



QUILT ALONG 2020

Star Cluster

QuiltMuseum.org/BlockOfTheMonth



Star Cluster



Quilt Along Overview

Welcome to the first National Quilt Museum Quilt Along! We're so excited to share this quilt, Star Cluster, with each of you. Designed by our Education Director Becky Glasby, the finished top measures approximately 45" x 45" and is a fresh take on a medallion style quilt.

Instructions will be exclusively available in the Block of the Month Club Facebook group. Starting on July 6 at Noon CST, instructions will be released every two weeks for each successive border. There will be two giveaways as part of the Quilt Along for those keeping up with the timeline and winners will be randomly selected. After the Quilt Along is complete, the full instructions will be added to our website for future reference.

Quilt Along Timeline:

July 6: Center Block

July 20: Border 1

August 3: Border 2

August 17: Border 3

August 31: Border 4 & Giveaway

September 14: Border 5

September 28: Border 6

October 12: Final Round-up & Giveaway



When sharing your progress on social media be sure to use the tag: [#NQMquiltalong](#).

Let's get started!



Star Cluster: Center Block

We begin our quilt with a paper pieced star block that finishes at 8" x 8".

About Foundation Paper Piecing:

Foundation Paper Piecing helps create more accurate or intricate designs, especially with sharp points or angles that are not easily stitched with regular piecing methods. The numbered side of the paper is the Right side of the pattern. Adding fabric in numerical order, the stitches go through the paper and fabric together, following the solid lines of the pattern. Use a shortened stitch length as this perforates the paper and makes it easier to remove the paper from the back of the block when it is complete.

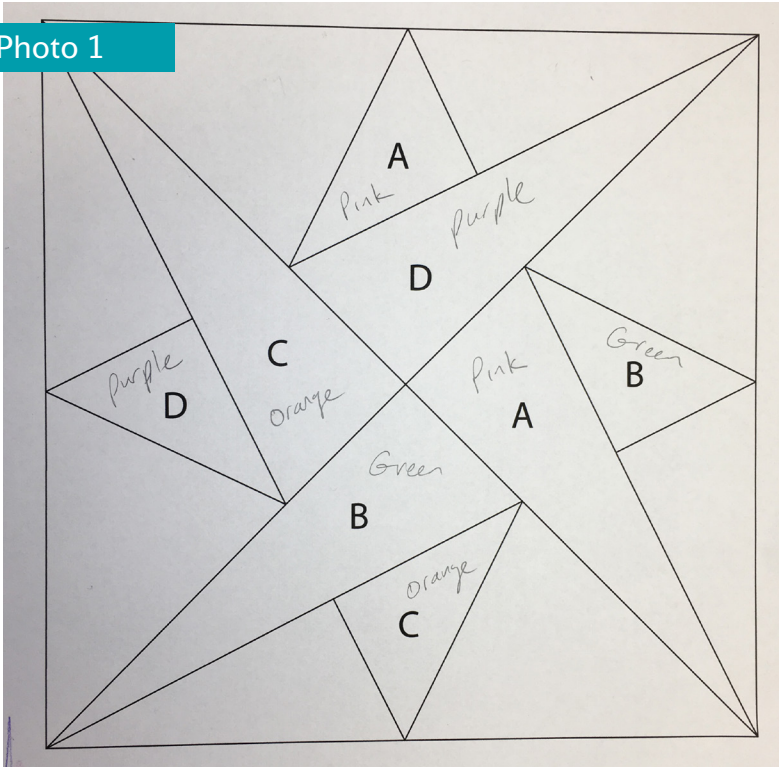
**For a refresher on this
method, visit our tutorial on
YouTube:**

**[https://youtu.be/
UuDvrDfA2Q8](https://youtu.be/UuDvrDfA2Q8)**



Star Cluster: Center Block

Photo 1

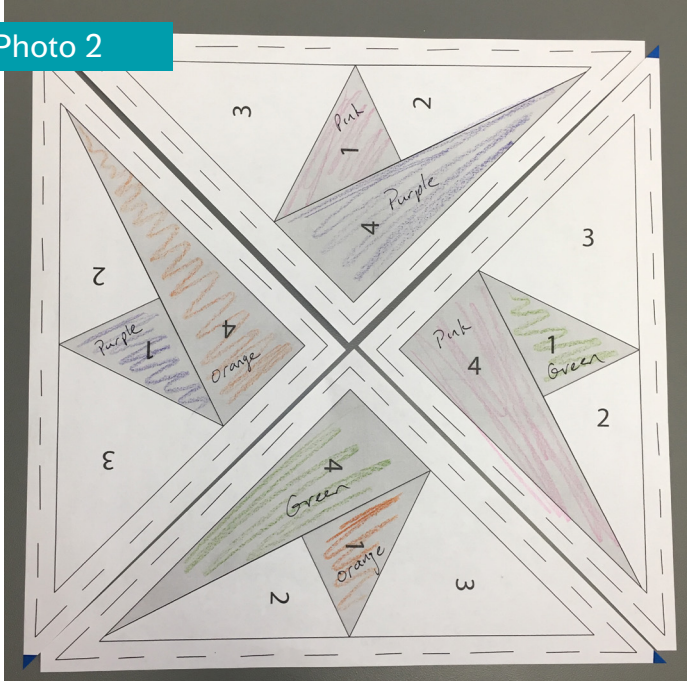


1. Use the full block drawing on Page 7 as a coloring page to determine your fabric choices. Mark the paper sections accordingly with your fabric choices to help keep the design intact. You'll need four colors (A, B, C, D) plus a background fabric (photo 1).
2. Print out 4 of the pattern sections on Page 8. Make sure the test square measures 1" by choosing to print a 100% or actual size on your printer.



Star Cluster: Center Block

Photo 2



3. Layout the sections to mimic the coloring page pattern. Mark each numbered piece with your color choices to keep the design intact and to avoid confusion while you stitch (photo 2).
4. Stitch each section in numerical order.
5. Trim each section along the dashed line, lining the $\frac{1}{4}$ " line of the ruler along the solid line. This ensures an accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

Cutting for each numbered piece:

1. 4"x4", need 1 in each color
2. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", need 4 total in background fabric
3. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " - need 4 total in background fabric
4. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", need 1 in each color



Star Cluster: Center Block

Photo 3



6. When all sections are trimmed, lay them back out to create the block. Join two sections together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam and press open. Repeat with the remaining two sections.

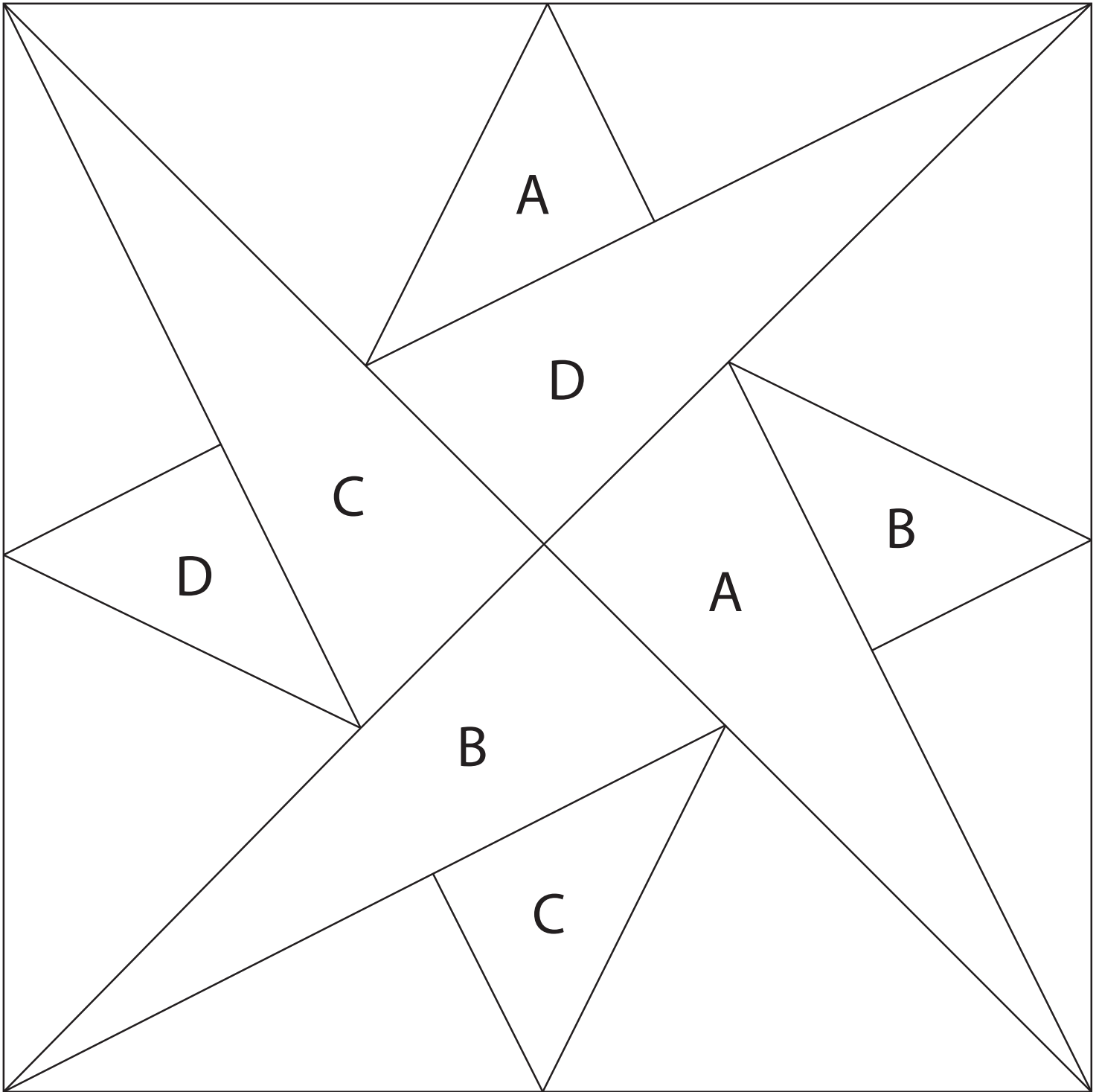
7. Join the two block halves together and press seams open.

8. Block should measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " when finished (photo 3).

9. Remove papers carefully and give the block a final press.



Block Coloring Guide





Block Template

