

MARIE BOSTWICK

Dear Reading Friend,

When my dear friend and a nationally known quilt teacher and designer, Deb Tucker, agreed to create a companion pattern for my new book, *A THREAD SO THIN*, I was very excited. And, as you can see, I had good reason to be. Deb is a wonderful designer and the Star-Crossed Love table runner she created as a free gift exclusively for Reading Friends is just gorgeous! And I can tell you from personal experience, it's a lot of fun to make.

I used Deb's Rapid Fire Hunter's Star Ruler (petite version) to make my table runner and it made stitching the blocks a breeze. Deb graciously created the instructions for the table runner in three versions, traditionally pieced, paper pieced, or using the Rapid Fire Hunter's Star ruler so this pattern is accessible



Marie with Star-Crossed Love table runner

to anyone even if they don't have Deb's ruler. However, if you'd like to purchase the Rapid Fire ruler or one of Deb's rulers for your quilting toolbox, just go to her website, www.studio180design.net. (I'm a big fan of her "Wing Clipper" ruler too. It makes sewing Flying Geese blocks easy and accurate. Without it I suspect my son and daughter-in-love's wedding quilt would still be a UFO!)

While you're at Studio180 Designs, you might also want to consider getting the full-sized version of Star-Crossed Love, which is based on the quilt Liza's friends from the Cobbled Court Quilt Shop made for her bridal shower. I haven't yet had time to make the big quilt myself, but it is definitely on my to-do list.



Marie and designer Deb Tucker with full sized version of Star-Crossed Love

Thank you for stopping my web site today and for joining the ranks of Reading Friends. I hope you enjoy the pattern, my friend, and many happy hours of stitching -- and reading!

Piecefully Yours,
Marie Bostwick

Studio 180 Design

www.studio180design.net

Star Crossed Love

Table Runner Pattern

Designed by Deb Tucker, Studio 180 Design, Ltd.
www.studio180design.net

This table runner uses the Hunter's Star block in a 5" finished size. To make the blocks you will have three different choices - Traditional Templates (for either hand or machine piecing), Paper Foundation Piecing or Deb's Rapid Fire Hunter's Star Piecing. The Petite Star ruler is required for the Rapid Fire method and can be obtained from your local quilt shop or from the Studio 180 Design website.

The instructions that follow will give you a basic sequence for construction - color arrangement, block arrangement, border construction, etc..., but it will assume that the quilt maker is somewhat familiar with general quilting skills such as rotary cutting, stitching and pressing.

I hope that you will enjoy making this project and that you will think about Liza's story as you work. For those who would like to try their hand at Liza's full size wedding quilt, you can visit Deb's website for the pattern, tool and the complete instructions.

Cutting Directions

Depending on your chosen construction method you will obviously have different cutting requirements for the triangles, trapezoids and diamonds. Borders will be the same for all.

Traditional Templates

From each of the bright fat quarters
cut 4 triangles of each color
cut 4 trapezoids of each color
cut 8 diamonds of each color

Paper Foundation Piecing

From each of the bright fat quarters
cut 2 squares 5", then in half diagonally
cut 4 rectangles approx. 2" x 4½" for trapezoids
cut 8 rectangles approx. 2" x 4½" for diamonds

Rapid Fire Hunter's Star Piecing

From each of the bright fat quarters
cut 2 squares 5", then in half diagonally
cut 4 trapezoids using 5" trapezoid line on RFHS Petite Star template
cut 2 strips 2¼" x 18"

Fabric Requirements

8 Fat Quarters of bright 100% cotton fabric

(The sample was made from Moda Marbles fabrics using all the colors of the rainbow - Deep Purple - 6698, Royal Blue - 6699, Ocean Blue - 9880 - 49, Kelly Green - 9592, Golden Yellow - 9881 - 33, Pumpkin Orange - 9881 - 59, Fire Engine Red - 6696 and Bright Pink 9880 - 81)

Black Fabric - ¾ yard

Backing Fabric - 1½ yard (for unpieced backing or you can use ¾ yard for a pieced backing)

Cutting for Borders and Binding

From Black fabric:

cut 3 strips - 1½" x wof (width of fabric)

cut 4 strips - 3" x wof

cut 4 strips - 2¼" x wof (for binding)

From Each of the 8 Bright fabrics:

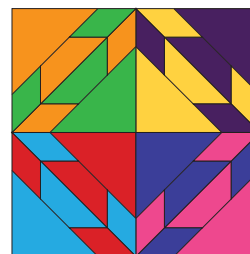
cut 1 strip 1½" then cut to various lengths from 4" to 6" long for the scrappy pieced border. I cut some with a straight cut and some with a 45 degree angled cut. Your choice!

Cutting for Backing

From a 1½ yard piece of fabric, cut it in half lengthwise along fabric fold

OR

From a ¾ yard piece of fabric, cut it in half along the fold and then piece the two sections together.



Assembly

This pattern is written with the assumption that the maker has some prior knowledge of quilt making, such as cutting, stitching, pressing, etc.... If you do not have any background in quilting, please think about taking a few beginner courses before you attempt this project. The angles make it a little challenging for a first time project, but it is not overly difficult if you are familiar with quilt making in general.

Again, depending on your chosen method for construction, you will be following slightly different paths for your assembly process. Some steps will be the same or similar, some will be quite different, all will result in 5" finished Hunter's Star blocks that you will use for your table runner.

Step 1 - Organize

Organize your 8 bright fabrics into pairs. I chose to always team up a cool color with a warm color using the following pair sequencing:
 Red with Ocean Blue
 Orange with Green
 Pink with Deep Blue
 Yellow with Purple

Step 2 - Sew

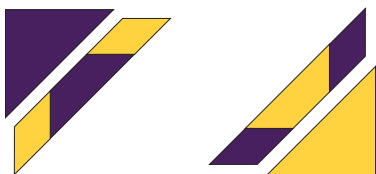
In all the methods of construction, the sewing will be similar. Sew the diamonds from color #1 of the pair to the trapezoids of color #2 of the pair, then repeat the opposite.

For example: Sew the Purple diamonds to the Yellow trapezoids, then sew the Yellow diamonds to the Purple trapezoids.

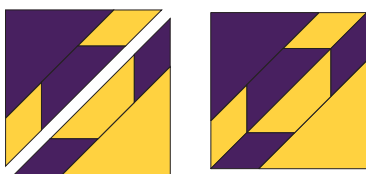
Press seams as indicated by the pressing arrows. If using paper foundation, or the Rapid Fire technique, pressing will vary and you should follow the general directions for each.

Step 3 - Sew Again

Sew a colored triangle that matches the trapezoid color to each of the pieced trapezoid sections. I pressed the cool colored triangle seams toward the triangles and I pressed the warm colored triangle seams toward the pieced trapezoids. This will result in nesting seams throughout.



Step 3 Diagram
 Stitch triangle to pieced trapezoids



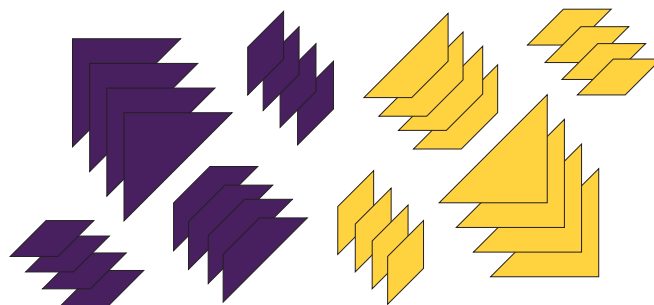
Step 4 Diagram
 Assemble the blocks

Step 5 - Arrange Blocks

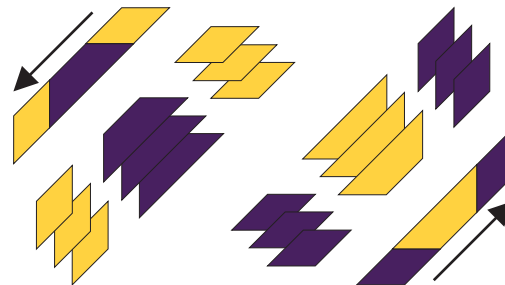
Use a design wall or the diagram shown here to arrange the pieced blocks into groups of four. I tried to scatter the color combinations evenly and tried always to alternate the cool/warm diamonds and triangles. But please feel free to arrange the blocks to your own personal taste.

Step 6 - Sew

Sew the blocks together first into pairs and then into larger units. Diagram is on the next page.



Step 1 Diagram
 Trim all blocks



Step 2 Diagram
 Stitch pair opposite diamonds onto ends of trapezoids

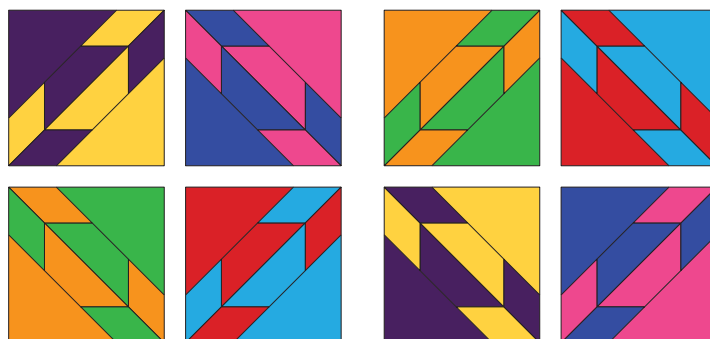
Step 4 - Assemble Blocks

Match the color pairs and stitch the pieced triangles together into Hunter's Star Blocks. When your block sewing is complete, you should have a total of 16 blocks, with each measuring 5½" x 5½"

If you are doing Traditional Piecing, place carefully and pin for precision before stitching.

If you are doing Paper Foundation Piecing, follow the numerical piecing order.

If you are doing the Rapid Fire Piecing, use the Rapid Fire Hunter's Star Tutorial page and the expanded general directions that come with the Petite Star ruler.



Step 5 Diagram
 Arrange blocks in groups of 4

Step 7 - Press

At this stage I like to press my seams OPEN. I find that this helps my 8 point stars come together with the least amount of bulk and it helps me to fit seams better.

Step 8 - Add Inner Border

Add the 1½" black border to the center section. I added the long side first and then the short sides. Press seams toward the black border.

Step 9 - Piece the Colored Border

Sew the 1⅝" colored rectangles together using either a square seam or an angled seam. Make two sections long enough for the long sides of the runner and two sections long enough for the short sides of the runner. Seams can be pressed in any direction.

Step 10 - Add the Pieced Border

Sew the pieced border sections to the black border using an accurate ¼" seam. Use care when attaching this border. Because it is so thin, sloppy seams become apparent quickly. Press seams toward the black inner border.

Step 11 - Add the Outer Border

Sew the 3" outer border strips into place. Add the short sides first. Piece the long sides to fit and sew in place. Press seams toward the outer border strip.

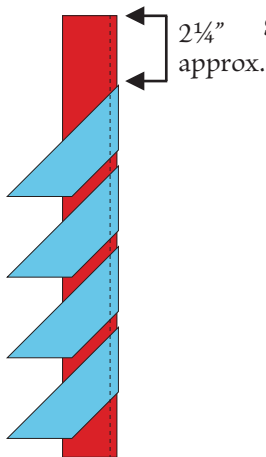
Step 12 - Baste and Quilt

Layer the runner top together with batting and backing, and baste. Quilt as desired.

Step 13 - Bind to Finish

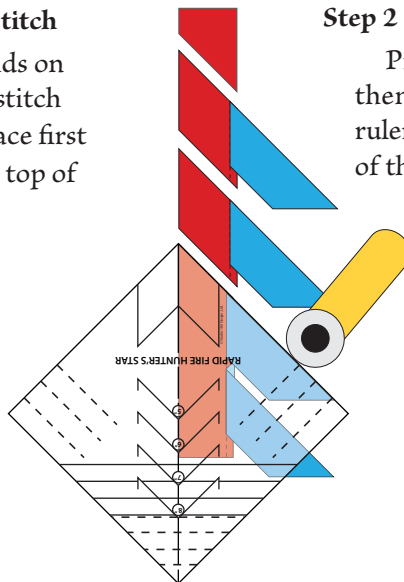
Rapid Fire Hunter's Star Tutorial

See complete instructions enclosed with ruler for more detailed information and left hand instructions



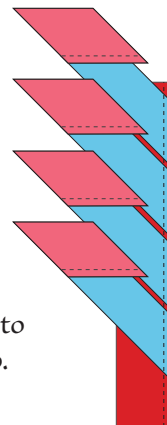
Step 1 Diagram

Step 1 - Position and Stitch
 Position trapezoids on diamond strip and stitch using a 1/4" seam. Place first trapezoid 2 1/4" from top of strip.



Step 2 Diagram

Step 2 - Press and Trim
 Press seam toward trapezoids then trim apart using Rapid Fire ruler. Trim following the long edge of the trapezoid **only** at this time.

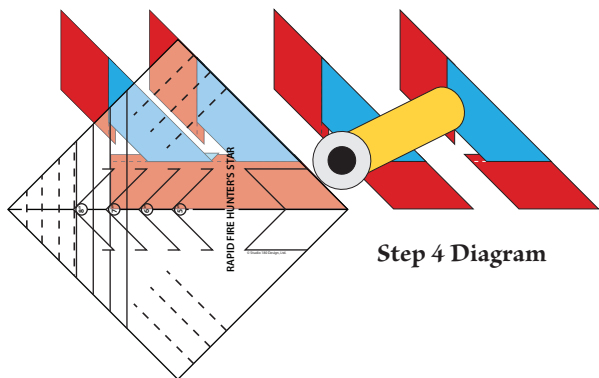


Step 3 Diagram

Step 3 - Stitch
 Stitch the step 2 units to remaining diamond strip.

Step 4 - Press and Trim Again

Press seam toward the diamond strip then trim apart using Rapid Fire ruler. Trim following the long edge of the trapezoid only.



Step 4 Diagram

Step 5 - Trim

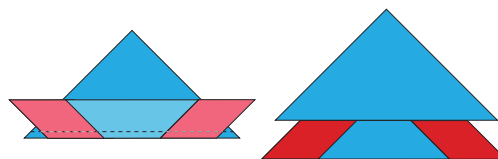
Trim pieced trapezoid sections to measure exactly 1 3/4"



Step 5 Diagram

Step 6 - Stitch

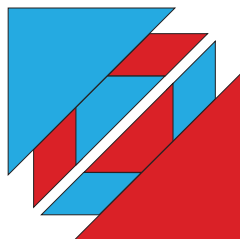
Stitch pieced trapezoid section to corresponding triangle and press towards triangle.



Step 6 Diagram

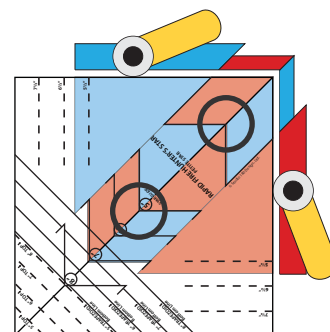
Step 7 - Match and Stitch

Match color pairs and stitch together into Hunter's Star blocks. Press seams open.



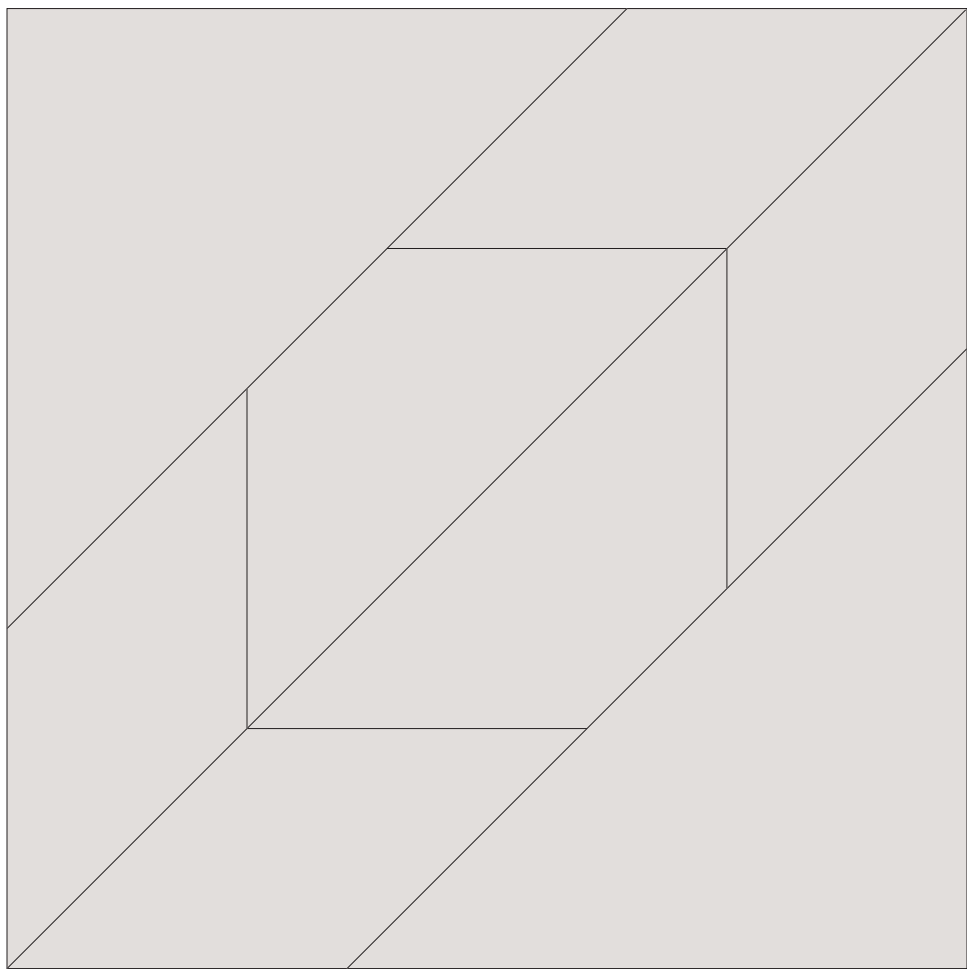
Step 8 - Trim

Trim to precise 5 1/2" blocks using Petite Star ruler.

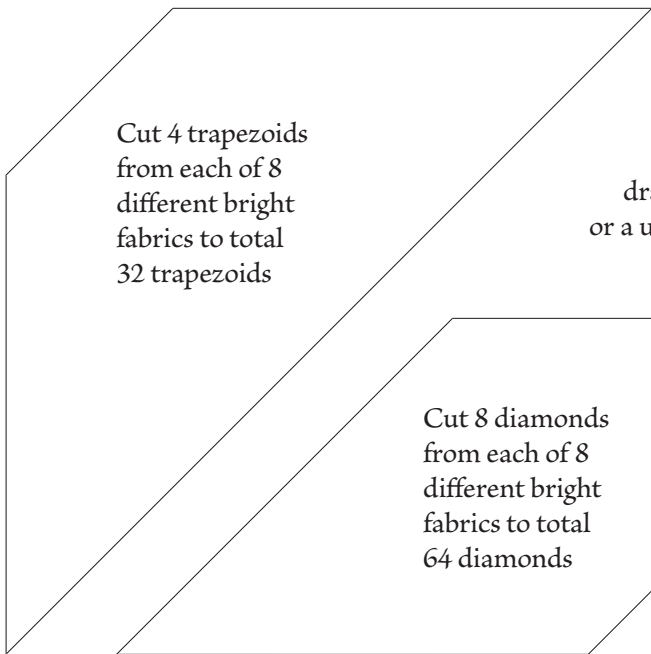


Templates for
Hunter's Star Block
5" Finished Block

Use these templates for traditional hand piecing or machine piecing

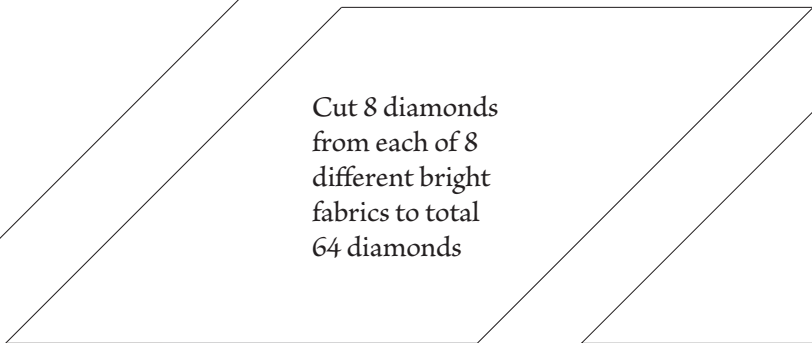


When this page is printed, the example block above should be 5" square. Please check before continuing.

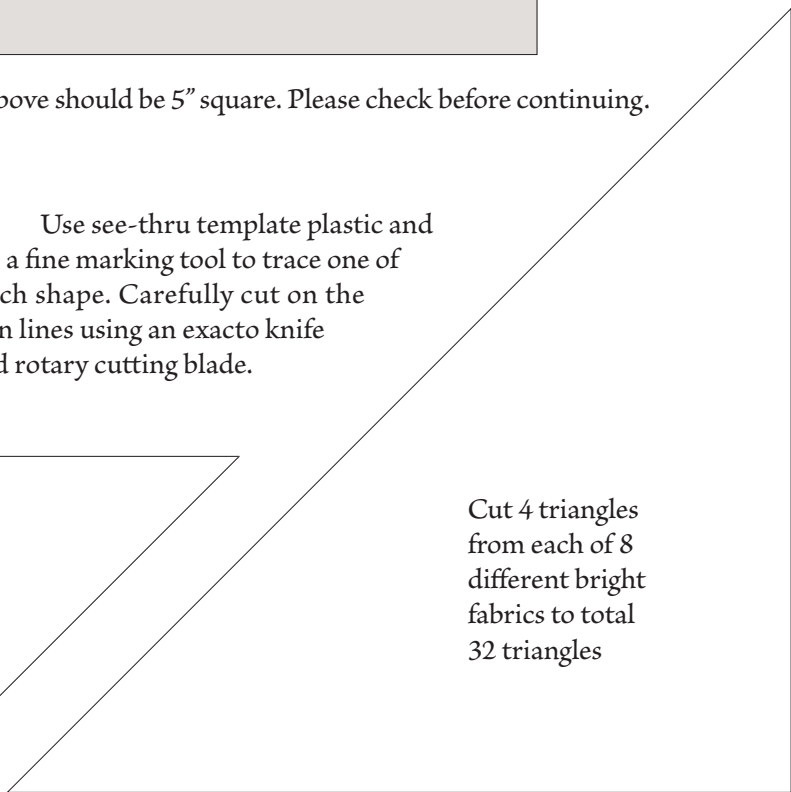


Cut 4 trapezoids
from each of 8
different bright
fabrics to total
32 trapezoids

Use see-thru template plastic and
a fine marking tool to trace one of
each shape. Carefully cut on the
drawn lines using an exacto knife
or a used rotary cutting blade.

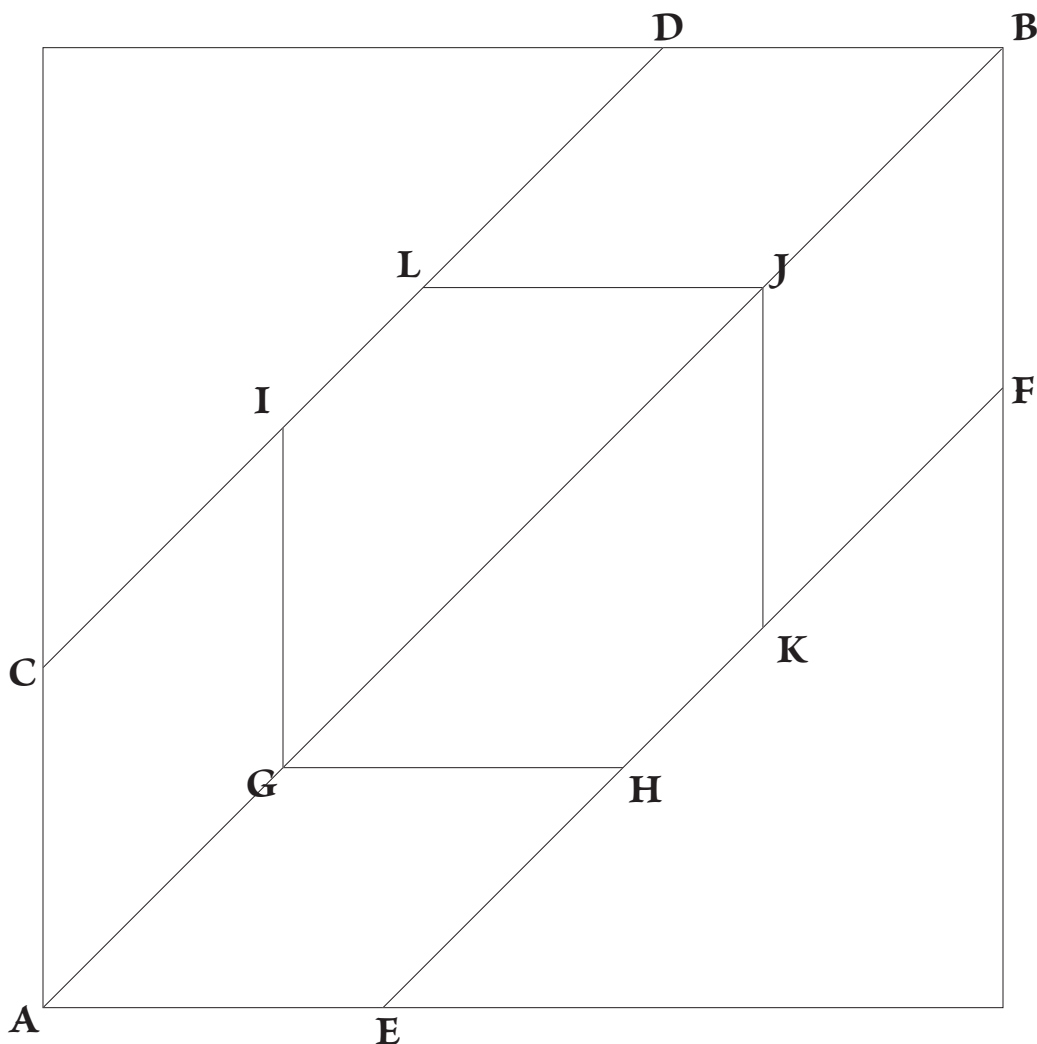


Cut 8 diamonds
from each of 8
different bright
fabrics to total
64 diamonds



Cut 4 triangles
from each of 8
different bright
fabrics to total
32 triangles

Drafting Aid



Drafting Instructions

Step 1 - 5" Square

Step 2 - Diagonal from A to B

Step 3 - Diagonal from C to D exactly $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from center diagonal

Step 4 - Diagonal from E to F, same as above

Step 5 - Line G/H exactly $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from A/E line

Step 6 - Line G/I exactly $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from A/C line

Step 7 - Line J/K exactly $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from B/F line

Step 8 - Line J/K exactly $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from B/D line

Step 9 - Drafted shapes - add exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam outside shape

Diamond A/E/H/G

Trapezoid G/H/K/J

Triangle E/F/M

Paper Foundation Patterns for
Hunter's Star Block
5" Finished Block

When this page is printed, the solid side of the triangle should measure 5". Please check before continuing.

