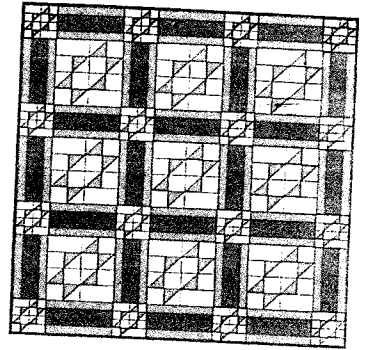


# Stretching to the Stars

	Miniature	Lap
Finished quilt	20½" × 20½" 51.2 cm × 51.2 cm	40½" × 40½" 101.2 cm × 101.2 cm
Large Star blocks	4" × 4" 10 cm × 10 cm	8" × 8" 20 cm × 20 cm
Small Star blocks	2" × 2" 5 cm × 5 cm	4" × 4" 10 cm × 10 cm



The Stretched Star block illustrates one more layout variation for the versatile half-square triangle unit. No matter which size you choose, quick piecing will help you assemble this quilt easily and in record time. Look at the photograph on page 130 for ideas on altering our layout to suit your needs.

## Back to Basics

Basics of Patchwork Shapes, see page 111  
Strip-Piecing Basics, see page 127

### Fabric Requirements (selvage to selvage)

	Miniature	Lap
<b>Stars</b>		
Large Star points, nine each print	2" × 6" 5 cm × 15 cm	3" × 9" 7.6 cm × 23 cm
Small Star points, 16 each print	1¾" × 5" 4.4 cm × 2.7 cm	2" × 6" 5 cm × 15 cm
Background	⅝ yard 0.5 meter	1⅞ yard 1 meter
Pieced sashing, inner	⅙ yard 0.1 meter	⅜ yard 0.3 meter
Pieced sashing, outer	⅙ yard 0.1 meter	½ yard 0.4 meter

	Miniature	Lap
<b>Finishing</b>		
Backing	28" × 28" 71 cm × 71 cm	2 2/3 yards 2.4 meter
Batting	28" × 28" 71 cm × 71 cm	48" × 48" 122 cm × 122 cm
Binding (running)	95" 241 cm	175" 445 cm

### Cutting Chart

Description	Miniature		Lap	
	Cut	Size	Cut	Size

#### Nine Large Star Blocks

Background, rectangles	18	1 1/2" × 2 1/2" 3.7 cm × 6.2 cm	18	2 1/2" × 4 1/2" 6.2 cm × 11.2 cm
Background, squares	54	1 1/2" × 1 1/2" 3.7 cm × 3.7 cm	54	2 1/2" × 2 1/2" 6.2 cm × 6.2 cm
Half-square triangle units:				
Background	27	1 7/8" × 1 7/8" 4.4 cm × 4.4 cm	27	2 7/8" × 2 7/8" 7.1 cm × 7.1 cm
Star points	27	1 7/8" × 1 7/8" 4.4 cm × 4.4 cm	27	2 7/8" × 2 7/8" 7.1 cm × 7.1 cm

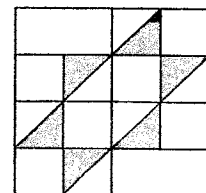
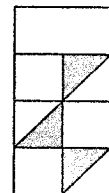
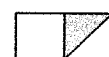
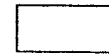
#### 16 Small Star Blocks

Background, rectangles	32	1" × 1 1/2" 2.5 cm × 3.7 cm	32	1 1/2" × 2 1/2" 3.7 cm × 6.2 cm
Background, squares	96	1" × 1" 2.5 cm × 2.5 cm	96	1 1/2" × 1 1/2" 3.7 cm × 3.7 cm
Half-square triangle units:				
Background	48	1 3/8" × 1 3/8" 3.4 cm × 3.4 cm	48	1 7/8" × 1 7/8" 4.6 cm × 4.6 cm

Description	Miniature		Lap	
	Cut	Size	Cut	Size
Star points	48	1 5/8" × 1 5/8" 3.4 cm × 3.4 cm	48	1 7/8" × 1 7/8" 4.6 cm × 4.6 cm
<i>Pieced Sashing Strips</i>				
Inner sashing strips	2	1 1/2" × 32" 3.7 cm × 81 cm	5	2 1/2" × 44" 6.2 cm × 112 cm
Outer sashing strips	4	1" × 32" 2.5 cm × 81 cm	10	1 1/2" × 44" 3.7 cm × 112 cm

## Making the Large Star Blocks

1. Make six half-square triangle units for each of the nine large Stars (54 total). For a scrappy look, use Method 1 on page 115; for identical half-square triangles use Method 2 on page 115, but use larger pieces of fabric than the scrap sizes given in the fabric requirements chart. When ready for assembly, each half-square triangle unit should measure 1 1/2" × 1 1/2" (3.7 cm × 3.7 cm) for the miniature or 2 1/2" × 2 1/2" (6.2 cm × 6.2 cm) for the lap. Use larger squares if you prefer to sew and cut back for accuracy.
2. Lay out a background rectangle, three background squares, and three half-square triangle units in four rows. Sew them together in rows. Press the seam allowances toward the background pieces.
3. Matching seam intersections carefully, sew the four rows together. Press new seam allowances in one direction.
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 to make a second identical unit.
5. Turn one of the units around and join the two. Be sure to match seams carefully. Press the center seam allowance to one side.
6. Repeat Steps 2 to 5 to make a total of nine large Star blocks.



## *Making the Small Star Blocks*

7. Repeat Step 1 to make six half-square triangle units for each of the sixteen small Stars (96 total). Use square sizes shown in cutting chart. Each completed unit should measure 1" × 1" (2.5 cm × 2.5 cm) for the miniature or 1½" × 1½" (3.7 cm × 3.7 cm) for the lap quilt.
8. Follow Steps 2 to 5 to make a total of 16 small Star blocks.

## *Assembling the Quilt Top*



9. Sew an outer sashing strip lengthwise to one side of an inner sashing strip. Sew a second outer strip to the opposite side to make a strip set as shown. Press seam allowances toward the center strip.
10. Use rotary-cutting equipment to square up one end of the strip set, and then cut 4½" (11.2 cm) segments for the miniature or 8½" (21.2 cm) segments for the lap quilt.
11. Assemble and cut additional strip sets to make a total of 24 pieced sashing units.
12. Using a design wall or other flat surface, lay out blocks and sashing segments in seven rows. The quilt photographed on page 16 is an example of a scrappy quilt. Look at the photograph to see how we have arranged the Stars. If you are making a scrappy quilt, you might want to take some time to arrange and rearrange Star blocks until

you are satisfied with the layout. Is it pleasing to you? Leave the room for a while if possible, then return later for a fresh look at the quilt. Does it still please you? If not, reposition the Stars until you are happy with the overall appearance of the quilt top. Sew each row of blocks and sashing together. Press seam allowances toward the sashing.

13. Sew the rows together, matching seams carefully.

### *Finishing the Quilt*

14. Mark the top for quilting.
15. To sandwich, quilt, and bind, see page 155.

