



## Pattern of the Month - June 2017

# "Little Folk Art Flag"

By Evelyn George



Decorate for Flag Day, Father's Day, or the Fourth of July with this little flag, measuring 20" x 13". Make a star block and cut scrappy red and white stripes from your assorted patriotic and reproduction fabrics -- it's quick to make, and so easy! First construct the star block, then you're ready to Quilt-as-You-Go!

### CUTTING

#### Star

Blue starry print: (1)  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square; (4)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares and (4)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles

White with tiny print: (12) 2" squares

#### Stripes

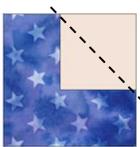
Assorted reds: (4)  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 14" strips and (3)  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 21" strips

Assorted white w/ tiny prints: (3)  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 14" strips and (3)  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 21" strips

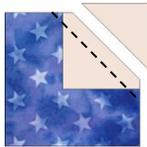
**Backing:** 23" x 16"    **Batting:** 23" x 16"    **Binding:** 2 strips  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x WOF, pieced together to make about 72"

### STAR BLOCK

Center of star is a Square-in-a-Square, using the blue  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square and 4 white 2" squares. Place a white square on top of one corner of the blue square, *right sides together*, with raw edges matching. Stitch diagonally across white square from corner to corner through both thicknesses. Trim off corner, leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Press open, pressing seam allowance toward corner. Repeat with all 4 corners, *trimming and pressing each one before adding the next*, to make a Square-in-a-Square Unit.



Stitch



Trim



Press

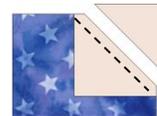
(Repeat on all 4 corners) =



Square-in-a-Square Unit (make 1)

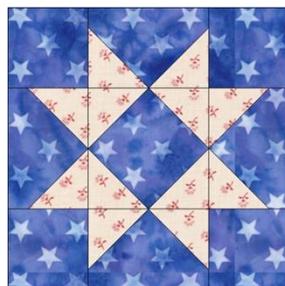
Make 4 Star Point Units using the same diagonal piecing method, stitching two white squares to one *long* side of each blue *rectangle*.

*(Add first white square; trim and press before adding the second one.)*



Star Point Unit (make 4)

Arrange the parts together as shown below, and sew together in rows like a 9-patch, to make the **Star Block**:



(Star Block size =  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " unfinished. For a different look, substitute another  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " block of your choice.)

## QUILT-AS-YOU-GO

Center batting on top of *wrong* side of backing fabric. Pin layers together in several places to keep from shifting while you add the fabric strips and quilt-as-you-go. Attach walking foot to machine if you have one.

Place first short red strip, *right side up*, in upper right hand corner of flag, leaving about 1" of batting showing at top and at right edge. Place a short white strip, *right side down*, on top of red strip. Pin to hold in place and stitch *lower* edge together through all layers, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Fold white strip down and press flat.

Add additional short strips in the same manner, alternating red and white, until there are 4 red and 3 white strips stitched on, to make upper section of stripes on flag (*Fig. 1*). (Be sure to remove all pins as you come to them.)

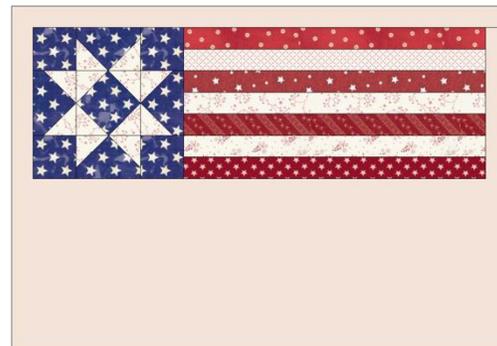
Now place the star block on top of *left* end of quilted stripe section, *right sides together*, with raw edges aligned. Pin, making sure raw ends of stripes will be included in seam, and stitch together, *left edge only*, with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance through all layers. Fold out star and press flat (*Fig. 2*). Pin in place at outer corners of quilt to keep it straight while adding remaining stripes.

Continue to quilt-as-you-go, now using the long strips, starting with white, lining them up with *left* edge of star block. (Don't worry if strips come out a little uneven at the right hand end; just make sure they line up or extend a little beyond edge of star block at *left* end.) Try to keep stripes as straight as you can, but don't worry if they come out a little bit wavy, that will be just fine! This is folk art!

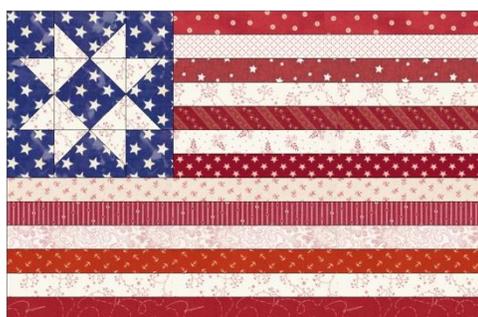
When all parts are stitched down, press gently on both sides. Baste outer edges in place, then trim off excess batting and backing to straighten and square up the flag (*Fig. 3*). It should be approximately 20" x 13", give or take a bit. You can add a little quilting to the star block if you like, either before or after binding is attached. After it is all done, add a sleeve if you need one for hanging.



*Fig. 1 - Add upper stripes, starting at top*



*Fig. 2 - Add pre-made star block*



*Fig. 3 - Add lower stripes; trim off excess batting and backing*