Alphabet Panel + Sashing Stars = A Smashing Quilt

From In the Beginning fabrics From Marti Michell Nap or Play Size

**Finished Size:** 47” square

Let the fabric “do the work” while the stars add sparkle! When the fabric is almost too fun to cut, let the Sashing Stars provide the perfect accent.

**Materials Needed**
- 2 panels of In the Beginning Alphabet by Jennifer Heynen (#9JHQ1) or 1¼ yards other overall print
- ½ yard each of 2 accent fabrics for sashing strips
- ½ yard for star points and 4 cornerstones
- Scrap or fat quarter for 5 cornerstones
- ⅓ yard for star points and 4 cornerstones
- ⅜ yard binding fabric
- 1½ yards plus sashing scraps for backing*
- Batting larger than 50” square

*Backing fabric will be 8” too narrow for the quilt. Piece sashing fabric scraps to make an 8” x 54” strip and insert in backing vertically, but off-center.

**Cutting the Alphabet Panel**
- 4 – 14” Squares
- 4 – Vertical 6” x 14” units
- 4 – Horizontal 6” x 14” units
- 4 – 6” squares

Use two variations of this layout so the alphabet sections don’t repeat the same letters. See layouts, page 2.

**Cutting the Sashing Strips**
Use any ruler to cut these strips on the lengthwise grain:
- 6 sashing strips 3½” wide by 14” long from each color
- 6 sashing strips 3½” wide by 6” long from each color

“Cut away” to Create the Sashing Points
This is easiest with the From Marti Michell Sashing Star Ruler (Product #8114).

1. Center the sashing strip between the 3½” lines on the ruler aligning the blunt end of the ruler with the end of the strip, as shown.

2. Cut away the exposed corners of the sashing strip. The appropriate seam allowance remains.

Measure square to confirm size of photocopied patterns. It should measure 1”.
Cutting and adding the Star Points

1. The triangle template is multi-size. Cut strips 3½” wide (3⅝” for C17) by width of fabric. (C17 is the exact size, but the small corner is slightly different.) Fold in half and every pair will be mirror image. Fold a second time and cut 4 points (2 pairs with every cut.) Cut 36 pairs of star point triangles. Trim points to make alignment with sashing strips easy.

![Diagram of 3½”-wide folded strip and star points]

2. Add 4 star points to each sashing strip. Press toward the star points.

![Diagram of sashing strip with star points]

Finishing the Quilt

Arrange the quilt pieces as shown. Assemble rows and finally join the rows to complete the quilt top. The quilt top will be just too wide for one length of fabric to be a complete back. There should be enough leftover sashing fabrics to piece a strip 8” x 54”. We think it is fun to piece the backing so the strip is off-center.

Layer and quilt as desired.

Cutting Layouts, 2 Panels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>23”</th>
<th>23”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14” square</td>
<td>6” x 14”</td>
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Assembly Diagram