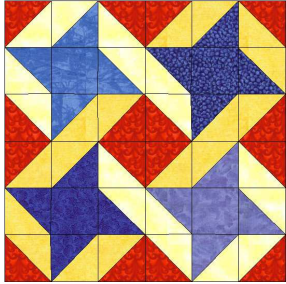


Freedom Star Block #2

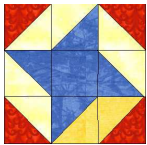
January 11, 2010

Forever Friends Star Block

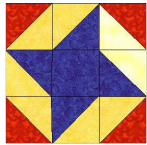


Finished Block 12" x 12"

This is really a simple block made up of a variation of the friendship star block repeated four times with slightly different colorings. The directions are written for the fabrics shown in the color picture, but feel free to substitute your own. You will need one (red) fabric for the background squares, two (yellow) fabrics for the entwined ribbons and four (blue) fabrics for the stars.



Block A – Make 2
Using 2 different blues



Block B – Make 2
Using 2 different blues

Cut:

- 8 - 2 7/8" squares of background (red) fabric
- 10 - 2 7/8" squares of first ribbon (yellow) fabric
- 10 - 2 7/8" squares of second ribbon (yellow) fabric
- 3 - 2 7/8" squares of each star (blue) fabric
- 1 - 2 1/2" square of each star (blue) fabric

Pair the 2 7/8" squares, right sides together in the following combinations:

- 4 background (red) and 4 first ribbon (yellow)
- 4 background (red) and 4 second ribbon (yellow)
- 2 first ribbon (yellow) and 2 first star (blue) and 1 second ribbon (yellow) and 1 first star (blue)
- 2 first ribbon (yellow) and 2 second star (blue) and 1 second ribbon (yellow) and 1 second star (blue)
- 2 second ribbon (yellow) and 2 third star (blue) 1 first ribbon (yellow) and 1 third star (blue)
- 2 second ribbon (yellow) and 2 fourth star (blue) 1 first ribbon (yellow) and 1 fourth star (blue)

Follow directions for Easy Half-square triangles (page 2) for each set of squares. I've done the math for you, on how many to cut and what size.

Use the color diagrams to arrange the half-square triangles and the center (2 1/2") star square in the right order, and sew 2 each of block A and Block B. Be careful of the placement for the yellow ribbons. Don't worry, you will have a couple of Half-square triangles leftover. Then, following the color diagram, sew all four blocks together to make finished 12" x 12" Block.

EASY HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLES

The simplest way to make half-square triangles is to make two at a time.

This method eliminates pulling and stretching the bias. And the math is not too bad if you just remember $\frac{7}{8}$.

A. All you need to do is add $\frac{7}{8}$ " to the finished size-in-the-quilt of the half-square triangle that you are trying to create. SO, if you need a 3" finished half-square triangle, you will need to cut two squares of $3\frac{7}{8}$ ".

B. So, how many squares to cut? First, determine the number of Half-Square triangles that you need of a specific color combination in your quilt design. Now, divide that number in half, since this method is so easy you get two units out of each set of squares! This number is the number of squares that you need to cut from each of your two fabrics.

C. On the wrong side all of your lighter colored squares, use a ruler and a thin-line pencil to draw a line that runs from corner to corner across the diagonal. Layer your light and dark fabrics, right sides together with the lighter fabric on top so you can see your pencil line. Stitch a seam line that is $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from BOTH sides of your drawn line. (IF you do not have an accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " foot for you machine, you will have to draw in these stitching lines using a ruler and pencil). Cut the square in half along the drawn line and press the seams towards the darker fabric. The units will have little extra "dog ears" which need to be trimmed away so that the darker fabric will not produce a shadow effect in your quilt.

