



Pattern of the Month - May 2017 "Scrap Saver's Stars"

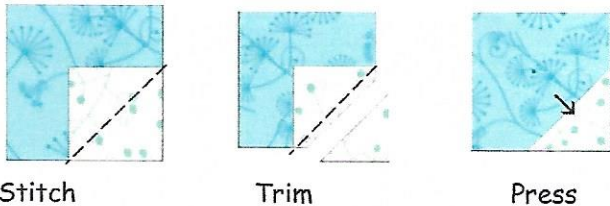
By Evelyn George

Gather up your scraps and cut them into just 2 sizes of squares, keep them near your sewing machine and use them as leaders and enders while you're piecing other projects—or just stitch a few whenever you feel like it—and soon you'll have a stack of scrappy star blocks for a pretty little quilt (or maybe a big one)!

Cut light and dark scraps into $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares. You need a total of 4 small and 9 large squares to make each 9-patch star block. Small squares make the star points and large squares make the background. So, pair small *light* squares with large *dark* squares, and vice versa. (The center square can be same as star points or background, or be a different fabric. Use available scraps to make lots of different combinations.)

Line up a small light square on top of a large dark square, at one corner, with *right sides together*.

Stitch together diagonally from corner to corner of small square; trim, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; press. This makes one Star Point Unit; make 4 per block.



← Star Point Unit (make 4 identical, per block)

Arrange 4 Star Point Units, 1 center square and 4 corner squares into 3 rows, and sew together to make a 9-patch star block, as shown, below. The center square can be the same as star points, or different.

When you have enough star blocks for your quilt, trim and square them all up to the same size before sewing them into rows. The quilt shown above (with 108 blocks in a 9x12 layout) would be about $49\frac{1}{2}$ " x 66" if star blocks are trimmed to 6" square.

For an interesting quilt, make half the blocks with light stars on a dark background and the other half with dark stars on a light background. You could also make some of the stars rotate left and some right, as shown → and alternate them as illustrated in the quilt above.

