REVERSE PAPER PIECING PINWHEEL STARS

Foundation Paper Piecing Made Easy





FINISHED SIZE: 60" x 72" Designed by Annis Clapp Machine Quilted by Sabina Thompson



P120 PINWHEEL STARS

Finished Size: 60" x 72"

Read all instructions carefully before starting.

This quilt can be made any size by simply increasing or decreasing the number of floating star blocks. Make 4 blocks for a wall quilt, 9 or 12 blocks for a crib or small lap size quilt, 24 blocks for a twin size quilt, 30 blocks for a full size quilt, or 36 blocks for a queen size quilt.

If you would like to use a dark background fabric, reverse the light background and dark prints.

You can also reverse the medium and dark prints for a different look, as shown in some of the piecing diagrams on page 4.

- If the foundation copy paper you are using shrinks during the pressing process, increase the pattern to 101% when making copies.
- Make all copies for the same project on the same copy machine using the original block pattern. Do not make a copy from a copy.
- If possible, use an inkjet all-in-one printer instead of a copy machine, and foundation paper made for inkjet printers that absorbs the ink for less ink transfer.
- Do not place iron directly on printed side of paper when pressing seams.

MAKING FOUNDATION COPIES

- 1. Use a copy machine to make the required number of copies of the pattern templates on foundation copy paper.
- 2. Use a rotary cutter and ruler to cut out the copies on the green solid lines. For faster cutting, staple the matching copies together in groups of 4 to 7 by stapling in the center of each unit. If the copies were made on the same copier at the same time they should automatically line up. To be sure, place a pin through the copies at the same location on opposite corners before stapling.

PREPARING & CUTTING FABRIC

- 1. Prewash and iron fabric.
- 2. A minimum ³/8" seam allowance is added to all pieces for the foundation pieced block units. Some of the pieces are cut slightly oversized to make positioning easier.

Cut all strips on crosswise grain unless otherwise specified.

Label and place the pieces for each block unit in separate plastic bags along with the templates.

Background (1 fabric)

• Location 5 - Unit B

Cut 4 strips $7^{1}/2^{"}$ x 42". From these strips, cut 20 squares $7^{1}/2^{"}$ x $7^{1}/2^{"}$. Cut in quarters. Cut triangles off corners $3/4^{"}$ in from bottom edge.

- Block Corners Cut 7 strips 3¹/4" x 42". From these strips, cut 80 squares 3¹/4" x 3¹/4". (Or width of Unit B)
- Locations 2, 4, 6 Units C, D, E Cut 3 strips 4¹/2" x 42". From these strips, cut 23 squares 4¹/2" x 4¹/2". Cut in quarters.
- Border Corners Cut 4 squares 1³/4" x 1³/4". (Or width of Unit C)

Bright or Contrast (5 fabrics)

- Location 1 Unit A Cut 8 squares 2¹/₂" x 2¹/₂" from each fabric. Cut in half.
- Location 1 Unit B Cut 8 squares 2¹/₂" x 2¹/₂" from each fabric. Cut in half.

Medium Print (5 fabrics)

 Location 5 - Unit A Cut 8 squares 4" x 4" from each fabric. Cut in half. Dark Print (10 fabrics)

- Locations 2, 3, 4 Units A, B Cut 24 squares 2¹/2" x 2¹/2" from each fabric. Cut in half.
- Location 6 Unit B Cut 4 squares 4" x 4" from each fabric. Cut in half.
- Locations 3, 5, 7 Units C, D, E Cut 2 squares 41/2" x 41/2" from each fabric. Cut in quarters. Cut 1 quarter-square triangle 41/2" on long side from each fabric. You will have 2 extra.
- Locations 1, 8 Units C, D
 Cut 1 half-square triangle 2¹/2" on short side from 8 different fabrics.

Sashing (cut on lengthwise grain)

- Cut 5 strips 2" x length of fabric. From these strips, cut: 15 strips 2" x 11" for vertical sashing.
- Cut 6 strips 2" x length of fabric. Diagonal piece to make 4 strips 2" x 47" for horizontal sashing.
- *Cut 4 strips 1³/4" x length of fabric for inner border 1 sides. Diagonal piece.
- *Cut 3 strips 2" x length of fabric for inner border 1 top and bottom. Diagonal piece.

*Adjust width as needed to fit pieced border.

Tip: Cut border strips longer than needed, then trim after adding to quilt.

Inner Border 2

• Cut 6 strips 1" x 42".

Outer Border (cut on lengthwise grain)

- Cut 2 strips 4" x 651/2".
- Cut 2 strips 4" x 60".

Binding

• Cut 7 strips 21/2" x 42".

For best results remember to:

- P position carefully
- S sew accurately
- T trim evenly
- P press crisply

PREPARING TO SEW

Using an Ultimate Seam Guide will give you a smoother sewing surface and longer, easy to see seam allowance markings for more accurate piecing. It covers the uneven surface between the needle plate and sewing machine cabinet or tray so your fabric will feed smoothly and evenly. It also provides the line needed in front of the needle to make this piecing technique possible.

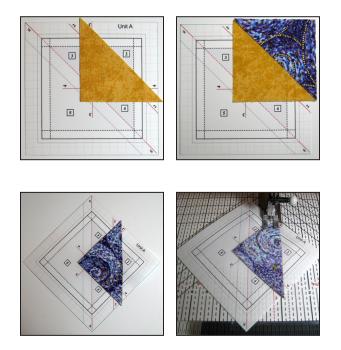
- 1. Place the Seam Guide on the sewing machine. (Follow instructions to cut opening for needle and feed dogs.) Make sure the needle lines up with the red sewing line on the Seam Guide and tape in place. If the line in front of the needle is not long enough for all of the block units, make an extension by drawing a red line down the center of a ruled index card. Laminate the card or cover it with clear packaging tape. Line it up with the red sewing line on the Seam Guide, sliding it under the guide, and tape in place.
- 2. Set sewing machine stitch length to 18-20 stitches per inch (1.5 on some sewing machines). Use an open toe walking foot for best results. If you are sewing with a Pfaff sewing machine with dual feed, use an open toe appliqué foot and engage the dual feed.
- 3. The red dashed lines on the block patterns are the sewing lines. You will not be able to see these lines as you sew because the fabric will be covering them. The red solid lines extending from the dashed lines will be used to line up the dashed lines with the needle and the red sewing line on the Seam Guide. The numbers beside these lines coincide with the same numbered fabric piece. The 1/4" space outside the shaded block area is the seam allowance for sewing the blocks together.
- Always place the fabric piece right side up in the finished position before flipping over to sew. This is especially important for triangles as they can easily be turned in the wrong direction.

- Before folding the paper to trim seams, you will need to pull previously sewn seams loose from the paper at seam allowances. Be careful not to pull the stitches loose from the fabric.
- If the paper pulls loose from the seams before you are finished, use tape sparingly to hold it in place. Do not let a hot iron touch the tape.

PIECING THE BLOCKS

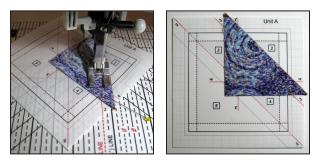
The block units may be pieced in any order, but these instructions are written assuming you're starting with Unit A. Chain sew 8 units at a time using the same fabrics for faster piecing.

1. Place the fabric for piece #1 right side up on the **printed** side of the paper, lining it up with the guidelines which are 3/8" from the seams. You may use a straight pin or a washable glue stick to hold it in place. Be sure to pull the glued fabric loose from the paper after sewing the seam. Place fabric piece #2 in the finished position on the paper and then flip over to place in the sewing position. It should line up with the same guidelines as piece #1. Holding the fabrics in place (or pin in place if you want to prepare multiple units before sewing), align the needle at the edge of the fabric on the short extended red solid line #2 and put the needle in the down position centered on the line near the edge of the fabric.



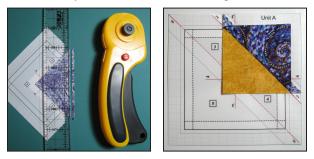
Tip: Positioning the template in the direction the seam will be sewn will make it easier to position the fabric pieces.

2. Align the long extended red solid line with the red sewing line on the Seam Guide. Sew seam, making sure the red solid line stays on the sewing line of the Seam Guide until the seam is sewn. (*Tip: As you near the end of the fabric, change your focus to the red solid line at the edge of the fabric and eyeball the last few stitches, ending on the solid line. Use a long straight pin or awl to hold the fabric edge so it will feed evenly.*) Repeat for each block without cutting the thread between them until pieces #1 and #2 are sewn on all blocks.



Tip: If you're using vellum paper, you can turn the Units over and check the accuracy of your seams before trimming and pressing.

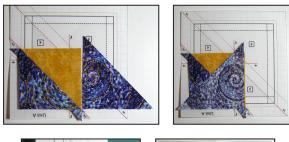
3. Trim threads, fold paper back on seam line and trim seams by placing the 1/4" line of a ruler on the seam and using a rotary cutter. You will be trimming approximately 1/8" off the raw edge. Open up piece #2 and press with a dry iron on cotton setting.

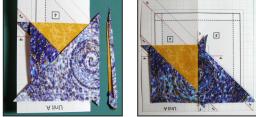


Tip: Use only the tip of the iron when pressing seams. Carefully pressed seams are important. You may also use a wooden pressing tool. Finger pressing first makes it easier.

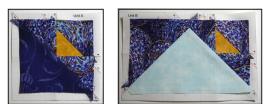
Note: Sometimes a bumpy seam or a previous seam that's partially under the presser foot will cause it to shift and stray from the line. If this happens simply turn the template over and sew on the line, assuming the shifting is within the seam allowance.

4. Place fabric piece #3 in the sewn position, then flip over onto piece #1, lining up the right and bottom edges with the guidelines. Keep in mind that the number placement for the line you will be sewing on is always to the right side of the line. Sometimes you will be sewing with most of the fabric to the right of the needle and sometimes to the left of the needle, whichever is the shortest distance to the edge of the paper. Repeat Steps 1 thru 3 using sewing line #3.





5. Repeat this process until all pieces are sewn to Block Units A & B.



Tip: If you need to unsew a seam for any reason, place a small piece of tape on the seam line to keep the paper from falling apart. There is no need to tape the full seam. For longer seams or where there are points to match, you may prefer to turn the paper over and sew on the line.

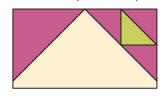
6. Turn the block Units over and trim by placing the ¹/4" line of a ruler on the outside dashed seam line. If you can't see the lines clearly on the back side of the paper, mark the corners of the seam lines with a pencil before trimming. Make sure the fabric is smooth on the underneath side so you don't accidentally cut off any fabric corners.



Unit A (make 80)

Unit B (make 80)



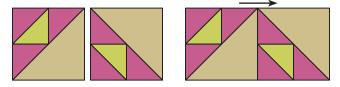


Note: Since there are no bias edges on the finished block units, it is easier to remove the paper before quilt assembly. It should tear away easily. Use a pair of tweezers to remove tiny pieces that may be left in seams.

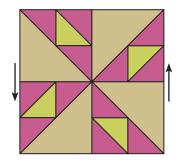
ASSEMBLING THE BLOCKS

Sew Block Units together as shown in the diagrams. Press seams in the direction of the arrows.

Sew 2 matching Units A's together. Make 2.

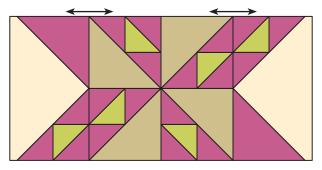


Sew Unit A pairs together. Press seam in circular direction and open at center. The center should look like a miniature pinwheel.

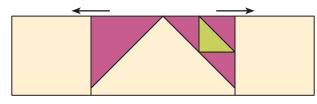




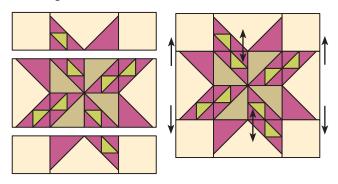
Sew a Unit B to each side of Unit A group. Press seams open.



Sew a 31/4" background square to each side of a Unit B as shown. Make 2.



Sew Units together to complete quilt center. Press seams open between Units A and B.



Repeat to make 20 total blocks.

ADDING SASHING

Arrange blocks on a design wall in desired order, 4 wide x 5 long.

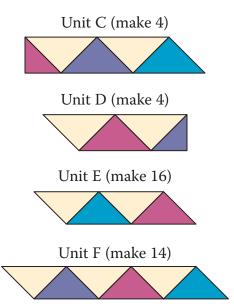
Add 2" x 11" sashing between blocks to make rows. Press seams toward sashing.

Add 2" x 47" sashing between rows to complete quilt center. Press seams toward sashing.

PIECING THE BORDERS

Follow "Piecing the Blocks", pages 3 and 4 to piece the Border Units C, D, E, and F.

Refer to the quilt layout on page 7 and the cover photo for the fabrics that were used in the pieced border sections. Labeling the templates and fabrics will make it easier to position them in the correct order. Or you could just place them randomly and arrange after piecing the units.



Sew border units together as shown in quilt layout on page 7 to make 4 long pieced borders. Remove paper from seam allowances and press seams open.



Sew $1^{3}/4^{"}$ background squares to each side of top and bottom pieced border.



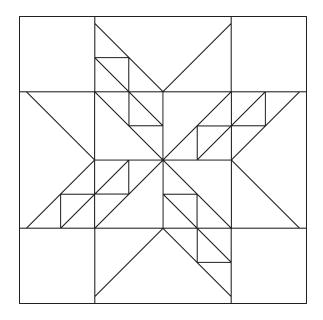
Remove remaining paper.

ADDING THE BORDERS

Measure width of quilt center. Measure width of pieced top and bottom borders (including the seam allowance but not the corner squares). Divide the difference by 2 and cut Inner Border 1 for quilt sides this measurement. (Note: Do not add seam allowance as an additional 1/2" border will be added for Inner Border 2.) Add Inner Border 1 to sides of quilt. Press seams toward Inner Border 1.

Measure length of quilt center. Measure length of pieced side borders. Divide the difference by 2 and cut Inner Border 1 for quilt top and bottom this measurement. (Note: Do not add seam allowance as an additional ¹/2" border will be added for Inner Border 2.) Add Inner Border 1 to top and bottom of quilt. Press seams toward Inner Border 1.

Diagonal piece and add Inner Border 2 to sides of quilt. Diagonal piece and add Inner Border 2 to top and bottom of quilt. Press seams toward Inner Border 2.



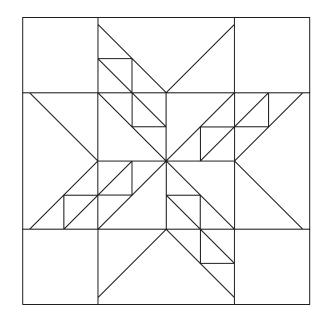
These instructions are presented in good faith, but no warranty is given, nor results guaranteed. AMC Designs disclaims any liability for unfavorable results. Sew Pieced Border to sides of quilt, sewing on Pieced Border side. Sew Pieced Border to top and bottom of quilt, sewing on Pieced Border side. Press seams toward Inner Border 2.

Sew Outer Border to sides of quilt, sewing on Pieced Border side. Sew Outer Border to top and bottom of quilt, sewing on Pieced Border side. Press seams toward Outer Border.

FINISHING

Layer backing, batting, and quilt top. Quilt as desired. Bind quilt, label, and enjoy!

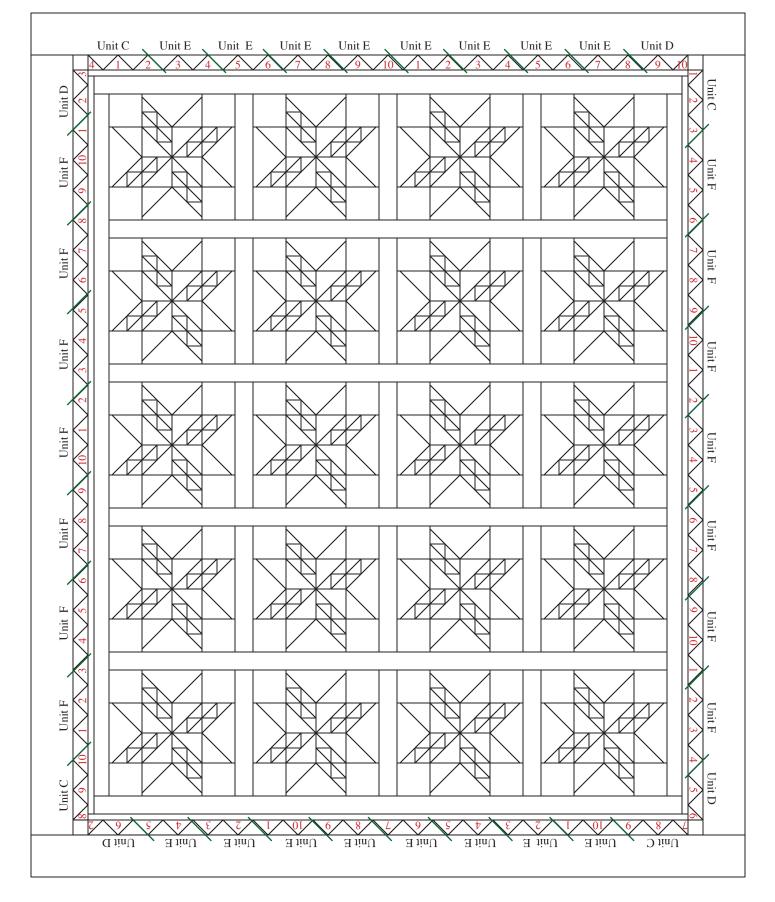
Make a copy of the block diagrams to experiment with different colorways.



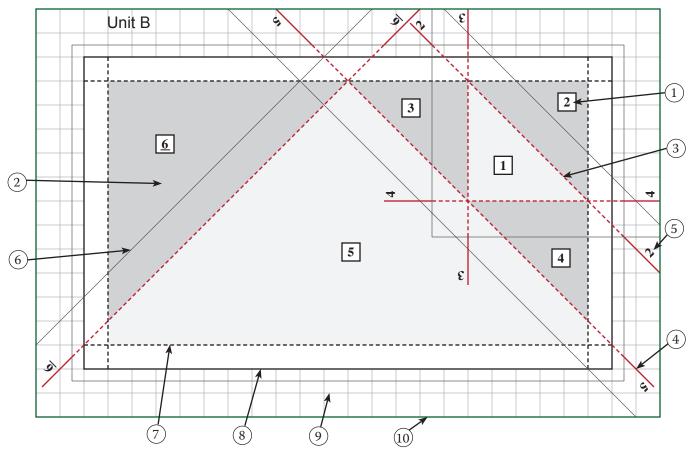
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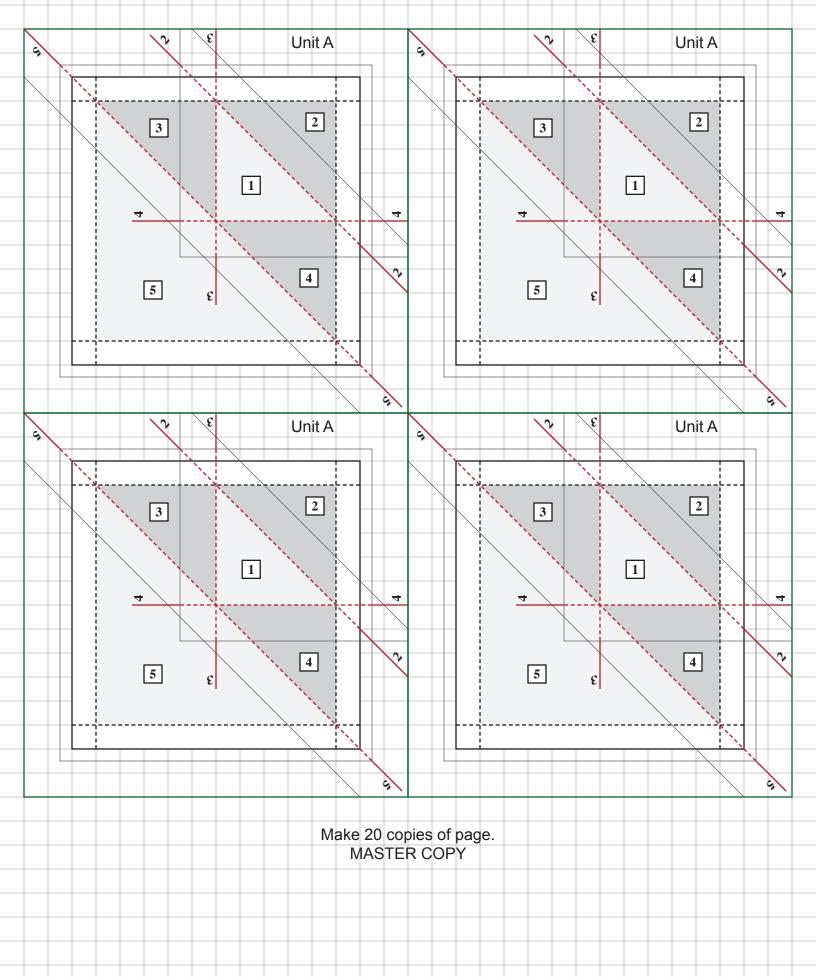
QUILT LAYOUT



UNDERSTANDING THE FOUNDATION TEMPLATES



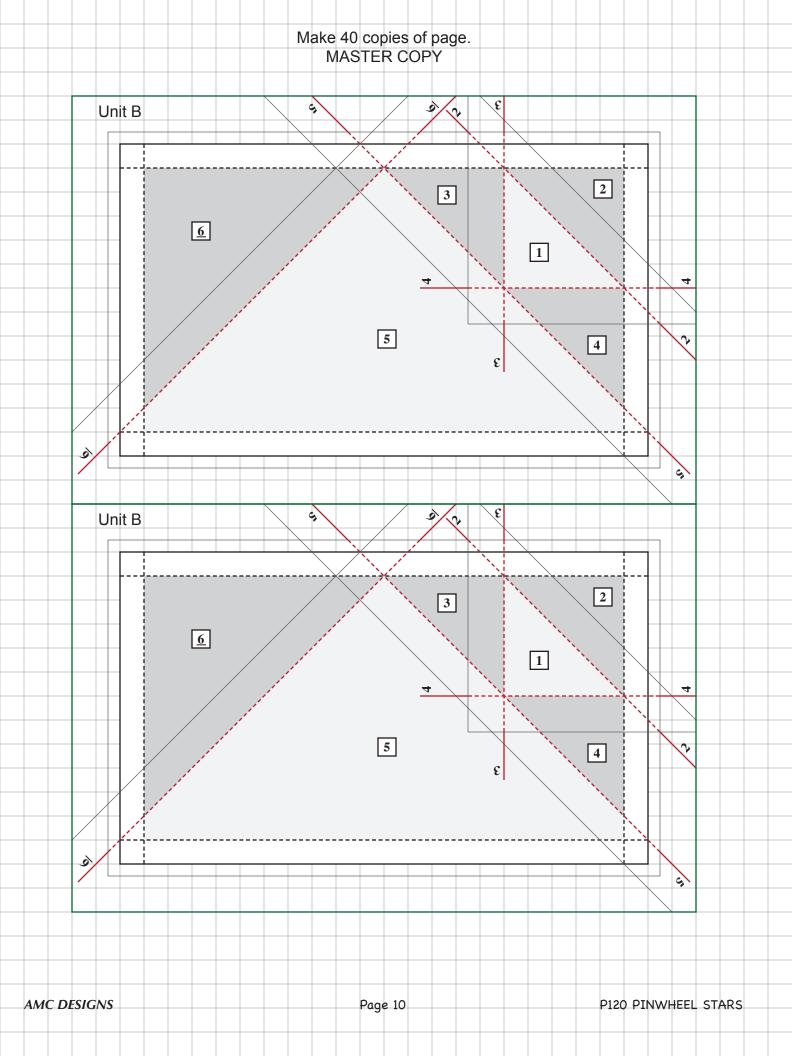
- 1 Location #.
- 2 Shaded finished block.
- 3 Red dashed sewing line.
- 4 Red solid lines for aligning needle with red dashed lines for sewing. Shorter lines at beginning of line, longer lines ending at edge of paper at end of lines.
- 5 Location # of piece you will be sewing, always to right side of red solid line.
- 6 Guidelines for positioning fabrics allowing for ³/8" seam allowance which will be trimmed to ¹/4" after sewing. Sometimes these lines will extend to the edge of the paper to help position fabric pieces accurately.
- 7 Black dashed lines for sewing block units together. Also used for aligning 1/4" line on ruler to trim block to size.
- 8 Outside edge of unfinished block.
- 9 Extra space to allow for extended lines, with grid lines to help position fabric pieces accurately.
- 10 Green line for cutting out template.

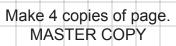


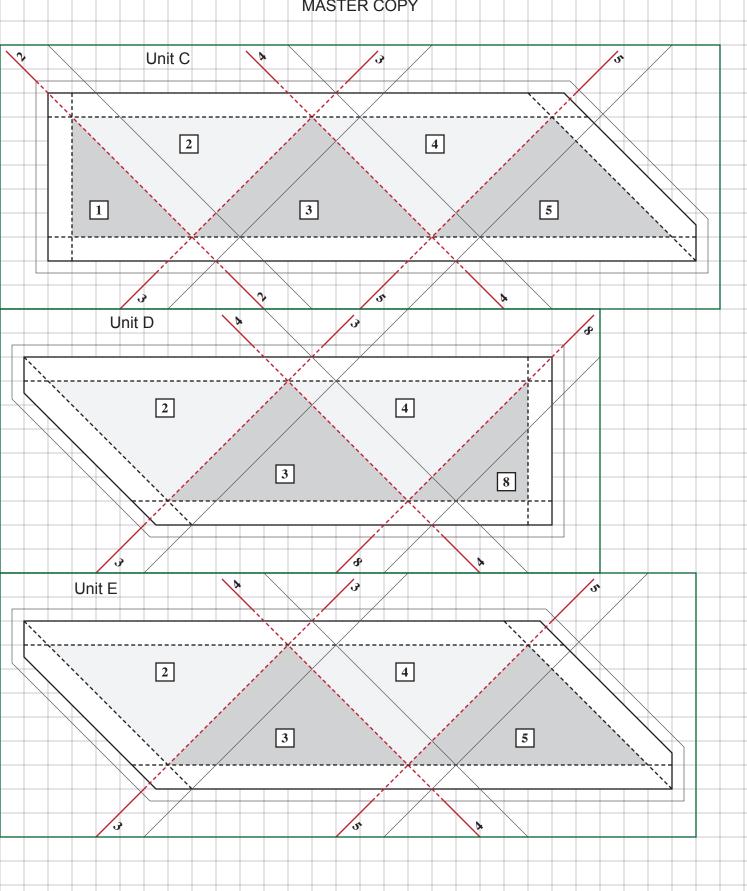
AMC DESIGNS

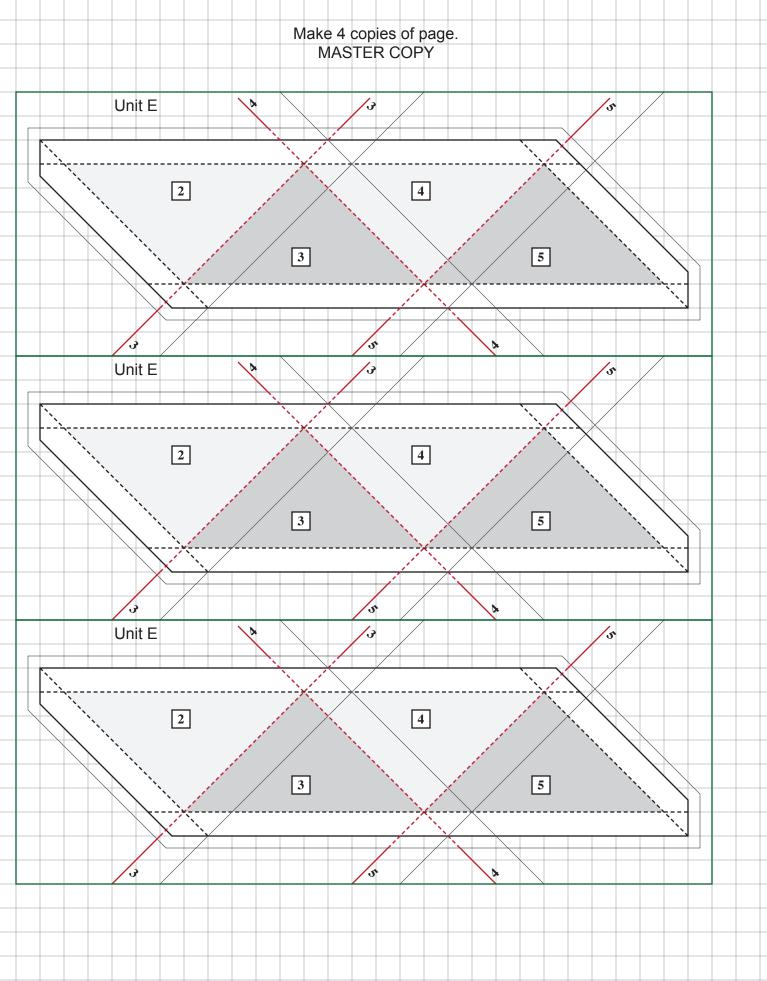
Page 9

P120 PINWHEEL STARS

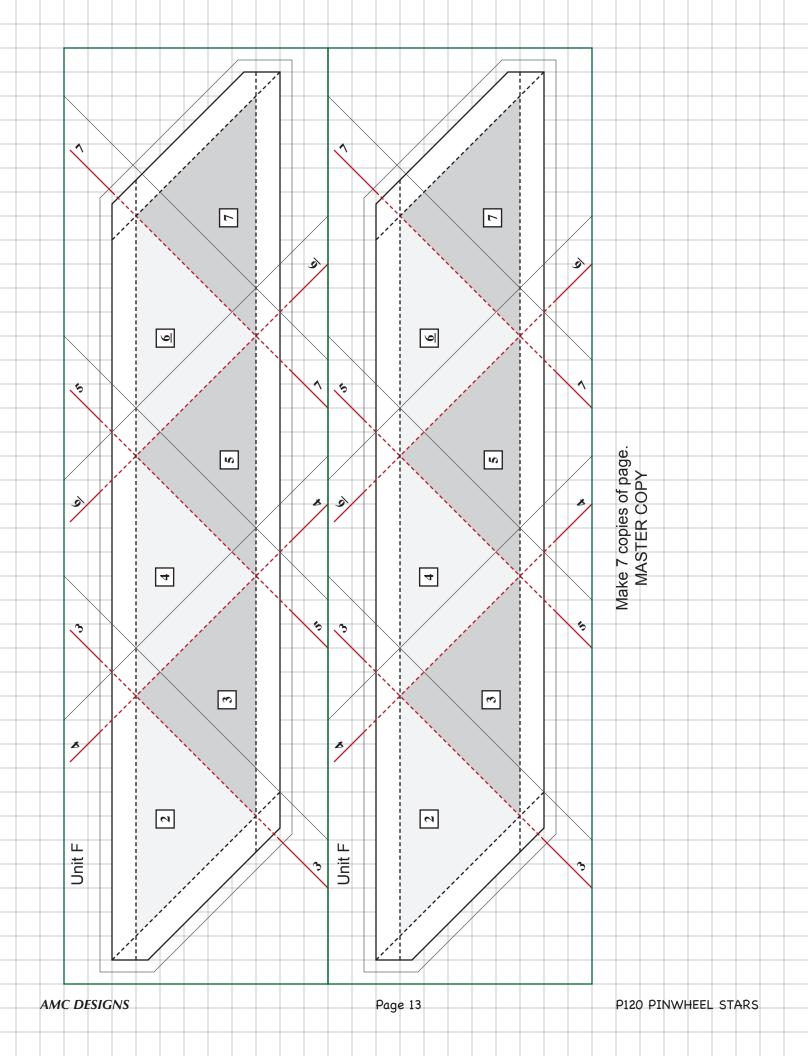








P120 PINWHEEL STARS



P120 PINWHEEL STARS

Finished Size: 60" x 72" Block Size: 10¹/2" x 10¹/2"

The floating star blocks and pieced border for this lap size quilt are made using a new paper piecing technique that is made possible with the help of an Ultimate Seam Guide. All sewing is done by placing the fabric on the printed side of the paper, which eliminates most pinning or the need to turn the paper over or hold it up to a light. Fabric pieces are cut close to the size needed for less fabric waste. Choose a light background and a variety of medium, dark, and contrast fabrics for the quilt shown. Step-by-step cutting, piecing, and assembly instructions are included. For easier construction, make copies of the full size templates on vellum foundation copy paper. After the block units are pieced, they are assembled the same as any paper pieced pattern and a translucent paper makes it easier to see the seam lines on the back side and square the block units for assembly.

Fabric colors are for reference purposes only. You may use any color combination.

FABRIC AND SUPPLIES

Yardage is based on 42" usable fabric width. 2 yds light background fabric 1 fat quarter each of 10 dark prints for stars and pieced border 1 fat eighth each of 5 bright or contrast prints for small triangles 1 fat eighth each of 5 medium prints for center pinwheel 1 yd green for sashing $(1^{3}/4 \text{ yds for no piecing})$ 1/4 yd gold for inner border 2 2 yds dark print for outer border (1 yd if pieced) 5/8 yd binding fabric (or use extra outer border fabric) 41/2 yds backing fabric (4 yds if pieced crosswise) 64" x 76" batting fast2sew[™] Ultimate Seam Guide *Foundation Copy Paper Open Toe Walking Foot Rotary Cutter, Mat & Rulers



*My favorite foundation paper is a translucent vellum from Office Depot, Item 345-854 (11 x 17) or 345-644 ($8^{1/2}x$ 11). It's see-through, feeds through my inkjet printer with no paper jams, no shrinkage, no ink transfer, and is easy to remove.

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