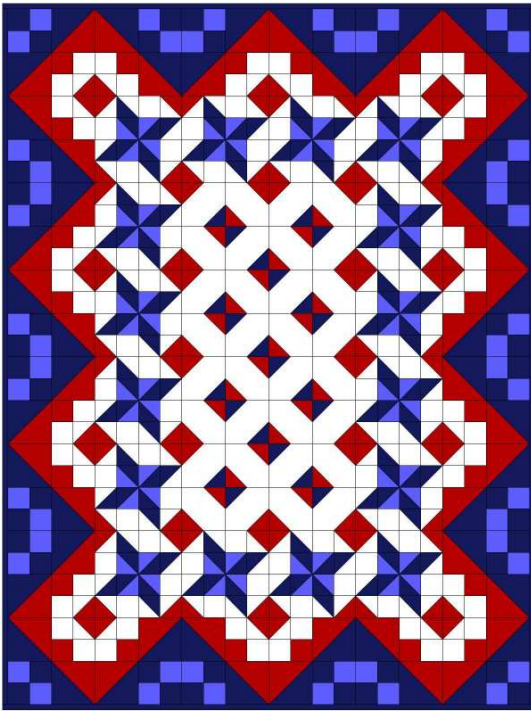


Gratitudes Quilt

by Vicki Welsh



This quilt was designed for a 2013 mystery quilt for my local quilt club. We make quilts to donate to our local veteran's hospital and this was designed specifically for that project. The finished size is 48" x 60", perfect as a lap quilt. You can add borders to make it larger.

These instructions are a compilation of the mystery quilt steps.

Makes a 48" x 60" veteran' size quilt with a option for 65" x 81" quilt that is good for a Quilt of Valor.

The veteran's quilt is all blocks. It's constructed of only squares and half-square triangles. Borders are added for the larger size.



The quilt uses 4 fabrics.

Fabrics 1 and 2 need to have some contrast like medium to dark. It doesn't need to be too stark.

Fabric 3 is a highlight and is primarily placed next to Fabric 2. It can be lighter or darker than #2

Fabric 4 is the background.

Step 1:

Fabric Requirements:

The quilt uses 4 colors and the clues will use a patriotic palette.

For the veteran's quilt (and center of a QOV):

Fabric 1 (red): 1 ¼ yards

Fabric 2 (Dark blue): 1 ¾ yard PLUS ½ yard for binding

Fabric 3 (Light blue): ½ yard

Fabric 4 (white): 1 ¾ yard

For a larger quilt refer to the last step for fabric requirements for borders.

For my Veteran's version I used these fabrics to make the quilt scrappy:



Fabric 1: dark red

Fabric 2: dark blue

Fabric 3: medium blue

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Fabric 4: tan

Instructions:

All of the blocks for the quilt finish to 8"
For the first clue we are making 8 blocks.

Cutting:

Fabric 4: cut 32 4 ½" squares

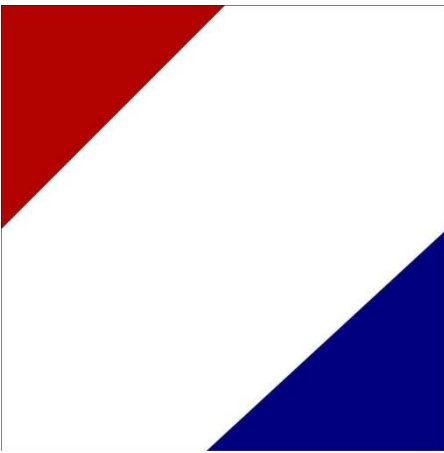
Fabric 1: cut 42 2 ½" squares

Fabric 2: cut 22 2 ½" squares

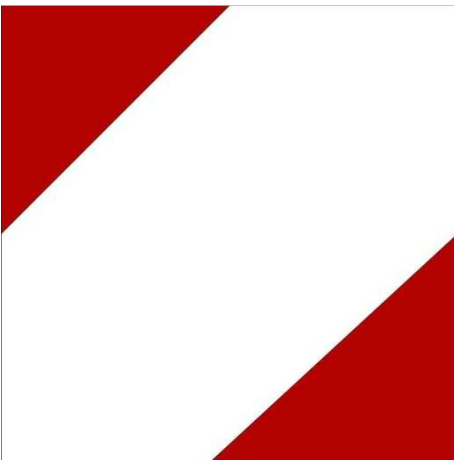
Make the Units:

Each block is made of 4 units. Each unit uses 1 - 4 ½" square and 2 - 2 1/2" squares

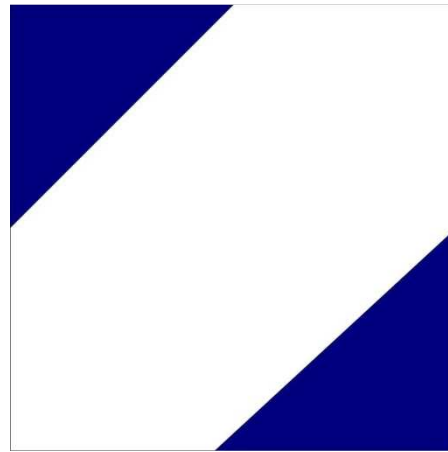
You will make 10 units like this:



16 units like this:

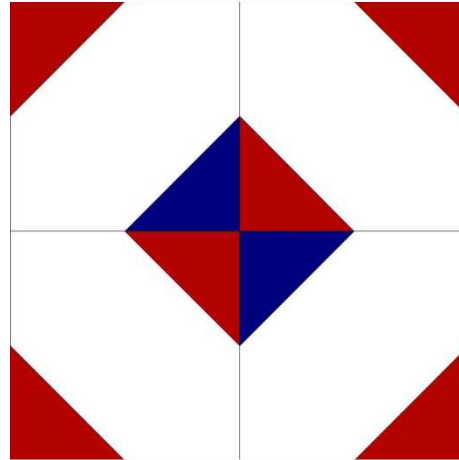


6 units like this:

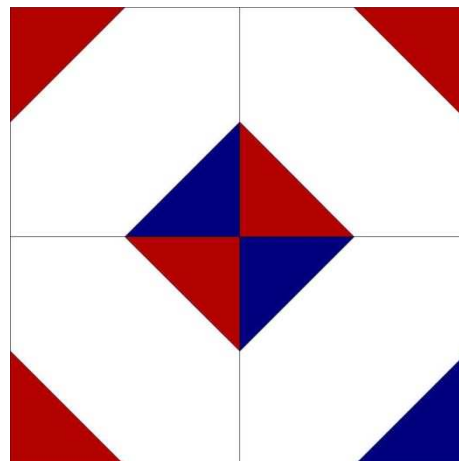


Make the blocks:

Using these units make 2 blocks like this paying close attention to the orientation of the colors.



Make 6 blocks like this:

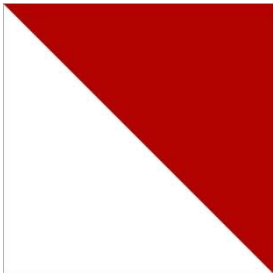


I pressed all of my seams open for all blocks in the quilt.

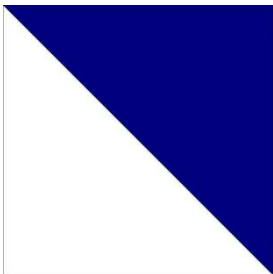
Step 2:

Step 2 is really simple. You are going to make a lot of half square triangle blocks. Each block will finish at 2".

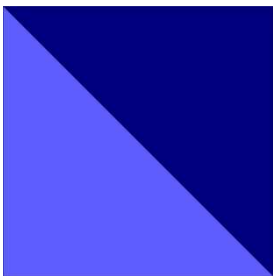
You are going to make 64 blocks in each of these color combinations:



Fabric 1 with Fabric 4



Fabric 2 with Fabric 4



Fabric 2 with Fabric 3

You can make these block any way you prefer. I like to foundation piece mine using [Triangulations](#). [Triangles on a Roll](#) is another great tool for making these blocks. If you use either of these you will need foundations for 2" finished squares.

If you are cutting individual pieces, cut 2 7/8" squares and cut once on the diagonal. You will need 32 squares in fabric 1, 64 squares in fabric 2, 32 squares in fabric 3 and 64 squares in fabric 4; all cut once on the diagonal.

Here's a good [online video tutorial](#) for 3 methods for making half square triangle blocks. In this video they are making the 2" block that we are also using in this project.

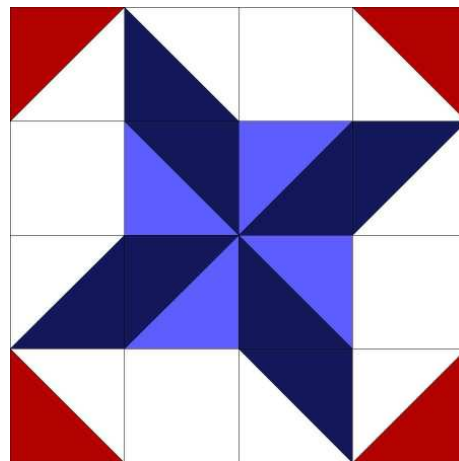
I pressed all of my seams open.

Step 3:

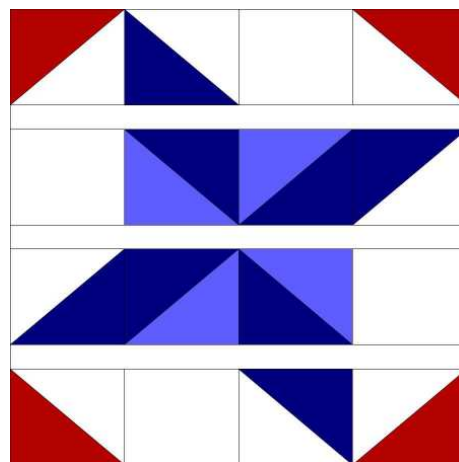
Now it's time to use all of those HST blocks that you made in Step 2. But first we need to do a little cutting.

Cut 64 2.5" squares from Fabric 4

Here's the block that we are making.



You can assemble it however you wish. You can assemble the 4 quadrants and then put them together in the block as a 4-patch. I assemble my block in rows and then sew the rows together onto a block.

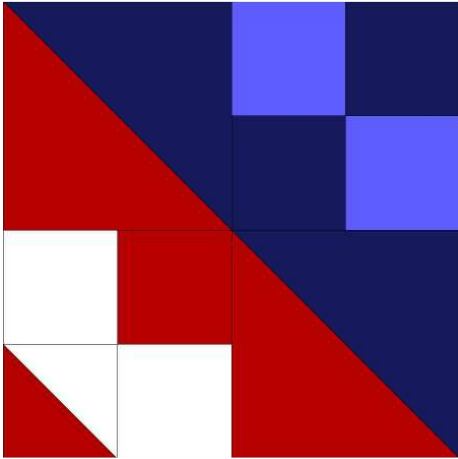


Make 16 blocks. I pressed all of my seams open.

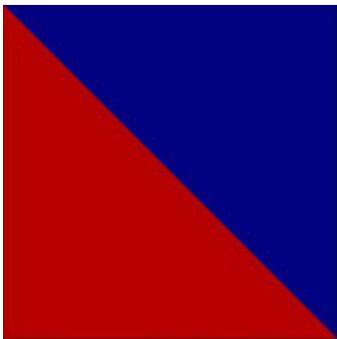
Step 4:

Now it's time to make the last block.

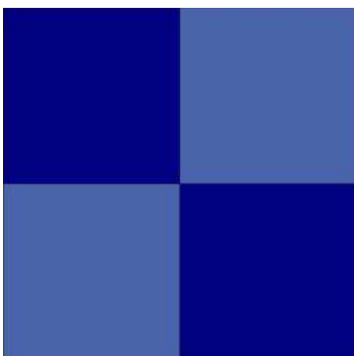
Here's the block that we are making and we are making 24 of them.



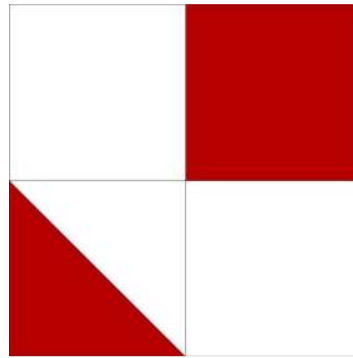
First make the 3 sub-units. I pressed all of my seams open.



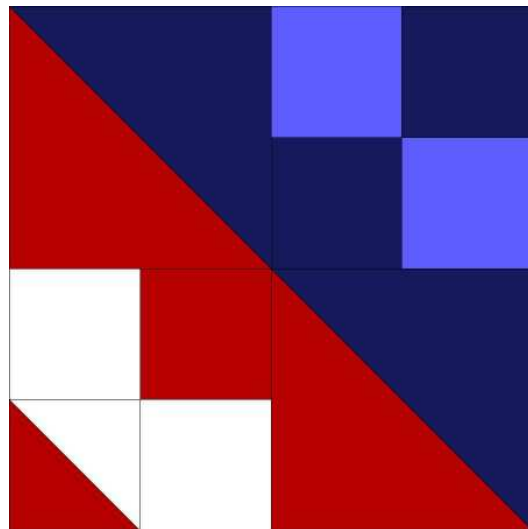
You will make 48 of these half square triangle units. This unit finishes to 4". If you are cutting individual pieces you will cut a 4 7/8" square and cut that once on the diagonal. You will need 48 in fabric 1 and 48 in fabric 2. Sew them to make 48 4 1/2" squares.



Next make 24 of this unit. Cut 48 2 1/2" squares each in fabric 2 and fabric 3 and sew them together into a 4 1/2" 4-patch block.



Finally make 24 of this unit. Cut 48 2 1/2" squares of fabric 4, 24 2 1/2" squares of fabric 1 and fabric for the half square triangle block. The HST block finished to 2" just like the ones in clue 2. Either use foundation paper or cut 12 2 7/8" squares in each color and cut once on the diagonal. Sew two triangles together to make the 2 1/2" square. Sew your individual squares together to make this block.

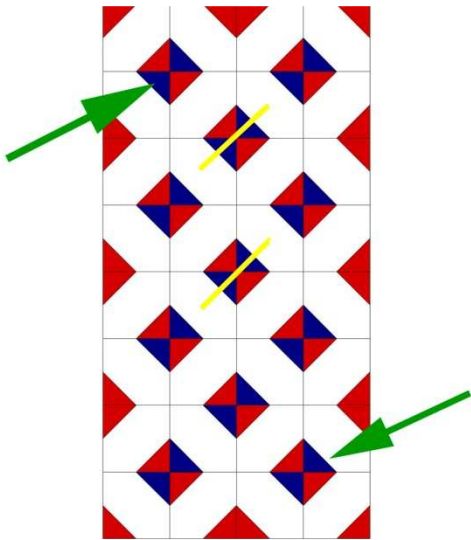


Sew the sub units together to make 24 blocks like this.

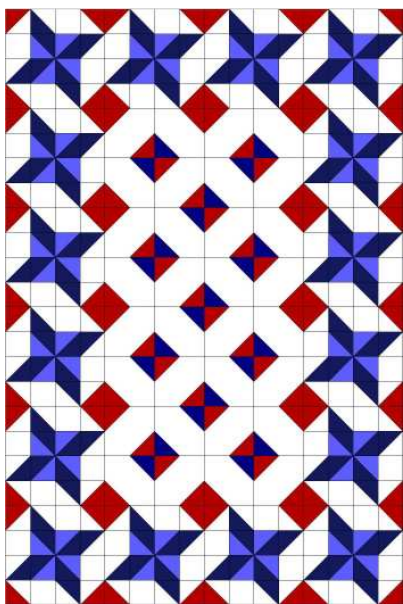
Step 5:

It's now time to put it all together! I'm going to show you how to lay out the blocks and you can assemble the top any way you wish. You can do it in rows or columns or you can start with the center and add the blocks as borders in the way I'm going to show it arranged.

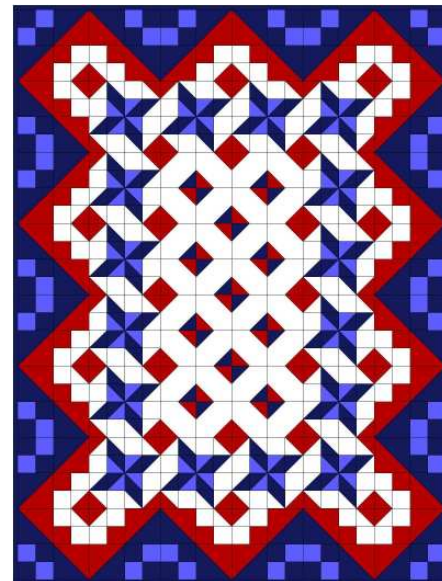
The Veteran's Quilt (48 x 60) is constructed from just the blocks that you have made. At the end I will give you some border measurements to make the quilt larger for a Quilt of Valor.



The only tricky part is the center. Here's the layout using the blocks from clue 1. The 2 blocks with all 4 corners in fabric 1 go where the green arrows are. Lay out the other blocks paying attention to the points where the fabric 3 pieces touch. See the yellow lines in my diagram? That shows that the fabric 2 pieces all line up on the same diagonal. Make sense? Now you have the center set right.



Now add the blocks from clue 3. There's no tricky placement here.



Finally, add the blocks from clue 5. These do have an arrangement but I think you can easily see it from the diagram. Sew it all together and your quilt is done.....unless you are adding borders in the next clue.



Here's my veteran's quilt version.

Quilting and binding considerations: Since I have pressed all of my seams open I will quilt this quilt with an all-over pattern on my longarm. Stitch in the ditch would not work well with pressed open seams. If you are quilting this on a DSM you might quilt an all-over filler type motif or a simple meander. Quilting diagonal straight lines would also work great.

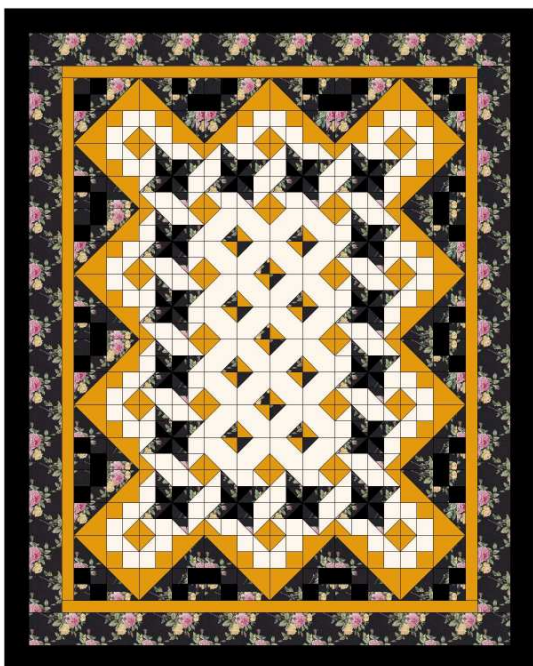
I will bind this quilt in fabric 3 (dark blue).

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My second quilt is a Quilt of Valor so it needs to be bigger. Here's what I designed.

I was making this quilt from stash so I had to work with the yardage that I had. I was completely out of the 2 light fabrics so I had to make do with 2 borders. The narrow black border finishes at 1" and the print border finishes at 5".

Like all good quilters you, like me, will work with what you have to make the quilt work for you.



The first border is 1.5" finished (uses 5/8 yard, strips are cut 2" wide)

The second border is 4" finished (uses 1 3/8 yards, strips are cut 4 1/2" wide)

The outside border is 3" finished which makes the quilt 65" x 81" (uses 1 yard fabric, strips are cut 3 1/2" wide)

