

TQG BLOCK of the MONTH

PATTERN OF THE MONTH JULY 2026 FRIENDSHIP STAR CIRCLE BLOCK

NOTES

This pattern looks difficult but it's not. It's just that the pieces are small and take careful sewing and pressing. Make sure the $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangle blocks measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ " square and are pressed fully flat with no folds. For the circle to be visible, make sure you use a red that contrasts sufficiently with your whites and blues. I used a different white and a different red for each star and the same blue background. The "complicated" part is sewing the block together. Use a design board and lay out the entire block. Check often to make sure you are sewing the correct pieces together, and your star points are pointing in the correct orientation. If you don't want to make the Friendship Star Circle, just make one Friendship Star block that finishes $12\frac{1}{2}$ " X $12\frac{1}{2}$ ".

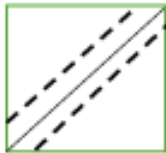


FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

For a scrappy quilt, you will need a minimum of four different whites and four different reds, 4" X 2" each. I used the same blue background. A fat quarter of blue is more than enough. You can also use blue scraps for a scrappy background. For the red and white striped border, wait to cut your borders until your circle is done in case your circle does not measure 9½" X 9½".

CUTTING AND SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

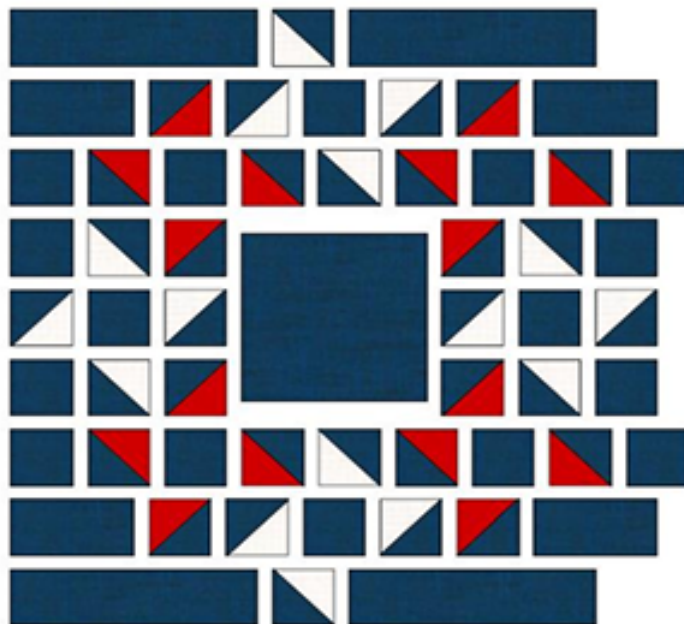
From each white fabric and each red fabric, cut (2) 2" squares. Cut (16) 2" blue squares. Right sides together, sew each white square and each red square to a blue square a ¼" from the center on the diagonal. Cut down the center on the diagonal to make (2) half square triangle blocks each. Dashed lines are sew lines and solid line is cut line. Trim each block to 1½" square. You should end up with (16) red/blue blocks and (16) white/blue blocks.



Cut (16) 1½" X 1½" blue squares, (4) 4½" X 1½" blue rectangles, (4) 2½" X 1½" blue rectangles, and (1) 3½" X 3½" blue square.

Lay out your block according to photo below and sew together. Your block should measure 9½" X 9½". (It's okay if it's not. We will adjust the measurements of your borders to have the entire block finish at 12½" X 12½" later.)

The first and last rows use the 4½" X 1½" blue rectangles. The second and second-to-last rows use the 2½" X 1½" blue rectangles. The middle row uses the 3½" X 3½" blue square.



For the border, measure your block. If it measures $9\frac{1}{2}" \times 9\frac{1}{2}"$ you can use the following measurements. Sew (1) $1\frac{3}{4}" \times 9\frac{1}{2}"$ red rectangle to the bottom of the block. Sew (1) $1\frac{3}{4}" \times 11"$ red rectangle to the right side of the block. Sew (1) $1\frac{3}{4}" \times 11"$ white rectangle to bottom of block. Sew (1) $1\frac{3}{4}" \times 12\frac{1}{2}"$ white rectangle to right side of block.

If your block does not measure $9\frac{1}{2}" \times 9\frac{1}{2}"$, subtract the width of your block (left to right) from $12\frac{1}{2}"$, divide that number in half, and add $\frac{1}{2}"$. That is the width of each of your red and white rectangle borders for the side borders. Then subtract the length of block (top to bottom) from $12\frac{1}{2}"$, divide that number in half, and add $\frac{1}{2}"$. That is the width of each of your red and white rectangle borders for the bottom borders. To find the length, measure the side of the block where you are adding a border each time before you add the border, and cut your rectangle that length.

That's it! I hope you enjoyed this block. I think it's a beautiful block and worthy of our Quilt of Valor project. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. 520.901.0076

-Jill Kerr