December Star
14" sq. pillow topper + lap quilt option
Pieced & Quilted by Lynne Hagmeier

Simplify a traditionally pieced star block with pesky y-seams using our layered patchwork technique. It’s so fast and easy you can whip one up for everyone on your list! Perfect for a pillow topper or to button onto our Changing Seasons Runner or Harvest Moon wall quilt to change for the holiday.

SUPPLIES

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<th>Cuts</th>
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<th>RED PRINT</th>
<th>Green Print</th>
<th>Tan Print</th>
<th>Coordinating Print</th>
<th>Batting</th>
<th>Buttons</th>
<th>Cotton Thread</th>
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<td>1 ¼ yds. pillow back/backing block</td>
<td>8&quot; sq. block</td>
<td>fat ⅛</td>
<td>1 yd. pillow cover</td>
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<td>(4) 1&quot; red</td>
<td>quilting/applique - green (Mettler #706)</td>
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ASSEMBLY

Piece (4) 4-patch units using the red-B and tan-F 2” squares; press toward red. Add tan-E and red-B to sides, as shown. Press toward tan-E. Make (4) 9-patch units.

Sew a red-A and tan-E together as shown for star point units; press toward red. Position tan-G triangles on 2 corners of red square; pin in place. Stitch close (⅛”) to bias cut edge of triangles with matching or coordinating cotton thread. Layer green-D triangles on sides of unit with points touching in the center on the red/tan seam; pin in place. Stitch close (⅛”) to bias cut edge of triangles. TIP: I use the same color on the entire block to avoid changing thread. Make 4 star point units.
Piece star block in rows, as shown; press toward center & 9-patches. Block measures 12 ½” square. Add 1 ½” x 12 ½” sashing strips to opposite sides of star block; press toward sashing strips. Repeat for 1 ½” x 14 ½” sashing strips for top and bottom of star block.

**FINISHING**
Layer star block with batting and backing 15” square; pin. Quilt-in-the-ditch and ⅛” inside red-A squares.

Layer (2) 15” squares with batting for pillow back; crosshatch quilt every 2” or as desired. Trim batting and backing. Bind pillow topper and pillow back separately with double 2 ½” binding pieced end-to-end with mitered seams to at least 72” long each.

**Buttons**
Sew buttons to corners of pillow back. Create buttonholes diagonally in corners of pillow topper to match button size.

Wrap an 18” pillow with a yard of fabric as you would wrap a present, mitering ends and folding to back of pillow; pin in place with safety pins. Button pillow topper and back over wrapped pillow diagonally.

**The December Star topper can also be added to these KT favorites:**

**Seasons of the Moon** wall quilt with buttons to change quilted toppers for the seasons. (Included in Harvest Moon booklet KT-11098)

**Changing Seasons** runner with buttons to change quilted toppers for the seasons. (Changing Seasons runner with 7 toppers - KT-9073)
**December Star Lap Quilt**

57” x 70 ½”

**ASSEMBLY**

**Piece** (12) star blocks as per previous instructions. Blocks measure 12 ½” sq.; finish 12” square.

**Lay out** star blocks 3 x 4, alternating with sashing strips/corners in rows. Sew (5) sashing rows together; press toward green sashing strips. Sew (4) block rows together; press toward sashing strips. Quilt measures 42 ½” x 56”.

**Piece** (4) more red/tan 9-patch blocks for tan border corners. Trim (2) tan side borders to length (5” x 56”) and sew to opposite sides of quilt top; press toward border. Add red/tan 9-patch blocks to opposite ends of top and bottom borders (5” x 42 ½”); press toward tan border. Sew to top and bottom of quilt top.

Trim red outer borders and sew to sides of quilt top (3 ½” x 65”); press toward red. Repeat for top/bottom outer borders (3 ½” x 57 ½”).

**Sandwich** quilt top, batting and backing using the method of your choice. Machine quilt-in-the-ditch between blocks and sashing strips and as desired. Trim batting and backing. Bind with double 2 ½” binding pieced to at least 266” long.

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**LOF** = length of fabric

**WOF** = width of fabric

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**RED PRINT**

- **outer border**: (4) 3 ½” x 70” LOF
- **binding**: (4) 2 ½” x 70” LOF
- **block**: A - (48) 3 ½” sq.
- **sashing corners**: B - (144) 2” sq.
- **1st border corners**: (20) 2” sq.

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**GREEN PRINT**

- **block**: C - (12) 3 ½” sq.
- **sashing strips**: D - (24) 3 ½” sq. (X)
- **(31) 2” x 12 ½”**

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**TAN PRINT**

- **blocks**: (4) 5” x 60” LOF
- **E - (144) 2” x 3 ½”**
- **F - (96) 2” sq.**
- **G - (48) 2” sq. (/)**
- **border corners**: EE - (8) 2” x 3 ½”
- **FF - (8) 2” sq.**

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**BACKING**

- **4 ¼ yds.**
KANSAS TROUBLES QUILTERS

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Lois Sprecker, fabric specialist