

The Sun Never Sets on an Evening Star Quilt Block

From our *Free Quilt Block Patterns Library*

by Julie Baird



Skill Level: Beginner

Grid: 4x4

The Evening Star quilt block is one of many variations of a Sawtooth Star block—this time the star is light and the background is dark. We'll use a technique called 'connector corners' to make the four Flying Geese units needed for this block.

Included on this page are instructions for 4", 6", 8", 10" and 12" blocks.

Patch		Fabric	Qty	Finished Block Size				
				4"	6"	8"	10"	12"
1	D	4	1½" x 2½"	2" x 3½"	2½" x 4½"	3" x 5½"	3½" x 6½"	
2	L	8	1½" x 1½"	2" x 2"	2½" x 2½"	3" x 3"	3½" x 3½"	
3	L	1	2½" x 2½"	3½" x 3½"	4½" x 4½"	5½" x 5½"	6½" x 6½"	
4	D	4	1½" x 1½"	2" x 2"	2½" x 2½"	3" x 3"	3½" x 3½"	
Unfinished Block Size			4½"	6½"	8½"	10½"	12½"	
Grid Size			1"	1½"	2"	2½"	3"	

General Instructions

All seams are 1/4".

The following abbreviations are used:

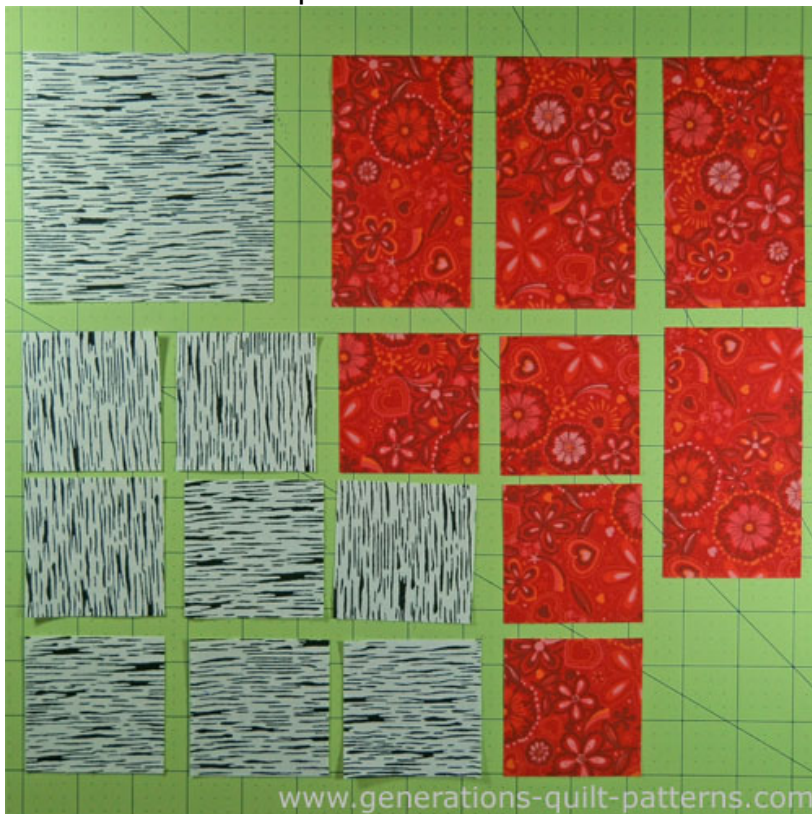
- **SA** - seam allowance(s)
- **RST** - right sides together
- **FG** - Flying Geese units

When it's time to press, first press the pieced unit flat to set the seam. Then open the patch, pressing from the front. Suggestions as to which way to press the seams are included below.

A directional print is used as the light fabric in this example. Instructions are given so that the fabric design flows in one direction when the block is finished.

Step 1: Cut patches for an Evening Star block

These are the cut patches to make this block.



Step 2: Assemble the Evening Star units

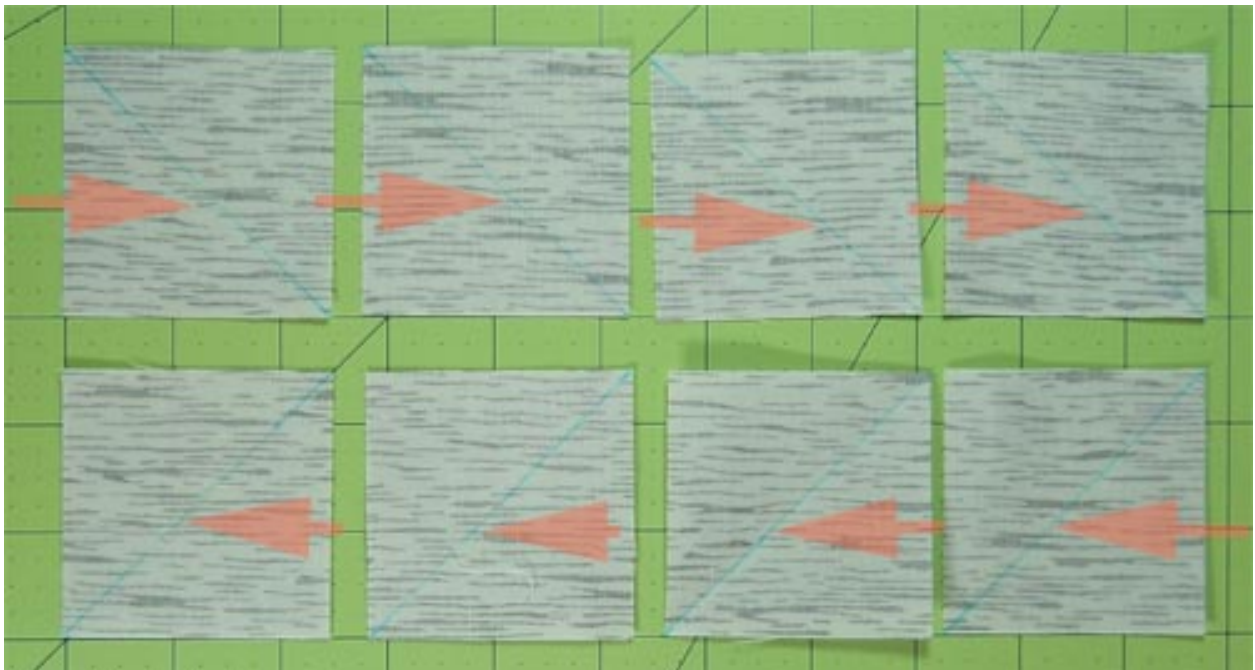
Flying Geese Units

Make 4

Flying Geese unit

Mark the back of each of the eight #2 light squares with a diagonal line drawn from corner to corner.

Use a light touch, marking only as dark as you need to see the line.



In the top row the line is drawn from upper left to lower right. In the bottom row the line is drawn the opposite direction from upper right to lower left.

To keep the lines of our light **directional fabric** aligned in the finished block, notice that the line is drawn in one direction for half the squares and the opposite way for the other half.

If you are using a **non-directional fabric**, it makes no difference which direction the lines are drawn in.

Each Flying Geese will take one #1 and two #2 patches to make.

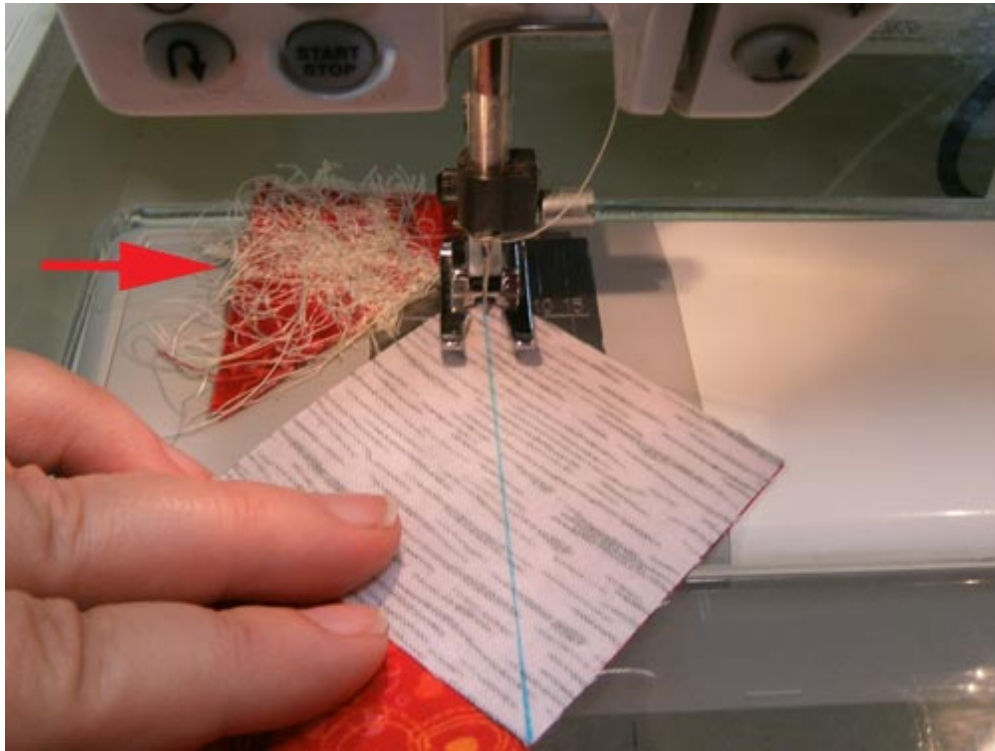


Only draw the lines as dark as YOU need to see them. These are drawn darker than usual so that you can see them.

With RST, align one light #2 square with the end of a #1 dark rectangle. The drawn line bisects the corner.

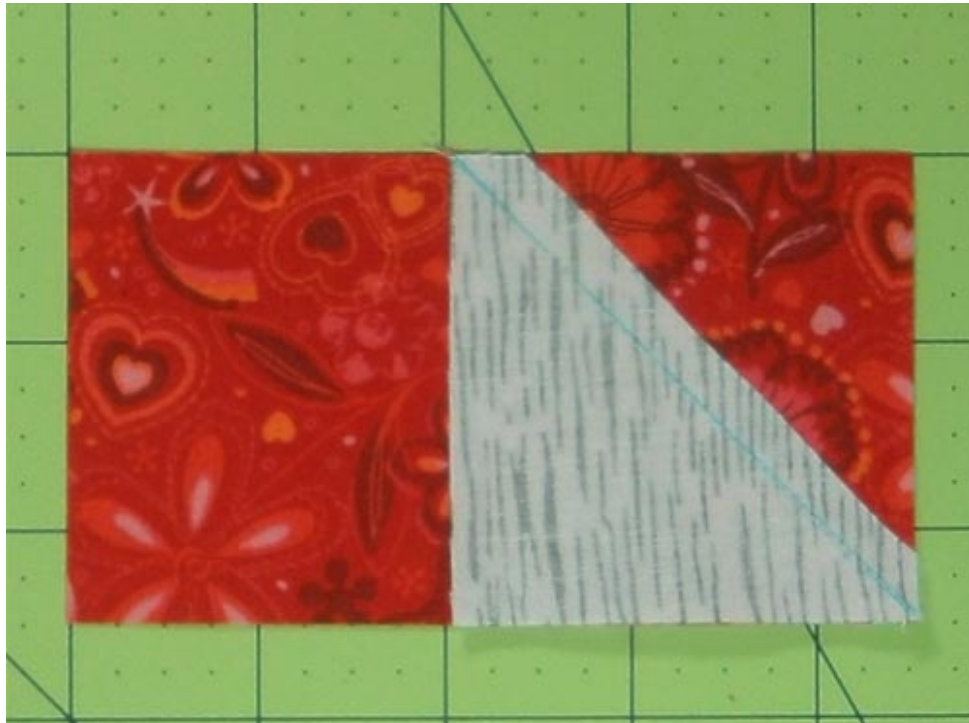
Start your stitching on an anchor cloth to avoid having your machine 'chew' up the corner of the patches. I like to use an open toe applique foot for this sewing—it's easier to see the marking.

Stitch from one end of the drawn line to the other. You can chain stitch these units one after another.

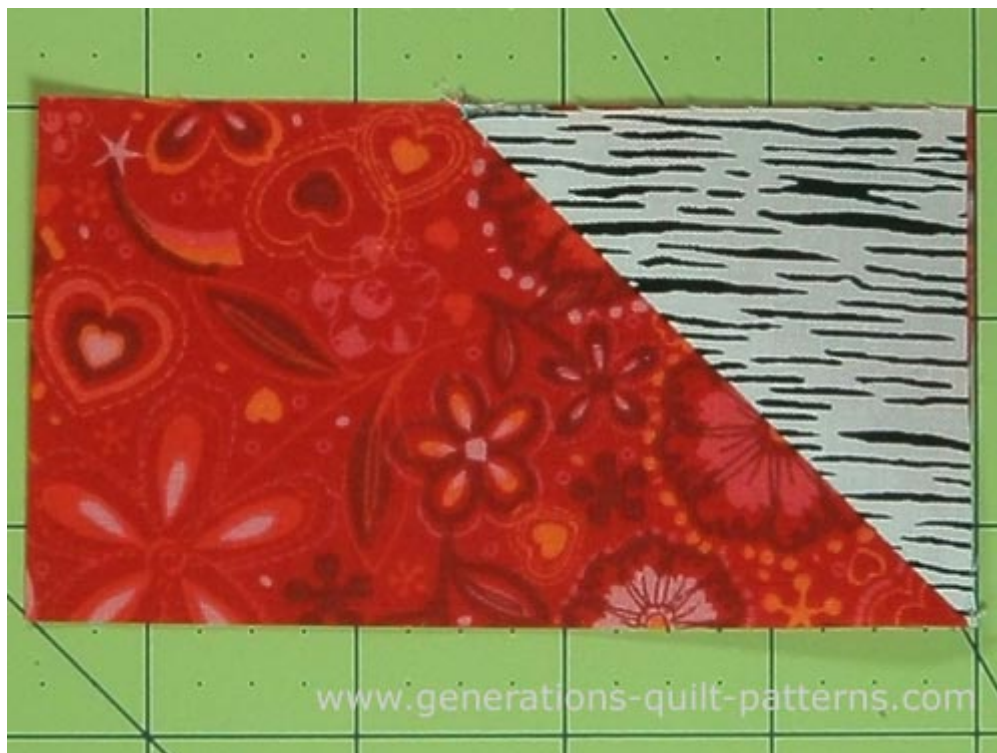


The arrow points to the anchor cloth

Press flat to set the seam. Trim a quarter inch seam allowance into the side of the stitching line closest to the unsewn corner.



Press the light patch open and towards the corner.



Repeat for the 3 remaining rectangles. (Remember that if you're using a directional print to alternate the position of the connector corners as you stitch.)

With RST, stitch the second connector corner, #2, to the other end of the rectangle.

The drawn line bisects the corner on the same long side as the previous connector corner does. Again, you can chain stitch these units one after another.



Press flat to set the seam. Then trim the seam allowance to quarter inch. Then press the light patch open and towards the corner.

Check to make sure the edges of the patches align. Trim the light fabric down if needed.



Before moving on, use the chart below to check that your FG are the correct size.

Flying Geese Measurement after Sewing	
Finished Block Size	Flying Geese unit
4"	1½" x 2½"
6"	2" x 3½"
8"	2½" x 4½"
10"	3" x 5½"
12"	3½" x 6½"

Step 3: Assemble the Evening Star

Lay out the pieces for your Evening Star quilt block.



Sew the units in each row together. Press the seam allowances in the direction of the arrows. Stitch the rows together, pinning if needed.

