

by Debra Davis



A Nordic Christmas

Mini Blocks by Debra Davis Tuning My Heart Quilts, LLC

Week 1: Ohio Star



Finished size: 3" x 3"

This is the first in a 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 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 ½" x 1 ½"

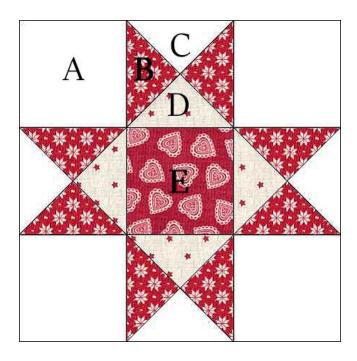
C-(cut 1) 3" x 3"

From Red #1 cut: B-(cut 2) 3" x 3"

From Red #2 cut: E-(cut 1) 1 ½" x 1 ½"

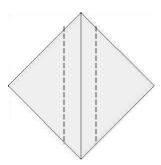
From Red and White cut: D-(cut 1) 3" x 3"

Backing: 4 ½" x 4 ½" Batting: 4 ¼" x 4 ¼" Binding1 ½" x 18"



Step 1: Hourglass Units

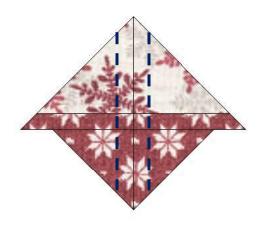
Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the C and D squares. Place right sides together with the B squares and sew ¼" from each side of the drawn line (Dashed lines) Press towards the dark side.

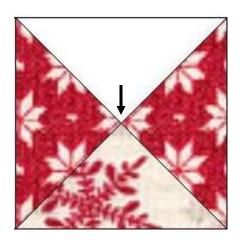


You will have two Half-square triangles (HST's) that look like this:



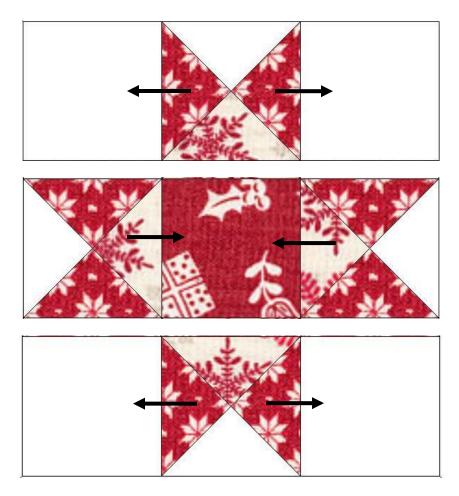
Place these two HST's right sides together with the B triangles on opposite sides from each other. Draw a diagonal line down the middle and sew ¼" from each side of the line. Cut apart on line and press to one side. Trim Hourglass units to 1 ½" squares. (Line up diagonal line on ruler with seam lines and place ¾" ruler mark at the center of the unit indicated by arrow.)



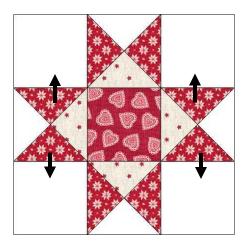


Step 2: Making the Block

Lay out the A and E squares with the Hourglass units, making sure that they are facing the correct way. Join together into rows pressing as indicated by arrows.



Join the rows together to complete the block. Press as indicated.



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 went around the star and the center square.

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.

My photo tutorial can be found on my blog: search for Nordic Christmas Week 1. You will also find video tutorials of how I quilt and bind these mini quilts on my Tutorials page.

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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When you share the project and tell your friends about me and my quilt designs and tutorials, it helps me stay in business and support my family. I really do appreciate it when you share and let others know you found my quilting tutorials and patterns helpful.

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