

Star Point Blocks

Over time I have developed my shortcut blocks. These are made by sewing fabric together and then cutting out a square from the center

You will need:

1. **2 ½" hard plastic template**
2. **Ruler with a 30 degree angle**
3. Small or mini cutting mat – need to be able to turn it
4. Rotary cutter
5. Hand sewing needles and thread
6. Sewing machine
7. Scissors / pin cushion, seam ripper and other general quilting tools
8. Fabric needed will depend on the template size and project you choose

You need to cut out:

One green rectangle - 2 ½" x 3 ¾"

Cut it from top LEFT corner to RIGHT bottom corner.

One green rectangle - 2 ½" x 3 ¾" rectangles

Cut it from top RIGHT corner to bottom LEFT corner.

One yellow 2 ½" x 4 ½" rectangles

Cut from top left to right bottom corners

You can cut one rectangle at a time and cut the left to rt or rt to left. Or you could lay the left to rt face up and the rt to left ones face down onto the face up rectangles and cut both at the same time. Of course this tute only shows for cutting out one Star Point block.

When you cut for the whole project you can cut as many as you want at the same time.

Always remember to keep track of where your colors go in these blocks.

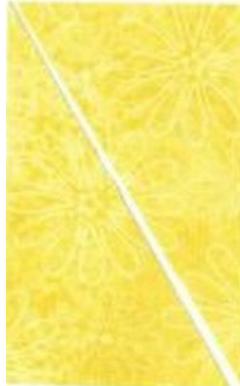
Left to RT



RT to Left

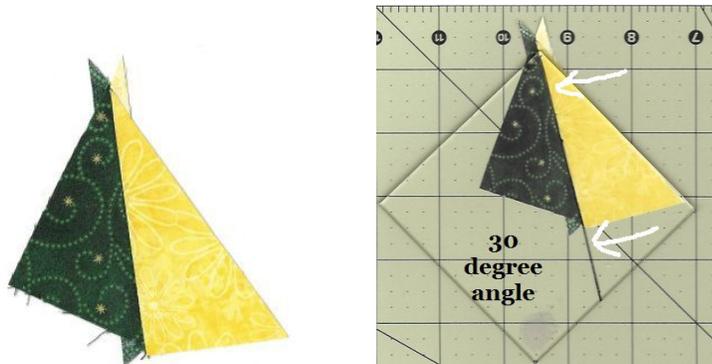


Either way works



Ok now on to sewing the fabrics together

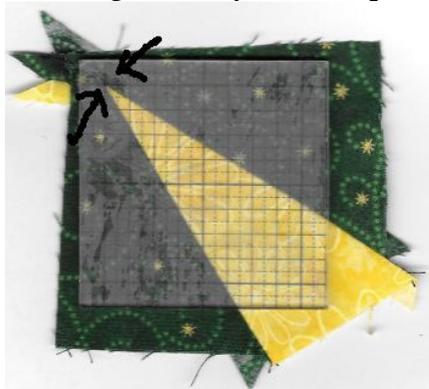
1. Sew 1 black triangle and 1 yellow triangle together
2. Trim the yellow fabric with a 30 degree angle--- you need a ruler with a 30 degree angle on it. Lay your ruler on the joined fabric so the 30 degree line lays on the seam.



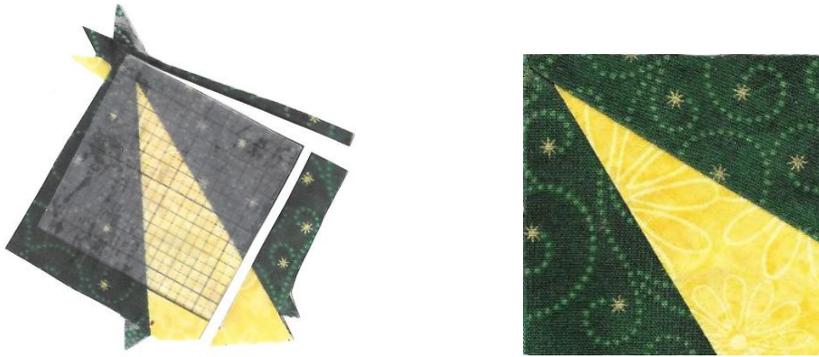
3. Line up and match the green top point with the other green top point . DON'T match it to the yellow pointed top. Now sew the right side green onto the yellow fabric and iron – I like to iron mine open. But it really doesn't matter if you prefer to iron to the dark side. I think it is less bulk to iron open.



4. Center your template on your joined fabric on a cutting mat. MAKE SURE you place the template so the 1/4" lines on the template cross on the point where your fabrics meet at the top. This leaves a 1/4" seam allowance above your point. See the arrows showing the crossed lines. Make sure you center the bottom corner of the template between both seams. If this is not centered right then your star point blocks won't meet accurately when you join them together



5. Hold it steady as you cut around the edges of the template with a rotary cutter. Or you can trace around the edges of the template and cut out with scissors. Cut as accurately as possible as it will make joining blocks easier later on.



Take time to TACK!

When joining two shortcut blocks together I prefer to tack instead of pinning. Tacking is putting a stitch where your seam is going to go through wherever you have two seams meeting and on the ends. This keeps the fabric from moving before it is sewn. If you tack and the fabric is in the right place your project will be a lot more accurate than if you use pins. I feel the fabric still moves too much with pins. A tack is a lot more secure in my opinion.

I use a hand needle and thread and put at least one if not two stitches where I want the seams to stay put. Tacking also takes care of any bias problems. I do use pins in the center sometimes. I tack on the ends and over seams and put pins in the middle to keep it from separating. This will also keep the bias edges from stretching.

When you join two star points together make sure the center two seams meet correctly for a better looking project. Then join 2 pairs and again tack so they come out meeting correctly

Tacking



Not what you want



Top center is correct

The sides are not correct

