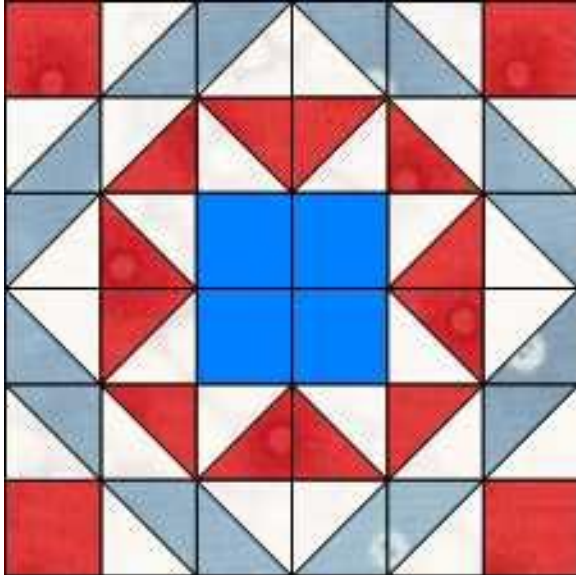


Month Six – Union Star



About this block:

This block is a traditional Union Star block. It appears on a barn along the Stone County, Arkansas quilt trail (#1-08). More information about the Arkansas Barn Quilt Trails may be found at www.arkansasquilttrails.com.

The block will finish 12" square, and is 12-1/2 inches raw.

To make this block using half square triangles, follow these directions:

Fabric:

Choose four colors as desired (Note that a high degree of contrast between the background color [color 3] and the other colors creates a vivid block, while lower contrast produces a muted look).

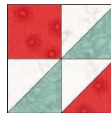
Cut the following shapes:

- Color 1 – Red in the image above. It is used for four corners and the half-square triangles for the star.
 - Four 2-1/2" squares for outer corners.
 - Six 3-1/4" squares for half square triangles.
- Color 2 – Blue in the image above. It is used for the center block.
 - Four 2-1/2 inch squares or, alternatively, one 4-1/2 inch square
- Color 3 – Cream/white in the image above. It is used for the half square triangles
 - Eight 3-1/4" squares, which will be paired with color 4 squares to create the 16 half square triangle units for the frame.

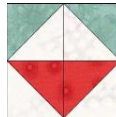
- Six 3-1/4" squares, which will be paired with color 1 squares to make the 12 half square triangle units for the star.
- Color 4 – shown as gray blue on the image above. It is used for the half square triangles forming the frame around the star.
 - Eight 3-1/4" squares

Steps:

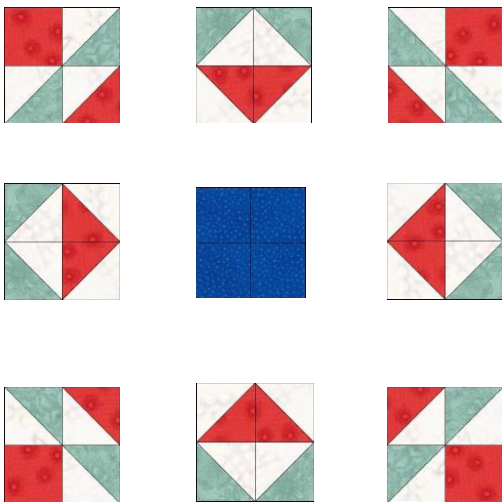
- Make all the half square triangles. Place one square of each color right sides together. Draw a diagonal line from one corner to the other. Sew ¼ inch on either side of the drawn line. Cut apart along the drawn line. Open and press to the dark side. The units will be oversized. Trim to 2-1/2".
- Make the center block by sewing the four 2.5" color squares together (if you are not using a single square, instead).
- Sew the half square triangles and corner squares into units
 - There will be four units that look like this:



- There will be four units that look like this:



- Assemble the block.



- Trim to 12-1/2 inches if necessary.

You also can make this block using flying geese blocks to form the star, and a 4-1/2 inch square for the center. A tutorial for a 12 inch finished block using this method can be found here:

<https://www.pieceandquilt.com/2015/04/how-to-union-star-quilt-block-30-days.html>

For easy reference, here is my finished block. You may, of course, use the fabric of your choice.

