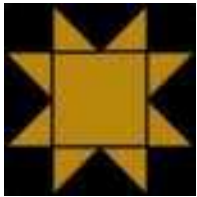


Month 6 (June): Sawtooth Star blocks - 6" and Snail Trail or Irish Chain blocks - 12"

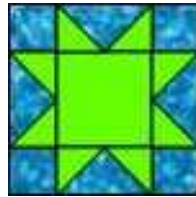
Sawtooth Star blocks - 6"

8 Sawtooth Star blocks - 6" (four each of two different colored blocks in one colorway and eight in the second colorway)

Fabric Keys:



Black = A
Gold = C
Red = D



Blue = A
Green = B

History: The Sawtooth Star block is also sometimes known as Evening Star, but the evening star has another round of star points. Its name can be traced back to a US magazine in the mid-1880s, however the block can be seen in quilts from the mid-19th century. In the tradition of quilt blocks being named after everyday items, sawtooth refers to the right-angled triangles resembling the teeth of a saw.

Techniques: Flying Geese with connecting corners method

Cutting Instructions:

Note: To make the blocks scrappy, do not cut strips first, but use multiple fabrics to cut the individual pieces.

Black/ blue colors [A]: Cut five 2" strips

- Subcut thirty-two 3 1/2" rectangles and thirty-two 2" squares (corner squares)

Gold/red colors [C, D]:

- Cut two 2" strips each color and subcut into thirty-two 2" squares of each color
- Cut four 3 1/2" square each colors

Green color [B]:

- Cut four 2" strips and subcut into sixty-four 2" squares
- Cut eight 3 1/2" square

Construction:



Flying Geese Units:

- Mark the back of gold/red/green [C/D/B] 2" squares with a diagonal line from corner to corner.
- Place a gold/green [C/B] square on top of the 3 1/2" rectangle, right sides together, orienting marked line according to Figure #1.
- Sew on the marked line.
- Trim off outer corner 1/4" from the seam line (Figure 1).
- Press seam toward the gold/green [C/B] triangle (Figure 2).
- Repeat this on the opposite corner of the rectangle, rotating the triangle according to Figure #3.
- The flying geese unit measures 2" x 3 1/2".
- Repeat above steps to make a total of four black /gold and black/red OR eight green/blue units.

Assemble Blocks:

- Sew the Flying Geese units, four [A] corner 2" squares and a 3 1/2" center square together into rows according to Figure #4 pressing according to the arrows.
- Nest, pin and sew the three rows together. The block will measure 6 1/2", including seam allowances. →
- Make a total of four black/gold and black/red blocks OR eight blue/green blocks.

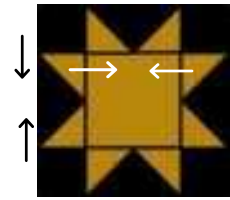
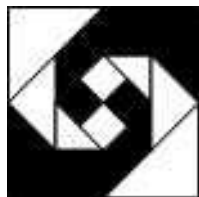


Figure 4

20 Snail Trail blocks - 12"

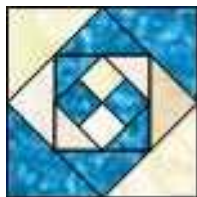
Note: The Snail Trail blocks are the setting blocks; or as an alternative, make the Irish Chain blocks.

Fabric Keys:



Black = A

Light = B



Blue = A

Light = B

History: According to Barbara Brackman in Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns, the traditional Snail Trail block traces back to the Ladies Art Company, a mail order quilt pattern catalog, appearing in 1928. The block has several names and variations. Ruby McKim called it Monkey Wrench or Snail's Trail in the 1920s. Quilter's Newsletter called it Indiana Puzzle in 1976. Other names are Journey to California, and Whirligig Quilt. Some think that the Snail's Trail is an imitation of a woven fabric pattern known as 'Houndstooth' pattern.

Techniques: Four-patch; strip piecing; flip and sew

Cutting Instructions:

Four-Patch:

Strip piecing method: Layer together and press the two fabrics [A and B] right sides together (RST) before cutting.

Black/blue colors [A]: Cut five 2 5/8" strips

Light colors [B]: Cut five 2 5/8" strips

Fast track method: This method makes two identical four-patches.

Note: Layer together and press the two fabrics RST before cutting.

Black/blue colors [A]: Cut ten 5 1/4" squares

Light colors [B]: Cut ten 5 1/4" squares

Formula for the fastrack four-patch method: Cut two different squares, each 1" larger than the finished size of the four-patch. This will make two four-patches.

Square in a Square:

Note:

- Pieces are cut slightly over-sized and then trimmed to size after stitching.
- For a scrappy version, cut the required number of squares or HSTs and QSTs of each A and B colored fabrics

Black/blue colors [A]:

- First (inner) round: A1 patches
 - Cut two 4" strips
 - Subcut into twenty 4" squares
 - Cut each square in half on the diagonal for a total of forty 4" half square triangles (HSTs).
- Second (middle) round: A2 patches
 - Cut two 7 3/4" strips
 - Subcut into ten 7 3/4" squares
 - Cut each square in half on the diagonal twice for a total of forty quarter square triangles (QSTs).
- Third (outer) round: A3 patches
 - Cut four 7" strips
 - Subcut into twenty 7" squares

- Cut each square in half on the diagonal for a total of forty 7" HSTs.

Light colors [B]:

- First (inner) round: B1 patches
 - Cut two 4" strips
 - Subcut into twenty 4" squares
 - Cut each square in half on the diagonal for a total of forty half square triangles (HSTs).
- Second (middle) round: B2 patches
 - Cut two 7 3/4" strips
 - Subcut into ten 7 3/4" squares
 - Cut each square in half on the diagonal twice for a total of forty quarter square triangles (QSTs).
- Third (outer) round: B3 patches
 - Cut four 7" strips
 - Subcut into twenty 7" squares
 - Cut each square in half on the diagonal for a total of forty HSTs.

Construction:

Four-Patch:

Strip piecing method:

Note: To mke the block scrappier, use shorter strips of multiple fabrics (or do the fast track method).

- Stitch the two strips (A and B) RST on the longer strip sides with a 1/4" seam (Figure 1).
- Press toward the darker fabric.
- Repeat for a total of five strips.
- Layer and nest two strips, rotating one strip 180° so the colors are opposing each other (Figure 2 – note, the strips are offset in the diagram). Since there are an uneven number of strips, cut the las strip in half in the middle and layer the two halves.
- Subcut into twenty layered 2 3/4" segments.
- Sew each segment together along the side edges. (Figure 3 – note, the units are offset in the diagram). Place the units under the machine so the top sea allowance points toward the foot to push the units together to make a good join; this also helps prevent the bottom seam from twisting.
- Before opening the unit to press it open, twist the seam where the four patches come together, picking out the threads in the center seam allowance, spiraling the seams so they are pressed in opposite directions (Figure 4).
- The units should measure 4 3/4" (Figure 5). There will be a to



Figure 1



Figure 2

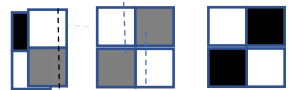


Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Fast track method: This method makes two four-patches from each set of two squares.

- Using a set of the layered 5 1/4" squares, sew a scant 1/4" from the edges along opposite sides of the squares (Figure 6).
- Cut in half parallel to the seam lines, forming two rectangles 2 5/8" x 5 1/4", including seam allowances (Figure 7).
- Press toward the dark fabrics (figure 8).
- Rotate one unit so the colors will be on opposite sides and layer the two units RST (Figure 9).
- Sew a scant 1/4" from the edges along opposite sides of the squares, perpendicular to the original seam lines (Figure 10). To sew the first side, place the units under the machine so the top sea allowance points toward the foot to push the units together to make a good join; this also helps prevent the bottom seam from twisting. For the second side, pin and sew the seam.
- Cut the sewn units in half parallel to the sew seam lines, forming two rectangles 2 5/8" x 5 1/4", including seam allowances (Figure 10).



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10

- Before opening the units to press open, twist the seam where the four patches come together, picking out the in the center seam allowance, spiraling the seams so they are pressed in opposite directions (Figure 4).
- Repeat ten times to make a total of 20 four-patches. The units should measure $4\frac{3}{4}$ " (Figure 5).

Assemble Block:

Flip and Sew technique: Triangles are stitched to the side of a patch and flipped open and pressed. When triangles are attached to all four sides of a square, it makes a Square in a Square block/unit. The Snail Trails block has three rounds of Square in a Square units.

Note: Pay attention to the placement of colors to be sure to get the correct positioning (Figure 11).

- Layer the diagonal side of a black/blue A1 HST along one edge of the four-patch RST, aligning the triangle point with the seam perpendicular to the to the aligned edges (Figure 12). (*The left side of the triangle will always be the same color as the left patch.*)
- Sew with a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Press open, pressing seam outwards toward the triangle.
- Sew the other black/blue A1 HST along the opposite side of the four-patch in the same manner (Figure 13).
- In the same manner, sew the B1 patches to the other two sides (Figure 14).
- Trim block round to $6\frac{1}{2}$ ". There should be an $\frac{1}{4}$ " between each of the four-patch points and the outside of the unit.
- Following the above steps, sew the second round with A2 and B2 QSTs according to Figure #11. Trim block round to 9," making sure there is $\frac{1}{4}$ " between each of the triangle points and the outside of the unit.
- In the same manner, sew the third (and final) round with A3 and B3 HSTs. Trim block to $12\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- Repeat to make twenty Snail Trail blocks.

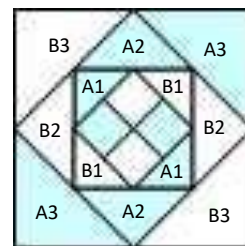


Figure 11

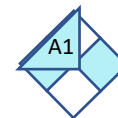


Figure 12

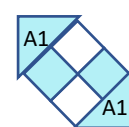


Figure 13

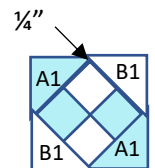
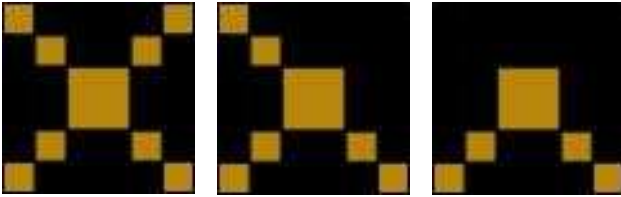


Figure 14

20 Irish Chain blocks - 12”

Note: This an alternate block to the Snail Trail. There are three different configurations based on the placement of the block in the quilt – six full chain blocks, ten $\frac{3}{4}$ partial chain blocks and four $\frac{1}{2}$ partial blocks as noted in the diagrams below.



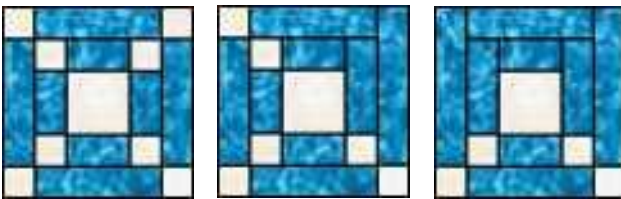
Block 1 (six)

Block 2 (ten)

Block 3 (four)

Black = A

Gold = C



Blue = A

Light = C

History: Current documentation on the Irish Chain quilt pattern indicates that it was developed in America in the early 1800s. Quilt historian Barbara Brackman states that 1814 is the earliest known date for this pattern. There’s another quilt pattern very close to the Irish Chain pattern found in Ireland a few years earlier (circa 1805), which was called the ‘American Chain.’ The block is fairly simple, but when connected with other blocks, the patchwork links with each other to create color flow along the diagonals.

Techniques: Strip piecing

Cutting Instructions:

Black/blue colors [A]:

- Cut fourteen $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips
 - From nine strips, subcut forty $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ” rectangles for top and bottom center patches
 - OR only cut five $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips and cut an extra three $8\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips (total five) and subcut these into the forty $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ” rectangles
- Cut two $4\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips
- Cut two $6\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips
- Cut two $8\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips
- Cut two $10\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips

Gold/light colors [A]:

- Cut twelve $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips
- Cut three $4\frac{1}{2}$ ” strips

Construction:

Strip Sets:

Strip Set #1:

- Sew together two $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” gold/light C strips and one $4\frac{1}{2}$ ” black/blue A strip (Figure 1).
- Press seams toward darker fabric.
- Repeat once to make a total of two strip sets.
- Subcut into twenty-two $2\frac{1}{2}$ ” segments



Figure 1

Strip Set #2:

- Sew together two 2 ½" black/blue A strips and one 4 ½" gold/light C strip (Figure 2).
- Press seams toward darker fabric.
- Repeat twice for a total of three strip sets.
- Subcut into twenty 4 ½" segments



Figure 2

Strip Set #3:

- Sew together two 2 ½" gold/light C strips and one 8 ½" black/blue A strip (Figure 3).
- Press seams toward darker fabric.
- Repeat once for a total of two strip sets.
- Subcut into twenty-two 2 ½" segments



Figure 3

Strip Set #4:

- Sew together one 2 ½" gold/light C strip and one 6 ½" black/blue A strip (Figure 4).
- Press seams toward darker fabric.
- Repeat once for a total of two strip sets.
- Subcut into eighteen 2 ½" segments



Figure 4

Strip Set #5:

- Sew together two 2 ½" gold/light C strips and a 10 ½" black/blue A strip (Figure 5).
- Press seams toward darker fabric.
- Repeat once for a total of two strip sets.
- Subcut into eighteen 2 ½" segments



Figure 5

Assemble Block:

Block #1:

- Nest, pin and sew together two Strip Set #1 segments and one Strip Set #2 segment (Figure 6).
- Press to the top/bottom outer strips.
- Sew a 2 ½" x 8 ½" A patch to the top and another to the bottom of unit (Figure 7).
- Press to the top and bottom outer strips.
- Nest, pin and sew a Strip Set #3 to each side of Figure #7 unit (Figure 8).
- Press to the outer strip sets.
- Repeat to make a total of six Block #1s.

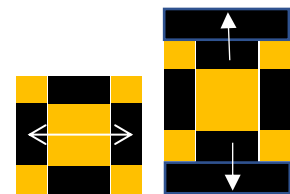


Figure 6

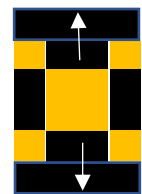


Figure 7

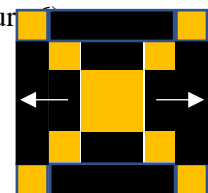


Figure 8

Block #2:

Note: Press toward the outer strips as in Block #1

- Nest, pin and sew together one Strip Set #1 segment, one Strip Set #2 segment, and one Strip Set #4 (Figure 9).
- Sew a 2 ½" x 8 ½" A patch to the top and another to the bottom of unit (Figure 10).
- Nest, pin and sew one Strip Set #3 to one side and one Strip Set #5 to the other side of Figure #10 unit (Figure 11).
- Repeat to make a total of ten Block #2s.



Figure 9

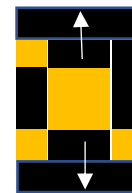


Figure 10

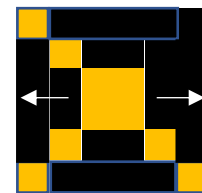


Figure 11

Block #3:

Note: Press toward the outer strips as in Block #1

- Nest, pin and sew together two Strip Set #4 segments and one Strip Set #2 segment (Figure 12).
- Sew a 2 ½" x 8 ½" A patch to the top and another to the bottom of unit (Figure 13).
- Nest, pin and sew one Strip Set #5 to each side of Figure #1 unit (Figure 14)
- Repeat to make a total of four Block #3s.

