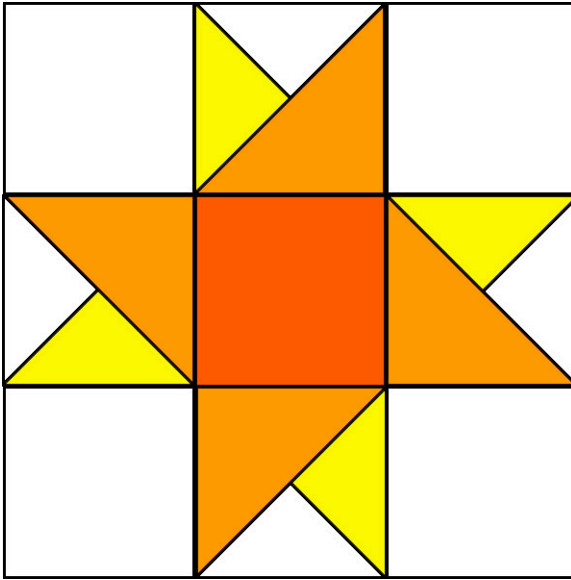


Swirling Star Block

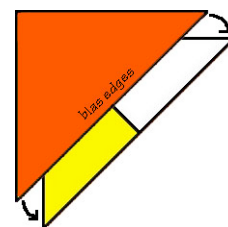
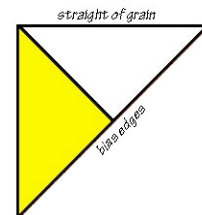
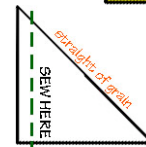
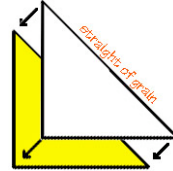
These are traditional piecing directions are for a Swirling Star block with a finished measurement of 9" square (unfinished measurement 9 1/2" square.) Use a scant 1/4" seam allowance.



Fabric:

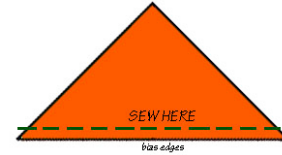
- 1 – 3 1/2" square for center
- 4 – 3 1/2" square (background fabric) for corners
- 4 – 3" (finished) half-square triangles (HST) for large star points (*two 3 7/8" squares of fabric cut down the diagonal will give you the 4 pieces you need.*)
- 4 – 3" (finished) quarter-square triangles (QST) for small star points (*one 4 1/4" square of fabric cut on both diagonals will give you 4 pieces.*)
- 4 – 3" (finished) quarter-square triangles (QST) background for small star points (*cut as for small star points.*)

1. Place one small star point QST and one background QST facing each other.
2. Sew 1/4" seam down ONE of the bias sides.
3. Open and press towards the small star point QST
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for all other QSTs.
5. Place one of the QST units you made in steps 1 through 3 on your work surface, face up and one large star point HST face down, matching all the points and the bias edges.

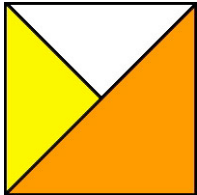


6. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam down the remaining bias side.

7. Open and press towards the large star point HST.



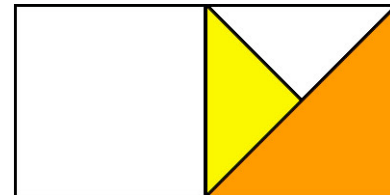
8. Repeat for all other HSTs.



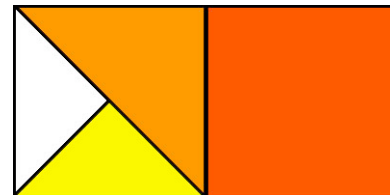
You will end up with four $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square units made up of all the triangles, and five $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares of other fabrics (i.e. the squares you haven't used yet)...making the rest of the construction of this block, a **basic 9-patch** (harder to describe than to actually do!).

Nine Patch Directions

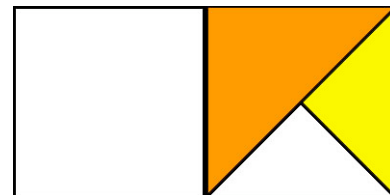
9. Sew one corner square to the left side of a triangle-unit block, facing together, keeping the background fabric in the triangle-unit block to the *top*.



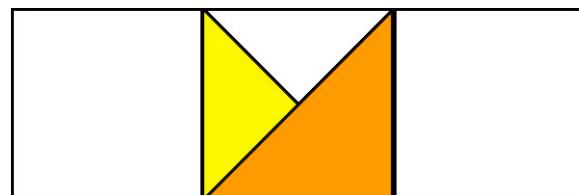
10. Sew the bottom of one triangle-unit block to the center square, facing together.



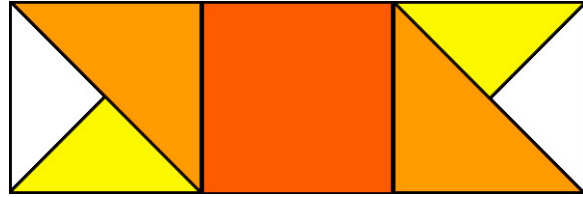
11. Sew another corner square to the left side of a triangle-unit, facing together, keeping the background fabric in the triangle-unit to the *bottom*.



12. Sew one corner square to the right side of the triangle-unit block/corner square unit produced in step 9.
You will end up with a unit of corner-square, triangle-unit block, corner square.

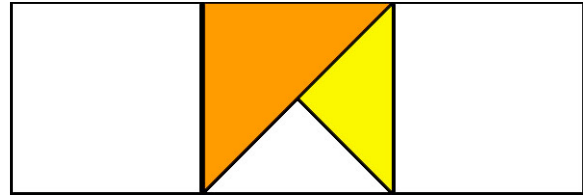


13. Sew one triangle-unit block to the other side of the center square in the triangle-unit block/center square unit produced in step 10. Be sure the blocks are facing together, and the “bottom” of the triangle-unit block is towards the center square.



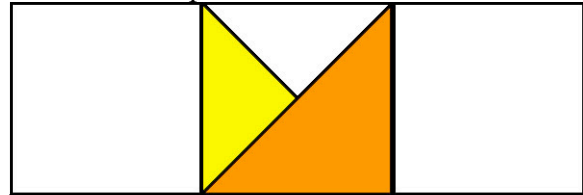
You will end up with a unit of triangle-unit square, center square, triangle-unit square, with the background fabric in the triangle unit squares on the outside, large triangles toward the center.

14. Sew the last corner square to the right side of the triangle-unit block/corner square unit produced in step 11.



You will end up with a unit of corner-square, triangle-unit block, corner square that is the “flipped” version of the one you produced in step 12.

15. Sew the long unit produced in step 12, to the long unit produced in step 13, units facing each other, bottom of triangle-unit towards the center square.



16. Sew the unit produced in the last step to the long unit produced in step 14, units facing each other, bottom of triangle-unit towards the center square.

