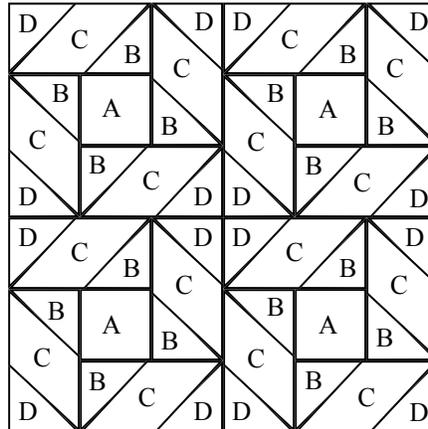
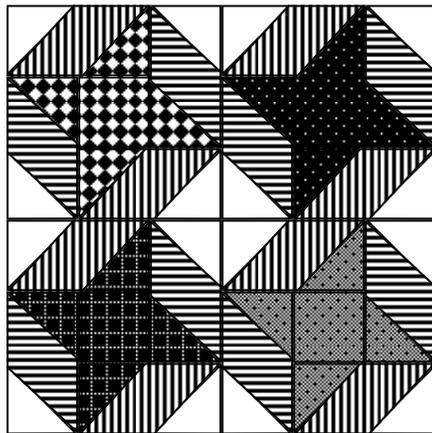


# Friendship Stars



© 1996 by Beth Donaldson

Use this pattern in a **Block By Block** quilt or anywhere you need a 12" (12½" x 12½" with seam allowances) block.

All instructions include ¼" seam allowances.



## Rotary Cut

From each of the 4 different fabrics for A, cut 1 square, 2½" x 2½".

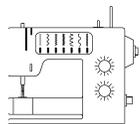
From each of the 4 different fabrics for B, cut 2 squares, 2⅞" x 2⅞".

Cut each square once diagonally to yield 16 triangles.

From the fabric for C, cut 2 strips, 2½" x 26".

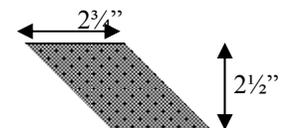
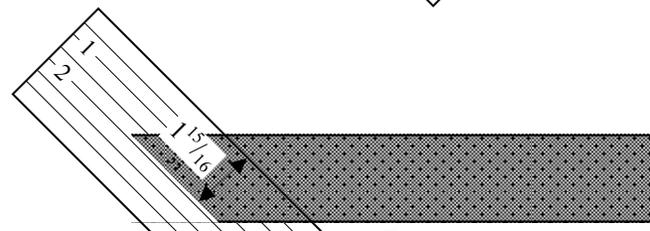
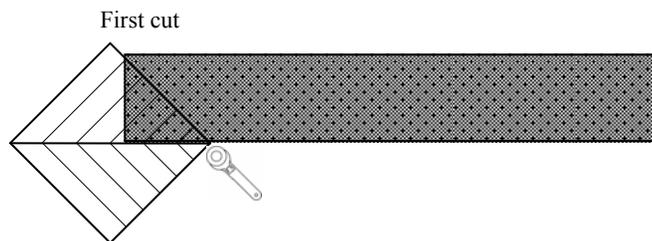
From the fabric for D, cut 8 squares, 2⅞" x 2⅞".

Cut each square once diagonally, to yield 16 triangles.



## Machine Piece

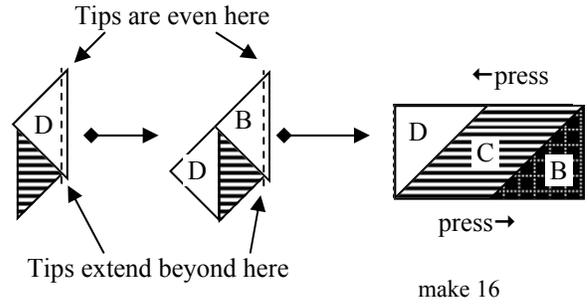
1. Make 8 parallelograms from each C strip. To make the first cuts, lay the diagonal of the Bias Square™ on the bottom of each strip and trim away the triangles.



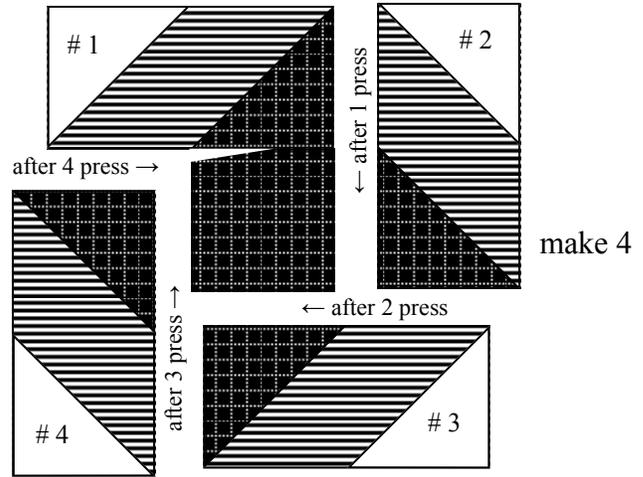
2. Finish the parallelograms by cross cutting every 1⅕" (just shy of 2").

Cut 4

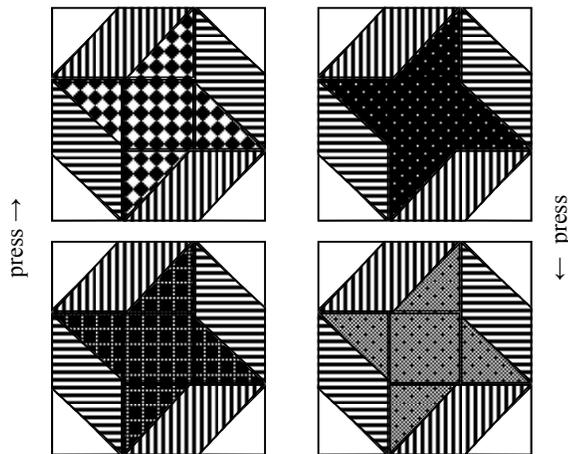
3. Stitch 1 triangle B and 1 triangle D to opposite sides of each parallelogram C. The tip of D's and B's will extend beyond the C's. Press away from the parallelogram C's and trim any tips that extend beyond the units to make 16 rectangles  $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ .



4. Partially sew each A to one rectangle unit matching up like fabrics. Only sew half the seam, then finger press toward the A's. Layout the unit with the partial seam and the remaining rectangles according to the diagram. Sew #2 to unit #1 and press toward A. Continue to sew #3 to the unit and press toward A and #4 to the unit and press toward A. Complete the units by finishing the partial seams and pressing toward the A's, to make 4 squares,  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ .



6. Layout the 4 units according to the diagram. Sew the two vertical seams first and press them in opposite directions. Sew the last seam and press either way. Congratulations, your block is now finished and should measure  $12\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$  square.

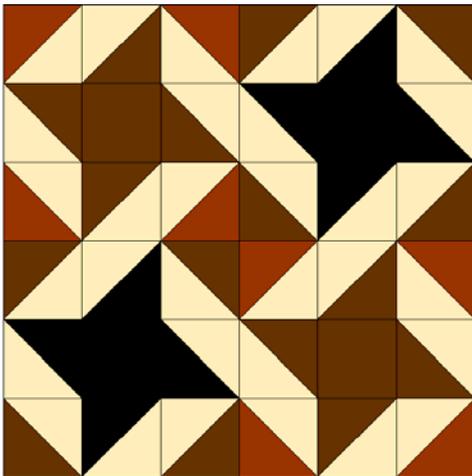
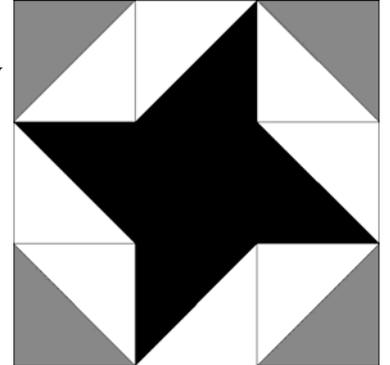


Check out <http://quiltdoctor.blogspot.com/> for more free patterns

# About the *Friendship Star* block.

About 15 years ago I belonged to a group called the Wednesday group. They met every Wednesday afternoon for quilting and then for dinner. They still meet now and are still my buddies, but I can't meet with them anymore because I work during their meetings.

One year we all traded quilt blocks with each other. The blocks I chose to receive were 6" blocks based on nine patches. I think I saw the blocks used in a quilt in a magazine with the name *Friendship Stars*. I drafted the blocks to 6" and my friends made me about 60 of them in browns, rusts and peaches. Like many great quilters, they are still in a box ready to be made into a quilt!



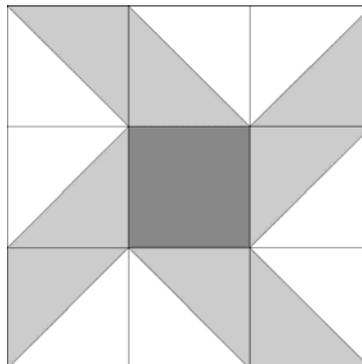
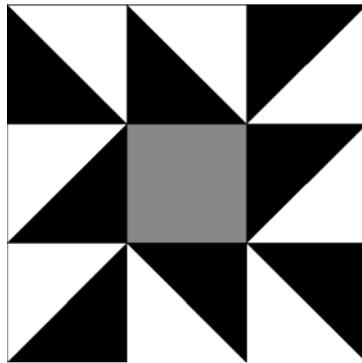
When I played with the blocks I really liked the way the patterns connected.

A few years later when I was choosing blocks to draft in a 12" size, I did some pattern research to find an early version of this block.

©2008 by Beth Donaldson

<http://quiltdoctor.blogspot.com/>

I found two blocks, both named *Eccentric Star*. The blocks have the same geometry, but different shading. The block on top was published in the Nancy Cabot column of the 1930s for the *Chicago Tribune*. The block on the bottom was published in the 1930s in the *Cap-per's Weekly* periodical and their off-shoot, the *Famous Features* syndicated mail-order source. They differ from the *Friendship Star* in shading and the rotation of the half-square triangles.



Once again I used Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Patterns* and *Electric Quilt 5* and *Block Base*, computer software to research this block.

You can purchase the *Electric Quilt* and *Block Base* at, <http://www.electricquilt.com/>

and

Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns* at [http://](http://www.americanquiltercatalog.com/spring_2008/lg_display.cfm?page_number=20)

[www.americanquiltercatalog.com/spring\\_2008/lg\\_display.cfm?page\\_number=20](http://www.americanquiltercatalog.com/spring_2008/lg_display.cfm?page_number=20).

My final version eliminated some seams.