

Pattern of the Month - July 2015 By Evelyn George

Hearts Across America 50" x 62"

Make this throw-sized quilt for your favorite American hero, in patriotic fabrics. Start with easy strip sets to make the heart blocks, then alternate them with plain squares to create this diagonal chain of hearts. Can you imagine it also in pastels, for a special little sweetheart? Simple quilting lines can be used to round the heart shape.

Fabric Requirements for 50" x 62" quilt:

Red: 1-1/4 yards (hearts, inner border, outer corners, binding)
Blue w/white stars: 1/4 yard ("links" joining hearts together)

White: 1-7/8 yards (background)

Multicolor patriotic Print or Stripe: 3/4 yard (outer border)

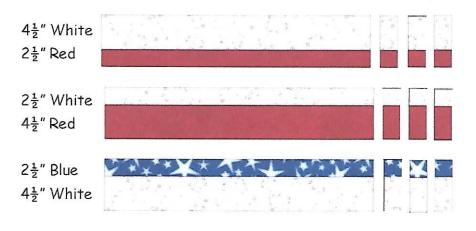
Backing: about 3 yards

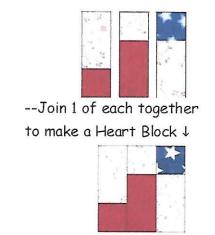
Strip Sets (for Heart Blocks):

Cut two $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF (42") strips of Red Cut four $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF strips of White Cut two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF strips each Red, White, Blue Plain Squares:

Cut 31 $6\frac{1}{2}$ " squares White Cut 4 $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares Red

---Use accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances for best results. Press seams toward the dark.---Sew indicated strips together to make the strip sets shown below. Make 2 of <u>each</u> strip set. Subcut all sets into $2\frac{1}{2}$ " slices (16 per strip set; need 32 of each):





Make 32 Heart Blocks. Alternating Hearts with Plain Squares, arrange in rows as shown in quilt illustration, top of page. Sew blocks together into rows; join rows to make quilt center. Red Inner Border: Cut 6 strips $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF and add to quilt, piecing as needed.

Stripe or Print Outer Border: Cut 6 strips $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF and add, placing the Red $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares in the corners. Red Binding: Cut 6 strips $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF; add after quilting.