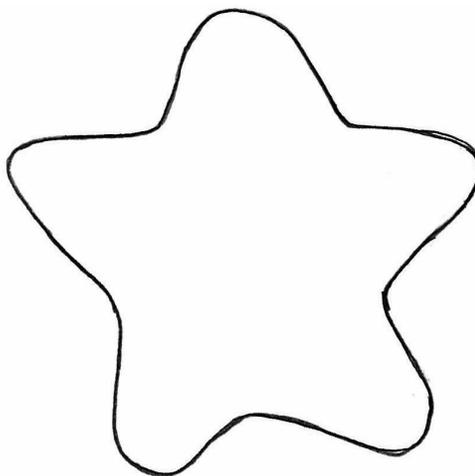
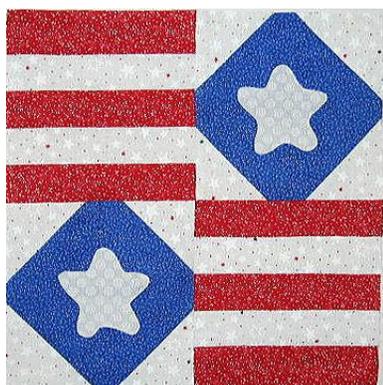


JUNE 2010 BLOCK-A-MONTH

STARS & STRIPES FOUR-PATCH



FABRIC & CUTTING:

(Note: All three fabrics can be solids or small prints that read solid)

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Fabric 1 – any red | --cut three 1-1/2" x 11" strips |
| Fabric 2 – any blue | --cut two 5-1/2" x 5-1/2" squares |
| Fabric 3 – any white | --cut two 1-1/2" x 11" strips |
| | --cut eight 2-1/2" squares |
| | --cut one 4" x 8" rectangle for stars (you can use a different white fabric if you wish) |

You will also need a 4" x 8" piece of fusible web

SEWING:

10-1/2" unfinished block

--Red & white striped units: Alternately sew together the three red 1-1/2" strips and two 1-1/2" white strips, along the long edges, using 1/4" seam allowance. Begin and end with a red strip and press all seams toward the red. You should have a 5-1/2" x 11" rectangle – cut this in half to make two 5-1/2" x 5-1/2" squares.

--Blue & white star units (snowball method): On the back of each 2-1/2" square draw a diagonal line. Place one square, right sides together, on each corner of the 5-1/2"x5-1/2" blue squares. Sew along the drawn line, flip the lower triangle up and press toward the corners. Leaving a 1/4" seam allowance, cut away the back two triangles of these "snowball" corners as the blue fabric will show through.

--Appliqué stars: Trace the "funky" uneven pointed star pattern (shown above) twice onto the paper side of your fusible web. You do not have to reverse the image. Cut out these star pattern pieces leaving about 1/4" all around the shapes. Follow the manufacturer's directions to bond the fusible web to the wrong side of the white 4" x 8" rectangle. Be sure to let cool. Cut the stars out on the solid outline. Peel off the webbing paper and fuse each star to the center of the blue and white square as shown in above photo. It does not matter which star point is at the "top". Do not finish the edges of the appliqué stars – the winner of the blocks can select the method for finishing.

--Constructing the four-patch: Using a 1/4" seam allowance, sew each striped unit to a star unit, pressing seams toward the star unit. Sew these two units together and press seam in either direction. Your block should measure 10-1/2" square.

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