

## PATH TO THE STARS

A Friendship Star variation, this little quilt will finish at about 24 inches square.

I have used a six-inch block in making this quilt; when making quilts with 9-patch blocks it makes the maths easier if you keep your measurements divisible by three (i.e. 6-inch, 9-inch or 12-inch blocks)

### You will need

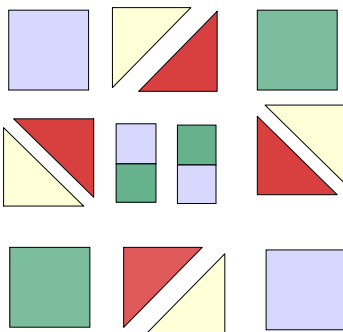
- 0.5m of dark (red)
- a fat quarter pale (background)
- 1m of a darker contrast (green) fabric – which also makes the outer border and binding.
- 0.75m of the second pale (blue) fabric for the other squares and sashing
- at least 28-inch square of wadding and of backing fabric.

### Cutting

For the blocks:

1. Cut one  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch strip of green and one  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch strip of pale blue
2. Cut three  $2\frac{7}{8}$ -inch strips of red fabric and the same of cream. Cut these strips into eighteen  $2\frac{7}{8}$ -inch squares and cut these in half diagonally.
3. Cut a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch strip of each of the green and pale blue and cut these into  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch squares. You will need eighteen of each. You may find you have to cut two strips.

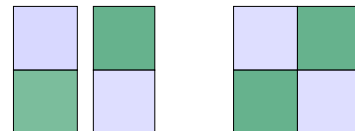
### To make the nine Star blocks



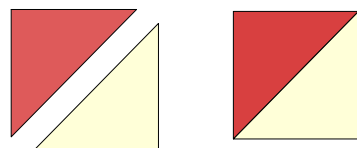
There are two units to piece for this block – a 4-patch and a “half-square triangle”. For each block you will need to make one 4-patch and four triangle units.

### Four-patch unit

Stitch together the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch strips of pale blue and green. Press the seams to one side and cut this strip into eighteen  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch slices. Sew the slices into pairs to make the nine 4-patch units.

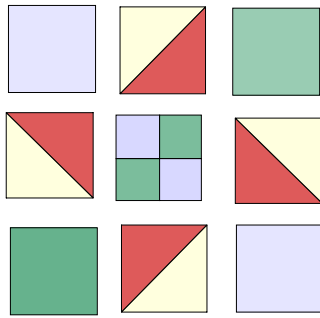


### Half-square triangle unit

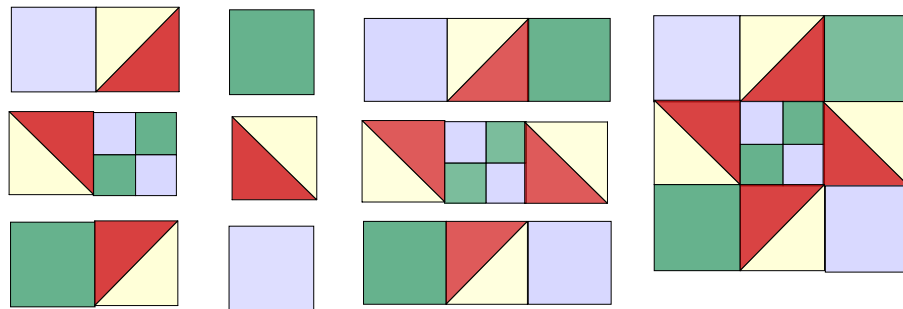


Sew a red triangle to a cream triangle to make the half-square triangle units. You will need 36 in all.

### Making the block

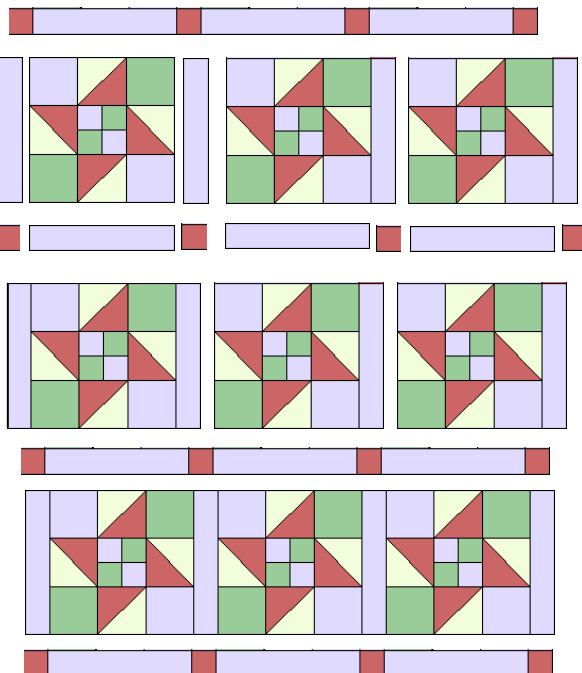


Lay your pieces out in the pattern required and sew them together – sew the units into pairs, then into three rows of three and finally sew the rows together to complete the block. Press carefully. They should measure 6½-inches square (or thereabouts)



Make 9 blocks

### Make the quilt top



Cut 1½-inch strips of sashing fabric and cut twenty-four 6½-inch long strips from these.

Cut sixteen 1½-inch squares of the star fabric.

Lay the blocks out in the correct order with the sashing strips in between.

Sew a sashing fabric strip to one side of each block and to both sides of the left-hand end blocks.

Sew the blocks together in the same way as you did the block itself – into pairs then into three rows of three.

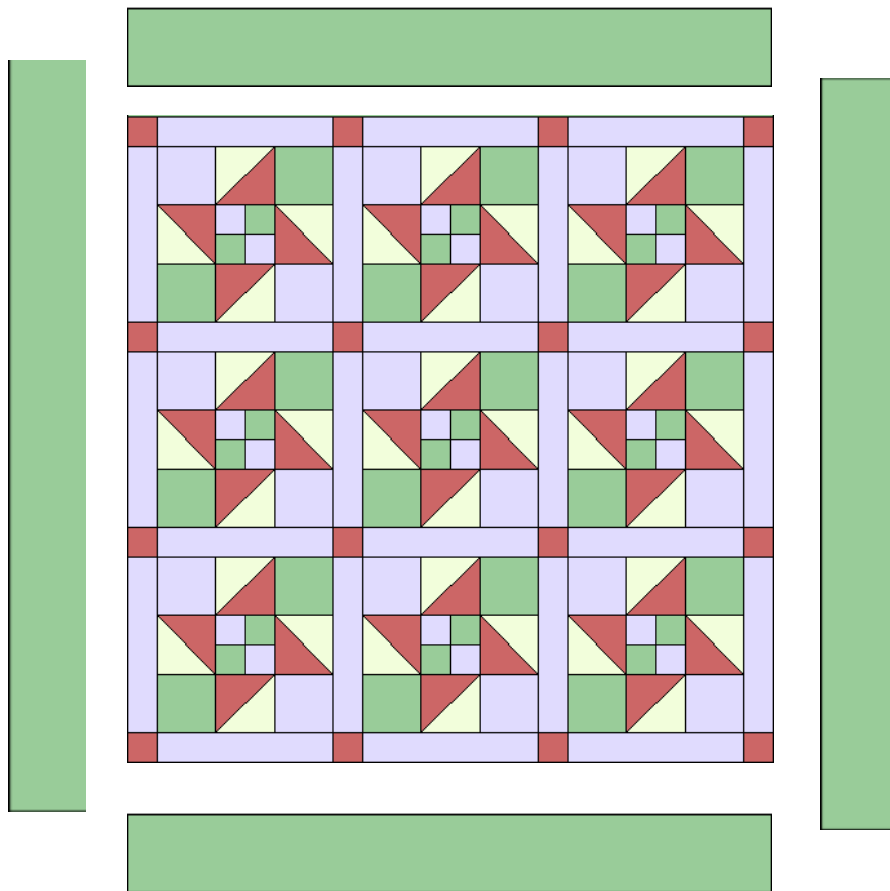
Take the last twelve sashing strips and sew a red square to one end of

each. Follow the diagram and sew them into threes, putting a final red square on the ends of each strip to make a sashing row to go between each block row and at the top and bottom of the quilt. Press.

Finally sew the rows of blocks and sashing together – add a row of sashing to each block row first so you are not trying to add a small strip to a large quilt. Press carefully.

## To complete the quilt top

Cut four 2½-inch strips of your border fabric (green).



Sew the border strips to the top and bottom of your quilt and finally to the sides to complete.

Layer your quilt top with wadding and backing and quilt as desired. I quilted in the ditch around each block and the stars. I haven't quilted the border, but I think it does need some quilting there – I will get round to it one day!

Finally bind the completed quilt and add a hanging sleeve and a label.