

Oakshott - Designer Collection

'Winter Table Runner'

designed by

Katharine Guerrier

The design for this table runner, made up in the beautiful colours of the Oakshott Seasons 'Winter' collection would also double up as a wall hanging to decorate a narrow space in the house.

Made using a mixture of techniques including asymmetrical stars; strips joined with simple curved seams and saw tooth borders.

Requirements

Selection of fat eighths

(e.g. Oakshott Seasons - Winter Selection)

1 metre toning fabric (e.g. Oakshott Blue Slate)

(includes requirement for backing)

14" x 43" wadding

Neutral sewing threads

- Quilting threads
- A4 sheet tracing paper
- Flat ended pins (e.g. Flower pins)

A 1/4" seam allowance is used throughout



Tilted Star Blocks (make 3)

Finished Size: 12" x 41" approx.

Preparation

1. Select two fabrics for each star. Decide which is to be used for the star and which the background.
2. For each star, cut 9, 2 1/4" squares, eight in background fabric and one in star fabric.
3. Additionally cut 4, 3 1/4" squares in star fabric, cut these across one diagonal to make eight equal sized triangles.

Making a Star

1. Take four of the background squares. Position a star triangle across one corner of each varying the angles create the asymmetrical effect. Stitch down the long of the triangle through both fabrics right sides together, **Figure 1**.

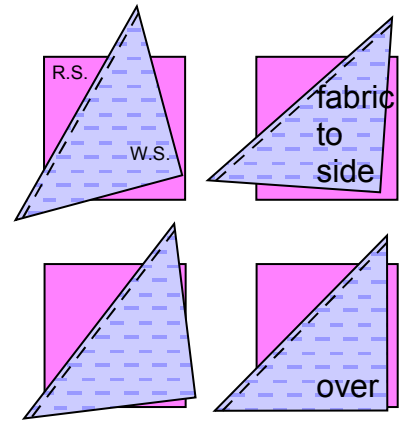


Figure 1 - Sample Layouts

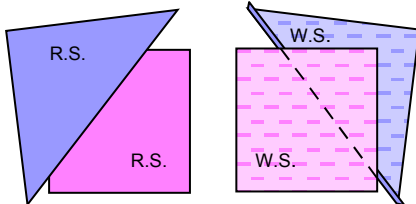


Figure 2 - Front & Back Views

2. Flip the triangle and press flat against the background

3. Place the square on your cutting board wrong side uppermost and trim away the excess star fabric to align with the square of background fabric, **Figure 3**.

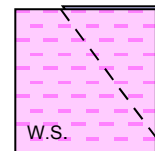


Figure 3
Trim Excess Fabric

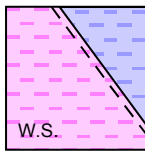


Figure 4
Remove Background

4. Cut away the background fabric behind the star point, **Figure 4**.

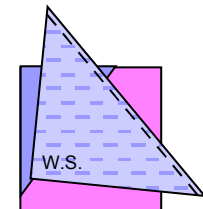


Figure 5
Second Star Point

5. Repeat on the adjacent corners of the background squares to make the second star point, **Figure 5**.

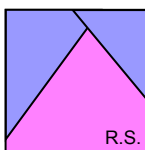


Figure 6
Completed Star Unit

6. Flip the second triangles over. Press and trim as before to make the second star points, thus completing the star point units, **Figure 6**.

7. When the units are complete arrange them on a flat surface and join as you would a Nine Patch, **Figure 7**.

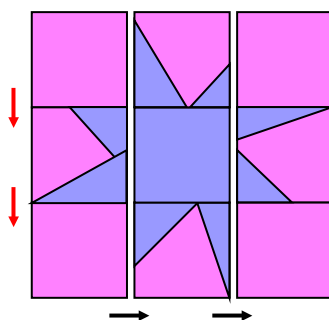
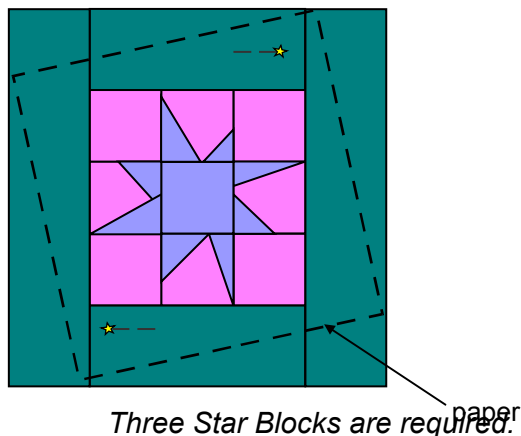


Figure 7 - Completing the Star

- Join squares into columns
- Join columns to complete block

Tilting the Block



1. Select another fabric and cut $2\frac{1}{4}$ " wide strips for the borders, of sufficient length to accommodate the top, bottom and sides. Stitch these to the blocks.

2. Cut a $7\frac{1}{2}$ " square of tracing paper. Position this over the block at a skewed angle, pin the paper to the block with flat-ended pins and cut round the paper. Blocks can be tilted either of two ways according to how you position the paper, **Figure 8**.

Strips with Curved Seams (make 2)

1. Select six more fabrics. Cut 2, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 9" strips from each (one for each block).
2. Join the first strip to one of the blocks with a straight seam. Take the second strip and place this to overlap the first strip by about 1" both right sides uppermost. Spray lightly with spray starch and press. This will help the strips cling together, **Figure 9**.
3. Transfer carefully to the cutting board and using the rotary cutter freehand, cut through both layers of fabric introducing a gentle curve as you cut, **Figure 9**.
4. Discard the narrow pieces above and below the cut. (One will be on the top and one underneath). You will now have two pieces of fabric which fit snugly together with curved edges.
5. Flip the second strip over so they are right sides together (at this point it will seem as if they don't fit) and ease the raw edges together.

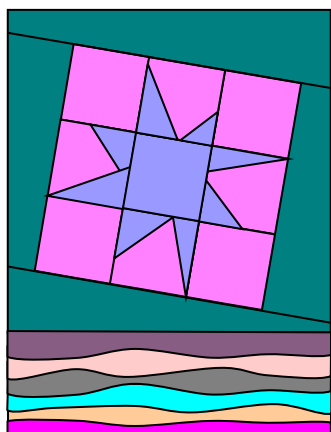
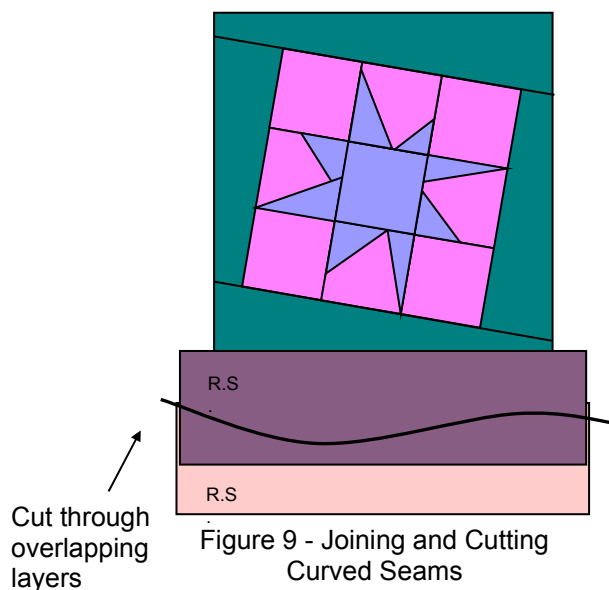


Figure 10 - Curved Strips

6. Pin down the length of the strips with pins at right angles to the edges. Stitch, taking a scant seam allowance. Press seam allowances to one side and then press work again on the right side.
7. Repeat with the remaining four strips, **Figure 10**.

Trim the strips level with the edges of the block. Join to the second block. Repeat with the opposite side of the second block and attach to the third block.

Sawtooth Edgings (make 2)

1. For the saw tooth edging, top and bottom, select two further contrasting fabrics and cut 4, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " squares from each.
2. Place in pairs, right sides together. Draw one diagonal line, stitch each side of the line then cut across the drawn line, **Figure 11**.
3. This will make eight half square triangle units. Join these into two sets of four, **Figure 12**, and stitch to the top and bottom of the patchwork panel.

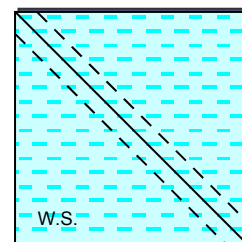
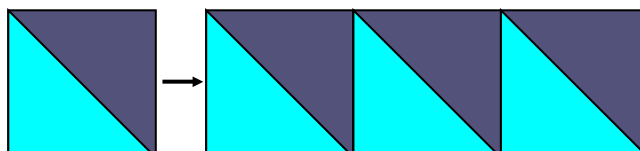


Figure 11
Half Square Triangles

Figure 12 -
Sawtooth
Edging



Adding the Borders

1. From the main fabric cut 2, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 34" strips.
2. Stitch these to the long sides. Press and trim to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (this will ensure a nice, straight edge) and trim level with the top and bottom edges.
3. For the top and bottom borders, cut 2, 5" x 13". Stitch these to the top and bottom, **Figure 13**.
4. Mark the centre points on the top and bottom borders and mark a line from the seam to the centre point and trim top and bottom to create the 'V' shape. Press.

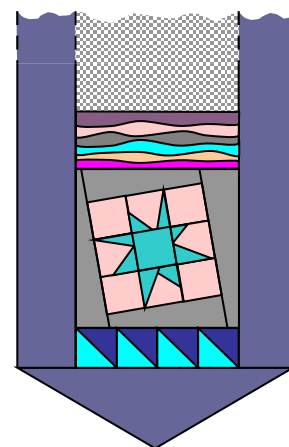


Figure 13 - Borders and
Shaping the Ends

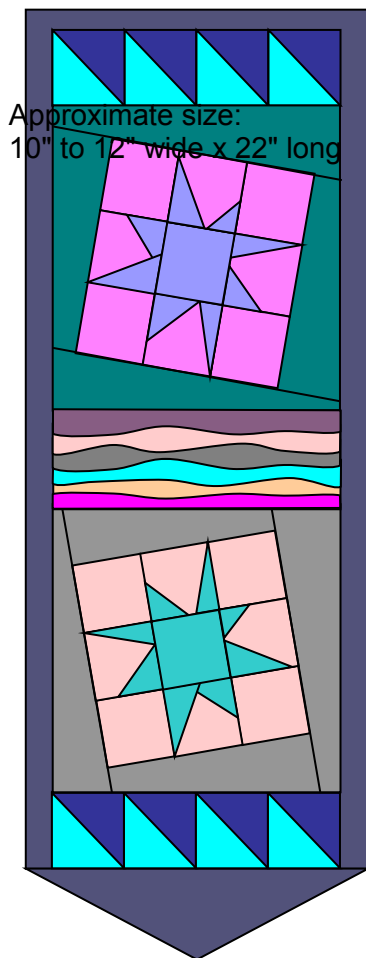
Sandwiching and Adding the Backing

1. Cut a piece of backing from the main fabric and a piece of wadding 14" x 43".
2. Cut across the centre of the width of the backing half way down and stitch the two pieces back together leaving a gap of about 5". Press the seam to one side.
3. Place backing and patchwork panel right sides together, press, pin then tack the two together round the edge.
4. Cut backing to the same size as the patchwork panel.
5. Smooth the wadding over the wrong side of the patchwork panel, pin together with the backing on top then stitch the three layers together all round the edges, with the backing on top and the wadding underneath.
6. Trim the wadding close to the seams and clip across the corners.
7. Turn to the right side through the gap in the backing. Finger press the seams so they lie on the edges with no pleats. Poke out the corners.
8. Stitch across the gap in the backing by hand.

Quilting

Quilt by machine as wished. I followed the patchwork shapes of the stars, curves and saw tooth edges and then filled in the larger spaces i.e. block surrounds and the borders with simple, improvised patterns using zig-zags and short, straight lines.

Alternative Options



Approximate size:
10" to 12" wide x 22" long

For a longer runner simply add more Star Blocks interspersed with Curved Strip Sections and/or Sawtooth Edging.

A Stylish Wallhanging

Two Tilted Star Blocks are separated by curved strips. Sawtooth edging is added at the top and bottom and the bottom shaped to make a banner style wallhanging.

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