

NOVA STAR PILLOW TUTORIAL



THEN CAME JUNE

A quilted pillow tutorial by Meghan Buchanan.

Large Pillow 26" x 26"

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The Nova Star Quilt Pattern is needed to make this tutorial. I do not provide block measurements or construction instructions, those are available in the pattern only.

Throw Pillow 26" x 26"

Scrappy Block Colors Background Fabric (includes Envelope Backing) Quilt Sandwich Fabric Batting (24) 10" squares or scraps1 1/4 yards29 1/2" square28 1/2" square

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Organize and Cut Your Fabric

Before you begin cutting, you will need to organize your 10" squares into (4) sets of (6) 10" squares. Each set will make one block.

The (6) 10" squares in a single set will each become (1) piece within the block - A, B, C, D, E or F.

Cut each 10" square according to the piece you've assigned them and the cutting measurements can be found in the Nova Star Quilt Pattern.





The background fabric will be used for the block pieces G & H, sashing and borders in the pillow top as well as the envelope pillow backing. Cut the following pieces from your background fabric:

- Cut (1) 5 1/2" x WOF strips. Subcut (4) 5 1/2" squares and (4) 3 1/2" squares (pieces H & G).
- Cut (1) 27" x WOF strip. Subcut (2) 18 1/4" x 27" pieces (envelope backing).
- Cut (2) 1 1/2" x WOF strips. Subcut (2) 1 1/2" x 12 1/2" pieces and (1) 1 1/2" x 25 1/2" piece (sashing pieces).
- Cut (4) 1 1/2" x WOF strips. Subcut (2) 1 1/2" x 25 1/2" pieces and (2) 1 1/2" x 27 1/2" pieces (borders).

Sew the Blocks and Assemble Pillow Top

Sew the (4) blocks together as stated in the quilt pattern - same construction for everything.

Once the (4) blocks are sewn and pressed, lay them out in the layout you'd like them in the pillow. Be sure the blocks rotate just like in the quilt top, this is what creates the fun pinwheel design in the final look.

1. Pin & Sew (1) 1 $1/2'' \ge 1/2''$ strip in between the (2) blocks in the top row. Press seam open. Repeat this again for the bottom (2) blocks.







Bottom Blocks





Note the block rotation in the HST

2. Before sewing the rows together, be sure the blocks are rotated properly to create the pinwheel design. Then, pin & sew (1) $1 \frac{1}{2}$ x 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ between the two rows of blocks. Press seam open.





3. Pin and sew the (2) $1 \frac{1}{2}$ x 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ pieces to each side of the pillow top. Press seams toward the sashing.





4. Pin and sew the (2) $1 \frac{1}{2}$ x 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ pieces to the top and bottom of the pillow top. Press seams toward the sashing. The pillow top unfinished should measure 27 $\frac{1}{2}$.





Quilt Your Pillow Top

You will now need your finished pillow top, the 28 1/2" square of batting and your 29 1/2" square of fabric for the back of the quilt sandwich.

1. Layer the 29 1/2" square of fabric, batting and pillow top to make a quilt sandwich. Baste as you desire.

2. Using a temporary marking pen or Hera marker, mark lines however you choose to quilt - vertical, horiztonal, a cross hatch. To start, I personally marked a vertical line down the center of the vertical sashing.

3. Then I marked subsequent lines spaced 1" apart from the first line and quilted them with a straight stitch, continuing to cover the entire pillow top.

4. Next, I quilted a zig zag stitch vertically in between each 1" gap. The design I created is a vertical mix of straight lines and zig zag lines.

5. Once done quilting, trim your quilted pillow top down to a 27" square.

You will need your (2) 18 1/4" x 27" pieces to make your envelope backing.

1. Lay (1) 18 $1/4" \ge 27"$ right side down with the 27" side closest to you. Fold the bottom edge over 1/2" and press with an iron. Fold the pressed 1/2" over one more time and sew along the edge to create a finished edge. Fig G. Repeat with the other 18 $1/4" \ge 27"$ piece.



2. Next, lay your finished quilt top right side up facing the way you want it to look finished.

3. Place (1) of your back pieces right side down with the folded edge towards the middle and the raw edge at the bottom of the pillow top. Be sure to match up corners.

4. Next, place the other back up right side down on top of the bottom piece. The raw edge should be at the top and the folded edge should be overlapped in the middle. Pin all around the edges.



- 5. You will sew a 1/2" seam allowance all around the edges of the pillow, pivoting at the corners.
- 6. Trim the corners 1/4" away from the seam this will help reduce bulk at the corners.
- 7. To better secure your seams, use a zig zag stitch and sew all around the raw edges.
- 8. Turn your pillow insert right side out, add your 26" pillow insert and you are done!