together (RST) and stitch just inside the marked lines, sewing each seam in the same direction.
- Cut apart between the sewn lines, yielding two HSTs. Press toward A fabric.
- Mark the back of one HST diagonally corner to corner, across the seam line as when making an HST (Figure 2).
- Lay the marked HST unit atop the other HST unit, RST, rotating the second HST unit so the fabrics are opposite each other and the seams of the HSTs are nested together (Figure 3).
- Place the layered units on the machine so the top seam allowance is pointing toward the foot, so the foot will push the seam against the lower one for a tight join.
- Sew just inside the marked lines, sewing both lines in the same direction.
- Cut apart between the lines, yielding two QSTs.
- Before opening the unit to press it open, pick out the threads in the seam allowance at the center, spiraling around the seams so they are pressed in opposite directions (Figure 4). Figure 5 shows the right side of the QST.
- Square up to “4 ½”.
- Repeat above steps once for a total of four QSTs.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Assemble Block:

- Sew the QST units, the corner squares, and the center square together into rows according to Figure 6.
- Use the arrows for pressing directions.

- Nesting seams together, pin rows together; sew the three rows together. The block will measure 12 1/2", including seam allowances.

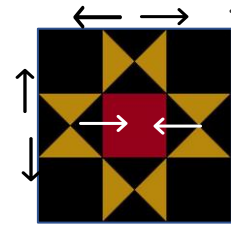
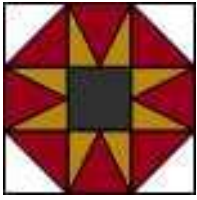


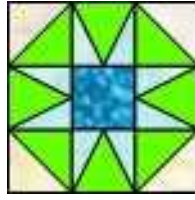
Figure 6

Eight Point Star Variation -12”

Fabric Keys:



Color A = Black
Color B = White
Color C = Gold
Color D = Red

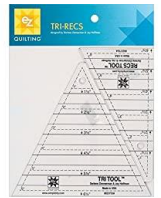


Color A = Blue
Color B = Light
Color C = Light blue
Color D = Green

History: This is one of several blocks named “Eight Point Star Variation.” An alternate name is the “Sun Rays” block. The star point units are the “Triangle in a Square” blocks, which is a fairly common unit in other blocks, most well-known being the “Fifty-Four Fort y or Fight” block, which dates back before 1840.

Techniques: Triangle in a Square (TiaS) block (aka 'Spikey and Peak')

Optional Tools: Tri-Recs quilting ruler set The Tri Recs triangle ruler combo is made especially for piecing the Triangle in a Square quilt block. It comes as a set of two rulers: one for the larger center isosceles triangle angle (the 'Tri'), and one for the side half triangles (the 'Recs'). The rulers have other uses besides the TiaS: Use just the 'Rec' ruler to make half triangles that are twice as tall as they are wide; use just the 'Tri' ruler to make quilts of nothing but triangles. No formulas are needed to calculate the size strip(s) to use - just cut the strip width the same size as the unfinished square or rectangle. The 'Rec' ruler has a cutout angle at the top to align the patches for easier stitching.



Cutting Instructions:

Black/blue colors [A]: Cut one 4 ½” square (center square)

White/light colors [B]: Cut two 5” squares or one 5” x 10” rectangle (corner HSTs)

Gold/light blue colors [C]: Cut a strip 4 ½” wide x 20” long (TiaS)

Red/green colors [D]: Cut two 5” squares (corner HSTs)

Cut a strip 4 ½” wide (TiaS)

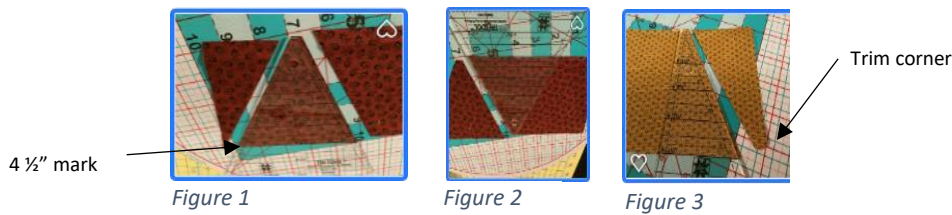
Note: To make the units scrappier, use two fabrics each for B and D 5” squares and use a different fabric for each C (3” x 4 ½” rectangle) and D (5 ½” x 4 ½” rectangle) triangle template instead of the 4 ½” strips (see construction section).

Triangles in a Square (TiaS): These instructions use the Tri-Recs ruler or paper templates, which are included below. A pattern is also included to make the TiaS by paper foundation piecing, but no instructions are included for that method.

- Place the ‘Tri’ template/ruler on the 4 ½” D strip, aligning the 4 ½” line on the bottom of the strip and the flat tip on the top of the strip (Figure 1).
- Cut out the triangle.
- Flip the template/ruler (or rotate the mat) so the flat tip is on the bottom of the strip and the 4 ½” line is on the top of the strip (Figure 2).
- Cut out the next triangle.
- Repeat previous steps to make a total of four D triangles.
- Fold the 4 ½” C strip in half lengthwise with right sides together (RST). If using different fabrics, layer them with either right sides or wrong sides together to make both the right and left triangles.
- Align the ‘Recs’ template/ruler on the strip the same way as for the ‘Tri’ template/ruler (Figure 3) .
- Cut out the triangles. Remember to trim the tiny cut-off corner at the top of the template/ruler (Figure 3).

Flip the template/ruler as above (or rotate the mat) and cut out sets of triangles for a total of eight triangles – four triangles and four reversed triangles for the right and left sides of the block.

Note: The sides of both the 'Tri' and the 'Recs' triangles are bias edges. To prevent stretching, consider using starch.



Formula to make TiaS templates for other sizes:

- Draw a square the finished size of the TiaS.
- Mark the center of the bottom side of the square.
- Draw a line from the upper right corner down to the marked center.
- Draw another line from the upper left corner to the marked center (Figure 4).
- Cut apart on the drawn lines.
- Add a 1/4" around all sides of the three pieces.

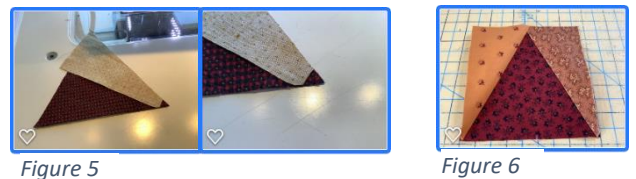


Construction:

Half Square Triangles (HSTs): Use any method from previous blocks to make four 4 1/2" unfinished HST units. Press toward B fabric.

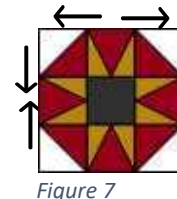
Triangles in a Square (TiaS):

- With RST, layer the center triangle D patch ('Tri' piece) with one of the C half triangles ('Rec' piece), aligning the snipped corner at the top of the 'Rec' piece with the bottom of the 'Tri' piece. The angle of the half triangle matches the bottom edge of the center triangle. This whole edge should match up perfectly (Figure 5).
- Stitch a 1/4" seam along the edge; the stitching will go through the snipped point of the half triangle.
- Press open toward the side half triangle (C fabric).
- Align the edges of the remaining half triangle with the other edge of the center triangle, as with the first side triangle.
- Stitch and press toward half triangle (C fabric).
- Trim off "bunny ears" and square up to 4 1/2" (Figure 6).
- Repeat above steps to make a total of four TiaS units.

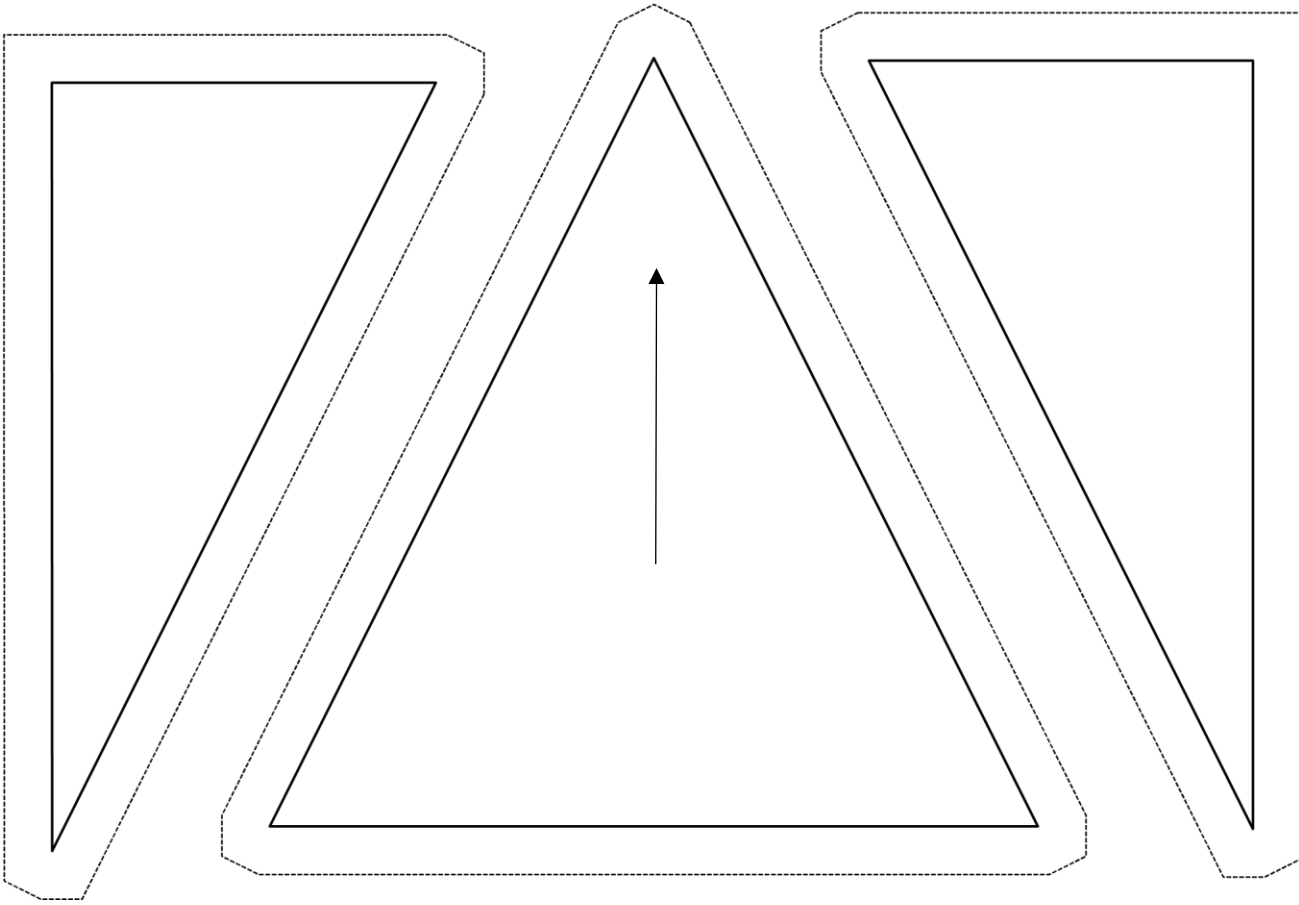


Assemble Block:

- Sew the TiaS units, the corner squares, and the center square together into rows according to Figure 7.
- Use the arrows for pressing directions.
- Nesting seams together, pin rows together; sew the three rows together. The block will measure 12 1/2", including seam allowances.



TiaS Templates



Triangle in a Square (print four)

