

Crazy Stars

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Description

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In this class the student will be creating a 52" square quilt with easy to make, free-form stars. The technique is really fun and each quilt will be unique to the maker. Pre-cutting some pieces will allow for more time in class for piecing the blocks. It is easy to make more blocks later to make a larger piece.

Supplies

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This quilt is a good opportunity to use up some of your scraps. The background and the stars are most interesting when made from many assorted fabrics. When choosing your fabrics, be certain that the "background" and the "star" fabrics have high contrast for the best effect.

One color option might be the background cut from all different tans with assorted blue fabrics for the stars. Another color choice might be blacks for the background with red stars. Just remember, HIGH contrast!

When selecting the fabrics for your project, keep in mind that fabric choices should be made from the entire spectrum of each color. For example, "reds" should include pinks, oranges, orange-reds and purple-reds. "Blues" should include turquoise, royal, navy and purples.

While it is not mandatory to pre-cut the pieces, it is advisable. It will maximize your class time for sewing and design.

OK? Now for the fun part ! Dig into your stash and pre-cut the following pieces. Careful cutting is important, as these pieces are the building blocks for the entire quilt.

- **Background Fabrics:**

- Blocks:

- Cut 72 - 4 1/2" squares (assorted fabrics)

- Sashes and Borders:

- Cut 24 - 2 1/2" x 12 1/2" rectangles (assorted fabrics)

- Cut 16 - 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" rectangles (assorted fabrics)

- Cut 12 - 4 1/2" x 12 1/2" rectangles (assorted fabrics)

- Cut 4 - 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" squares (assorted fabrics)

- **Star Fabrics:**

For stars points cut an assortment of 2" and 3" wide strips of contrasting fabrics (contrasting to the background that is ☺). You will need approximately 500"-600" running



inches of these strips (not of each width, but total for both widths combined). (*Don't be overwhelmed, that is about the equivalent of 14 – 42" strips of fabric* ☺) The strips need not be cut from a full 42" width of fabric, just cut from what you have. Again, use a good range of values in your chosen color. The more, the merrier!

- **Block Centers:**

Bring the scraps from your cuttings and assorted other pieces to total approximately ½ yard of fabric. These will be used to foundation piece the centers of your star block.

- **Other Supplies:**

- **Sewing machine**- with an extension cord and power strip (*if you have them*)
- **Thread to blend with your fabrics** (*gray, dark gray, tan or cream are usually good choices, depending on the color of your background fabrics*)
- **Paper for foundation piecing**, (*you can use computer paper, notebook paper or newsprint, whatever you have on hand*) cut the following sizes:
 - 9 – 4 ½" squares
 - 16 – 2 ½" squares
- **Fabric scissors**
- **Rotary supplies**- cutter, medium sized mat and ruler
- **Iron and Pressing surface**- check with host of class to see if this is necessary, not EVERYONE needs to bring them ☺
- **Basic Sewing Supplies**- whatever you need to make you a happy quilter. Some examples are-thread snips, ¼" foot, walking foot, seam ripper (*we hope not*), lunch size brown sack for trash, masking tape to tape the bag to the table, etc.
- **Display "wall"**- this can be a piece of flannel or a sheet of Styrofoam, anything so you can lay out your blocks to get a look at them before you assemble the quilt.

To complete the quilt you will need (not in class):

- **Batting**- 58" square
- **Backing**- Fabrics pieced together to total a 58" square
- **Thread**- your choice for quilting the piece
- **Binding**- your choice to complete the piece