

Hometown Stars



Hometown Stars measures 70" x 70".

Designed by Thelma Childers with an assist or two from Carrie Nelson.

Piecing by Thelma Childers and machine-quilting by Connie Lancaster of Quilts Plus in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The fabric collection is **Hometown Christmas** by Sweetwater Fabrics for Moda.

* For an alternate size, see Page >>

It may not seem like the most efficient way of piecing but to get maximum scrappiness and a variety of stars, this quilt is pieced using individual squares. The squares for the half-triangle squares (HTSs) are also cut a skosh bigger - 3" instead of 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " - to allow for a bit of squaring up/trimming down.

Fabric Requirements:

Asst. Light, Medium & Dark prints - 38 Fat Eighths
Background - 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ yards
Binding - $\frac{5}{8}$ yard
Backing - 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ yards

Cutting:

From each of the 38 Print Fat Eighths, cut the following:

- Cut 2 strips - 3" x 21" wof. From the strips, cut 8 squares - 3" x 3". From the remainder of the 2nd strip, cut 5 squares - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- Cut 1 strip - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 21" wof. From the strip, cut 8 squares - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- Total Squares required:
 - 3" x 3" - 248
 - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " - 472

From the background, cut the following:

- Cut 7 strips - 3" x 42" wof. From the strips, cut 84 squares - 3" x 3".
- Cut 24 strips - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 42" wof.
 - From 12 of the strips, cut 72 rectangles - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
 - From the remaining strips - and any leftover pieces - cut 189 squares - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Assembly. Unless specified otherwise, all seams are a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



Block 1 ~ Make 13.

Pieces required for 1 block:

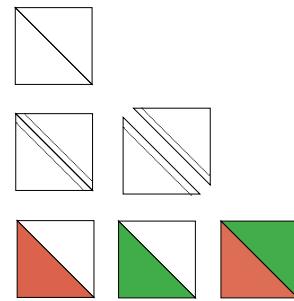
- Star Print No. 1 - 4 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 2 squares - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Star Print No. 2 - 4 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 2 squares - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Background - 4 squares - $3'' \times 3''$
- Background - 9 squares - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$

Note: The sashing on this block will be added after Block 2 has been pieced.

Piecing the HTSs - select the $3'' \times 3''$ squares. Pair them as follows:

- Star Print No. 1 & Background - Make 2 pairs.
- Star Print No. 2 & Background - Make 2 pairs.
- Star Print No. 1 & Star Print No. 2 - Make 2 pairs.

On the wrong side of one square from each pair, use a pen/pencil/marker to draw a diagonal line from corner to corner as shown.

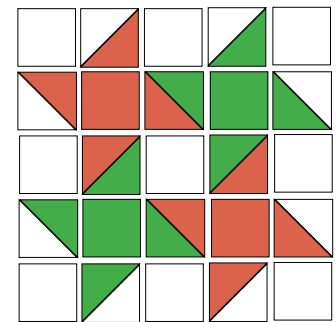


Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on both sides of the drawn line. Cut the square apart on the line.

Make a total of 12 HTSs - 4 of each combination.

Trim HTSs to measure $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$.

Lay out the pieces as shown.



Join the squares and HTSs to make five rows. Press the seams toward the plain squares - or press them open.

Join the rows to complete the block. Press the seams toward the top, middle and bottom rows - or press them open.

The block will now measure $10\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10\frac{1}{2}''$.

Make 13.



Block 2 ~ Make 12.

Pieces required for 1 block:

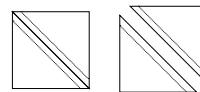
- Star Print No. 1 - 2 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 1 square - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Star Print No. 2 - 2 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 1 square - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Star Print No. 3 - 2 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 1 square - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Star Print No. 4 - 2 squares - $3'' \times 3''$ & 1 square - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Assorted Prints that contrast with the star prints - 4 squares - $3'' \times 3''$
- Assorted Prints - 4 squares - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Background - 4 squares - $3'' \times 3''$
- Background - 6 squares - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$
- Background - 6 rectangles - $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$

Select the following 3" x 3" squares - 1 of each of the four star prints and 4 background squares. Make 4 pairs - one print and 1 background square.

On the wrong side of each background square, use a pen/pencil/marker to draw a diagonal line from corner to corner as shown.



Stitch a scant 1/4" seam allowance on both sides of the drawn line. Cut the squares apart on the line.

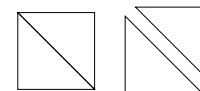


Make a total of 8 HTSs - 2 of each combination.

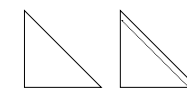


Trim HTSs to measure 2 1/2" x 2 1/2".

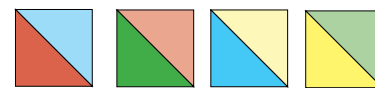
Using the remaining 3" x 3" squares - 4 star print squares and 4 assorted prints - cut the squares once on the diagonal to make 2 triangles from each square as shown.



*To make scrappier combinations, select a total of 48 print 3" x 3" squares. Cut them into triangles and mix the print triangles from several blocks.



Match each star print triangle with a different contrasting triangle - make 8 pairs. Stitch a scant 1/4" seam allowance on the long edge as shown.



Press the seam in one direction.

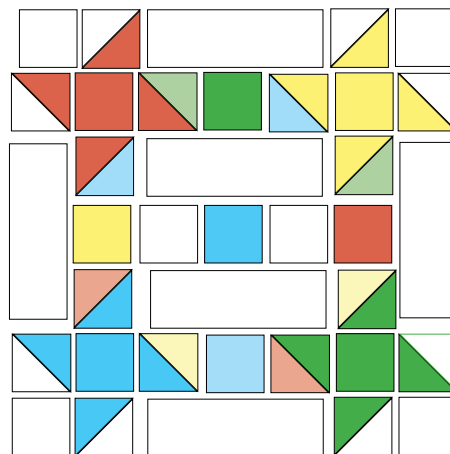


Make a total of 8 HTSs - 2 for each of the four star prints.

Trim HTSs to measure 2 1/2" x 2 1/2".

Lay out the pieces as shown.

Join the center section first - the three rows in the middle. Press the seams toward the print squares and rectangles - or press them open. Join the side rectangles - press the seam toward the rectangle. (Or press it open.)



Join the squares, rectangles and HTSs to complete the remaining four rows. Press the seams toward the plain squares and rectangles - or press them open.

Join the rows to complete the block. Press the seams toward the odd-numbered rows - or press them open.

The block will now measure 14 1/2" x 14 1/2".

Make 12.

Finishing Block 1.

Sort the remaining 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" print squares - there should be at least 312 of them - as follows:

- 26 groups of 5 assorted squares
- 26 groups of 7 assorted squares



Side Strips. Select one group of 5 squares. Join the squares to make a strip measuring $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10\frac{1}{2}''$. Press the seams to the 1st, 3rd, and 5th squares - or press them open.



Repeat to make 26 strips.

Join the strips to the sides of Block 1. Press the seams toward the pieced strip - away from the center of the block. Or press them open.

Top & Bottom Strips. Select one group of 7 squares. Join the squares to make a strip measuring $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 14\frac{1}{2}''$. Press the seams to the 2nd, 4th and 6th squares - or press them open.



Repeat to make 26 strips.

Join the strips to the top and bottom edges of Block 1. Press the seams away from the pieced strip - toward the center of the block. Or press them open.

Lay out the blocks in five rows of five blocks each - start with Block 1 and alternate the blocks.

Join the blocks to make five rows. Press the seams in one direction - alternating the direction with each row. Or press the seams open. (The seams should abut but if there are any that don't, you can clip-and-flip, or re-press as needed.)

Join the rows to complete the quilt top. Press the seams in one direction - or press them open.

One last thing... with the pieced edges of the quilt top, we recommend stay-stitching the edge of the quilt top $\frac{1}{8}''$ from the edge. This will keep the seams flat, and keep them from separating during quilting.

Quilt and bind as desired.

The quilt top will measure $70\frac{1}{2}'' \times 70\frac{1}{2}''$.

This quilt can also be made $87\frac{1}{2}'' \times 87\frac{1}{2}''$ just by increasing the size of the finished squares from $2''$ to $2\frac{1}{2}''$.

The squares for the half-triangle squares (HTSs) are also cut a skosh bigger - $3\frac{1}{2}''$ instead of $3\frac{3}{8}''$ - to allow for a bit of squaring up/trimming down.

Fabric Requirements:

Asst. Light, Medium & Dark prints - 26 Fat Quarters

Background - $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards

Binding - $\frac{3}{4}$ yard

Backing - $6\frac{1}{2}$ yards

Cutting:

From each of the 26 Print Fat Quarters, cut the following:

- Cut 2 strips - $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 21''$ wof. From the strips, cut 10 squares - $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$.
- Cut 3 strips - $3'' \times 21''$ wof. From the strips, cut 18 squares - $3'' \times 3''$.
- Total Squares required:
 - $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ - 248
 - $3'' \times 3''$ - 472

From the background, cut the following:

- Cut 8 strips - $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 42''$ wof. From the strips, cut 84 squares - $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$.
- Cut 30 strips - $3'' \times 42''$ wof.
 - From 15 of the strips, cut 72 rectangles - $3'' \times 8''$.
 - From the remaining strips - and any leftover pieces - cut 189 squares - $3'' \times 3''$.

The blocks and quilt are pieced the same way with the following measurements:

- Trim all HTSs to $3''$ - not $2\frac{1}{2}''$.
- Block 1 will measure $13'' \times 13''$ after the center is complete. It will measure $18'' \times 18''$ after the pieced strips have been attached.
- Block 2 will measure $18'' \times 18''$.