

Perfect Points Sampler

by Ann Johnson for Connecting Threads

Perfect Points Sampler: Lesson Four

The *Perfect Points Sampler* was designed to provide practice for the techniques discussed in the **Perfect Points & the Use of the Positioning Pin** tutorial. The *Perfect Points Sampler: Introduction* describes the pattern, fabric requirements and suggested cutting layout. Please read the detailed and illustrated tutorial, *Perfect Points Sampler: Introduction* and *The Perfect Points Sampler: Lessons One, Two and Three* for a more thorough understanding. Cutting directions are provided on page 3.

Lesson Four:

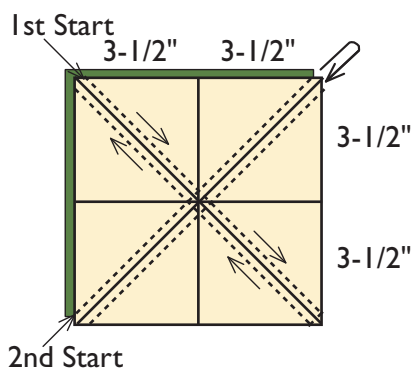
Ohio Star

This lesson will provide more practice for sewing sharp points and straight lines between blocks. This time the challenge is to keep the long seam lines, extending within and between blocks, straight horizontally and vertically as well as diagonally!

1. The points of the Ohio Star blocks are made from quarter-square triangles (QSTs). The first step is to make half-square triangles (HSTs); these are combined to make QSTs.

To make the HSTs using a grid, place a 7" square of **Fabric 5** on top a 7" square of **Fabric 10** with RS together. Draw horizontal and vertical solid lines through the center (at 3-1/2") and two diagonal lines corner-to-corner; these are the cutting lines. Draw the dashed sewing lines 1/4" away on each side of the solid diagonal lines. *Some quilters prefer to omit drawing the dashed lines and sew along the solid diagonal lines using a 1/4" sewing foot.*

Beginning at the 1st Start, sew in a continual path following the arrows. Reverse direction at the end, return and end near the first starting point. Repeat beginning at the 2nd Start.

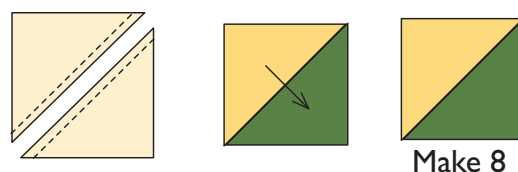


2. Keeping the pieces arranged together, cut first along the

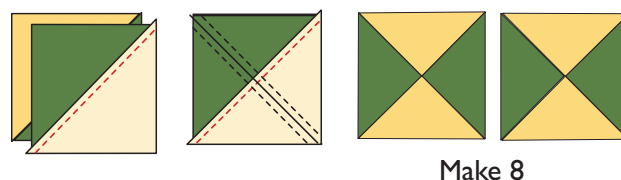


Approx. finished size: 40-1/2" square

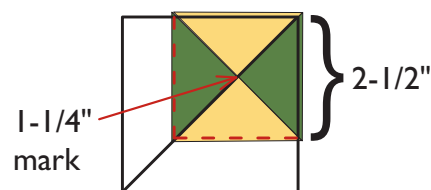
solid horizontal and vertical lines and then the diagonal solid lines. Press to the darker fabric. Each of the four 3-1/2" squares makes two HSTs for a total of eight HSTs. **Do not square-up yet!**



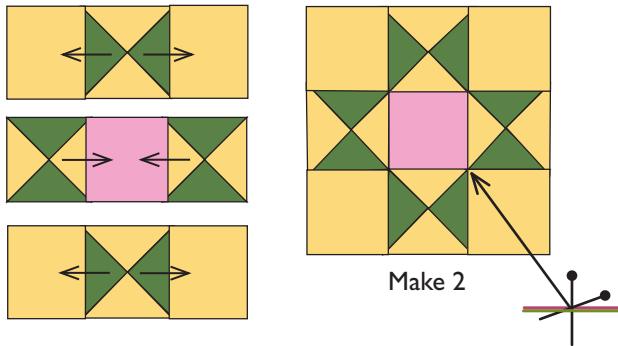
3. To make the QSTs, lay a HST on top of another HST, with their seams "nested" and RS together. **Fabric 5** is on top of **Fabric 10** on each side. Draw the diagonal cutting (solid) and sewing (dashed) lines; use a ruler to make sure the new lines are perpendicular (at a 90° angle). The old stitch line is shown in red. Press seams in either direction.



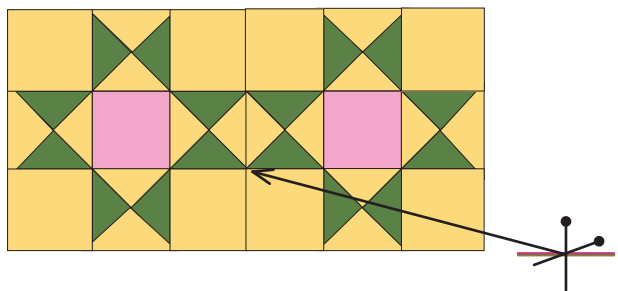
4. Square-up each QST to 2-1/2" by placing the 45° angle line of a square ruler precisely on one diagonal seam and the 1-1/4" mark. This will help maintain sharp points and accurate 1/4" seam allowances.



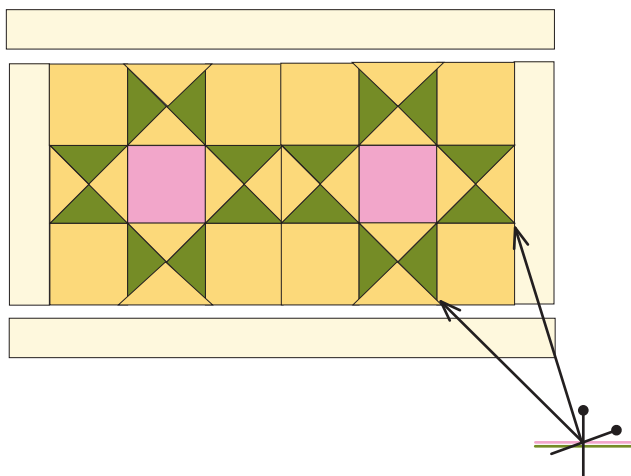
5. To assemble the Ohio star blocks, sew the QSTs into three rows with 2-1/2" squares of **Fabric 5**, except for the center square which is **Fabric 8**. *Using a positioning pin will help maintain sharp points and straight lines between within and between Press seams in the direction of the arrows or press open (may help block lay flatter).* Sew the rows together. Press seams to center or open. Square-up to 6-1/2". Make two.



6. Sew the two blocks together. *Using a positioning pin will help maintain sharp points and straight lines within and between blocks.* Press seams in either direction or open.



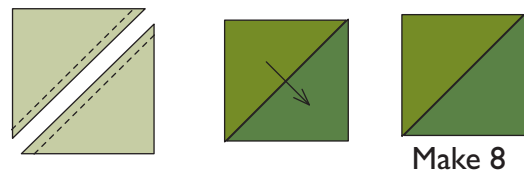
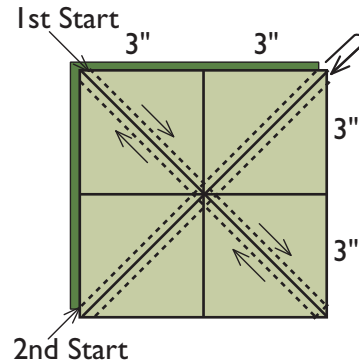
7. To add the frame, sew a 1-3/4" x 6-1/2" strip of **Fabric 3** to each side of the joined Ohio Stars. *Using a positioning pin will help maintain sharp points.* Press seams away from the center. Sew a 1-3/4" x 15" strip of **Fabric 3** to the top and bottom. Press. Square-up to 8-1/2" x 14-1/2" trimming off the excess **Fabric 3**. Make one.



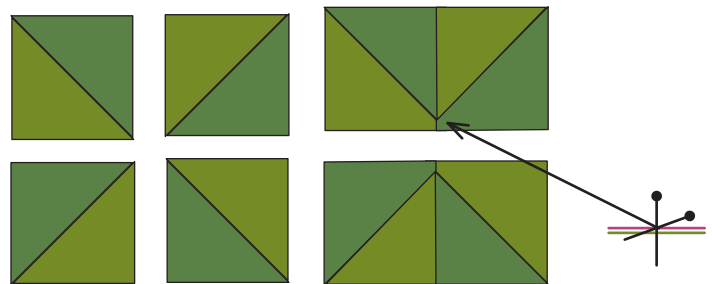
Pinwheels

The Pinwheel blocks will provide practice for sewing intersecting diagonal lines. Each Pinwheel is made of four HST's.

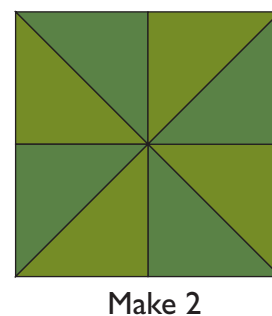
1. Follow the instructions in Steps 1 and 2 to make HSTs using one 6" square each of **Fabric 7** and **Fabric 10**. Square-up HSTs to 2-1/2". Make eight.



8. Sew two HSTs together as shown. "Nest" the seams before sewing to help seam alignment. Repeat with two more HSTs oriented as shown. It is possible to not end up with the pinwheel pattern if they are sewn together wrong.



9. Sew the two halves together pressing seams in opposite directions so they "nest". *Using a positioning pin will help the diagonal lines meet and line up correctly.* "Swirl" the seams on the back to make the block lay flatter. Square-up to 4-1/2". Make two.



Cutting Directions

 <p>1-1/4 yds</p>	 <p>3/4 yd</p>		
 <p>1 yd</p> <p>Lesson 4: Two 1-3/4" x 6-1/2" Two 1-3/4" x 15"</p>		 <p>FQ</p>	 <p>FQ</p> <p>Lesson 4: One 7" square Eight 2-1/2" squares</p>
 <p>1/2 yd</p>	 <p>1/2 yd</p> <p>Lesson 4: One 6" square</p>	 <p>FQ</p> <p>Lesson 4: Two 2-1/2" squares</p>	 <p>FQ</p>
 <p>1/2 yd</p> <p>Lesson 4: One 6" square One 7" square</p>	 <p>FQ</p>	 <p>FQ</p>	 <p>FQ</p>