

# OLD GLORY

## Project 2



Old Glory, 44" x 40", designed and quilted by the author; pieced by Maggie Hall, Volcano, California.

## Fabrics

Red and beige for flag stripes— $\frac{1}{2}$  yard each. These fabrics need to be 42" wide after selvages are cut off.  
Pale blue for background— $\frac{3}{4}$  yard  
Vivid blue for star field— $\frac{1}{4}$  yard  
Various reds, beiges, and blues for pieced border—total of 1 yard  
Backing— $1\frac{1}{4}$  yards  
Cotton batting—approximately 45" x 50"  
Binding— $\frac{1}{2}$  yard

## Cutting

### Beige

Cut six 2"-wide strips.

### Red

Cut seven 2"-wide strips.

### Vivid Blue

Cut three 2"-wide strips and from these cut seven 11"-long pieces.

### Pale Blue

Cut two 6"-wide strips.  
Cut four 3"-wide strips. Cut two of the 3"-wide strips 32" long. Wait to cut the two remaining lengths.

### Various Reds, Beiges, and Blues

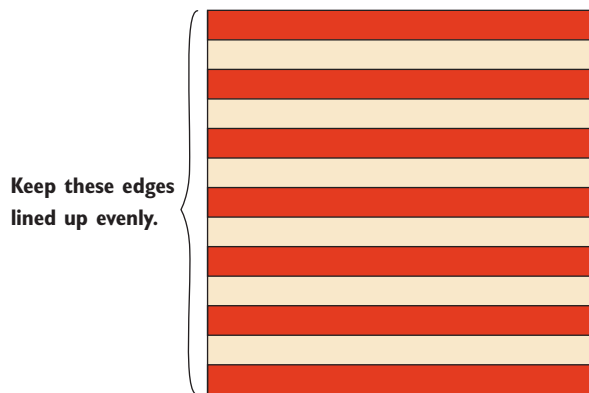
Cut 152 total  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

### Binding

Cut five  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide strips.

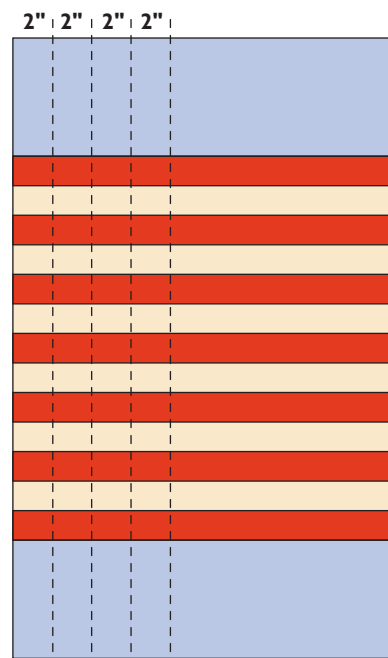
## Piecing

**1.** Begin by sewing alternate strips of red and beige together. Pin **carefully** and sew each row to eliminate curving of the piece.



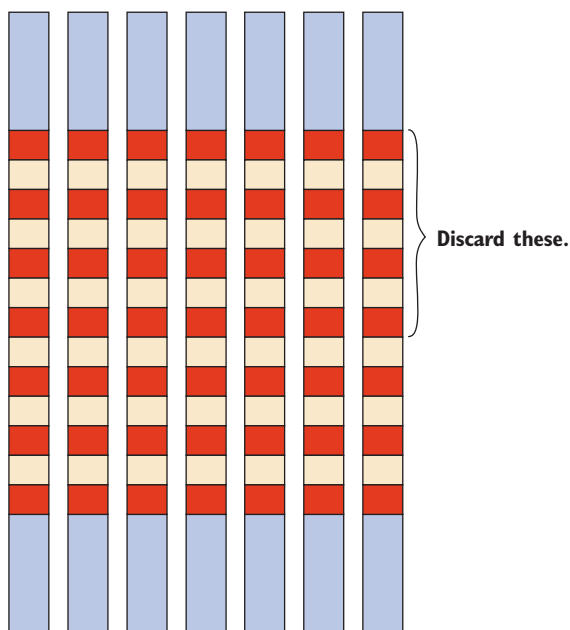
Sew 13 strips.

**2.** After all thirteen strips are sewn together, starting and ending with a red strip, sew a 6"-wide pale blue strip to both top and bottom. Press all the seams in one direction. Now cut into twenty-one 2"-wide sections.

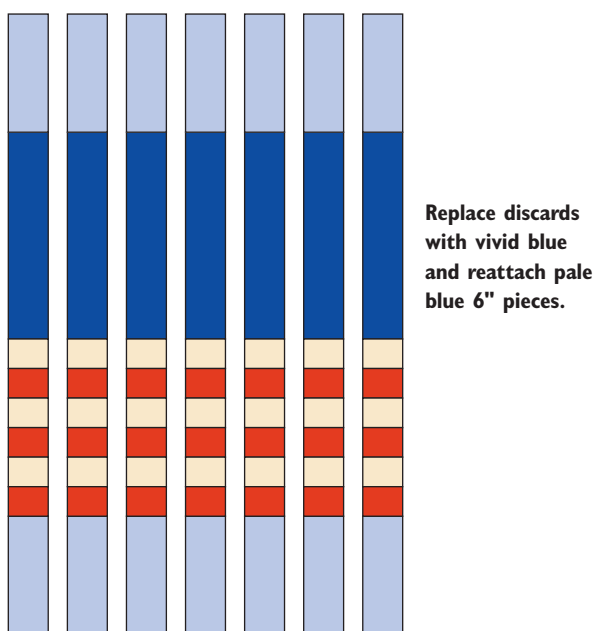


Add pale blue strips, then cut 21 sections.


**3.** Carefully remove the top seven red and beige stripes and the 6" pale blue piece from 7 sections. Then replace these with a vivid blue 11" piece. Now sew only the pale blue pieces to the vivid blue pieces. Press in the same direction as in Step 2.

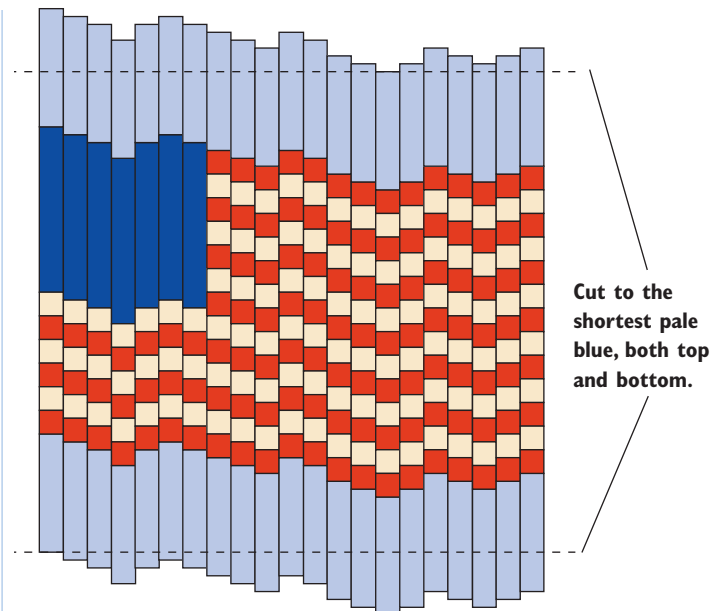


Gently remove top seven red and beige stripes, saving the pale blue piece.



4. Using your design wall, place the sections in a "wave" pattern to your liking. Use the picture on page 20 as a guide. Then piece them together and press all the seams in one direction. Using your rotary cutter, trim the top and bottom to the shortest pale blue piece.

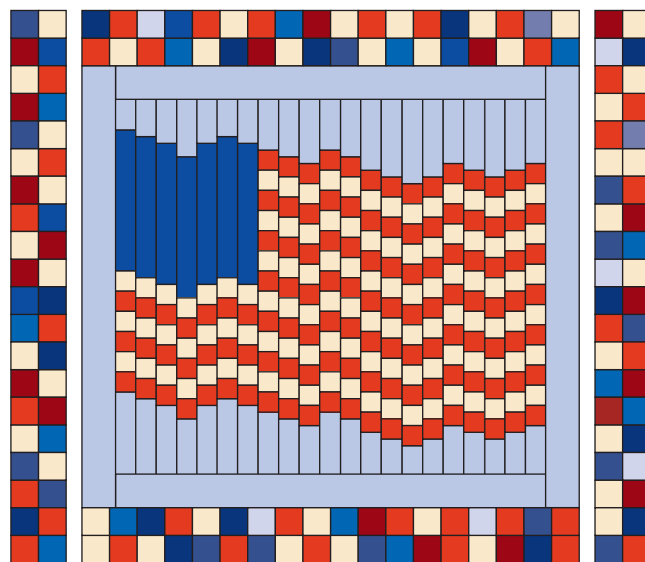
 *Note* Keep them in a gentle wave without extreme movement.



Make a very gentle wave. Cut straight across with rotary cutter.

5. Add the 3" x 32" pale blue strips to the top and bottom. Press seams toward border. Measure the height of your quilt top and cut the two remaining 3"-wide pale blue strips this measurement. After these borders are sewn on and pressed, your quilt top needs to measure an even number plus  $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

6. Trim from both sides and top and bottom if you need to make any adjustments. This will make adding the squares easy. Put the piece back up on your design wall and place the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares in a random pattern until you are pleased.



Add pale blue 3" strips on all four sides. Arrange the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.



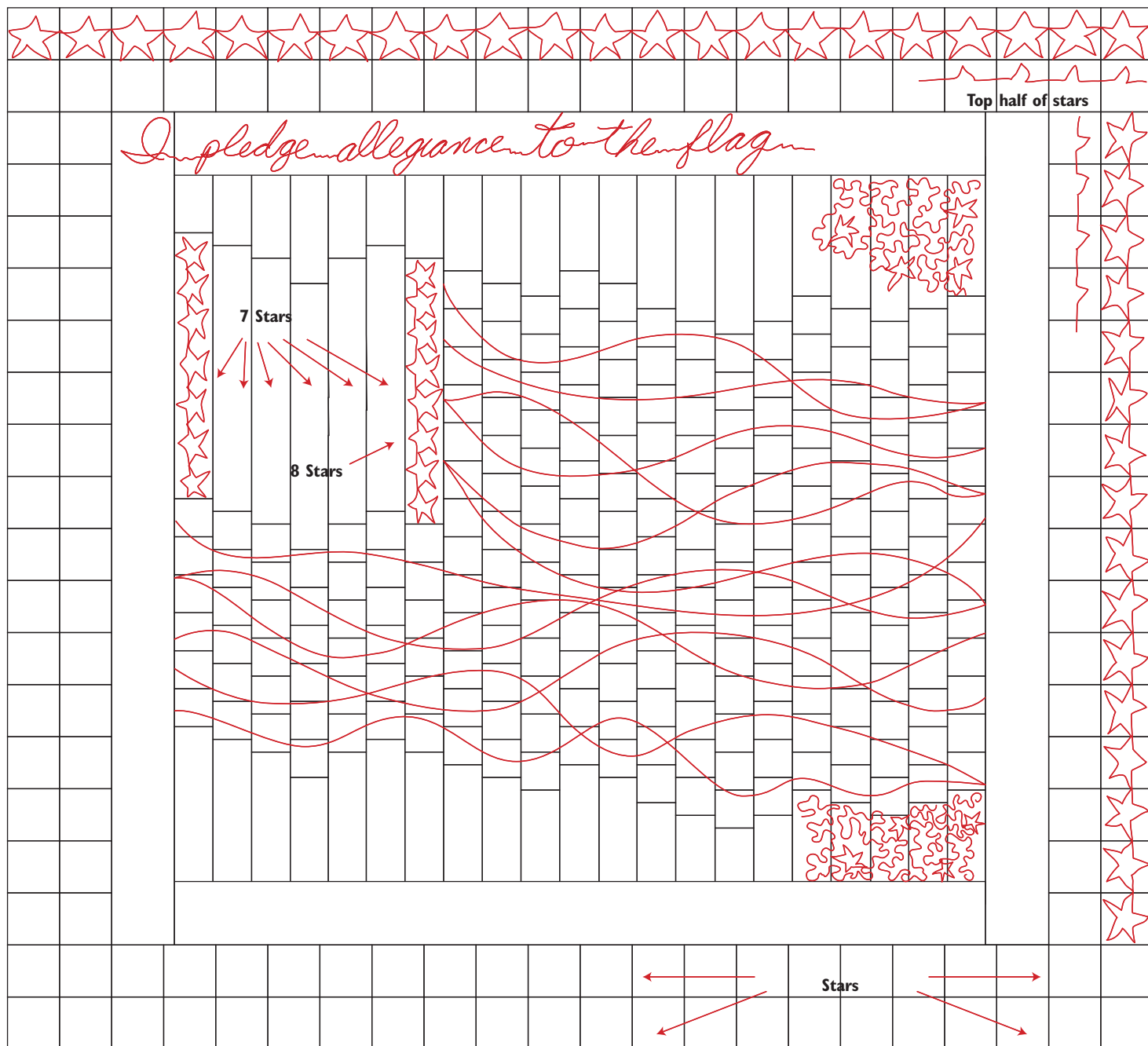
7. Sew the 2 1/2" squares into strips. Press and add the strips to top and bottom, then the sides. Press.

8. Layer and baste. You're ready to quilt!

## Quilting

You can quilt your quilt any way you want! I chose to ditch-quilt all the main seams with clear nylon thread.

Stars are quilted in both the pieced border squares and the vivid blue "star field." See Stars on page 53. Words of the "Pledge of Allegiance" are divided more or less equally among the four pale blue borders. Random wave-like lines follow the red and beige stripes of the flag. The background quilting is a meander (page 53) with a few stars added here and there along the way.



Quilting designs on *Old Glory*

