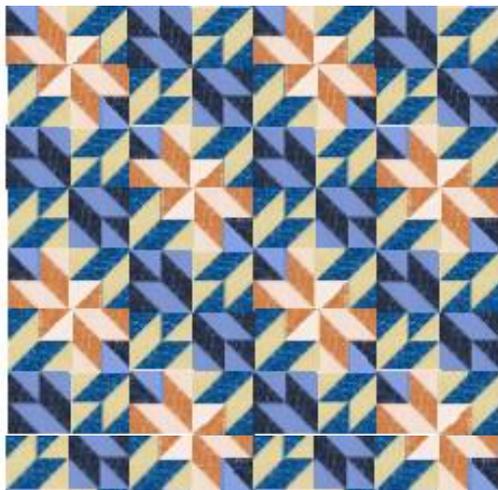




Preamble

This project came about from a Fun With Half Square Triangles session I ran at the Knit and Stitch Show in October 2021. The diagram is taken from the handout, and I promised to write up some instructions so here they are!

There's some nattering, some [analysis](#) and finally the [Instructions](#). Feel free to jump straight in with the [instructions](#) especially if you were at that session!



I changed the design slightly. First of all – can you spot the difference?

The original followed a particular sequence of moving and rotating HST units which was relevant to our activity at the time, but by taking the top two rows of HST units and putting them on the bottom we get a more whole effect, and it allows us to think about the blocks in a different way.

Now we can simplify to

Block 1 – orange star x 8

Block 2 – Blue star x 8

This makes it easier to explain and to construct however, if you want to keep the original design then only sew 12 blocks together and make two rows of half blocks, one for the top and one for the bottom



Analysis

Next follows some analysis. You can jump straight to the [instructions](#), and will be fine, but some people like to think about all these things first.

6 fabrics are used.

<p>Block 1 breaks down into 2 x Unit A 2 x Unit B</p> 	<p>Unit A 3 x HST orange + palest 1 x pale blue + darkest</p> 	<p>Unit B 3 x mid blue + yellow 1 x orange + palest</p> 
<p>Block B breaks down into 2 x Unit C 2 x Unit D</p> 	<p>Unit C 4 x Pale blue + darkest</p> 	<p>Unit D 4 x Mid blue + yellow</p> 

To make enough pieces for 1 of each block

	Block 1		Block 2		Total HST units (to make one of each block)	Whole quilt
	2 x Unit A	2 x Unit B	2 x Unit C	2 x Unit D		8 blocks of each
Orange/palest	6	2			8	64
Yellow/mid blue		6		8	14	112
Pale blue/Darkest	2		8		10	80

Example size and fabric requirements

For 2.5 inch HST (UF) units made 8 at a time squares need to be cut at 6 inches.

Each block will measure 8.5 (UF)

End quilt before borders or binding will measure 8 x 4 (+.5) = 32.5 inches

To make a different sized quilt use different starting block sizes or add more blocks or rows of half blocks.

Amount of fabric needed assuming size above (6 inch squares)

		No of squares	Fat Quarter 9 yielded	Yardage 6 inch strips 6/7 yielded per width
Orange/palest FAB A/B		8	1	2
Yellow/mid blue FAB C/D		14	2	2/3
Pale blue/darkest FAB E/F		10	2	2



INSTRUCTIONS

This works for any sized HST. The HST units are made in sets of 8.

Examples

Starting Squares 6 inches = block 8 inches (Finished)

Starting Squares 8 inches = block 12 inches (Finished)

1. Choose 6 Fabrics

Fabric A is the feature fabric (shown in orange)

Fabric B is the palest fabric used (shown as pale orangey/pink)

Fabric C is a second feature colour but less strident than A (shown in yellow)

Fabric D – F are different shades of the same colour (shown as blue)

Fabric D – mid tone

Fabric E – pale tone

Fabric F – dark tone

2. Cutting

Cut squares of the same size according to this table

Fabric A	8
Fabric B	8
Fabric C	14
Fabric D	14
Fabric E	10
Fabric F	10

3. Making HST

Make units (8 at once – see below for a reminder)

Fabric A with B		8
Fabric C with D		14
Fabric E with F		10

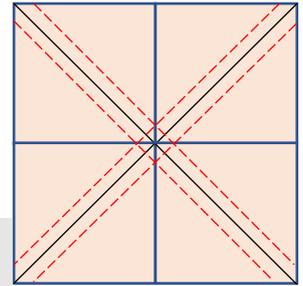


Making 8 at once.

Take 2 squares, place Right Sides Together.

Mark central diagonals and stitch a quarter of an inch either side.

Mark additional lines across from the centre of each side. Cut on the lines.



The maths

Squares need to be

2x (F size + 1 inch) or 2x (UF size + ½ inch)

examples

For 2 inch finished units use 2x (2+1) = 6 inch squares and trim to 2 ½ inches

For 4 ½ inch finished units use 2x (4 ½ +1) = 11 inch squares and trim to 5 inches

4. Assembling units

Make groups of four HST units as follows. **You will need 16 of each unit**

Unit	Configuration		Content
Unit A			3 x HST Fabric A + Fabric B 1 x HST Fabric E + Fabric F
Unit B			3 x HST Fabric C + Fabric D 1 x HST Fabric A + Fabric B
Unit C			4 x HST Fabric E + Fabric F
Unit D			4 x HST Fabric C + Fabric D



5. Making Blocks

Unit A and B Makes Block 1

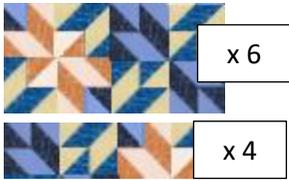
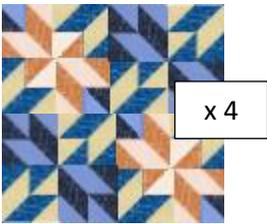
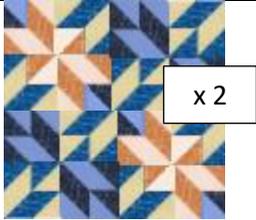
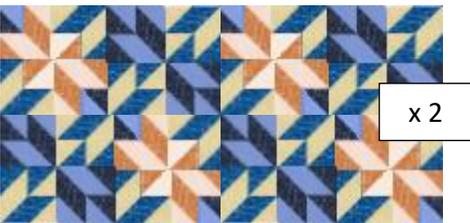
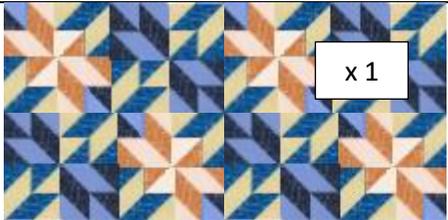
Units C and D makes block 2

Assemble the blocks according to the instructions below

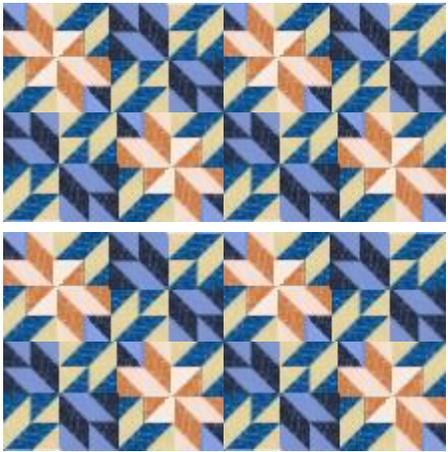
Block 1	Stitch Unit A to Unit B as shown 16 times	
	Once sewn Rotate half of the pieces through 180 degrees and sew to each other as shown (if sticking to original design leave two blocks/four pieces unattached)	
Block 2	Stitch Unit C to Unit D as shown 16 times	
	Once sewn Rotate half of the pieces through 180 degrees and sew to each other as shown (if sticking to original design leave two blocks/four pieces unattached)	



6. Assembling the design

Simplified Design		Original Design	
<p>Each row has 4 alternating blocks Start with Block 1 and layout 4x4 alternating between block 1 and block 2 both across the rows and down the columns.</p>		<p>There are 3 rows of complete alternating blocks and two thin rows (one top, one bottom) of half blocks</p>	
<p>You should have 8 Block1 and 8 Block 2</p>		<p>You should have 6 Block 1 and 6 Block 2 AND 4 half Bloc 1 and 4 Half block 2</p>	
<p>Sew together in pairs until you have 8 pieces</p>		<p>Sew pieces together in pairs so you have 6 squares and 4 rectangles</p>	
<p>Rotate half the pairs and stitch two pairs together to form 4x4 blocks</p>		<p>Rotate two of the pairs and stitch together to make 4x4 blocks</p>	
<p>Stitch these larger blocks together in pairs</p>		<p>Stich the two large blocks made in the last step together</p>	



		<p>Stitch the remaining pair of full blocks side by side</p>	
<p>And finally stitch the two halves together</p>		<p>Stitch the rows together</p>	<p>Top Row</p>  <p>Bottom row</p>        

