



Tuning My Heart Quilts

by

Debra Davis



A Nordic Christmas

Mini Blocks

by Debra Davis

Tuning My Heart Quilts, LLC

Week 6: Sawtooth Star



Finished size: 3" x 3"

This is the sixth in my series of Christmas ornaments to adorn the house. While they are small, I have chosen blocks and techniques that make working with these small pieces much easier. I do recommend that you use starch both before cutting out your pieces and as you press the units. And take your time as you sew, slowing down can really help with the necessary accuracy. Since this is a stand-alone block, while I have the finished size listed as 3" it does not matter at all if you are off a bit. Using this pattern along with the photo tutorial and videos on my blog will help you to have success as well.

Happy Quilting!

Debra

Fabric Requirements

The blocks in this series are made using scraps of 2 red fabrics, 1 white on white print and one red and white print. Fat Quarters will work very well.

You will also need:

1 Fat Quarter of fabric for the Backing and Binding.

DMC Pearl Cotton #5 (the loop for hanging.)

Cutting Directions

From White cut:

A-(cut 4) 1 ¼" x 1 ¼"

B-(cut 1) 3" x 3"

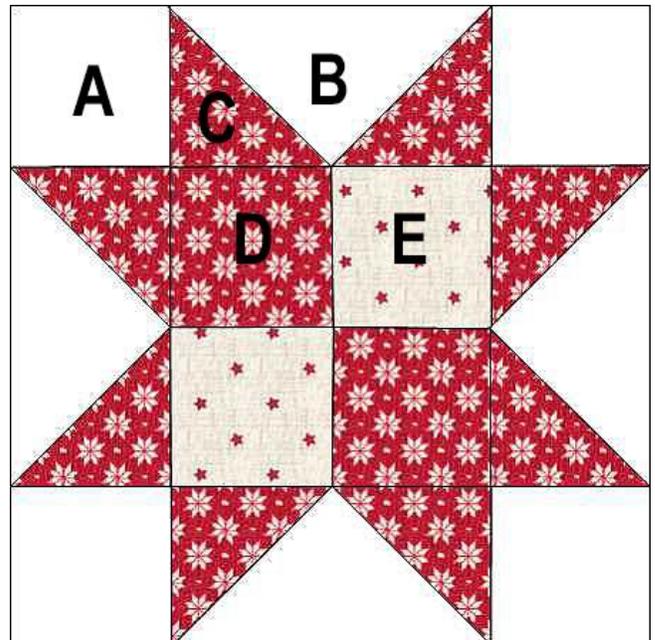
From Red cut:

C-(cut 4) 1 ⅞" x 1 ⅞"

D-(cut 2) 1 ¼" x 1 ¼"

White on White cut:

E-(cut 2) 1 ¼" x 1 ¼"



Backing: 4 ½" x 4 ½"

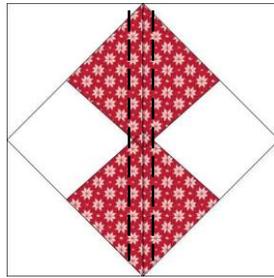
Batting: 4 ¼" x 4 ¼"

Binding 1 ½" x 18"

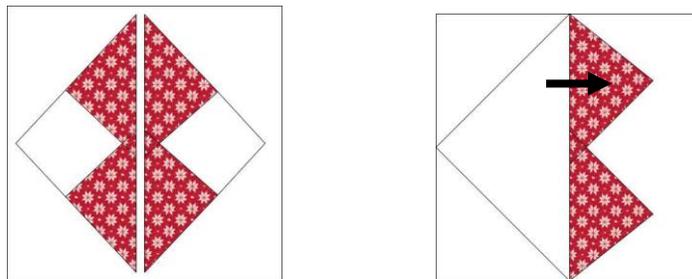
Note: For these mini blocks I set my stitch length to 2.2 (12 stitches per inch) instead of my usual 10 stitches per inch.

Step 1: Flying Geese

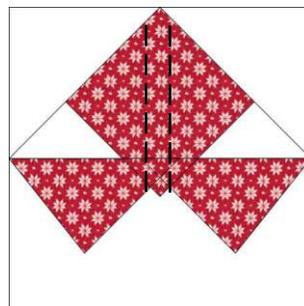
Lay two C squares right sides together on top of the B square as shown. Draw a diagonal line down the middle over both C squares and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side of the drawn line (Dashed lines)



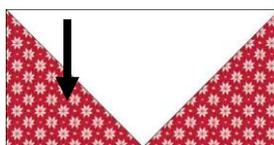
Cut apart on the drawn line and press towards the small triangles as shown by arrow.



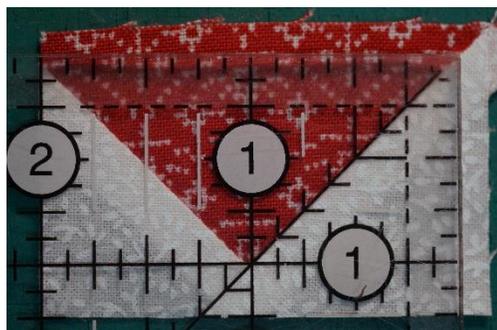
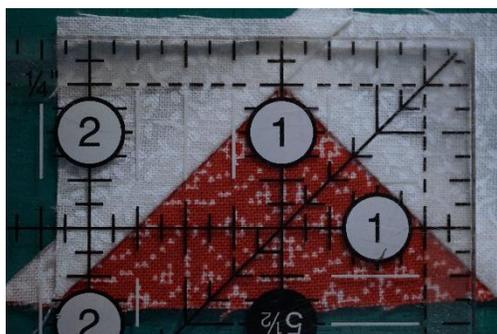
Draw a diagonal line on the back of the remaining C squares. Place them as shown on top of the previous units, right sides together. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each side of the drawn line.



Cut apart on the drawn line and press towards the small rectangles. You now have four Flying Geese units.

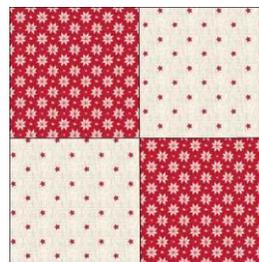
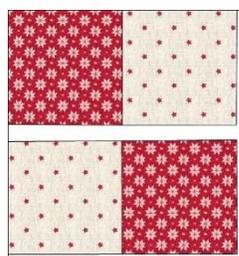


The Flying Geese units need to be trimmed to 1 ¼" x 2". I have a little Bloc Loc ruler which makes this so easy. With a regular ruler line up as shown in photos to trim to correct size. There is a video tutorial on my website you may find helpful: tuning-my-heart.com.



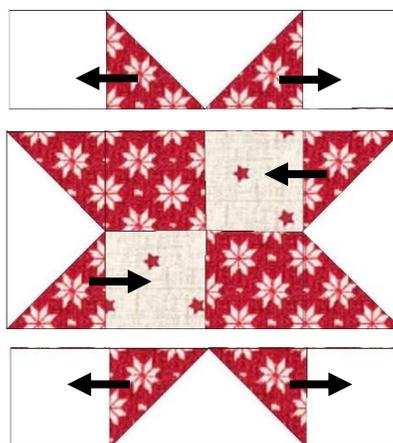
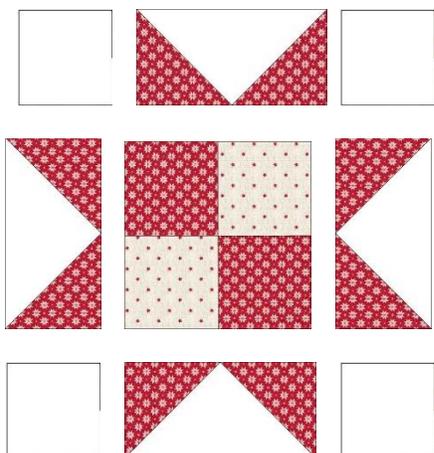
Step 2: Making the Center Square

Join the D and E squares and press towards D. Join into a four-patch unit and press. The Four-patch unit should measure 2" x 2"

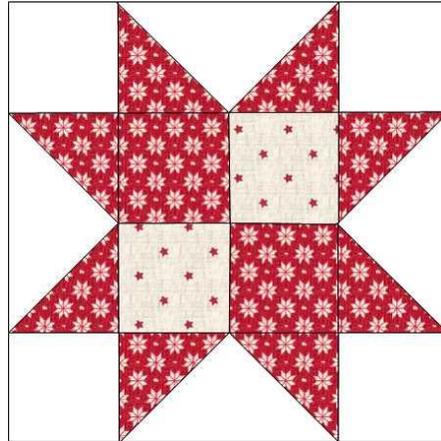


Step 3: Making the Block:

Lay out the units as shown and join together into rows. Press away from Flying Geese units.



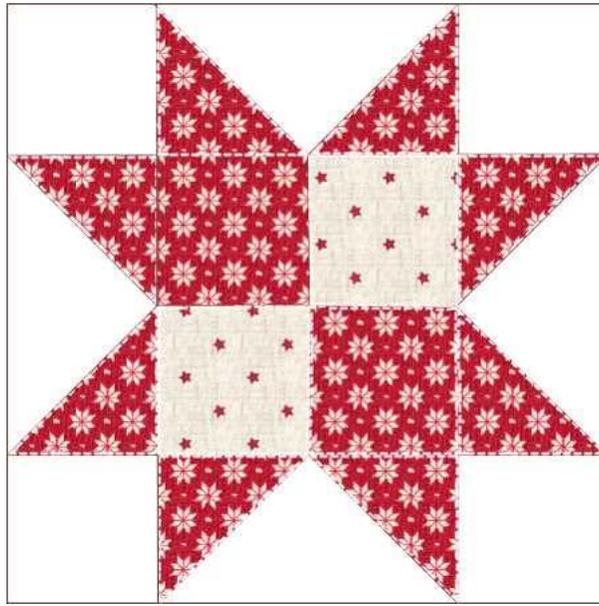
Join the rows together to finish the block. (It helps to sew slowly over these bulky seams) Press the seams open. A final spritz of starch can help if the block does not want to lay flat.



Step 3: Quilting the Block

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt block. I prefer Basting Spray to hold the layers together for small quilts.

Quilt as desired. For my sample I stitched-in-the-ditch around the four-patch and the entire star shape. (white dashed lines)



Step 4: Binding and Finishing:

Press Binding in half. Attach to the front of quilt, mitering the corners as you go. Fold binding over to the back of the quilt and attach with a slip stitch to complete the binding of the quilt.

Cut a length of Pearl Cotton thread and attach a loop to the top for hanging your mini quilt.

Check out my blog for photos and video tutorials for making these mini blocks: search for Nordic Christmas. I have posted video tutorials to show how to quilt and bind them.

That's it! I hope you will consider sharing your finished block with me on my Facebook Sew Along page. I love to see what you are making with my patterns and always comment. Until next time.... Happy Quilting!

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