



Starry Table Runner & Coasters

By Carolyn Forster

Starry Table Runner & Coasters

Materials for one coaster

- * Star centre: one 3in (7.5cm) square
- * Star points: four 2 1/8in (5.5cm) squares
- * Star background corners: four 1 3/4in (4.5cm) squares
- * Star background sides: one 3 3/4in (9.5cm) square
- * Border: one 2 1/2 x 5 1/2in (6.5 x 14cm) rectangle
- * Heat-proof wadding/batting (such as Thermolam): 8 1/2 x 6 1/2in (21.5 x 16.5cm)
- * Backing: 8 1/2 x 6 1/2in (21.5 x 16.5cm)
- * Binding: one strip, 2 1/2in (6.5cm) by width of the fabric (WoF). Press along the length, wrong sides (WS) together.
- * 505 Spray Baste
- * Machine quilting thread, 28 wt
- * Jeans needles, size 100 or your preferred machine quilting needle
- * Binding clips
- * **Finished size:** 5 1/2 x 7 1/2in (14 x 19cm)

Materials for the table runner

- * Star: 9 3/4in (25cm) by WoF
- * Star background: 12 3/4in (32.5cm) by WoF
- * Borders: 5 1/2in (14cm) by WoF
- * A selection of pens (I've used stylefile copic markers)
- * Heat-proof wadding/batting (such as Thermolam): 8 1/2 x 61 1/2in (21.5 x 156.5cm)
- * Backing: 17in (43.5cm) by WoF
- * Binding: 10in (25.5cm) by WoF
- * 505 Spray Baste
- * Machine quilting thread, 28 wt
- * Jeans needles, size 100 or your preferred machine quilting needle
- * Binding clips
- * **Finished size:** 7 1/2 x 60 1/2in (19 x 154cm)

Fabric cutting

Star centre:

Cut one strip, 3in (7.5cm) x WoF
Cut twelve 3in (7.5cm) squares

Star points:

Cut three strips, 2 1/8in (5.5cm) x WoF
Cut 48 2 1/8in (5.5cm) squares

Star background corners:

Cut three strips, 1 3/4in (4.5cm) x WoF
Cut 48 2 3/4in (4.5cm) squares

Star background side:

Cut two strips, 3 3/4in (9.5cm) x WoF
Cut 12 3 3/4in (9.5cm) squares

Borders:

12 2 1/2in x 5 1/2in (6.5 x 14cm) pieces

Heat proof wadding/batting (such as Thermolam):

8 1/2 x 61 1/2in (6.5 x 156.5cm)
Cut 12 3 3/4in (9.5cm) squares

Backing:

Cut two strips 6 1/2in (16.5cm) wide.
Remove the selvedge and join to a continuous length. Press the seam open.
Trim to 61 1/2in (156.5cm)

Binding:

Cut four 2 1/2in (6.5cm) strips. Join with bias joins, pressing the seams open.
Press along the length of the binding, WS together.

Note

Press all seams open.

Instructions

Step 1:

Here's how to make one star, following the diagrams, below.

Draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the four 2 in (5.5cm) star point squares with a fine, sharp pencil.

Place two of these right sides together with the 3 3/4in (9.5cm) background side square, placing one in the top right corner, and one in the bottom left corner – the pencil lines will match up.

Stitch 1/4in (5mm) away from the pencil line, on either side (diagram A).

Cut along the pencil line to create two identical units (diagram B).

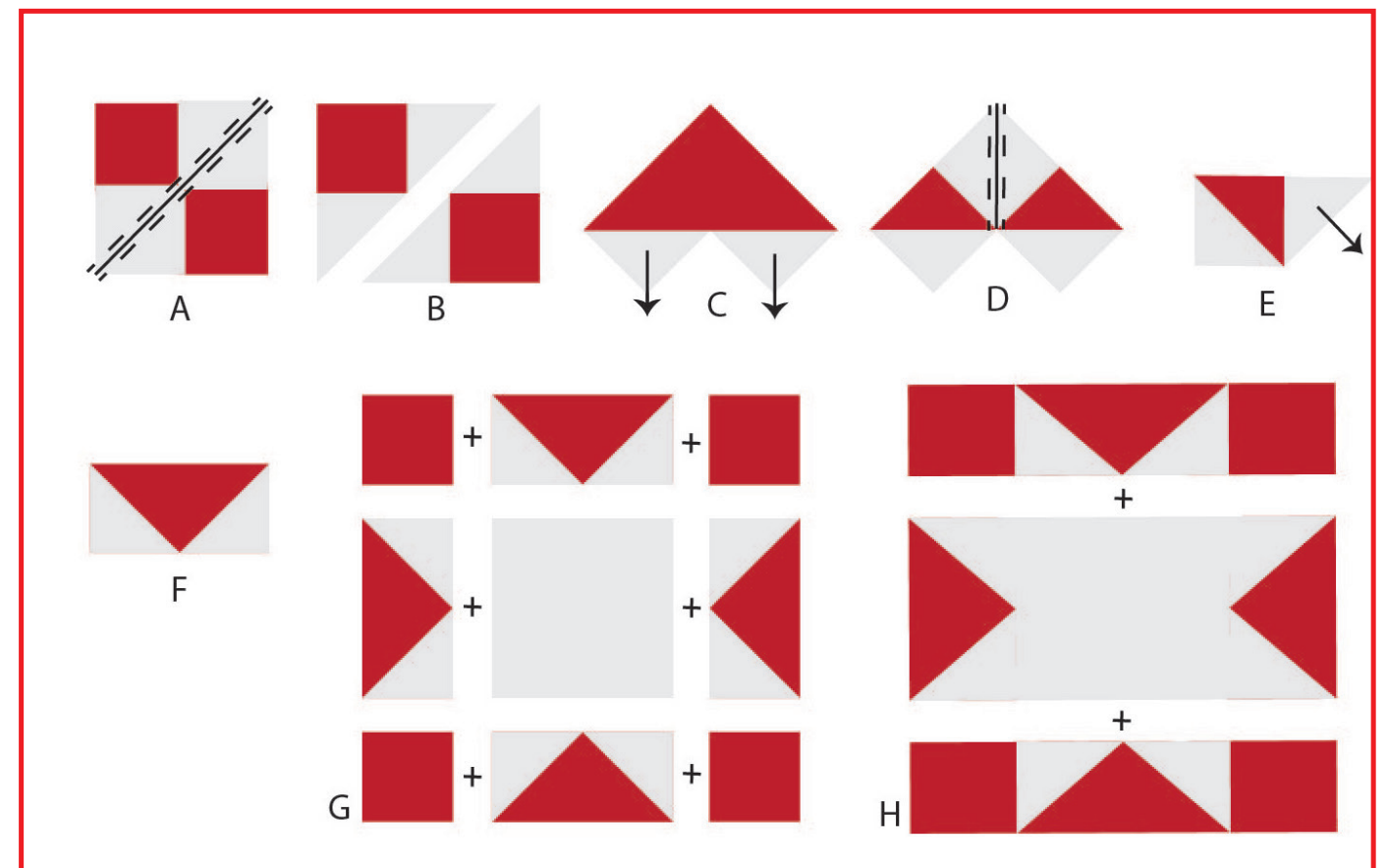
Fold down and press the units (diagram C).

Place each remaining 2 in (5.5cm) star point square RS together with one of the units from diagram C, as shown.

Stitch 1/4in (5mm) away from the pencil line, on either side (diagram D). Cut along the pencil line, then fold down and press the fabric (diagram E).

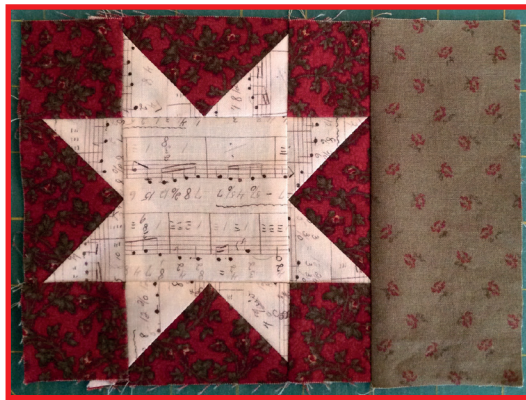
You will now have four identical 'Flying Geese' units (see diagram F).

Assemble the star block as in diagrams G and H using the remaining star squares.



Step 2:

Stitch the border along one side of the star. Press. If you are making the coaster, layer, tack/baste and bind it as follows in steps 3 to 9. If you wish to make the runner, skip to step 9.



Step 3:

Lay the backing WS up, then place the wadding/batting on top, then place the patchwork RS up on top, centrally. Tack/baste the layers together. Spray baste works well here.



Step 4:

I machine quilted in lines, guided by the sewing machine foot. I covered the patchwork in red quilting, then added random lines of the gold as a highlight. This type of quilting is sometimes called matchstick quilting.



Step 5:

Trim the surplus backing and wadding/batting from the coaster. Use the binding to bind the coaster using your preferred method. I chose to machine bind and machine finish the binding.

This is the same as the usual mitred corner binding, but sewn on from the WS of the quilt. Place your binding strip on the back of your coaster, starting in the middle of one long edge, with the raw edge folded on a diagonal and trimmed. Fold in a 1/4in SA to the wrong side of the binding and start stitch in 1/2in from this edge. You will be tucking the other end of the binding into this when you finish. This is a mock bias join, aligning the raw edges.



Step 6:

To turn each corner, sew to within 1/4in (5mm) of the fabric edge, then remove the quilt from the machine to refold the binding to go around the corner. Fold the binding strip away from the quilt, keeping the raw edges in line with the quilt. Now fold the binding towards the quilt, aligning the folded corner with the corner of the quilt, and the raw edges with the quilt. Start sewing at the folded edge. Continue to sew. Repeat at each corner. When you get back to the start, insert the binding end into the folded edge.



Step 7:

Turn the binding over to the front of the quilt and keep it in place with binding clips.



Step 8:

Stitch all the way around the folded edge of the binding, using a pointer to keep the mitres in place at the corners as you stitch.

Step 9:

To make the runner, complete another 11 stars with borders, as in steps 1 and 2.

Step 10:

Lay out the stars with the borders alternating. This gives the stars a staggered effect. Machine stitch them together, then press the seams open.

Step 11:

Lay the backing WS up, then place the wadding/batting on top, then place the patchwork RS up on top, centrally. Tack/baste the layers together. Spray baste works well here.

Step 12:

To stabilize this long piece of quilting, I quilted between each star first, then filled each one in with the straight lines as in step 4.

Step 13:

When complete, trim and bind as for the coaster in steps 5 to 8.

