

Scrappy Stars



Quilt Pattern
Finished Size 72" x 72"



Scrappy Stars Quilt Pattern

The *Scrappy Stars* quilt uses a variety of red and white print fabric to give the quilt that scrappy feel! The sampling of different centered sawtooth star blocks adds to the scrappiness of this quilt! This beginner quilt pattern breaks the project into manageable steps that even a novice quilter can accomplish.

If you'd like additional illustrations, you can refer to the lakegirlquilts website for them. All of these blocks are described in detail, with lots of additional pictures for each of them, at: www.lakegirlquilts.com. Just go to the website and search for Scrappy Stars, and click onto the links at the bottom of the post for each sawtooth star block!

General Sewing Directions

- ✳ The directions for this *Scrappy Stars* quilt are for rotary cutting, machine piecing, and machine quilting -- the binding is hand stitched to the quilt back.
- ✳ Accurate cutting and sewing enhances your final product. Pin your pieces together before sewing them to ensure proper seam alignment.
- ✳ Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. I recommend using a special presser foot with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " guide if you have one for your machine. This will help you get uniform seams, and matching corners!
- ✳ Follow the pressing directions described in each block.
- ✳ The finished quilt measures 72" x 72".

Fabric Requirements

Use 100% cotton quality fabric for making this quilt. I suggest a variety of fat quarter and/or half-yard red and white/cream fabrics to make this quilt. You can also pull fabrics from your stash, as some blocks have squares as small as $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "!

Red Fabric - You'll need a total of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ yards of red fabric to make all the blocks for this quilt.

White Fabric - You'll need a total of about $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards of white fabric to make all the blocks and sashing for this quilt.

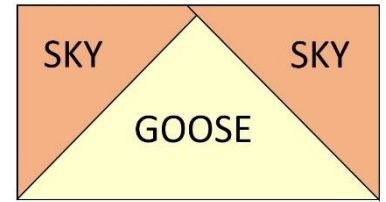
Red Binding Fabric - You'll need $\frac{5}{8}$ yard of 44" red fabric to make the binding for this quilt.

Quilt Back Fabric - You'll need $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards of 44" fabric for the backing of this quilt.

Batting - You'll need a piece of batting measuring 80" x 80" for this quilt. Use a full-size batting and trim to this size. I suggest a thin, cotton batting like [Warm & Natural](#).

Easy No Waste Flying Geese Directions

You will need 13 sets of flying geese blocks (each set makes 4 blocks for 52 total blocks). For each set cut 1 – 5 ¼" white square that will make up the goose sections, and cut 4 – 2 ⅞" red squares that will make up the sky sections.



Step 1: Sewing Two Small Squares Onto the Large Square

Using a fine pencil and a straight edge draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the back of each of the four small squares.

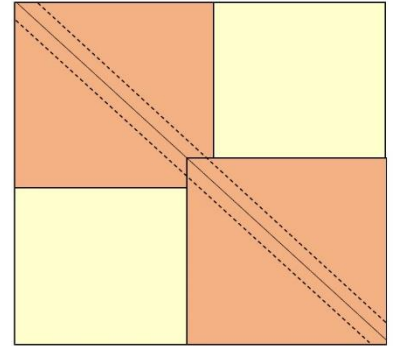
Align two small squares onto opposite corners of the large square with the right sides together. The diagonal line is facing up.

The two small squares will overlap just a little bit in the middle. Pin them in place.

Sew a scant ¼" seam on each side of the diagonal lines. A scant seam is just a little less than ¼". Find your ¼" seam placement on your presser foot and move your fabric edge just a little closer to the needle to sew the scant ¼" seams.

Remove the pins as you come up to them.

Cut apart on the drawn line to separate into two units. You can use either a rotary cutter or carefully cut with a scissors to separate into two units.



Press the unit open toward the red "sky" pieces.

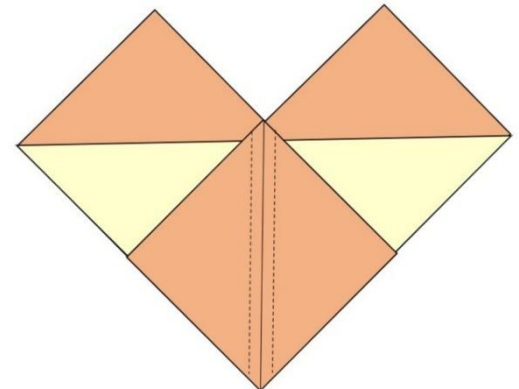
Step 2: Sew a Small Square Onto Each of the Two Units

For each of the two units align a small square onto the "free" corner with the right sides together. The diagonal line is facing up.

Sew a scant ¼" seam on each side of the diagonal lines.

Cut apart on the drawn line of each unit to separate into four flying geese.

Press the flying geese open toward the small "sky" pieces.



Trimming the No Waste Flying Geese

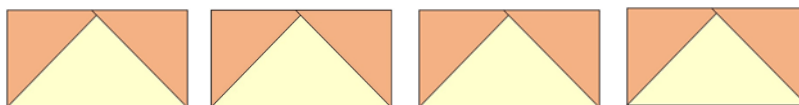
The flying geese blocks may need a little trim to get them to measure the size you need. Use a small ruler like the Easy Square, Jr. to trim the flying geese blocks to measure 2 ½" x 4 ½".

Have the flying geese block with the "V" of the goose pointing down. Line up the intersecting location of the 2 ¼" x 2 ¼" lines on the ruler to the "V" point of the goose. At the same time line up the 45 degree line to the right seam of where the sky meets the goose.

Hold the ruler in place and trim the right and top sides of the block. This will be minimal.

Now rotate the block so the "V" of the goose is pointing up. Line up the two trimmed lines to 2 ½" and the 4 ½" lines on the ruler.

Trim the right and top sides of the block. This will be minimal. Repeat for all blocks.



Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star

Follow all of the directions and view the layout diagrams for how to sew each of the 13 center star blocks listed below.

Arrange the flying geese blocks around the center of the $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ square. Make sure the "V" of the flying geese are pointing inward toward the center. Place the $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$ white squares in each corner.

Sew both white corners onto the top flying geese block and both white corners on the bottom flying geese block. Press the seams outward toward the corners.

Sew each of the flying geese blocks to the sides of the $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ center square. Press the seams inward toward the center.

Now there are three rows to sew together. Sew the top row onto the center row. Then sew the bottom row onto the center row. Press seams open.


Trim the block, if necessary, to measure $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{2}''$ square. I like to use the $12\frac{1}{2}''$ square Omnigrip Plastic Ruler to accomplish this task.


Directions for Making the Four Patch Blocks

You'll need to make 68 – $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$ four patch blocks.


Cut equal amounts of $1\frac{1}{2}''$ strips from red fabric and from white fabric. For example, if cutting from 44" full widths of fabric cut 5 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 44''$ red strips and 5 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 44''$ white strips. If cutting from fat quarters cut 10 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 22''$ red strips and 10 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 22''$ white strips.


Sew the Easy Four Patch Quilt Block

Place a red strip and a white strip with right sides together. Pin and sew these two strips along the long side, removing pins as you come up to them. 

Press the dark side of the sewn strips to set the stitches. Then carefully open up the sewn strips and press the seam toward the darker fabric. 

Using a smaller ruler, like the Easy Square, Jr., line up the center seam with one of the horizontal lines on the ruler and place the ruler as far to the right of the strip as you can with still having a little bit of fabric overhanging. Square off the right side end of the sewn strips by cutting this minimal amount overhanging fabric off. This way you'll have a squared line to measure from as you cut the strips apart!

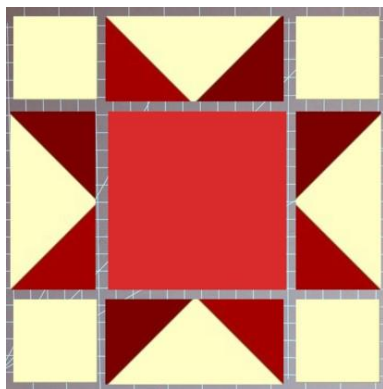
Turn the strip around and now measure $1\frac{1}{2}''$ from the squared end. Cut the strips apart every $1\frac{1}{2}''$ to create $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$ two patch rectangle units. 

Next, line up 2 two patch rectangle units with the center seams nested together and the colors facing the direction you need them to be. 

Right sides together pin at the center and sew the rectangles together, removing the pin as you come up to it.

Press the four patch block open. Repeat the process until you've completed the 68 four patch blocks needed.

For additional photos visit: www.lakegirlquilts.com and search for the “Scrappy Stars” quilt. Click on the links at the bottom of the post to view photos of each individual star block.



Sawtooth Star Quilt Block

Center: Cut 1 – 4 ½” x 4 ½” red square.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½” x 2 ½” white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼” x 5 ¼” white square and 4 – 2 ⅞” x 2 ⅞” red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

Log Cabin Sawtooth Star Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 1 – 1 ½” x 2 ½”; 2 – 1 ½” x 3 ½”; and 1 – 1 ½” x 4 ½” strips.
White fabric cut 2 – 1 ½” x 1 ½” squares and 1 – 1 ½” x 2 ½” strip.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½” x 2 ½” white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼” x 5 ¼” white square and 4 – 2 ⅞” x 2 ⅞” red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Log Cabin Center

Layout the cut strips to design the center square.

Sew the two 1 ½” x 1 ½” white squares together. Press seam open.

Stitch the 1 ½” x 2 ½” white strip to the bottom of the sewn squares. Press seam down.

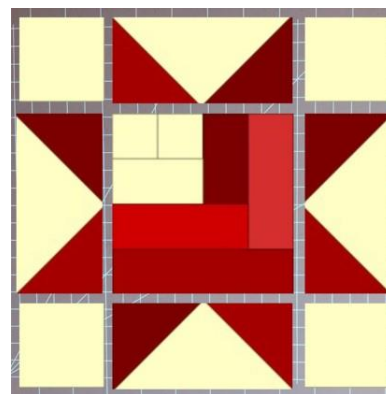
Sew the 1 ½” x 2 ½” red strip to the right side of this white unit. Press seam outward.

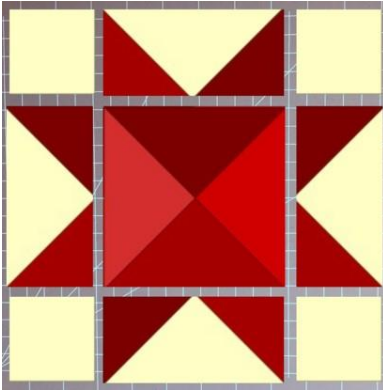
Stitch a 1 ½” x 3 ½” red strip to the bottom of the unit. Press seam down.

Sew the other 1 ½” x 3 ½” red strip to the right side of the unit. Press seam outward.

Stitch the 1 ½” x 4 ½” red strip to the bottom to finish off the 4 ½” x 4 ½” center block. Press seam down.

Trim to 4 ½” x 4 ½” square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.





Quarter Square Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 2 – 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " white square and 4 – 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " x 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Quarter Square Center

Use a fine pencil to draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of one of the red squares.

Place the red squares right sides together and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the diagonal line. Cut apart on the drawn line to create two half square triangle blocks.

Press each block open toward same fabric.

Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of one of the half square triangles opposite of the seam.

Place the half square triangles right sides together so opposite fabrics are facing each other. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on both sides of the diagonal line.

Cut apart on the drawn line to create two quarter square triangle blocks. One of these will be an "orphan" block for you to use in a future project someday!

Trim to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square.

How to Trim the Quarter Square Triangle

On a plastic quilting ruler locate where the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " lines intersect.

Align the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " intersecting location on the ruler to the very center of the square where all of the triangles meet. Also align the 45-degree line on the ruler to run the length of the upper right corner down to the lower left corner of the block.

Make sure both of these alignments are in place and hold the ruler firm. Trim the right and top overhanging fabric.

Flip the block around and line up the freshly trimmed sides 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " vertical and the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " horizontal lines. Trim the right and top overhanging fabric to finish up the neatly trimmed and accurately measured quarter square triangle block.

To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

Four Patch Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Four Patch Center

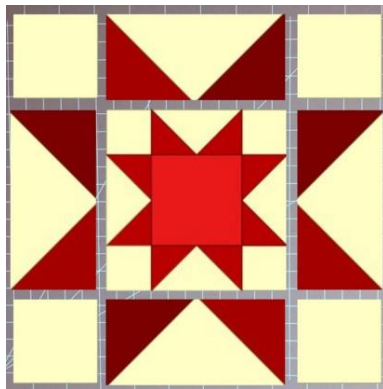
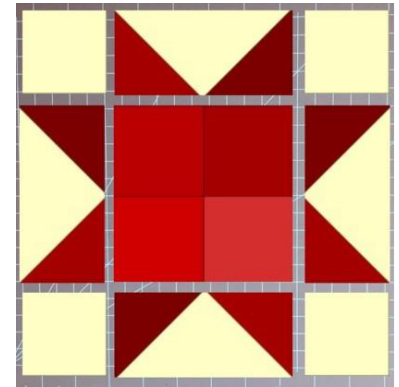
Lay out the red squares in the order you'd like them to be placed.

Place the top two squares right sides together and sew them to each other. Do this to the two bottom squares also.

Press the seam of the top row to the right and press the seam of the bottom row to the left.

Place the two rows right sides together. Line up the center seams, pin in place, and sew the two rows together. Press seams open.

Trim to 4 ½" x 4 ½" square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.



Star in a Star Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 8 – 1 ½" x 1 ½" squares and 1 – 2" x 2" square. White fabric cut 4 – 1 ½" x 1 ½" squares and 4 – 1 ½" x 2" strips

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Star in a Star Center

Begin to make 4 little flying geese blocks by drawing a diagonal line on the wrong side of each of the 1 ½" red squares.

Place a 1 ½" red square on the left side of a white strip, right sides together and diagonal line pointing down to the left corner. Beginning in the middle of the white strip (rather than on the corner) sew on the line down to the corner to connect.

Trim the outer half of the unit ¼" from this seam. Repeat for all 4 strips.

Press seams toward the red corner.

Place a 1 ½" red square on the right side of one of the white strips, right sides together and diagonal line pointing down to the right corner. Beginning in the middle of the white strip (rather than on the corner) sew on the line down to the corner to connect these two pieces.

Trim the outer half of the unit ¼" from this seam. Repeat for all 4 strips.

Press seams open toward the outside.

Finish the Little Star

Lay out the four little flying geese around the 2 ½" red square with "V" of the flying geese pointing inward toward the center. Place a 1 ½" white square in each corner.

Sew the corner squares to each side of the top and the bottom flying geese blocks. Sew a flying geese block to each side of the 2 ½" red square center. Now you have 3 rows. Sew the rows together for form the 4 ½" x 4 ½" center.

Trim to 4 ½" x 4 ½" square, if needed.

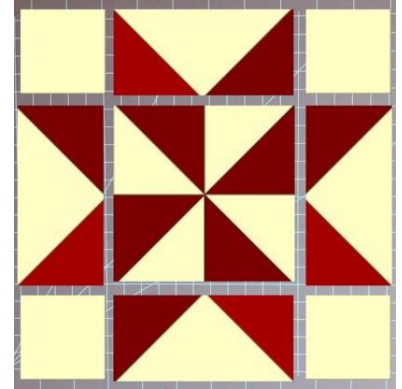
Pinwheel Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 2 – 3 ⅜" x 3 ⅜" squares. White fabric cut 2 – 3 ⅜" x 3 ⅜" squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.



Sew the Pinwheel Center

Use a fine pencil to draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the 3 ⅜" white squares.

Place a white 3 ⅜" square and a red 3 ⅜" square right sides together and sew ¼" on both sides of the diagonal line. Cut apart on the drawn line to create two half square triangle blocks.

Repeat for the other 3 ⅜" red and 3 ⅜" white squares to create a total of four half square triangle blocks.

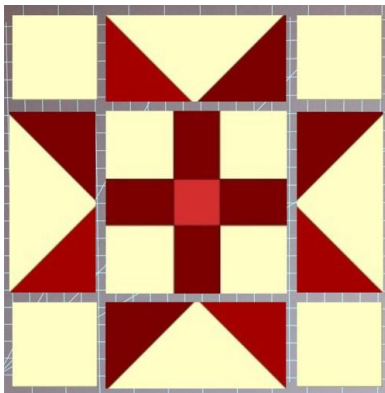
Press each half square triangle toward the red side. Trim the half square triangle blocks to measure 2 ½" x 2 ½" square.

Lay out the half square triangle blocks to form the pinwheel design.

Sew the top two blocks together. Press seam to the right. Sew the bottom two blocks together. Press seam to the left.

Place the two rows right sides together. Line up the center seams, pin in place, and sew the two rows together. Press seams open.

Trim to 4 ½" x 4 ½" square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.



Cross Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 1 – 1 ½" x 1 ½" square and 4 – 1 ½" x 2" strips. White fabric cut 4 – 2" x 2" squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Cross Center

Lay out the cut pieces to form the shape of this cross block.

Sew the pieces of each row together.

Press the seams of row 1 to the right, row 2 to the left, and row 3 to the right. This way the seams will nest when you sew the rows together.

With the right sides together center the seams of the top and middle rows. Pin and sew the two rows together. Right sides together center the seams of the middle and bottom rows. Pin and sew the two rows together.

Press seams open.

Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

Spool Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut $1 - 1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " square and $2 - 2$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " strips. White fabric cut $4 - 2$ " x 2 " squares and $2 - 1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2 " strips.

Outer Corners: Cut $4 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut $1 - 5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " white square and $4 - 2\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ " red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Spool Center

Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Place 2 of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares on the end of each of the red strips. Sewing from the center toward the outside corner stitch the white squares onto the red strips sewing along the drawn line. Trim the outside corner $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam and press toward the red fabric.

Repeat this step for the other two $1\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares. But place them on the red unit facing in the opposite direction so the finished row looks almost like a flying geese block! These are the top and bottom rows.

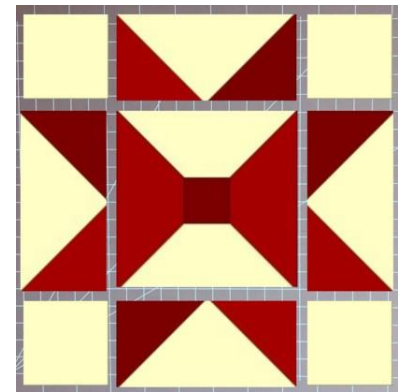
Right sides together sew the white strips onto the red square to form the middle row. Press seams outward from the center.

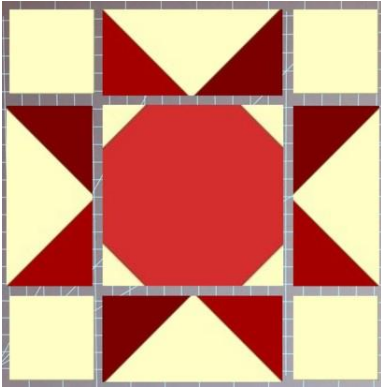
Lay out the rows to form the shape of this spool block.

With the right sides together center the seams of rows 1 and 2, pin, and sew the two rows together. Right sides together center the seams of rows 2 and 3. Sew row 3 onto row 2 to form the center block.

Press seams open.

Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.





Snowball Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 1 – $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square. White fabric cut 4 – $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " white square and 4 – $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ " red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Snowball Center

Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Lay out the squares in each corner of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " red square so the diagonal lines are perpendicular to the corner of the red square.

Pin and sew each white square onto the corners of the red square, stitching along the drawn line.

Trim the outer edge of each corner to within $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the seam. Press seams toward the red square.

Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

Square in a Square Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 1 – $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square and 4 – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares (for contrast make these either lighter or darker than the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square).

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " white square and 4 – $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ " red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Square in a Square Center

Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " red squares.

Lay out two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " red squares in opposite corners of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " red square so the diagonal lines are perpendicular to the corner of the red square.

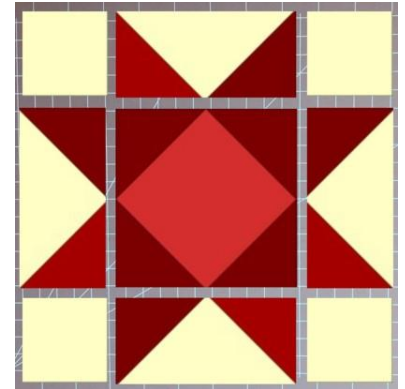
Pin and sew these squares onto the corners of the large red square, stitching along the drawn line.

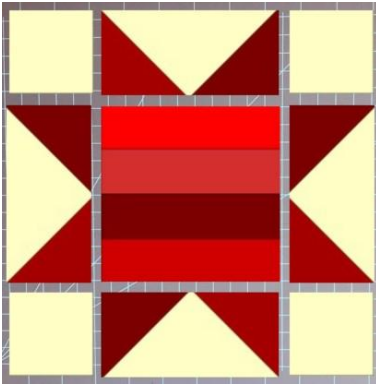
Trim the outer edge of each corner $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam.

Press seams toward the inside square.

Sew the other $2\frac{1}{2}$ " red squares onto the other two corners of the large red square. Press toward inside square and trim outside corners $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the seam.

Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.





Striped Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 4 – 1 ½" x 4 ½" strips.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Striped Center

Lay out the strips in the order you'd like them to be placed.

Place the top two strips right sides together and sew them to each other. Do this to the two bottom two strips also. Now you have two rows!

Place the two rows right sides together. Line up the center seams, pin in place, and sew the two rows together. Press seams open.

Trim to 4 ½" x 4 ½" square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

Four Point Star Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 4 – 1 ½" x 2 ½" strips. White fabric cut 4 – 1 ½" x 1 ½" squares and 4 – 1 ½" x 2 ½" strips.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – 2 ½" x 2 ½" white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – 5 ¼" x 5 ¼" white square and 4 – 2 ⅞" x 2 ⅞" red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Four Point Star Center

Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the 1 ½" white squares.

Right sides together pin these squares onto the end of each of the red strips, with the diagonal lines all facing in the same direction.

Sew along the drawn line of each. Trim the outer corner ¼" from the seam. Press toward the red strip.

Right sides together sew each of these strips to a white strip to form four little blocks. Press seams toward the white strips.

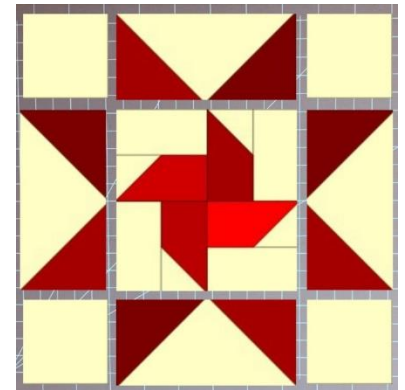
Lay out the blocks to form the design of the four point star.

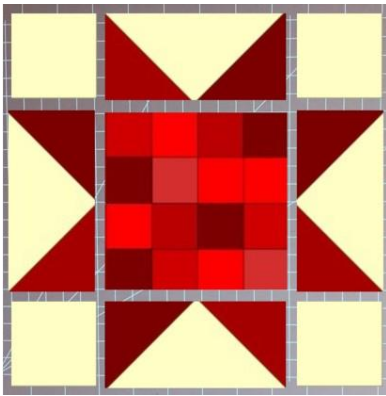
Place the top two blocks right sides together and sew them to each other. Do this to the two bottom blocks also. Now you have two rows!

Press the seam of the top row to the right and press the seam of the bottom row to the left.

Place the two rows right sides together. Line up the center seams, pin in place, and sew the two rows together. Press seams open.

Trim to 4 ½" x 4 ½" square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.





Patchwork Sawtooth Quilt Block

Center: Red fabric cut 16 – $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

Outer Corners: Cut 4 – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

Flying Geese: Cut 1 – $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ " white square and 4 – $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ " red squares.

Refer to the **Easy No Waste Flying Geese Block Directions** on how to sew the four flying geese needed for this block.

Sew the Patchwork Center

Lay out the squares in the order you'd like them to be placed.

Right sides together sew the top squares to each other to form the first row. Repeat to sew together the next three rows. Now you have four narrow rows!

Press the seams of the first and third rows to the right and press the seams of the second and fourth rows to the left.

Place rows 1 and 2 right sides together. Line up the seams, pin in place, and sew the two rows together. Repeat for rows 3 and 4.

Now you have two wide rows!

Place the two wide rows right sides together. Line up the seams, pin in place, and sew the two wide rows together. Press seams open.

Trim to $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square, if needed. To finish this block refer to the **Directions for How to Assemble and Sew the Star**.

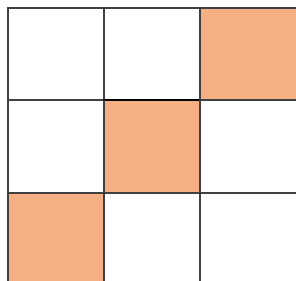
Nine Patch Blocks

Cut a total of 36 – $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " red squares and 72 – $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " white squares.

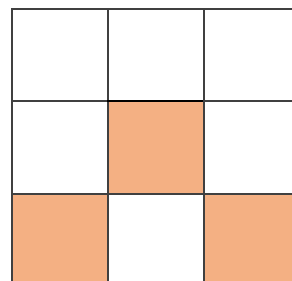
Lay out squares to form 8 nine patch blocks with red squares running along one diagonal of the block.

Lay out squares to form 4 nine patch blocks with red squares in the bottom two corners and in the middle location.

For each block sew the top, middle, and bottom rows. Press the top and bottom row seams to the right and press the middle row seams to the left. Sew the top and middle rows together, then sew the bottom row onto the middle row to form the nine patch block. Press seams open.



Sew 8



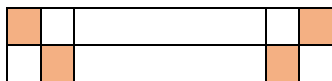
Sew 4

Sashing

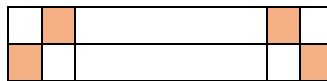
Cut 52 – 2 ½" x 8 ½" white strips and 40 – 2 ½" x 12 ½" white strips.

For each star block: Sew a 2 ½" x 8 ½" white strip on the right and left sides of the star block. Sew a four patch unit on each side of 2 – 2 ½" x 8 ½" white strips. Make sure the four patch blocks are facing in the direction as shown here:

Strip for **TOP** of block



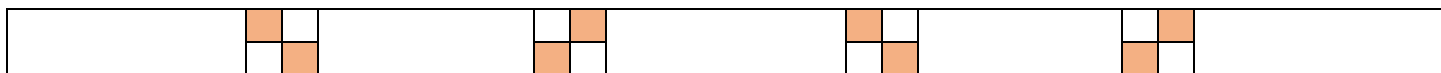
Strip for **BOTTOM** of block



Sew these strips to the top and bottom of the star block. Repeat for each of the 13 star blocks.

For the 4 rows of sashing: Lay out a row of 5 – 2 ½" x 12 ½" white strips with 4 – four patch blocks between the strips.

Make sure the four patch blocks are facing in opposite directions as shown on the diagram below.



Sew together. Repeat to make 4 of these sashing rows. Press seams to the right.

You'll use the remaining 20 – 2 ½" x 12 ½" white strips to sew between the blocks when sewing the block rows.

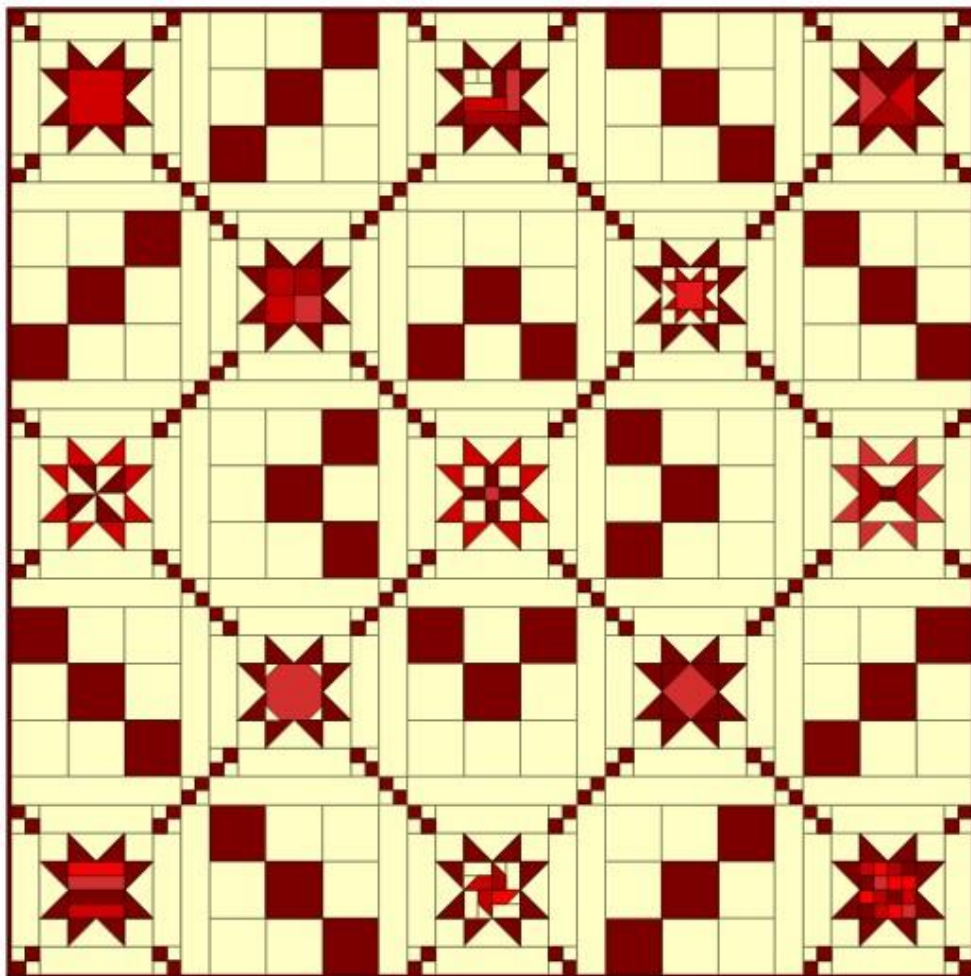
Assemble the Quilt Top

Follow this diagram to lay out the blocks of your quilt top to form five rows. Each block in a row has a 2 ½" x 12 ½" sashing strip between them. A row of sashing with four patches goes between each block row.

Sew the blocks and strips of each row together to create five rows. Press the seams to the left. This will allow the seams to nest together when you sew the rows to each other.

Sew the block rows to each other by sewing a sashing row between them.


Pin at each nested seam and between the seams to hold the rows in place as you sew them together. Remove the pins as you come up to them. Press the seams open.



Prepare the Quilt Back, Binding, and Batting

Quilt Back: Fabric requirement is 4 ½ yards of a 44" wide cotton fabric that coordinates with the colors of the quilt top. You'll need a 80" x 80" square of fabric for the quilt back. This allows for at least 4 inches of fabric to extend all around the edges of the quilt top.

Trim the salvage edges on the quilt back fabric, and cut the 4 ½ yards into 2 – 2 ¼ yard pieces. Place the two pieces right sides together, and sew along the long sides to make one large back. Trim 1" off of the length of the quilt back to measure 80" x 80". Press the seam open to reduce bulk when quilting.

Binding: You'll need ¾ yard of fabric for the binding. Cut 8 – 2 ½" x 44" strips, trim the ends of each strip at opposing 45-degree angles as shown. 

Take your 2 ½" binding strips and sew them together. To do this align two strips together perpendicularly along the 45 degree ends. Pin the ends and sew them together.

Press the seams open. You'll need a finished strip that is about 300" (8.3 yards) in total length.

Fold the binding strip in half (wrong sides together), and press.

Batting: Use thin cotton batting (like Warm & Natural) to make this quilt. You'll need a batting piece at least 80" x 80". Trim the batting to measure 80" x 80", the same size as the quilt back. This allows the batting to also extend 4" beyond the edges of the quilt top.

Baste the Quilt Layers

You'll begin to baste the quilt by sandwiching the top and back with the batting in the middle.

On a large floor area or with two tables pushed together, use masking or painter's tape to tape down the backing fabric. As you tape the back to the surface, you'll want to make sure the fabric is smooth, without wrinkles. Make sure the back is taped taut, but not stretched. Also, make sure the right side of the fabric is facing down!

Lay the batting on top of the taped-down quilt back, and move your hands across it to smooth it all over. This will get rid of any wrinkles in the batting, and help to adhere it to the backing fabric.

Once you have the batting placed on top of the quilt back, center the top of the quilt over the two bottom layers. Right side facing up, of course! The two bottom layers of the quilt (the back and the batting) should extend about 4" all around the outside edges of the quilt top.

Move your hands across the quilt top to smooth it all over, and help remove any wrinkles. This will also help adhere the quilt top to the batting a little bit. Once you have the top of the quilt all smoothed out, either use basting spray or use 1 ½" stainless pins to baste your quilt layers together. You'll want to start basting on one side of the quilt, and work your way across, or work from top to bottom. If pinning, you should place a pin about every 4 inches or so.

Quilting and Binding

If you are machine quilting this quilt yourself, choose a quilting design to permanently join all three layers of the *Scrappy Stars* quilt together.

Using a darning foot and dropping the feed dogs on your sewing machine allows you to free motion stitch the quilt layers together. If you're new to machine quilting you might want to search for online videos that can demonstrate the process for you.

When you've finished quilting the layers together, it's time to bind the edges of your quilt! This could be a lesson in itself!! I'll do my best to describe the binding process below, but if you're confused by my directions there are lots of videos on the Internet that will demonstrate the process for you.

Sew the Binding Strip to the Quilt

Begin to sew the raw edge of the binding to the quilt by pinning it along one side. Be careful to sew the raw edge of the binding strip to the quilt, not the folded edge!

I usually start sewing the binding strip in the middle of the quilt side that I'm starting with. Start sewing about 5" in from the end of the binding strip, leaving a hanging "tail" on the binding. You'll sew this to the other end of the binding strip when you finish sewing all along the sides of the quilt.

Stop sewing on the first side $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the corner, use a pin to mark this location and sew right up to it. Backstitch a bit, and cut your thread but DON'T cut the binding strip.

Making the Mitered Corner

Now, remove the quilt and binding strip from your machine and fold the binding strip straight up so it's perpendicular from the side you were just sewing on.

Fold the binding strip back down on itself and match it to the edge of the quilt you just sewed it to, and the next edge of the quilt you're about to sew it to. Pin this fold in place, and pin the binding strip to this edge of the quilt and continue to sew it, again stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the next corner and repeating the folding process described above.

Continue in this manner until you are on the last side of the quilt, the side you started on.

Connecting the Ends of the Binding

Stop stitching about 4" from where you started. Backstitch and cut the thread (but not the binding strip, not yet!), remove the quilt and binding strip from the machine.

You now have two "tails" of the binding strip, one from where you started stitching it to the quilt and one from where you just stopped. You'll need to join these tails together so that you have a continuous binding strip to finish sewing down to the quilt. This can be tricky!

I don't worry now about cutting 45-degree angles on each end of the binding strip to sew it together to make a continuous strip. If you can master this technique, my hat is off to you!! What I do is measure how much more binding strip I'll need to finish sewing it to the edge of the quilt. I then cut a straight line along each end of the binding strip, adding $\frac{1}{4}$ " to each end so I can sew the ends together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam (right sides together). Continue to sew the now continuous binding strip to the quilt.

Trim the Batting and Back

Trim the batting and quilt back to $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge of the quilt top. I use a ruler and a rotary cutter to accomplish this task. Work carefully, so you don't cut into your quilted project.

Hand-Stitch the Folded Binding Edge to the Quilt Back

Here is my FAVORITE part of the process...almost done! Hand-sew the folded edge of the binding strip to the back of the quilt. When you get to the corner, carefully turn the corner right-side out to make a nice, mitered corner. I tack a few stitches up the corner to hold it in place, and then continue stitching along all sides and corners until...VOILA! Your binding is complete!

As a finishing touch, you can add a label to the back of the quilt. A quilt label is like the signature on your masterpiece!!

I hope you have fun making your *Scrappy Stars* quilt!!!

~Bonnie

