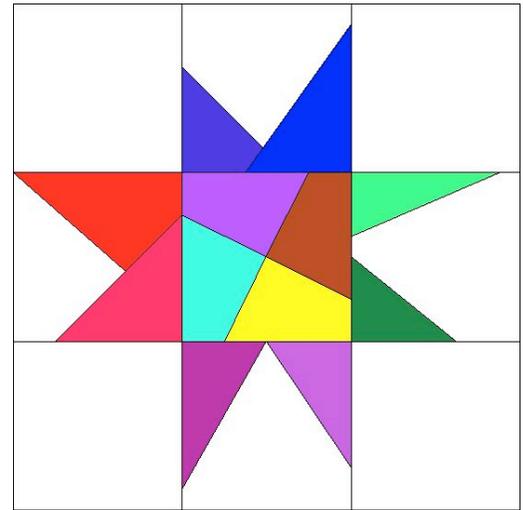


Lucy Goosey Star #4 for August: Wonky Star (12 inch finished, 12 ½ “raw”)

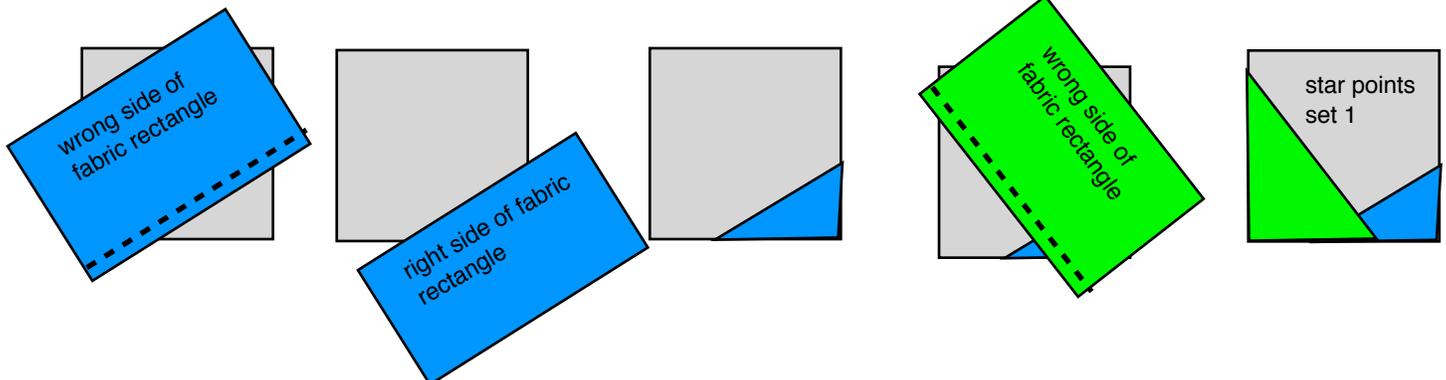
We are now starting #4 of 6 blocks for this quilt-a-long. Look over the color assortment you have used on your first 3 blocks, and also the assortment of values. Make certain to balance the colors and values for your overall assortment when choosing the fabrics for the next 3 blocks.

I know that this block is going to make some of you quilters who like perfect points crazy, but give this a try. This is a nod to Gwen Marston, and her liberated piecing. This is the lazy, hazy crazy block of summer!

It is a variation on a 9 patch with a “wonky four patch” as its center and off kilter points.



- For the center of the star:** Using 4 squares cut at 4” x 4” in any assortment of colors, make a regular 4 patch. Then turn it slightly cattywampus (technical term) and cut a square measuring 4½” x 4½”. This will be the wonky 4 patch for the center of your star. (I first cut a window in a piece of plain white paper and moved it around over my 4 patch until I found the spot I wanted to cut for the center of my star. When I found the spot I wanted, I marked its four corners with pencil dots and then cut it out with my rotary ruler and cutter.) It is not necessary to have the center of the original 4 patch end up in the center of your wonky 4 patch. Up to you.
- The remainder of the star:** Cut 8 squares of your background fabric at 4½” x 4½”. Set four of those aside to use in the corners of the 9 patch. The other 4 will be used in making the star points.
- Now cut 8 rectangles of fabric to use for those points. The maximum size you will need would be about 7” x 5”, most likely you will use smaller pieces. Take one of your background squares and one of your rectangles. Lay the rectangle across the background square at an angle, with right sides together, so one of the background corners is exposed. The amount that is exposed will be the size of the star point (minus the ¼” seam allowance). Stitch along the side of the rectangle with a ¼” seam. I know some of you are beginning to have a panic attack because I am not being more precise. Take a deep breath and go with it. This is **Loosey**-Goosey remember! Open up the fabrics and gently press. Trim off the extra from the fabric rectangle to return the square to 4½” x 4½”. I suggest you do NOT trim away the background fabric from underneath your points, so that the background fabric grain will help to stabilize the wonky grains of the points. You will now repeat this process on one of the corners adjacent to the one you just covered. Play with the placement of this second rectangle to determine if the point of your triangles will be cut off, will miss each other or will overlap. All of those possibilities are okay in a wonky block. (Liberated block, as named by Gwen Marston) Position your rectangle, pin a faux seam and fold the rectangle back to check it. Remember it’s supposed to be wonky, not perfect! When you are satisfied with the placement of your rectangle, stitch it, flip it, and trim it. Voila! one set of points is complete. Repeat this to make 3 more sets of points.



- Finally assemble your wonky star as you would for a 9 patch. Lay out the nine parts and play with the arrangement of your wonky point squares until you are satisfied.
 - row 1: background square + star points + background square
 - row 2: star points + wonky 4 patch + star points
 - row 3: background square + star points + background square
 Stitch the 3 rows together. Yay!, Block 4 completed!