

May

This month we will be adding two raspberry borders and also adding rail blocks.

Before we get into how to make our rail blocks and our borders I would like to give you some information on how to correct and make adjustments so that your quilt is square and the correct size.

When we completed our eccentric star blocks our quilt top should measure $35 \frac{1}{2}$ " square, if for some reason it doesn't we have two options to correct this:

1. We can ease any fullness into the next border.
2. We can cut our next borders to compensate for the difference .

In most instances we will ease any fullness or shortage into our next border but there are times when we really don't want to do that. Those instances would be if we have a difference greater than or less than $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Let's assume that our quilt measured $35 \frac{1}{4}$ " square once our eccentric stars has been added. If you were to add your next border by measuring your quilt at the top, middle and bottom your quilt will be a $\frac{1}{4}$ " too short for our next row. If your quilt measured $35 \frac{3}{4}$ " square, your quilt would be too large for our next row so we have to fix this measurement issue.

How to correct your quilt when your last row is too small:

1. Figure out exactly what width our border is going to be once we add it to our quilt. Our cut size according to the instruction is to be 1", once we attach it to our quilt we will lose $\frac{1}{4}$ " (seam allowance) on one side. Our finished border after we have sewn one side of the border will be $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
2. Next let's figure out the size of our quilt once we add the borders. Our quilt measures $35 \frac{1}{4}$ " less $\frac{1}{2}$ " (for the two seam allowances) so it will be $34 \frac{3}{4}$ " once the borders are added.
3. If we were to add $\frac{3}{4}$ " + $\frac{3}{4}$ " and $35 \frac{1}{4}$ " we would end up with our quilt being $35 \frac{3}{4}$ " and we need it to be $36 \frac{1}{2}$ ". Our quilt would be a total of $\frac{1}{4}$ " too small. We are attaching a border to each side so each border is $\frac{1}{8}$ " too small.

To make up for the difference in the size your quilt needs to be, you would cut your border to be $1 \frac{1}{8}$ " wide (original size of your border plus the shortage of your quilt). Check out my video on this subject.

Cutting Instructions

Fabric for borders:

Measure your quilt top BEFORE cutting border strips. The width of these strips will be used to make adjustments to the size of your quilt top if necessary.

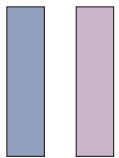
Raspberry – cut 10 strips 1" x WOF or if you need to make adjustments using borders, follow the directions above and cut strips to calculated width.



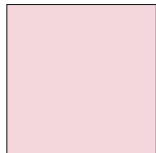
Fabric for rails:

Dark purple – cut 2 strips 4 ½" x WOF.

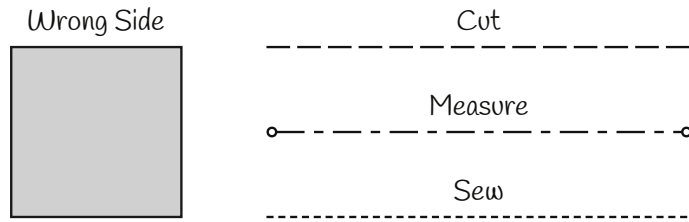
Light purple – cut 2 strips 4 ½" x WOF.



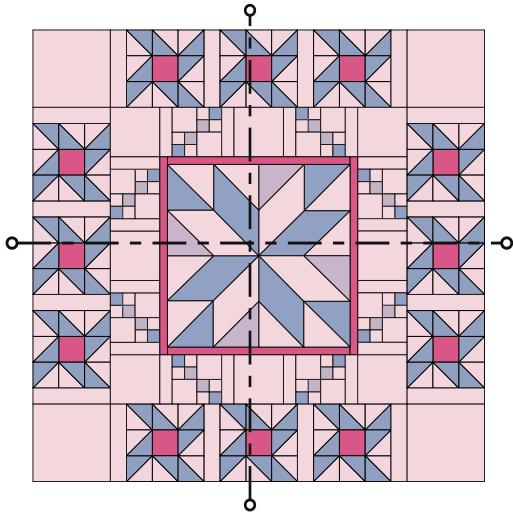
Light pink – cut 2.5 strips 4 ½" x WOF – sub cut into 20 – 4 ½" squares.



Sewing Instructions

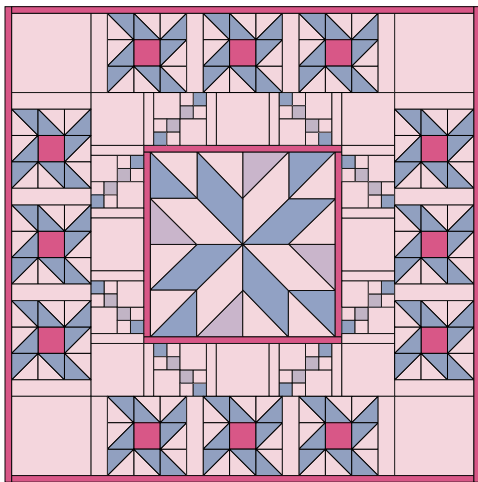


1. Your quilt should be $35\frac{1}{2}$ " square at this stage. *If your quilt top is not $35\frac{1}{2}$ " square add or subtract the difference from the width of the border strip. The quilt top should measure $36\frac{1}{2}$ " square with the raspberry border. The first set of border strips will be $35\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and the second set will be $36\frac{1}{2}$ " in length.



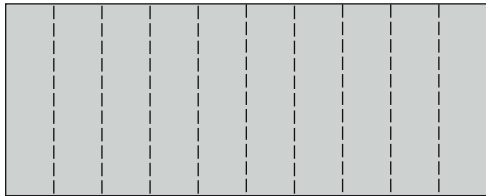
Length of quilt top: _____

Width of quilt top: _____

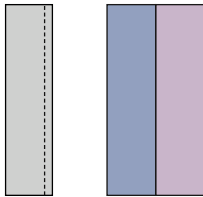


Making The Rail Border

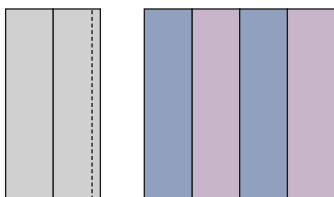
- Using dark purple and light purple strips, place RST, cut 40 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " strips.



- Using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew the pieces together making 40 sections of one dark and one light purple.



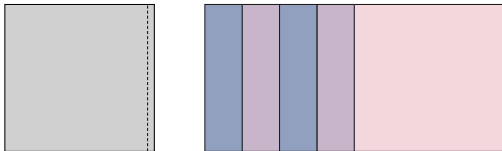
- Sew two sections together creating a rail block - dark purple, light purple, dark purple, light purple. Press seams toward the dark purple or open, which ever is your preference.



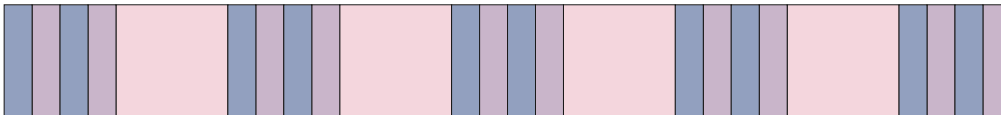
- Square each rail block to $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Making the rail border

- Using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew five rail blocks and four $4\frac{1}{2}$ " light pink blocks together. (alternating the blocks).



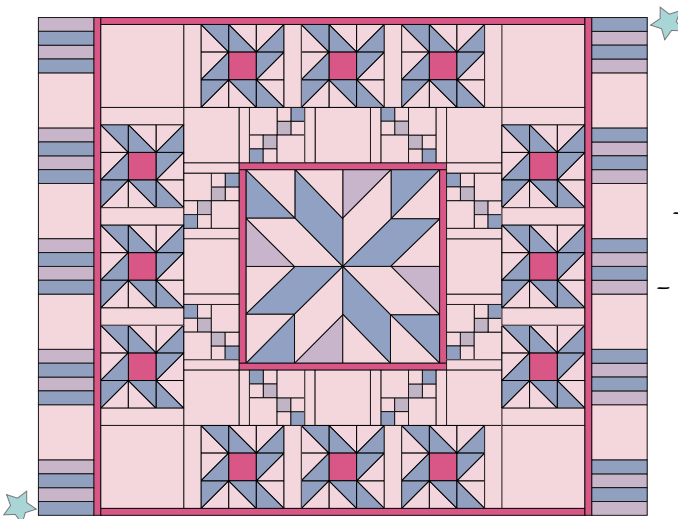
- Make two.



- Using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew five rail blocks and six $4\frac{1}{2}$ " light pink blocks together. Make two.

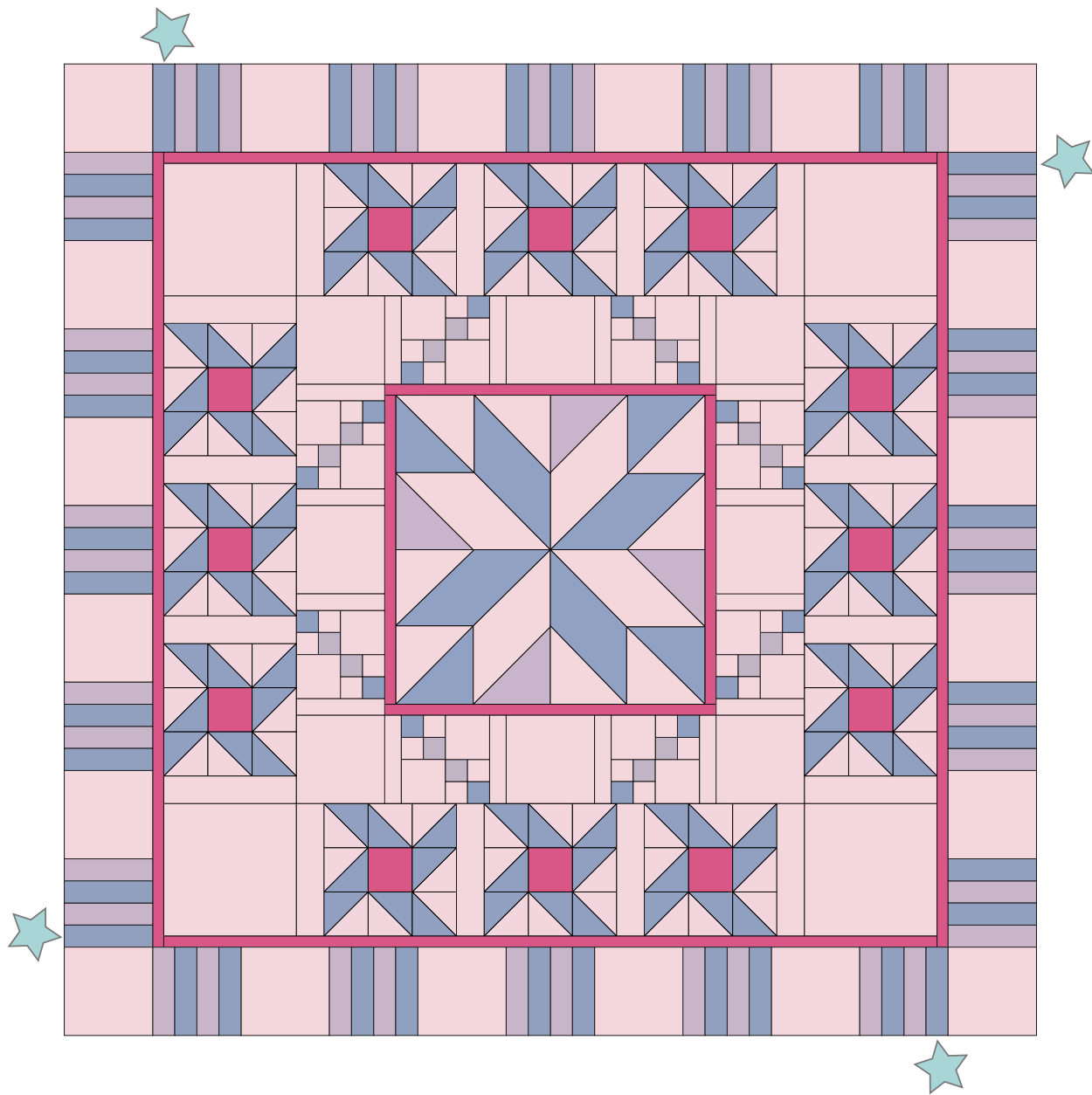


- Using the rail borders made in step seven above, sew one to each side of the quilt. Be sure to orient the rail border strips so that one side begins with light purple and the other with dark purple to keep the design continuous. Press seams.



- Take note of the arrangement of the rail blocks.
- Be sure to check the orientation of the borders to maintain a continuous design.

10. Using the rail borders made in step eight, sew one to the top of the quilt and one to the bottom of the quilt. Be sure to orient the rail border strips so that one side begins with light purple and the other with dark purple to keep the design continuous. Press seams.



- Take note of the arrangement of the rail blocks.

- Be sure to check the orientation of the borders to maintain a continuous design.

11. Now add the second raspberry border. The quilt top should measure $44\frac{1}{2}$ " square at this point. *If your quilt top is not $44\frac{1}{2}$ " square add or subtract the difference from the width of the border strip. The quilt top should measure $45\frac{1}{2}$ " square with the raspberry border. The first set of border strips will be $44\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and the second set will be $45\frac{1}{2}$ " in length.

The quilt is now $45\frac{1}{2}$ " square.

