

# May 2025-BOM

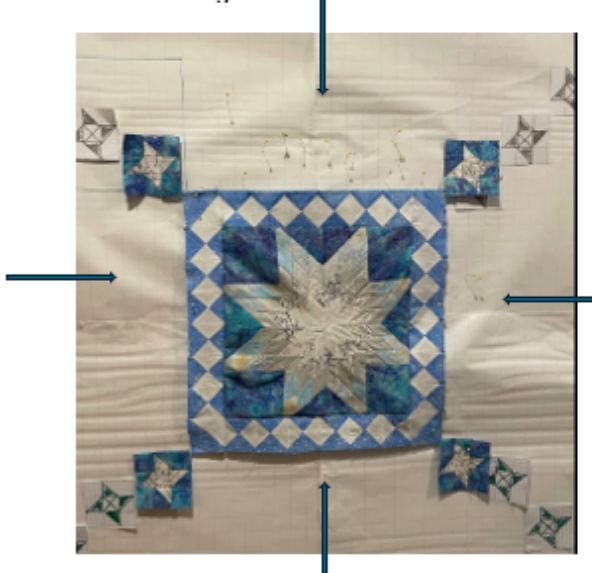
## Pinwheel Star



### May 2025 Block of the month

Now is the time to think about what your background will look like because the next several blocks will include the background in the star shapes. In addition, you should save the scraps from your lighter fabrics to cut small stars to be applied as features on the background. While I have many fabrics with stars, I have found them difficult to work with in other projects. You need to consider how much "negative space" you want in your quilt, to be filled with careful stitching, and how much you want to explode stars across the quilt.

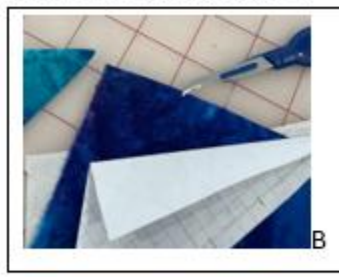
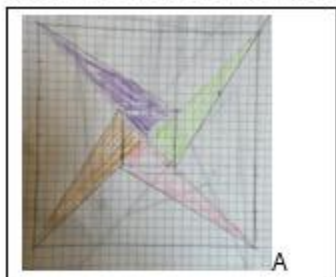
Here is how I have the quilt so far on my design wall. The LoneStar block is centered and surrounded by 6 of the QSTs on each side with a HST in each corner. You may have to do a little tweaking if the seams don't align correctly. FYI the graph paper I laid this out on is roughly 60"x60". After putting your 4 pointed "stars" diagonally to the corners ( I am using about 16 of them), you will define the areas where the next bunch of stars can go. See arrows.



As you can see, you have choices in what you do with the spaces and they do not need to be filled completely, and not necessarily symmetrically. In the lone art class I took in college, asymmetry draws the eye and can make art interesting.

The next several months, I am going to give you different star shapes using different styles of making stars that you can choose to use or not. The smallest will be about 3 inches, and the largest 6 inches. There may be some that are not multiples of 3 (which is the size of the blocks on the diagonals-3.5" cut and when joined to the background, 3" finished).

This month's "star" is a simple pinwheel type. I used foundation paper piecing and will provide a template below. One unit can be made with two 5 1/2-inch squares, one of background and one of "star." I've been acquiring metallic colors in my travels, and I have a LOT of blue background fabrics including ombres.



How to do this:

1. I started with a 6" square and divided it into 4 on the diagonal. Of course, I did not include the 1/4-inch seam allowance in my original draft. I will for your template.
2. I then cut one of the triangles apart and used the freezer paper method (but with regular paper) and folded the template along the seam line for the smaller triangle. I placed the whole 5 1/2" squares right sides facing along this line and carefully sewed them together. I attempted to use as little of the fabrics as possible for the first cut.
3. Trim the seam you have just made to 1/4" (B). Open up the seam, and finger-press it open, keeping the template on the "wrong" side of the fabrics. Trim around the edge of the template. Repeat these 3 more times. Check that you have not inadvertently reversed yourself after each one. You should come up with Photo C after making 4 of these.
4. Sew the 4 pieces together and trim to 6 1/2 inches.

Template for pinwheel star.

