

February 2008

Block of Month: Friendship Star (variation 1)

Fabric: Let's make the Friendship Star in two shades or prints of blue, and the four-patch corners green and white/off-white.

- Cut:**
- Fabric A = blue center square: one 4-1/2" square
 - Fabric B = another blue for the arms of the Star: one 4-7/8" x 9-3/4" rectangle
 - Fabric C = background white or off-white: one 4-7/8" x 9-3/4" rectangle **and** one 2-1/2" x 20" strip
 - Fabric D = green for the four-patch corners: one 2-1/2" x 20" strip

Piecing the Block:

1. Make four half-square triangles, just as you did in January for the Friendship Star:



1) Place the two 4-7/8" x 9-3/4" rectangles with right sides together, lightest of the two fabrics on top. Lightly draw a straight line 4-7/8" from the short edge dividing the rectangle in half and forming two squares. Then draw two diagonal lines through the center of the two squares as shown.



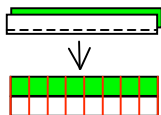
2) Still holding the two rectangles together, sew a 1/4" away from the diagonal line on both sides.



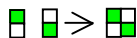
3) Cut the rectangles apart on the drawn lines creating four half square triangle components. Press the seams to the darker fabric. The finished units should measure 4-1/2" square.



2. Next, make the four-patch corners:



1) Start by sewing your Color C and Color D 2-1/2" x 20" strips together along one long side, right sides together, and using a scant 1/4" seam. Press seam allowances towards green fabric. Then, mark and cut these strips as shown at 2-1/2" intervals to make pieced strip units, each 2-1/2"x 4-1/2".



2) Next, using two pieced strip units, pivot one, and sew them together with a scant 1/4" seam, right sides together. Press the seam carefully to one side. Make four of these units, each measuring 4-1/2" square.

3. Then, make the rows and sew them together:



1) Piece two of the half square triangle components with the 4 -1/2" Fabric A square as shown to create the center row unit of the Block. Press the seams in toward the center square.



2) Create the upper and lower Block rows by piecing together one of the half square triangle blocks with two of the 4-1/2" four-patch squares as shown. Press the seams out toward the four-patch squares.



3) Piece the three Block rows together as shown to create the finished Block. Press the seams toward the outside edge of the Block. The finished Block should measure 12-1/2" inches square which includes a 1/4" seam allowance on all sides.