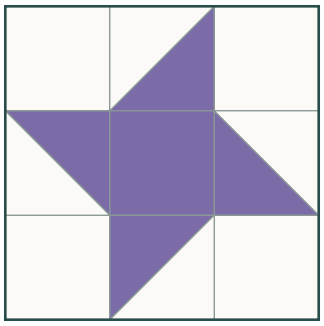
A QUILTPLAN BLOCK PATTERN

FRIENDSHIP STAR

Four triangles spinning around one square.



13 pieces, 2 fabrics

A star made from a nine-patch: four half-square triangles turned around a plain center, so the points seem to spin. Traditionally the block friends made and signed for each other. It teaches half-square triangles and getting each point to land on its seam.

SKILL Beginner

SEAMS ¼″ throughout

SIZES 6″, 9″, 12″ and 15″ finished



Cutting

Cut, for one block	6″	9″	12″	15″
① Background: cut 4 squares The four corners.	2½″ sq	3½″ sq	4½″ sq	5½″ sq
② Background: cut 2 squares, for triangles For half-square triangles, two at a time with the Star squares. Trim each to half an inch bigger than its finished size.	3″ sq	4″ sq	5″ sq	6″ sq
③ Star: cut 2 squares, for triangles For half-square triangles, two at a time with the Background squares.	3″ sq	4″ sq	5″ sq	6″ sq
④ Star: cut 1 square The center.	2½″ sq	3½″ sq	4½″ sq	5½″ sq

Fabric, for one block

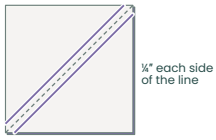
Buy at least	6″	9″	12″	15″
☐ Background	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd
■ Star	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd	¼ yd

Worked out the way QuiltPlan's shopping list does it: 42″ of usable width, 15% for waste, rounded up to the quarter yard. For a whole quilt, place the block in the app and it totals every block for you.

Good to know

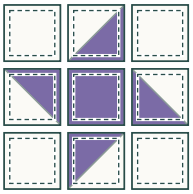
- If a point is cut off once the rows are joined, the seam there was a little too wide; if it floats, a little narrow.
- Lay the block out beside the machine before you sew: a half-square triangle turned the wrong way is the usual mistake, and it shows only once the rows are joined.
- **Why these sizes?** At 6″, 9″, 12″ and 15″ every piece of this block lands on a ruler line. At other sizes the app still works out the cutting for you.
- **Want a different size or a whole quilt?** Friendship Star is in QuiltPlan's block library. Place it on a quilt and the app gives you the cut list, the yardage and the shopping list for every block at once.

Sewing it



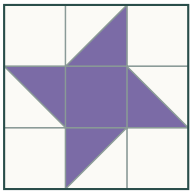
1 · Make 4 half-square triangles

Draw a line corner to corner on the back of each (2) square. Lay each on a 3 square, right sides together, sew a quarter inch either side of the line, cut on the line and press toward the Star. Two pairs make 4. Follow the Half-Square Triangles guide.



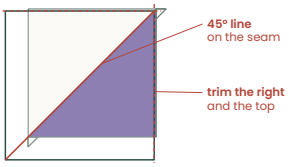
3 · Lay it out

A (1) square at each corner and the 4 square in the center. A half-square triangle goes in the middle of each side, turned so its Star half lies against the center square: the four points then spin around it, as in the picture.



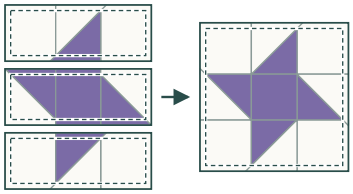
5 · Join the rows

Nest the seams, pin where they meet and sew with the half-square triangles on top, so you can see each point and stitch just through it, a quarter inch from the edge. Press the long seams toward the middle row. The block measures half an inch more than it will finish.



2 · Trim them

Lay a square ruler's 45 degree line on the seam, trim two sides, turn the unit, line the cut edges up and trim the other two. Each comes out the size of a (1) square, the seam running exactly into two opposite corners.



4 · Sew the rows

Sew each row with a quarter inch seam. Press toward the plain squares: the top and bottom rows toward their corners, the middle row toward the center. The rows' seams then face opposite ways and nest, and no seam is pressed onto a point.

Background Star