



Block of the Month

Friendship Star

Cutting:

- (4) 5 ½ inch squares – Color A (Background)
- (2) 5 7/8 inch Squares – Color A (background)
- (1) 5 ½ inch square – Color B (Center Square)
- (2) 5 7/8 inch squares – Color B

Sewing:

Follow the directions on the next page for making Half Square Triangles with the 2 Color A 5 7/8 inch squares and the 2 Color B 5 7/8 inch squares. Square up to 5 ½ inches.

Assembling the block:

Lay out the nine pieces following the illustration.

Sew the rows together and press, staggering the seams.

Check to see that the block is about 15 ½ inches square.

Half-Square Triangles

From 2 different fabrics, cut 1 square from each. To know how big to cut the squares, you decide what the FINISHED size of the block will be, and then cut the squares $\frac{7}{8}$ inch bigger. For the Friendship Star, the finished size is 5 inches, so when I add $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch, I will cut the squares 5 and $\frac{7}{8}$ inches. On the WRONG side of the lighter fabric, draw a diagonal line from one corner to the opposite corner.

Place the 2 fabric squares right sides together.

Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam on BOTH sides of the diagonal line.

Press lightly to set the seam.

Cut on the line you drew. You now have 2 half-square triangles.

Press seams to the darker color.

Square up each block. For the Friendship Star, square up to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. BE SURE TO LINE THE DIAGONAL SEAM LINE UP DIRECTLY WITH THE 45 DEGREE LINE ON THE SQUARE OR RULER.

Hint – If you are having difficulty getting a square block after sewing, instead of adding $\frac{7}{8}$ inch to the finished size of the block, add 1 inch. You can always cut off, but it is difficult to add on.