CRystal Star

Finished Block 12” (with seam allowances 12-1/2”)

FABRICS: For our drawing, make the CRYSTAL STAR in pale blue, light blue, and deep blue colors - in icy, silver or metallic cotton fabrics of quilt store quality. For the donated community quilt and your own quilt choose similar colors perhaps in blue star prints, batiks or solids.

STEP 1. For the center unit, make a “Square Within a Square.” Mark diagonal lines on backs of the light squares B. Place smaller square B on the corner of the larger square D, right sides together, and sew on the line. Repeat for the opposite corner of D. Trim off triangles to 1/4” seam allowance. Press triangles toward the corners. Repeat for the two remaining small squares B. Trim unit to 6-1/2” square, with 1/4” allowance on points.

STEP 2. For the sides, make four “Flying Geese” units. Mark or press diagonals on a small dark E squares and place on corner of larger A rectangle, right sides together. Sew across diagonals and trim to 1/4”, press out corner. Repeat with an E on second A corner. Trim finished units to 6-1/2” by 3-1/2”.

A.K.A. The CRYSTAL STAR block is a variation of the 1884 SAWTOOTH STAR. But quarter turn it on point to see it also is a variation of the OHIO STAR. It was unnamed in the 1904 Farm and Fireside, and called CRYSTAL STAR in the Kansas City Star, June 1934. Other names for this form are VARIABLE STAR, LONE STAR, TEXAS STAR, JOINING STAR, STAR OF VIRGINIA, OHIO STAR, THE COG BLOCK, EIGHT POINTED STAR, OLD TIPPECANOE, STARPUFF, ODD FELLOW’S CROSS and RIBBON STAR. (Sources: B.Brackman 2141b, B.Rehmel 3062, Judy Hopkins)

CUTTING:
- A - Cut four 3-3/4” by 6 3/4” rectangles (light)
- B - Cut four 3-3/4” squares (the same fabric as A and C or a second light fabric)
- C - Cut four 3-1/2” squares (light background)
- D - Cut one 6-3/4” square (medium focus #1)
- E - Cut eight 3-3/4” squares (dark focus #2)

From STEP 2

From STEP 1

STEP 3. Following the diagram, sew the units into the block, keeping points out of 1/4” seamline. Press. Trim the finished square to measure 12-1/2” on each side.