

Cabin Fever Quilt Along

Part 1: Friendship Star

Friendship Star is a very easy block to make. There are only four pieced squares in the block. Our version will finish at 6 inches square in the quilt. You'll make 8 of these stars. I'm assuming you will make each star different, so my cutting instructions are for one star at a time. If you're using a single background fabric, you can multiply the numbers for one block by 8 when you cut.

Building Blocks: This block is a nine-patch, so there are nine squares, each 2-1/2" **unfinished**.

4 squares neutral

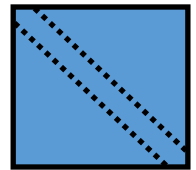
4 squares HST, scrap/neutral

1 square scrap

Cutting: (These cutting instructions will make the Half Square Triangles (HST) oversized. They will need to be cut down using the Tucker Trimmer or another square ruler.)

Star: Two squares, 3-1/4"; one square, 2-1/2"

Background (neutral): Two squares, 3-1/4"; four squares, 2-1/2"



Construction: Mark the wrong side of the two large neutral squares with two diagonal lines, using a Quilter's Quarter ruler or a Quilter's Magic Wand. Layer each large star square with a large neutral square, right sides together. Sew on the marked lines, cut between them, and press the HSTs open. *A word about pressing: I pressed most of the seams in my quilt open, because there are so many different seams coming together in the finished quilt. I recommend that you do this, even though it's a little challenging to match seams when you match the nine patch rows. If you pin carefully, you shouldn't have a problem.*

Trim the HSTs to 2-1/2 inches square, positioning the diagonal line of your square ruler on the seam for the first two cuts, then rotate the square to finish cutting it down to size.

Use the photo to help you position the squares into a nine-patch block. Pay extra attention to the placement of the diagonal lines of the HSTs. Sew squares into three rows, and sew the rows together to complete the block. Measure the completed block. It should be 6-1/2 inches square (unfinished).

One additional note: *There are 39 HSTs and 19 Flying Geese in this quilt. I used one or two squares from the scrappy fabrics of the blocks to make these smaller blocks. If you want to do this too, cut pieces from the fabrics as you make the blocks, and set them aside for the HSTs and Flying Geese. I'll show you later how to cut and sew the FG. Remember that these instructions will use the Tucker ruler (Wing Clipper) for the FG, so if you plan to use a different method, cut the pieces accordingly.*

HST—20 each of scraps and neutral, 3-1/4" square

Flying Geese—19 scrap rectangles, 2-3/4" X 3-3/4"; 19 squares neutral, 3-1/4"

