

Stars Upon Stars Quilt

Celebrate easy automatic appliqués as you create this star spangled sampler quilt! Discover accurate and consistent appliqués as your machine effortlessly tacks appliqué fabric in place and finishes the edges resulting in near perfect results every time. Plus, enjoy the continuous quilting borders to finish your quilt with coordinating results.



Approximate finished size: 41" x 51"

Skill Level: Intermediate

Required Software:

- Amazing Designs Appliqué Quilting Stars Embroidery CD, with FREE Edit Express™ software for resizing, color editing, and printing templates (ADC-200)

Supplies:

- Sewing and embroidery machine with a 5" x 7" hoop (130mm x 180mm) embroidery field
- 1 ½ yd. white fabric for embroidered blocks (44" wide)
- 1 yd. blue fabric for sashing and borders (44" wide)
- ½ yd. red fabric for cornerstones and binding (44" wide)
- 1 ½ yds. backing fabric (44" wide)
- Assorted red, white, and blue fabrics for appliquéd stars
- Batting (minimum size of 44" x 54")
- Tear-away stabilizer for embroidered blocks
- Wash-away self-adhesive stabilizer for quilting borders
- Fabric starch or sizing spray
- Assortment of Madeira embroidery threads (we used reds, whites, and blues)
- Erasable fabric marking pen or pencil
- AccuQuilt® GO! and AccuQuilt® GO! Star Die #55028 (optional)

Read all instructions before beginning.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Note: All seam allowances will be ¼".

1. Create star quilt blocks.

- Starch white fabric with spray starch or sizing as an additional stabilizer.
- Cut twenty 10" x 10" squares from the fabric.

- Embroider an appliqué star on each block. Use the appliqué instructions included on the CD for appliqué techniques.
- Trim the embroidered squares to measure 8" x 8", keeping the stars centered.

2. Cut remaining fabrics for the quilt top.

- From the blue fabric, cut two 8" wide crosswise strips. Subcut strips into thirty-one 2½" x 8" sashing rectangles. Also cut five 3½" wide crosswise strips for borders.
- From the red fabric, cut twelve 2½" x 2½" cornerstone squares. Also cut five 2½" wide crosswise strips for binding.

3. Assemble quilt top.

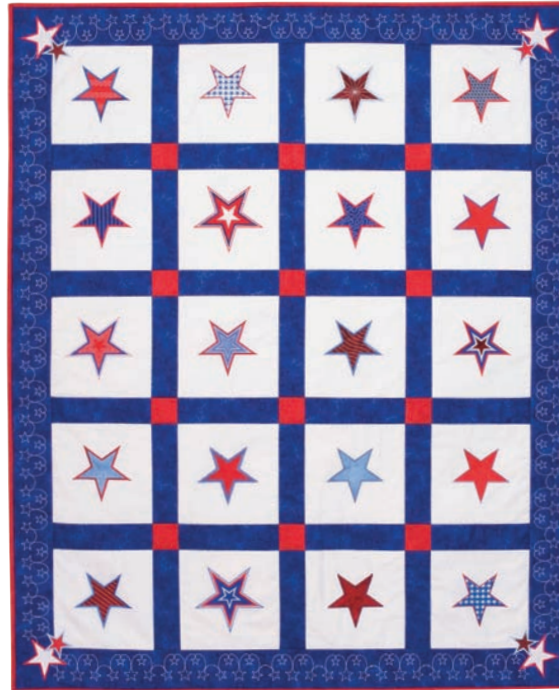
- Arrange star blocks on a flat surface, or follow the diagram pictured below.



Corner Design:
AQS102-2



Border Design:
AQS203



Row 1: AQS605-4
AQS502-4
AQS803-4
AQS302-4

Row 2: AQS804-4
AQS805-4
AQS802-4
AQS801-4

Row 3: AQS401-4
AQS601-4
AQS608-4
AQS104

Row 4: AQS607-4
AQS501-4
AQS604-4
AQS806-4

Row 5: AQS606-4
AQS303-4
AQS602-4
AQS603-4

- Sew a sashing rectangle between each block to create 5 rows. Do not add sashing rectangles to the outer ends of the rows. Press all seams away from the white appliquéd blocks.
- Create sashing rows by alternating four blue sashing rectangles with three red cornerstone squares. Press seams toward the blue rectangles.
- Sew the sashing rows between the star block rows to complete the quilt center. Press seams toward the sashing rows.
- Attach border strips to the upper and lower edges of the quilt center. Trim border ends even with quilt. Press seams toward borders.
- Cut one of the remaining border strips in half, yielding two 3½" x 22" strips. Seam one 22" strip to an end of each of the two remaining long border strips.
- Attach the pieced border strips to the remaining two sides of the quilt. Trim border ends even with the quilt top. Press seam toward borders.

4. Layer and quilt the star quilt.

- Lay the backing fabric, wrong side facing up, on a flat surface. Add the batting, then place the quilt top smoothly over the layers. Pin baste the layers together to reduce shifting while quilting.
- Stitch in the ditch around the embroidered star blocks or, if you prefer, use a meandering type of stitch for quilting. Do **NOT** quilt in the outer borders as these areas will be reserved for additional embroidery. Baste the outer edges, stitching a scant ¼" from the raw edge of the quilt top. Remove all basting pins.

5. Embroider the quilt borders and corners.

- Using Edit Express™ Software included on CD or another software program, print out a template for each of the following

- two designs. Trim the templates to the size of the designs.

Corner Design: AQS102-2
Quilting Border Design: AQS203

- Using an erasable marking pen, draw a guideline $1\frac{3}{8}$ " from the border seam the entire length of the border. Repeat for the remaining three sides of the quilt. Also mark the center of each border.
- Use wash-away self-adhesive stabilizer in the embroidery hoop for remaining border and corner embroideries. Hoop stabilizer release liner side facing up; score and remove the release liner to expose the adhesive.
- To embroider the border of the quilt, tape the continuous border star template AQS203 aligned with the center and lengthwise guideline marks on the quilt. Center the template area accurately on the hooped adhesive stabilizer. Attach hoop to embroidery unit. Ensure that the design placement is accurate to the template position on the quilt. Remove template and embroider design. Reposition the continuous border star template, matching end of template to embroidered design, keeping the template aligned along the lengthwise guideline. Repeat process to quilt all borders. Do **NOT** add the continuous border star design to the quilt corners.
- To embroider the corners of the quilt, tape the appliquéd star template AQS102-2 to one of the corners, keeping the edges of the template even with the outer edges of the continuous border stitching. Hoop and position quilt in the same manner as described for the continuous border embroidery. Place the fabric for the appliqué after the first and fourth color stops or, as indicated by your selected design. Repeat for remaining corners.

6. Bind your star quilt.

- Seam the short ends of the binding strips together to form one long binding strip. Press seams open.
- Fold the strip in half lengthwise and press.
- Beginning at least 8" from a quilt corner, pin the binding to the quilt, aligning all raw edges along the first side.
- Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, begin sewing through all layers 4" from the end of the pinned binding.
- To miter the corner, stop stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the corner, lock stitches, and cut the thread. Pivot the quilt. Fold the unstitched portion of the binding up so it "continues" aligned with the raw edges of the quilt. The binding has a 45° angle in it at the corner. Pinch the angled binding fold and bring the unstitched binding back down over the pinched fold, creating a second fold even with the top edge of the quilt corner; keeping raw edges of binding and quilt aligned. Pin to secure binding folds. Begin stitching at upper edge of the quilting securing all layers. Continue stitching the binding to the quilt.
- Repeat process for remaining three corners.
- Join ends of binding. Press and fold binding to wrong side of quilt and machine or hand-sew in place.

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