

Block of The Month 2022: Block #1

Welcome to 2022 block of the month. This year we are doing improvisational star blocks. Our first block is a 5-pointed star. We have a new focus fabric, which you can get from us at the guild meetings. This year the focus fabric is black with some bright colors. In addition to the focus fabric you will need a white fabric and depending on the block one to four additional colors that you see in the focus fabric. To get us started, this month in addition to the focus fabric and the white fabric you need two additional coordinating fabrics based on the colors in the focus fabric. Pick four fabrics that contrast with each other and it helps if they have a definite right and wrong side. Remember, all our blocks end up 12.5" X 12.5" (a 12" finished block.) We will have the focus fabric available for sale at guild meetings

Also, the Guild's website and Facebook page should have a post directing you to the YouTube instructions for this block.

Cut list -- For one block

Fabrics 1, 2, 3 & 4: One 8.5" square

Assembling the block: Use a quarter inch seam

- Decide the order of your fabrics and label each in the center of the square with a sticker. Press and stack all four squares in order with fabric 1 on top. Make sure there is good contrast between the fabrics. For each of the following cuts you will make sure the fabrics are stacked in number order based on the sticker. After each cut you will take the top fabric from the stack without a sticker and move it to the bottom of that stack and then sew the pieces back together with its new mate. For this block all seams need to be press open to reduce bulk.
- For the first cut, place a ruler at the approximate middle of the top of the stack at an angle toward the bottom right corner—about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the corner (photo 3.) Place the piece to be sewn on so that the top point is about $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the top edge. Sew all four new corners on. Press the seams open. Re-stack in number order.
- The second cut is on the other side of the top. Place a ruler at the top of the stack about $\frac{1}{2}$ " past seam 1 at an angle toward the bottom left corner—about 1" to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the corner (photo 4.) Sew all four new corners on. Press the seams open. Re-stack in number order.
- Cut number three is shown in photo 5. The ruler should intersect the right edge approximately a third of the way down from the top and in the middle between the bottom left corner and seam 2. Sew all four new corners on. Press the seams open. Re-stack in number order.
- Cut number four cuts off the bottom left corner (photo 6.) The ruler should intersect the left edge approximately a third of the way down from the top and about $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" above the bottom right corner. Photo 7 shows placement of the piece when sewing back on. You may want to adjust the placement of this so the point lines up with the pentagon. Sew all four new corners on. Press the seams open. Re-stack in number order.
- The last cut is shown in photo 8. Place the ruler horizontally, just under the top side points. Sew all four new corners on. Press the seams open.
- Now arrange you 4-patches as you like. Try different arrangements to get your favorite. After you decide your arrangement, we want you to trim just the inner edges that will be sewn together. Use a 6.5" square up ruler. Only trimming the two edges gives you more trimming options at the end. Sew together horizontal rows, make sure you match together the trimmed corners – not the untrimmed. Press the seams open. match the center seams and sew the final seam. Press.
- Now to square it up. Use your $12\frac{1}{2}$ " X $12\frac{1}{2}$ " square up ruler, place it over the block. Make sure there is fabric under all parts of the ruler and trim to $12\frac{1}{2}$ " X $12\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Adriane Ridder & Shelly McNeely
Block of the Month Coordinators



Stacked fabric



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7

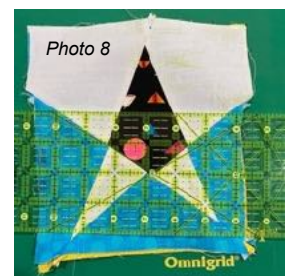


Photo 8