

Hello!

With 2013 coming to an end, so ends our 13 free patterns using the 22.5 Squedge tool. Last December I made a project, followed by a scrappy quilt in January. I received feedback that these designs were too advanced, so I changed plans.

In March we started our Block of The Month project using this tool coupled with striped fabrics. I envisioned two types of Sampler quilts. One where all the blocks had a solid or non-striped background (let's call this the Star sampler) and one where you alternated the background between solid and striped fabrics (the alternating sampler). I thought you might want to make one or two blocks per month.

We've now had 10 months of blocks. If you've only made one block a month, you'll discover 10 blocks doesn't work out right. So you might want to drop our one block and simply make a 9 block sampler as I have with the two I made. (see the web site for photos) But if you go back and look at the many variations within each pattern you will see an opportunity for making many more blocks. Look at the blocks shown here. By simply changing the direction of the stripe, you get a different block. With this in mind you can make your sampler as big as you want your quilt to be.

Lattice is another way to increase the size of the quilt. I found the striped fabric to be an ideal choice for the lattice. You'll also notice the alternating sampler doesn't lend itself to a striped lattice as much as the Star sampler does. I will attempt to show you a number of possible variations.

Cheryl

Let's get Started

Prepare the blocks

- Make sure all the blocks are the same size. Ideally they'll be 16 1/2".
- If your blocks vary, find the smallest sized block and trim the others to that size.

Planning your Sampler quilt

- Select the quilt size.
- Make additional blocks if needed.
- Arrange the blocks as desired.
- Decide whether or not you want lattice.
- Proceed with the chart for the size and layout you've chosen.

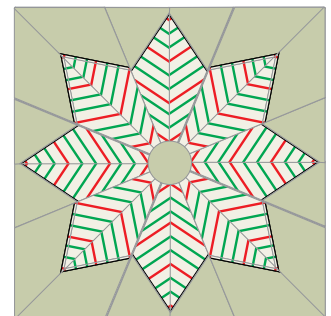
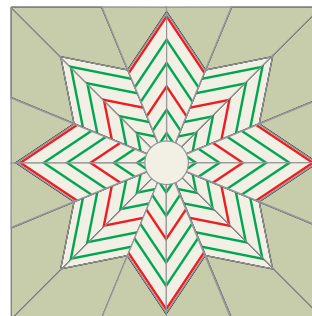
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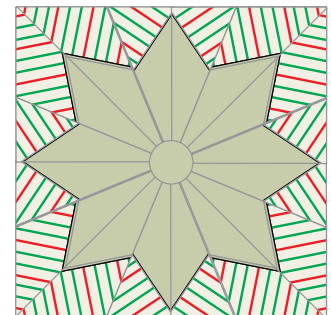
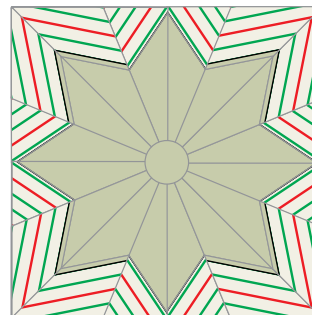
Sampler with a variety of Star Blocks



Sampler showing alternating the background fabrics



The March block looks different when you simply change the direction of the stripe.

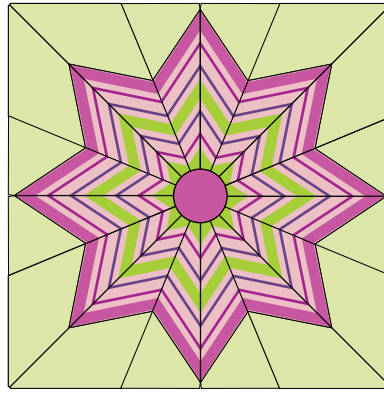


Putting the stripe on the outside of the block and changing the direction of the stripe gives you two more block choices.

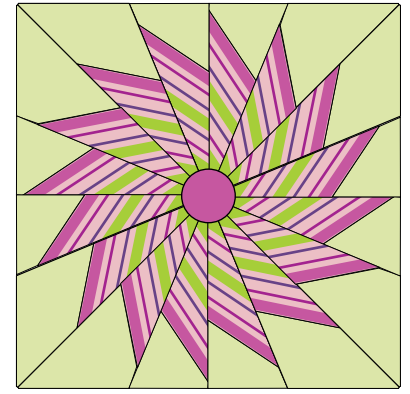
Here are the ten blocks of the month made with the 22.5 Squedge tool.

The November block doesn't lend itself to the star setting as much as the others, so I've opted to leave it out. See page 7 for a new suggestion for using the November block.

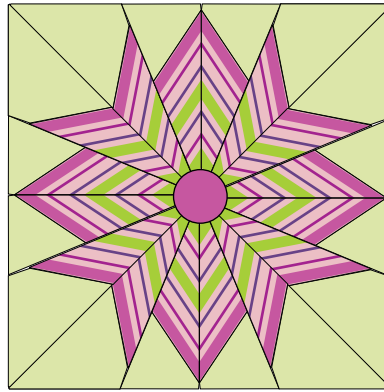
- Arrange the remaining nine blocks as it pleases you. If you want a larger quilt, consider the suggestion on page one and include some of the other variation blocks. Simply changing the direction of the stripe gives you a new look.
- Lattice strips cut from the striped fabric are ideal for these star blocks.
- See the next page for yardage requirements and cutting directions.



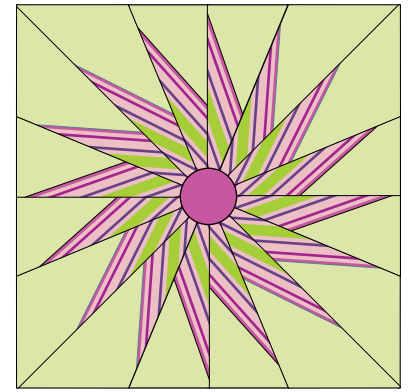
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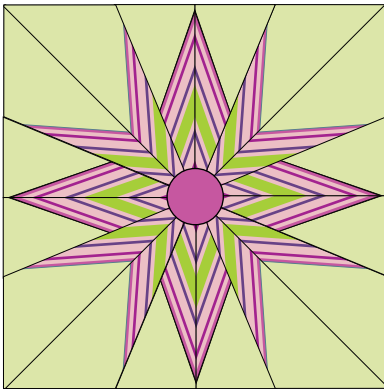
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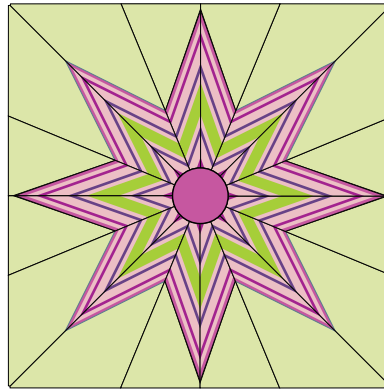
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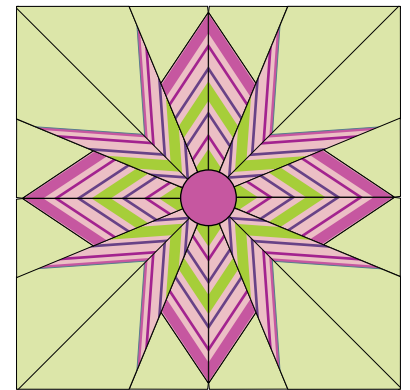
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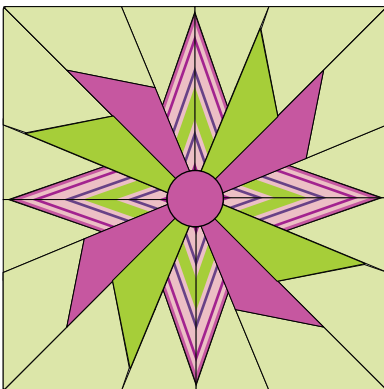
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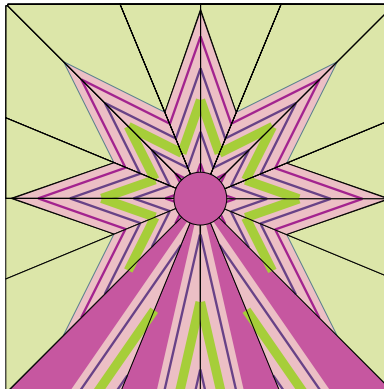
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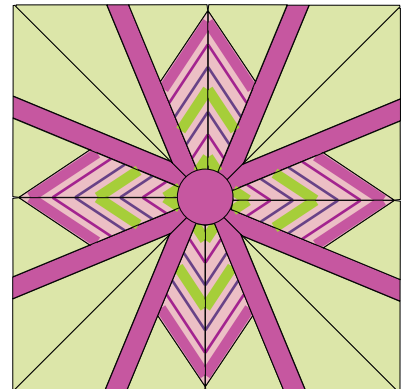
September



October



November



December

Nine Block Star Sampler

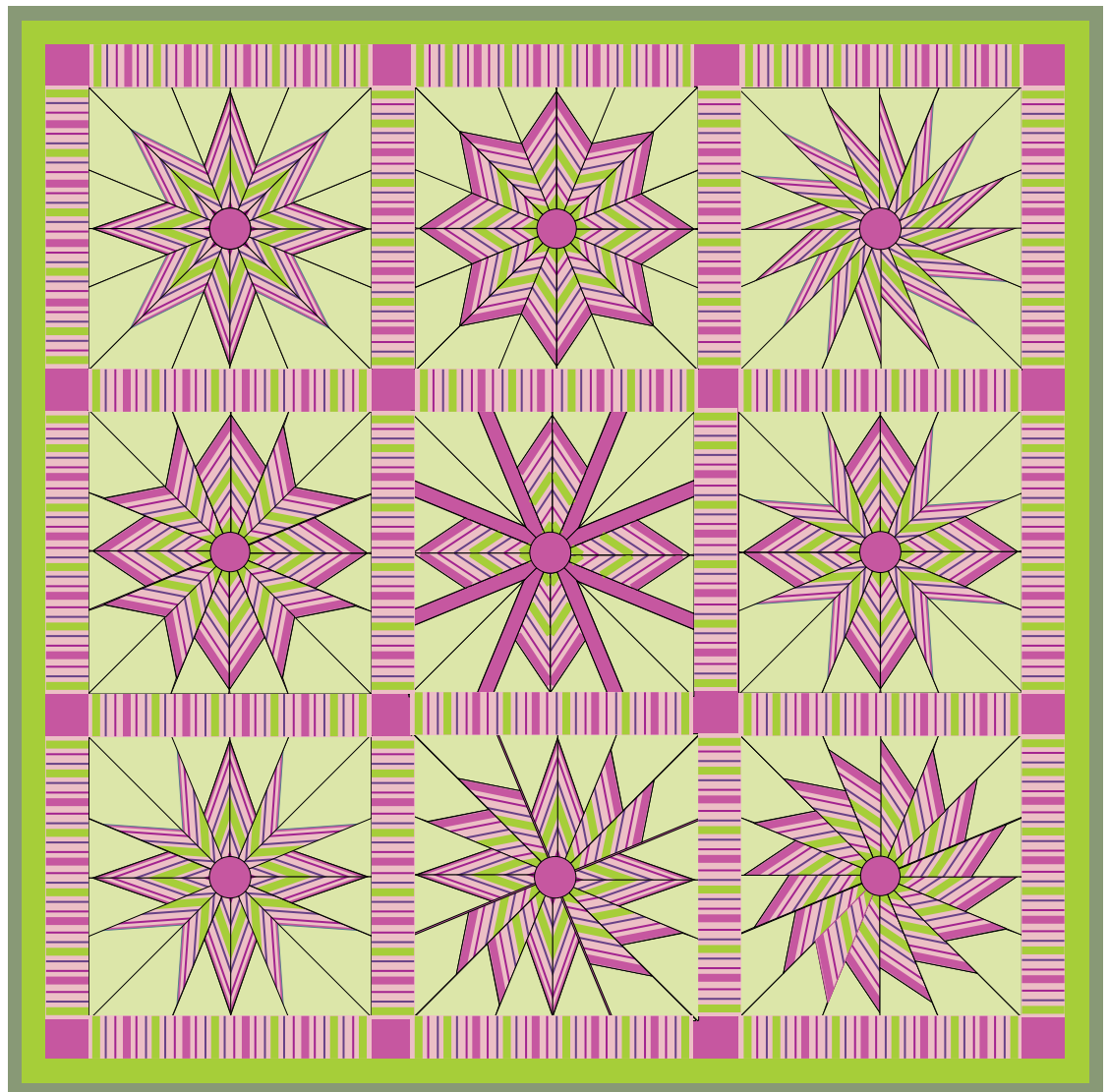
Using nine blocks
(November's block was
omitted) you can make this
sampler quilt.

It was made with 3" wide
lattice pieces, cornerstones
and a 1 1/2" border.

Row 1

Row 2

Row 3



Finished Size 60" x 60"

Element	Quantity	Size	Suggested yardage
Blocks	Nine	16 1/2" square	See individual block patterns
Lattice Strips	24 strips	3" x 16 1/2" strips	1 yd
Corner Stones	16 squares	3" x 3"	1/4 yd
Border	6 strips	1 1/2" x width of fabric	3/8 yd
Batting		65" Square	2 yd of batting wider than 65"
Backing		68" Square	4 yd
Binding	7 strips	2 1/2" x width of fabric	5/8 yd

- Sew the lattice strip to each side of the first column blocks.
- Sew lattice to the right side of column 2 and 3 blocks.
- Sew the top row #1 together.
- Repeat for rows #2 and #3.
- Join Corner Stone squares to three sections of lattice to form the lattice between the rows.
- Repeat for the other lattice rows.
- Sew the block rows together with the lattice rows.
- Add the borders.
- Layer. Baste. Quilt. Bind. Enjoy!

You probably remember many of these blocks I made while testing the Squedge Block of the Month patterns. I'm really pleased to have gotten this made recently!

Notice this sampler uses blocks that alternate the stripe from the star center and the block frame.



Finished size:
 54" square

Element	Quantity	Size	Suggested Yardage
Blocks	Nine	16 1/2" square	See individual Block patterns
Border 1	Five	1 1/2" x width of fabric	3/8 yd (includes corner stones)
Border 2	Six	3 1/2" x width of fabric	3/4 yd
Corner Stones	Four	3 1/2" x 3 1/2"	see border 1
Batting		60" Square	2 yd of batting wider than 65"
Backing		62" Square	4 yd
Binding	Six	2 1/2" x width of fabric	1/2 yd

- Sew the block together in rows.
- Add the borders.
- Layer. Baste. Quilt. Bind. Enjoy!

My Nine Block Sampler

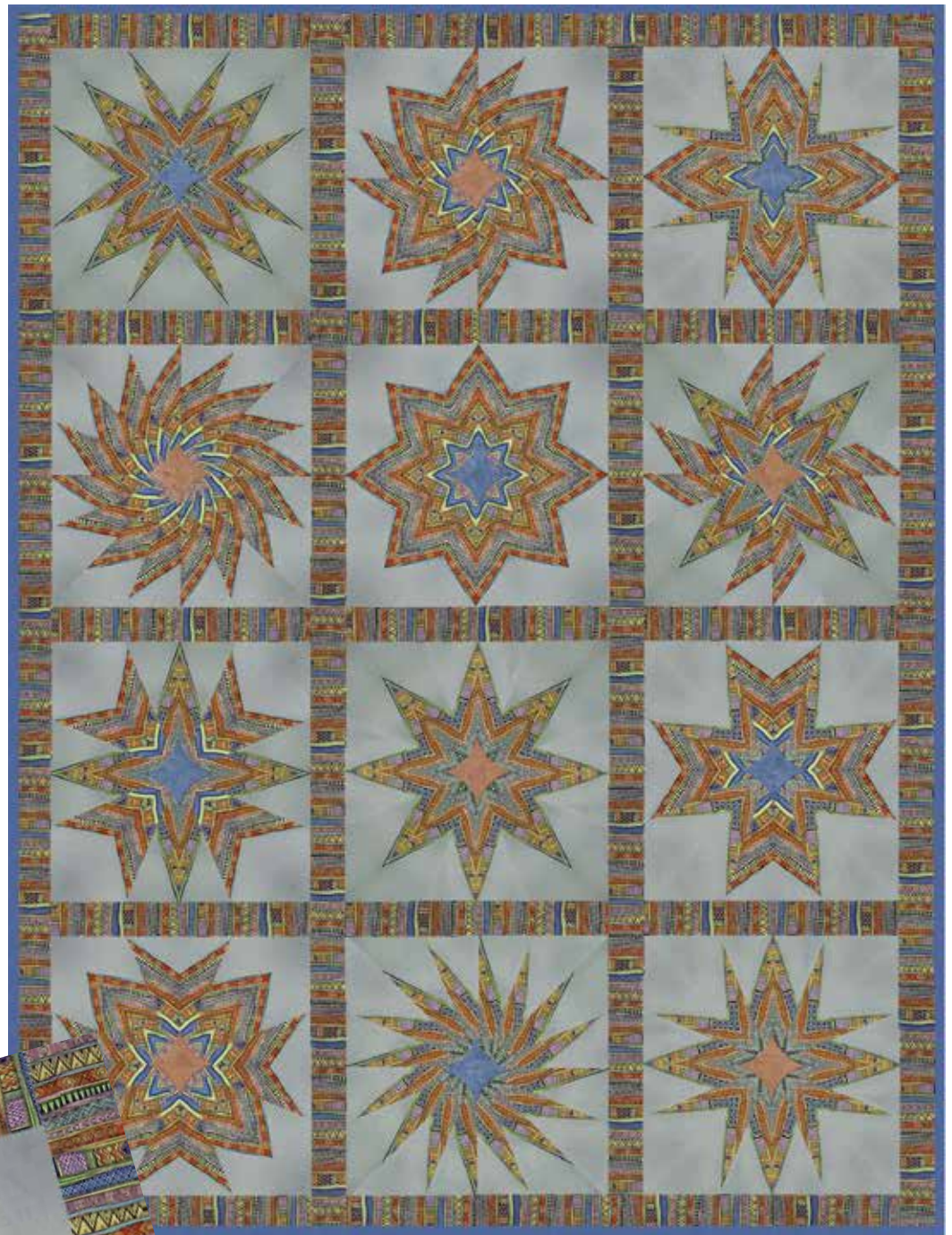


*This is the quilt I made from the test blocks for the BOM patterns.
I varied the background fabrics and liked the results.*

A 12 Block Sampler

Here's another example with an intricate stripe. See the enlarged block for details.

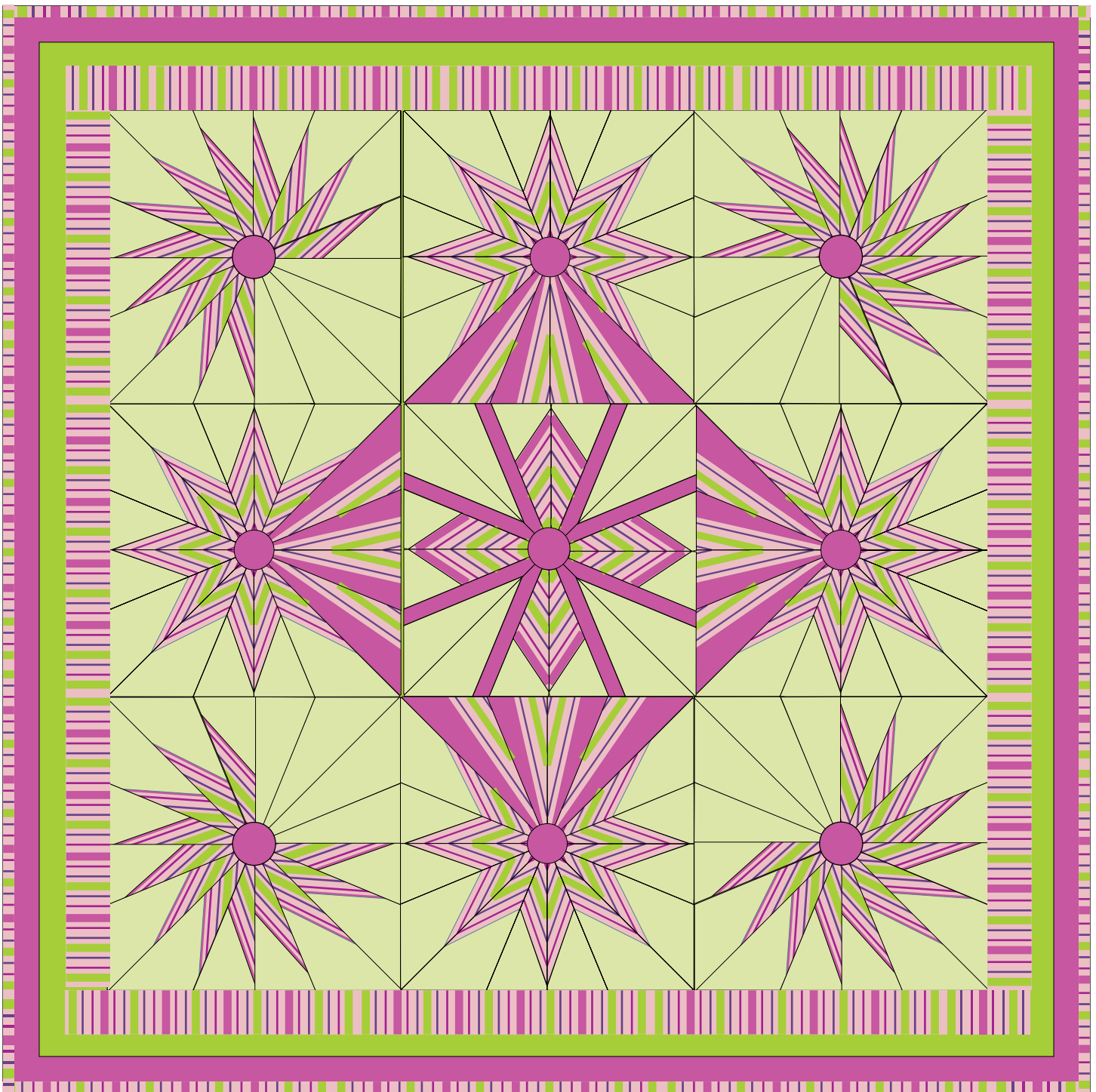
By adding some block variations and changing the placement of the striped fabric, many different blocks can be created.



Keep your eyes open for great striped fabrics.

The potential is amazing!

More than a Sampler?



If a sampler project isn't for you, perhaps you'd enjoy this design.

The center block is December's block of the month. It's surrounded by four rotated November blocks. Then for the corners, we've used four August blocks, but notice we've left one corner as solid background. This means you only need to make pieced wedges for 3 blocks, then cut one block of solid fabric Squedges.

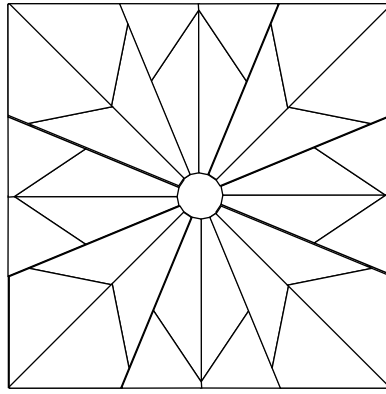
Play with the blocks to create your own design. Get out your colored pencils as the next page gives you the design grids without color for you to enjoy!

Squedge Blocks of the Month

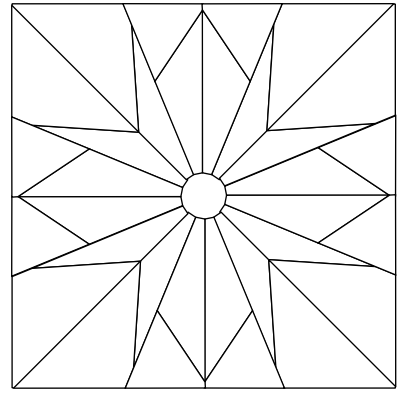
Use the grids to plan your
fabric placements and block
arrangements.

Have Fun!

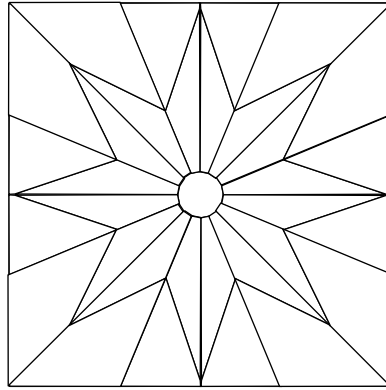
Remember
patterns for all of
these blocks are available
on our website.



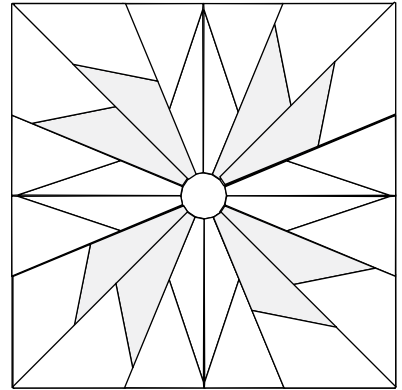
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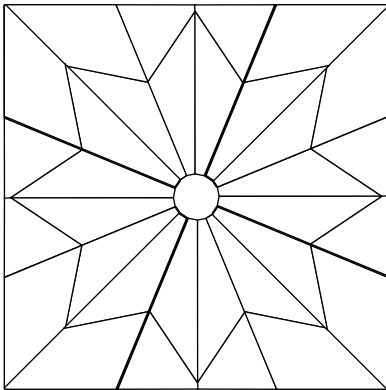
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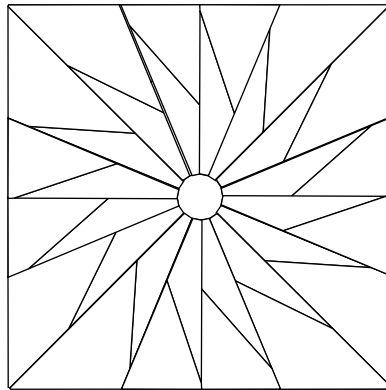
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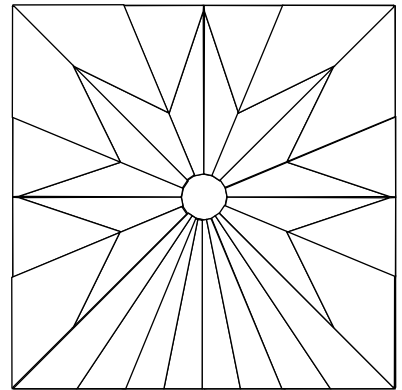
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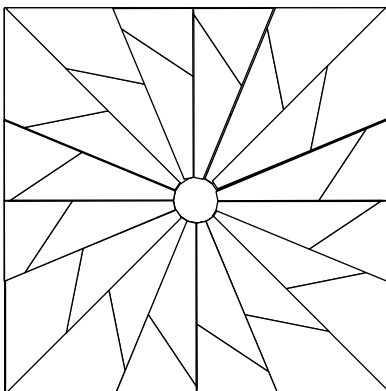
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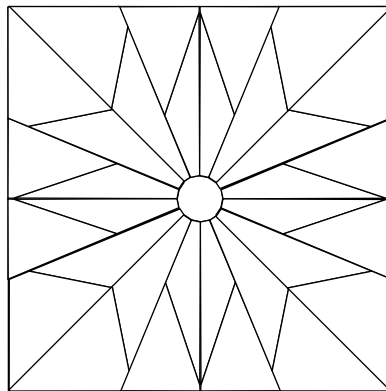
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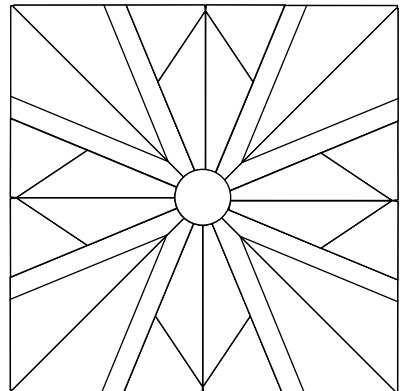
November



April



August



December