The theme for 2014 Block of the Month program is “Good Foundations.” As the year progresses, the paper pieced blocks will increase in complexity. We hope you enjoy learning and honing your skills with this precise method of making quilt blocks.

Unfinished block is 6-1/2” square; finished is 6”. The pattern is attached to this direction sheet. Sew directly on the pattern lines. Do not remove the paper (except where indicated otherwise).

“Wonky Star” will give you practice with piecing four oddly shaped sections of the block, and (hopefully) get the points of intersection to match ... but then it is “Wonky” so don’t stress over it too much if it’s not “perfect.”

Fabric: Brights for the star, a lighter background. The middle and each point will be a different color, but you can use any fabric theme or style you like. In the sample above, batiks were used for all but the center.

Cutting directions: Cut one piece each for the following pieces:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A1</th>
<th>B1</th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>D1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-1/2” x 3-1/2”</td>
<td>4” Square</td>
<td>4” x 2-1/4”</td>
<td>3-3/4” x 3-1/2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1/2” x 2-1/2”</td>
<td>2” x 3”</td>
<td>3-1/2” x 2-1/4”</td>
<td>3-1/2” x 2-1/2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>D3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3” x 4”</td>
<td>3-1/4” x 5-1/4”</td>
<td>4-1/2” x 2-3/4”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Constructing the star:

1. Carefully cut the pattern in 4 pieces. Dashed lines represent the 1/4” seam allowance.

2. The following directions are for section C. Use the same process for the other sections. Trim C2 1/4” from the pattern line. Use the trimmed line to align C1. Flip and sew C1 and C2 together on the pattern line.

3. Set C3 over the sewn pieces so that it entirely covers C3 on the pattern. Fold C3 up and to the left to match the angle of C2 (green line). Finger press (3b).
Constructing the star (contd):

4. Using your rotary cutter, trim C3 1/4” beyond the finger press. Align cut angle of C3 with C2, flip and sew on pattern line. Verify that all of section C is covered to the seam allowance.

5. Continue using the same method with the other three sections of the block.

6. Trim each section on the interior dashed seam allowance lines. DO NOT trim the perimeter of the block until it is completely finished.

7. Sewing section B to section A: With sections laid out as shown, place sections A and B right sides together. Pin (red X) each intersection and verify that the pin is coming through the matching intersection on the other side. If it appears to be aligned, pin (yellow flat pin) perpendicular to seam line. Set sewing machine to a longer stitch (3.0 on most machines) and sew three basting stitches at each end and each intersecting point. Open the block to verify that the pieces are aligned correctly and the points match (7b). If they match, reduce stitching to regular stitch (1.5 on most machines) and sew the pieces together on the seam line. If they do not match up to your satisfaction, pull the basting stitches and repeat.

8. Align sections C and D to the AB section the same way, being sure that the connecting points are aligned.

So here is my weasel clause … you’ll notice that points at the top of the block I made do not align perfectly … that’s why I call it a “Wonky Star” because you can’t mess it up … it’s all good …

The most important thing is that you have fun with this block and learn the process of getting your intersections to match on odd shaped pieces.

If you have any questions, please ask me at a meeting or email me jimjens@sonic.net.

Jim Jensen & Marlene Sullivan

2014 Block of the Month Committee
"Wonky Star"
July 2014
Block of the Month
Drafted by Jim Jensen
Santa Rosa Quilt Guild