



SEPTEMBER 2008 BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Ohio Star

Turn in at October meeting

Techniques: Traditional piecing. ¼ inch seams. Trimming patch to size (if needed).

- When patterns call for cutting to a 16th of an inch, you can usually round up to the next 1/8th inch without needing to trim. Why? Because when you press seam allowances, you're always losing a little bit of measurement in the pressed seam
- Pressing tip: For the hourglass patches, press toward the triangles that will be at the "sides" of the hourglass
- Sewing tip: whenever possible, put the patch with SEAMS on top when sewing, to prevent the seams from being caught and turned over by the feed dogs

Block size: 6-1/2 inch unfinished

Colors: Fall colors, with cream or cream-on-cream background

- Option 1: 4 fabrics – background, center square, sides of hourglasses, center bottom of hourglasses (as pictured above)
- Option 2: 3 fabrics – background, center square, sides and bottom of hourglasses
- Option 3: 2 fabrics – background and all parts of the star

Cutting:

- Center square – cut **1** 2-1/2 inch square
- Star points – cut a total of **4** 3-1/4 inch squares, 3 from star fabrics and 1 from background fabric. Cut each square twice diagonally to make 4 quarter-square triangles
 - Option 1 – 1 square background, 2 squares of first star point fabric and 1 square of second star point fabric
 - Options 2 and 3 – 1 square background, 3 squares of star point fabric
- Corner squares – cut **4** 2-1/2 inch squares

Construction:

1. Make hourglass blocks. Sew one side and one bottom triangle together. Make sure you orient the fabrics correctly. Press toward the side fabric. Sew one side and one background triangle together. Press toward the side fabric. Next the two units (seams should be going in opposite directions) and sew to make hourglass patch. Trim dog ears and measure. If approximately 2-1/2 inches in size, do not trim further. If significantly larger than 2-1/2 inches, check your seam allowance and either trim or resew
2. Create rows
 - a. Rows 1 and 3: background square, hourglass, background square. Press OUT toward background squares
 - b. Row 2: hourglass (with bottom triangle against center square), center square, hourglass (with bottom triangle against center square). Press IN toward center square
3. Sew rows together. Make sure bottom triangles are against center square! Press rows away from center row