



Variable Star

Alex Anderson; hand quilted by Mary Hershberger
This quilt is 59 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 59 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and contains thirty-six 6" Variable Stars.

Variable Star



Fabric Tips

The background alternate-block fabric is made up of an identical print in two colorways. This unusual set gave this quilt an old look. Always consider introducing white into a quilt. It's OK to mix beige and white together; it keeps the quilt from looking muddy. Use as many different blues and reds as you can; don't worry if there are variations within each color family. This adds interest.



Fabric Requirements

The following instructions give the total yardage needed to complete your quilt. (See General Instructions: Yardage, page 8.)

Star and Sawtooth Border: 2 yards

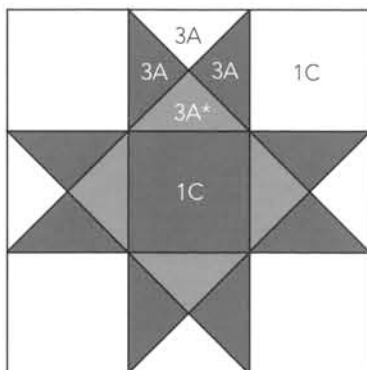
Star Background: 1¼ yards

Alternate Block Background: 2¼ yards

Inner Border: ¼ yard

Backing: 3¾ yards

6" Variable Star



CUTTING

Traditional: use template patterns 1C, 3A.

The following numbers are for one Variable Star. You will need thirty-six in all. (See General Instructions: Cutting, page 8.)

Star Body

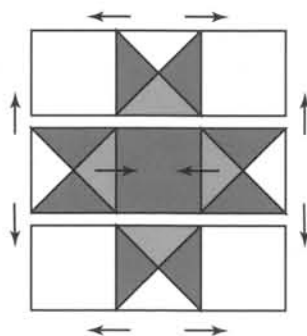
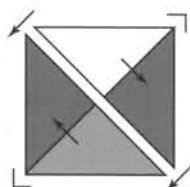
- ◆ Cut one 2½" square (1C).
- ◆ Cut two 3¼" squares, then cut ☒ (3A).
- ◆ Cut one 3¼" square of a different fabric, then cut ☒ (3A*).

Background

- ◆ Cut one 3¼" square, then cut ☒ (3A).
- ◆ Cut four 2½" squares (1C).

PIECING AND PRESSING

Follow the diagram below for piecing sequence. The ^ indicates which edge or point to line up (see All-Star Lineup, pages 8-9). The arrows indicate which way to press (see Pressing, page 10).



Inner Border

Several fabrics have been used. Notice the color change in relationship to the pieced border. The two primary colors used are set opposite from each other.

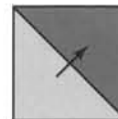
- ◆ Cut two strips 1½" x 51½".
- ◆ Cut two strips 1½" x 53½".

Outer Border

Traditional: use template pattern 2D, 1M.

- ◆ Cut thirty-five 4" squares of star fabric, then cut ☒ (2D).
- ◆ Cut thirty-five 4" squares of alternate block fabrics, then cut ☒ (2D).

Make seventy half-square triangle units.



- ◆ Cut two 3⅝" alternate block fabric squares (1M).

Alternate Blocks

Traditional: use template pattern 1G.

Cut twenty-five 6½" squares of alternate block fabric (1G).

Notice the arrangement of the two background colorways.

Side Quarter Triangles

- ◆ Cut five 9¾" squares from the two alternate block fabrics (4 of one color and 1 of the other color), then cut ☒. (No template pattern given.)



Corner Triangles

- ◆ Cut two $5\frac{1}{8}$ " squares of the alternate block fabric, then cut \square . (No template pattern given.)

Setting

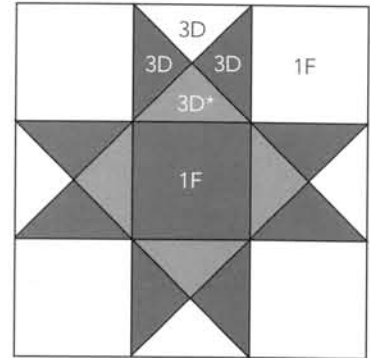
1. Arrange your stars and alternate blocks in a pleasing layout. Remember they are set on point.
2. Join the blocks and the side and corner triangles in a diagonal set.

3. Sew on the inner border.

4. Sew together seventeen half-square triangles for side border. Repeat. Sew together eighteen half-square triangles for top border and add the $3\frac{5}{8}$ " alternate block fabric square to one end. Repeat for bottom border. Sew on the outer border.

Celebrate! Your quilt is ready to layer, baste, and quilt...just in time for the Fourth of July.

12" Variable Star Variation



Traditional: use template patterns 1F, 3D.

Star Body

- ◆ Cut one $4\frac{1}{2}$ " square (1F).
- ◆ Cut two $5\frac{1}{4}$ " squares, then cut \square (3D).
- ◆ Cut one $5\frac{1}{4}$ " square of a different fabric, then cut \square (3D*).

Background

- ◆ Cut one $5\frac{1}{4}$ " square, then cut \square (3D).
- ◆ Cut four $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares (1F).

