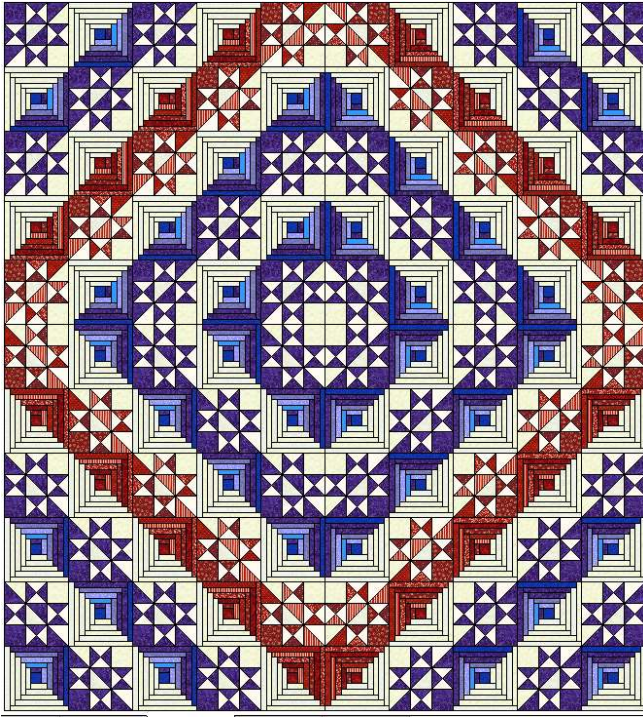


# Happily Ever After

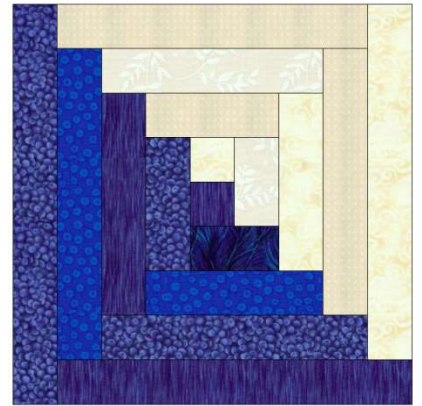
By Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen



I've been buying up long sleeved shirts in reds, whites and blues (only stripes and plaids) for a while now, and this is the first in a series of quilts made using this 'fabric'. The quilt is made with two different blocks, some in reds, some in blues. This queen-sized quilt is going on the bed of my new travel trailer, hence the name.

Each block is 9" finished, and the quilt is 90" x 99".

The log cabin block is made with 1.5" wide strips. As I cut up the shirts for other blocks, the strips are cut from the scraps and sorted by size:  
Lights: 1.5", 2.5", 3.5", 4.5", 5.5", 6.5", 7.5", 8.5".  
Darks: 1.5", 2.5", 3.5", 4.5", 5.5", 6.5", 7.5", 8.5" and 9.5"



The Split Star block can be broken down into a 9-patch, where each patch is either a plain square, a Half-Square triangle (HST) or a Quarter Square Triangle (QST).

*I used the Triangulations CD because sewing triangles on paper allowed perfect points and stabilized the bias edges perfectly. The process is just like "Thangles" or "Triangles on a Roll" except you print the sized papers that you need, as many as you need. With the other two products, you have to know ahead of time what size and how many to buy. When I'm starting a new project on Sunday night, I want access to the papers at that moment! LOL. You can get a ream of newsprint paper that tears easily. Amazon.*

Included on the Triangulations CD are files that contain pages, one for each sized HST or QST. Print out the page you need and trim down the margins. (for this quilt, you are looking for HST and QST that finish to 3")

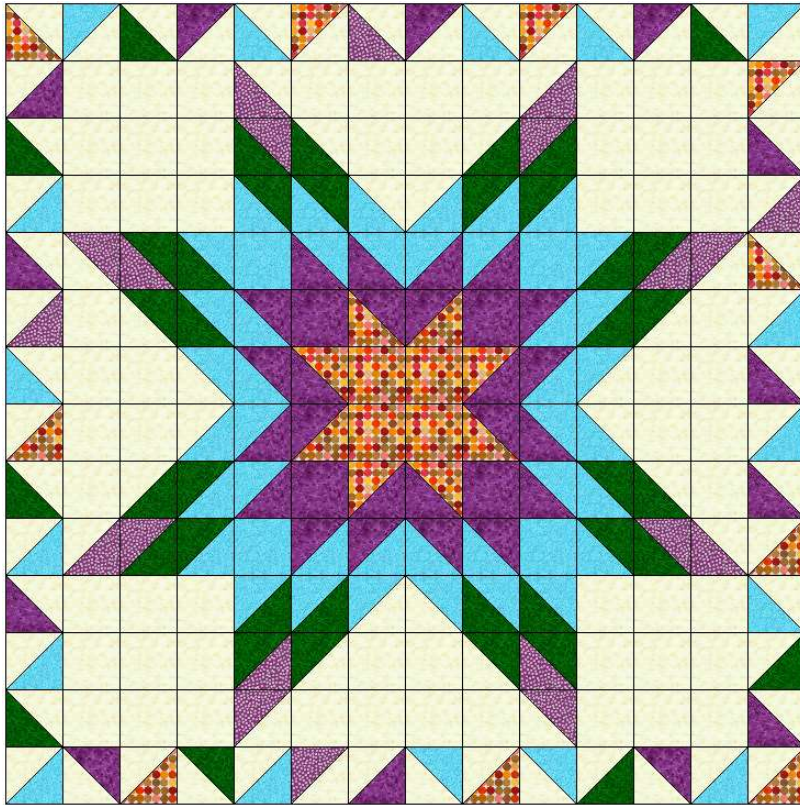
Cut your light and dark fabrics slightly larger all around than the printed rectangle. Stack the dark fabric first, then light fabric, right sides together, then the paper, print side up. Pin to keep the stack together. Set your stitch length to 1.8. Follow the arrows to sew on the dotted lines through all 3 layers. Carefully cut the outside solid line on all four sides, then very carefully cut apart on all the inner solid lines. Use snips over a trash can to cut off all the dog-ears. Before tearing off the paper, press the pieces open. The paper will help the bias edges behave under the iron. Now you can tear off the paper. You will need to sew two QST halves to make one whole 3.5" unfinished block.

There are 18 red Log Cabins, 20 red Stars, 36 blue Log Cabins and 36 blue Star blocks.

# Radiant HST (Half-Square-Triangle) Star

*By Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen*

Usually these Radiant Star quilts are made with diamond patches, like the photo on the right. However, my redesign with triangles means it's a much easier quilt to make. Promise!



You will need 5 colors, plus a background.

Counting from the center:

Fabric 1 - (lime green) :  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard

Fabric 2 - (purple):  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard

Fabric 3 - (blue):  $\frac{5}{8}$  yard

Fabric 4 - (dark green):  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard

Fabric 5 - (lt purple):  $\frac{3}{8}$  yard

Background - (sky blue): 1.5 yard

My finished squares are 4" (so unfinished they will be 4.5"). Make your HSTs using your favorite method. I use the Triangulations (CD) printed on thin paper to get perfect HST every time. Note that you will also need some 4.5" squares of colored fabric too to finish the star.

I used leftover fabric to make the HST border. I'm leaving it up to you to count the numbers of HST you need for each block combination in the star and border.

Make it your own:

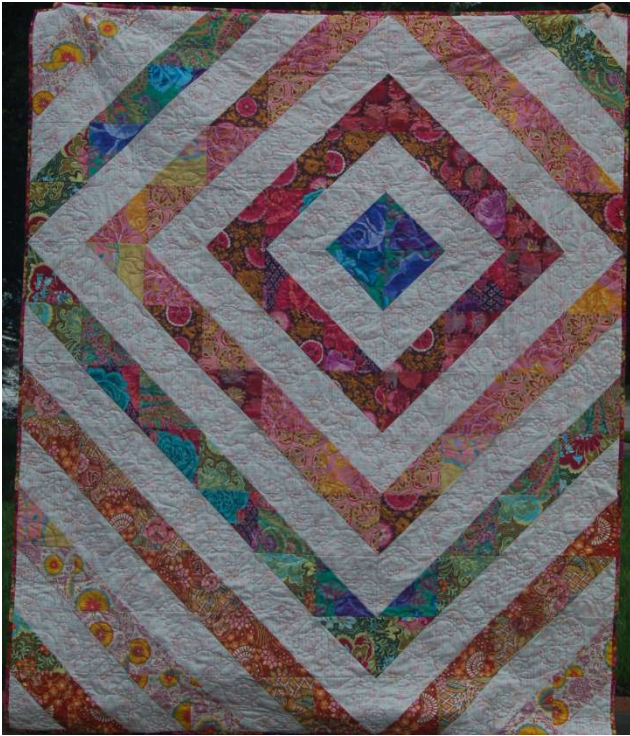
- Use more colors and extend the stars points out and make the star even larger.
- make the HST bigger (5"? 9"? ) to make a bigger quilt.
- Put a thin (2" finished) inner border of background so the star will float in the background
- Make a different border or several borders. You could surround my border with background fabric borders.

Enjoy!



# Floralicity (a Barnraising quilt)

by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen



Use a pack of fat quarters, dimes or just a nice collection of fabrics for this quilt. It would work well with manly flannels too! If you don't have a 6.5" ruler, this would be a good time to buy one.

## **Fabric needed:**

- Fun focus fabrics: at least 10 fat quarters, or 2.5 yards of scraps
- Light fabric(s): 2 yards
- Batting : don't forget to buy white batting if your light is very white
- Backing and binding fabrics

**Cut** your focus fabric into 7" squares. You'll need 60 squares.

**Cut** the light fabric(s) into 7" squares, you'll need 60

of these too.

**Place** a light square and a dark square right sides together, draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of one square, from corner to corner.

**Sew** a line on either side of the drawn line, a SCANT 1/4" away from the drawn line.

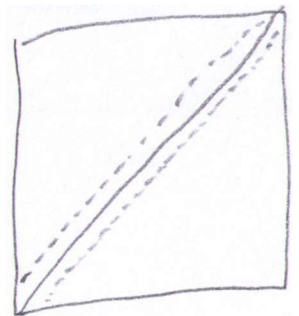
**Press** your 2 sewn lines.

**Cut** the drawn line (you can eyeball this with a rotary cutter, it doesn't have to be perfect)

**Open** the two Half Square Triangles (HST) and press the seam toward the dark side.

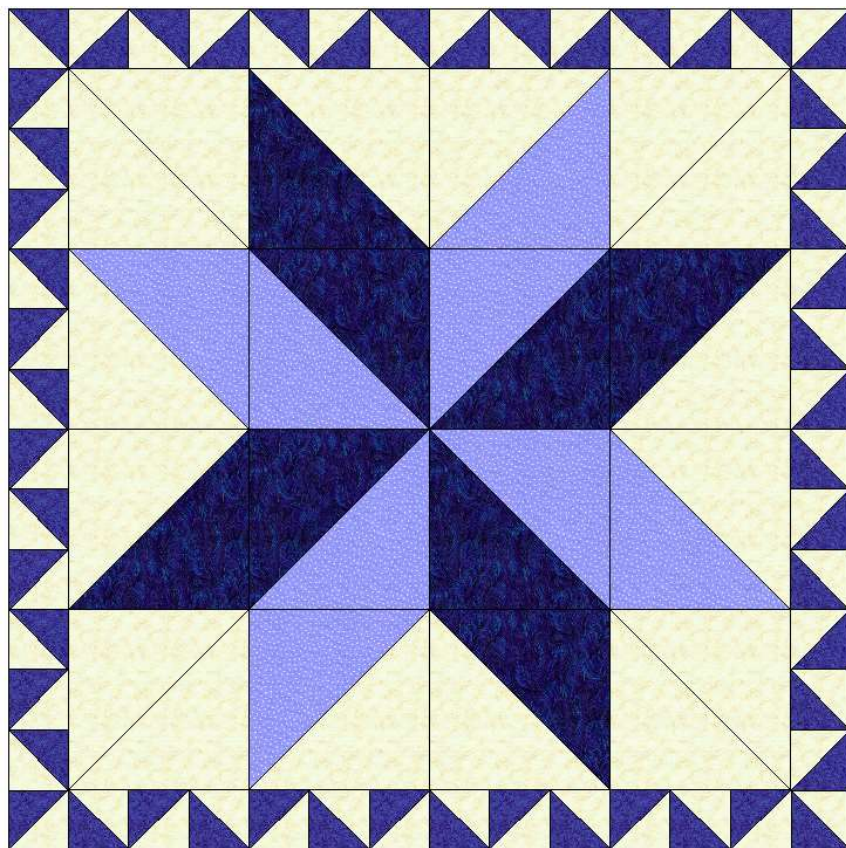
**Place** a 6.5" ruler down on the HST (matching the diagonal line with the fabric), and cut the excess around the edges.

At this point, you can lay out all your squares for the most pleasing arrangement and sew them together!



# Sixteen Patch Big Star

by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen



This very simple yet graphic 'big star' uses large squares of fabric..9", 10" or larger. Use 4 squares of a dark, 4 squares of a medium, and 8 squares of a light. This border is a great use of leftover bits, or use a single fabric border, or finish the quilt without a border at all. Great for a baby quilt!

If you want the backing to be a single width of fabric, consider the width of the border when calculating the size of the squares to use.

**Cut** up the squares. 4 darks, 4 mediums and 8 lights. To use a single width of backing fabric, and if you want a border, the big star squares should be no larger than 9". **Mark** (with a chalk marker and ruler) a diagonal line on the wrong side of the all dark squares, and two of the medium squares.

**Match up** the blocks before sewing, right sides together:

- 1 dark/1 medium – two of these
- 1 dark/1 light – two of these
- 1 medium/1 light – two of these

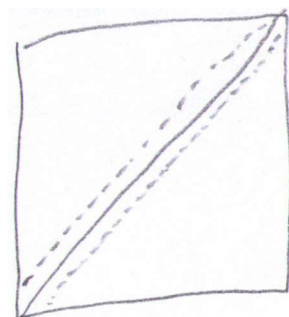
**Sew** a seam on both sides of the chalk diagonal line,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the line. (Dotted lines are the sewing lines on the figure to the right)

**Press** to set the sewn lines, as sewn

**Cut**, using a rotary cutter and ruler, on the chalk line

**Open** the Half Square Triangle (HST), **finger press**, and then press carefully with the iron. Don't pull or stretch this bias seam!

**Arrange** the HSTs with the leftover light squares to look like the quilt above. Realize the light squares will be larger than the HSTs, so go ahead and trim them down to be the same size. To create a border like the one above, measure one finished big HST, and use that measurement divided into 3 to get the size of the finished border HSTs. Make the small HST the same way: draw a line, sew on either side, press, cut and open and press again.



# Lots of ways to make...Half Square Triangles (HST)

*by Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen*

how NOT to make HST: cutting 2 triangles and sewing them together  
(unless you cut them with Accuquilt : no dog ears!)

**Triangulations** - Up-front cost but then you can print out ANY size of HST, QST (quarter square triangle) and Flying Geese. Use a smaller stitch (2.0) to make it easier to tear off paper. Leave the paper on when pressing.

**Pro:** no trimming!, make any size without more cost. No Dog-ears

**Con:** taking paper off, up-front cost

**Thangles** - Similar to using Triangulations, but you have to buy the paper strips for the (finished) size HST you need.

**Pro:** no trimming!, No Dog-ears, use the same size strip for the squares in the block too.

**Con:** taking paper off, you need to buy enough papers of the right size

**Magic 8/Easy 8** - Start with a big square, put lighter fabric on top. Draw 2 diagonal lines. Sew on both sides of the diagonal lines. Press before cutting to set the seams. Then cut in half vertically and horizontally.

<https://seekatesew.com/half-square-triangles-8-at-a-time-chart/>

**Pro:** fast: 8 at a time

**Con:** trimming afterward needed

**Drawing a Diagonal Line** - chalk, Frixion pen, pencil, pen

**Diagonal Seam Tape** - great for lining up that diagonal line as you sew

**Slotted Trimmer** - only 2 cuts to trim all 4 sides. Can also cut off your dog-ears.

**4-at-a-time Jenny Doan's method** - bias edges, be careful! Edges will distort as you sew blocks together. The math is complicated too.

**Be careful when pressing HSTs** - start from one end, not the middle

Each method has pros and cons, so test them out for your particular quilt.