



Star Block from Made Fabric

Block directions and guidelines for the April 2015 Block Lotto

This star block is a 9-inch square (finished size) traditional block with a made fabric center. A star block with these proportions was first published as Sun Ray's Star in the Kansas City Star.

You can make a **MAXIMUM of NINE BLOCKS** for the drawing in April

Use the tag **MFS** (for Made fabric Star) for your posts on Blocklotto.com about this block.

Fabric Guidelines for the Block Lotto

Background fabric is a white solid or white-on-white (WOW) print

Star fabrics are solids, tone-on-tone (TOT) and multicolor prints that are any shades of blue or green (or any of the aquas and teals that are in-between).

If you choose to make multiple blocks, you can use the same white background in all your blocks and can use the blue or green fabrics in multiple blocks as long as each block is unique.

Making the Block

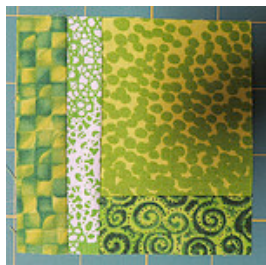
To make the block you need:

- Four 3 ½-inch square of white background
- One 3 ½-inch square of made fabric
- Four 3 ½-inch triangle-in-a-square units

There are many ways to make the made fabric center and the triangle in a square. How you choose to make these will determine how you need to cut the fabrics.

The made fabric center must contain at least 4 different fabrics.

When you make the Triangle-in-square units, remember that the large triangle should be the white background fabric in order to create the star points in the block.

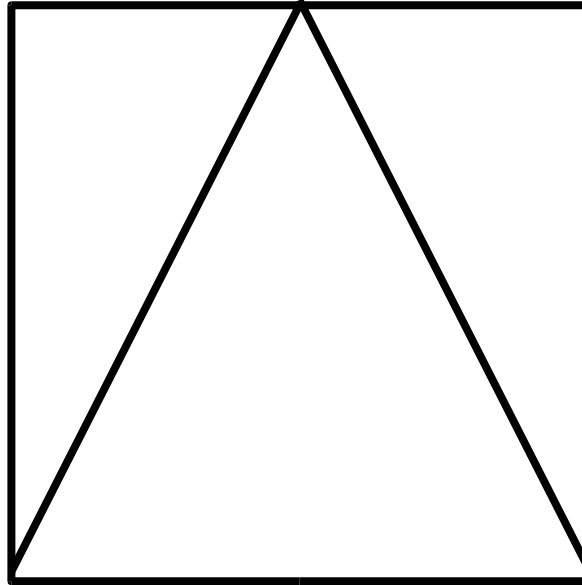


How you piece the made fabric unit for the center of the star is up to you. You can use an improvisational technique, insertions, or piece a 3 inch (finished size) quilt block if you like. Remember the fabrics should predominately be the blue or green that you've chosen for your block.



Doreen Speckman referred to this triangle-in-a-square unit as Peaky and Spike. There are a few ways to cut/sew these including:

- Make templates. Draw a 3 inch square. Mark the center of the top edge. Add lines from that center mark to each of the bottom corners.



Cut on the lines to create templates. Remember that you will have to add $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance around each piece. Also note that there are right and left triangles, so use both templates or cut the star fabric folded to create mirror image pieces.

- Use the triangle-in-a-square drawing as a foundation for paper piecing. Add a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch border around the square for the seam allowance.
- Use specialty rulers to cut the pieces for these units. I used the Tri-Recs tools, produced by EZquilting, to create my units.
- Use a fabric cutting machine and die for a 3-inch finished size triangle-in-a-square.

To assemble the block,

1. Layout the units as a 9-patch to form the star.
2. Sew each row of three units together.
3. Sew the three rows together.
4. You're done!

Measurement check: each finished Star block should measure $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches square

