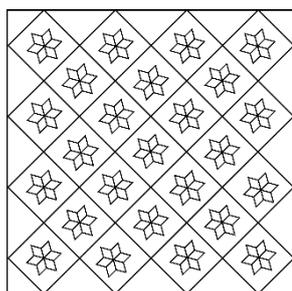


STAR LORE or STARLORE.....creating & cherishing mythical & folklore stories about the stars & constellations

Welcome to the Starlore Quilt #alittlehappysewalong. This quilt is perfect for scrap busting and is exclusive to our Newsletter Subscribers. Inspired by Sarah's love as a child of myths, folk stories and legends, the quilt is made up of 25 stars all of which are sewn in the English Paper Piecing (EPP) method. They are then applied to background squares which, in the final quilt will be set 'on point'.



Each month in our newsletter, we will release the instructions for two stars and in December, there will be three stars, plus the instructions for how to piece the quilt top.

We've detailed below a list of the EPP shapes that will be required, although for your convenience we have put together a limited number of Paper Shape packs for the quilt, these can be purchased on our website.

Finally, if you're new to EPP, take a peek at the 'little happy' tutorials on our Blog, they will show you how to baste, sew and applique the paper shapes, plus lots of extra 'little happy' tips including how to deal with the pesky points!

Happy Stitches, Sarah, Penny and Andy.

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

- A good selection of smallish pieces for the Stars..... we used 100 different Liberty Tana Lawn™ fabrics in ours!
- You will need (25) 13 ½" Background squares for the Star blocks. If like us, you would like to use the same Background fabric throughout, for both the stars and setting triangles, you will need 4 1/2 yards (this *allows a little extra for some wiggle room*). Alternatively, you could go scrappy and use a different background fabric behind each star, in which case you will need (25) different 13 ½" squares. You will also need a selection of fabrics for the setting triangles, the number depending on how many different fabrics you would like to use. (*Cutting Instructions will be given in Month 12*)
- 3/4 yard for the Binding
- 4 1/2 yards (Standard Width) for the Backing fabric (*or a large cotton sheet at approx 84" square!*)
- Wadding /Batting approx 76" square
- Cottons Threads for the EPP, Applique & Sewing Machine (*We used Aurifil 50wt for EPP and Machine and 80wt for the Applique*)

FINISHED DIMENSIONS

68" x 68" approx

EPP PAPER REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • (12) 1 ½" Hexies | • (34) 1" Hexies |
| • (72) 1 ½" Half Hexies | • (12) 1" Half Hexies |
| • (188) 1 ½" Equilateral Triangles | • (24) 1" Equilateral Triangles |
| • (110) 1 ½" 6 Point Diamonds | • (30) 1" Jewels |
| • (12) 1 ½" Jewels | • (60) 1" 6 Point Diamonds |
| | • (39) 3" Equilateral Triangles |

ADDITIONAL NOTIONS

Rotary Cutter & Mat, Quilting Rulers, Needles for EPP and Hand Applique, Applique Pins, Glue Pen (or thread for basting), Sewing Machine, Scissors, plus any of your favourite notions that I haven't included!

ANY QUESTIONS?

E-mail: hello@prettyfabricsandtrims.co.uk
 Website: www.prettyfabricsandtrims.co.uk

Connect: @SarahEdgarPrettyFabrics / @PrettyFabricsandTrims
 Blog: www.alittlehappyplace.blogspot.com

Sarah's Thoughts and Considerations for Piecing the Star Blocks

If you're new to EPP, take a peek at these two tutorials. **For how to baste, sew and applique Diamonds (it would be the same for triangles), have a look at this tutorial:**

<https://alittlehappyplace.blogspot.com/2017/01/a-little-happy-tutorial-english-paper.html>

For how to baste and sew Hexies (half hexies would be the same) have a look at this tutorial:

<https://alittlehappyplace.blogspot.com/2016/08/a-little-happy-tutorial-english-paper.html>

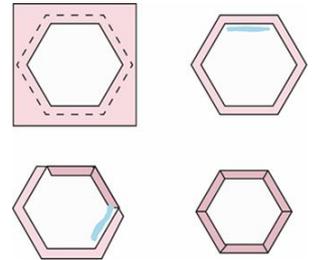
Each star is made up from a combination of 5 basic shapes: Hexagons, Half Hexagons, Equilateral Triangles, 6 Point Diamonds (effectively 2 Equilateral Triangles put together) and Jewels (which are a combination of an Equilateral Triangle and a Half Hexie). Each month we share a photo of our finished star and provide you with a list of the shapes used and the order in which we sewed the shapes together to form the star.

We used 4 different fabrics for each of our stars, however use more or less if you prefer.

To start, using your EPP paper templates as a guide, cut* the fabric as indicated by the dashed line in the example diagram below. *Remember the EPP paper templates are the finished size, so make sure you add on a generous ¼" seam allowance, when cutting!! You can of course purchase acrylic templates for each of the shapes, these will include the seam allowance. You may also wish to 'fussy' cut the fabric, which can create some lovely effects!

Baste your fabric to your papers in your preferred method (we chose to glue baste as indicated by the blue area). Baste your fabric to your papers in your preferred method. We used a Sewline glue pen, which has refills available separately (both available on our website), obviously should you prefer thread basting is an option. The glue goes on blue and then dries clear. Here are some 'little happy' basting tips:

- The trick with glue basting is not to over glue, sweep the glue pen firmly and with intent across the paper shape (not the fabric) just the once, the glue goes on blue and dries clear. This way, you will have no problems removing the papers at a later stage.
- Work around the paper basting one side at a time, don't be tempted to glue all the sides in one go.
- Make sure that you wrap the fabric around the papers tightly, if the fabric is too loose then this can cause the seams, when you're sewing two shapes together, to go skew whiff and therefore the overall block will not join together neatly.



My thread of choice is Aurifil 50wt, pick colours that will blend with the fabrics that you are using and I use one of my favourite English Paper Piecing Needles. For piecing, our top tips would be:

- Make your first stitch a smidge in from the end and then work to the edge and back again. This will hide and strengthen the starting knots.
- Make sure you use lots and lots of tiny little whip stitches, we average around 18/20 per inch, which literally just nip the fabric, also try not to eat into the papers with your needle and thread.
- You'll find that you may at times have to bend the papers as you sew, that is absolutely fine.
- When we knot off at the end of my stitches, we like to leave a tail of thread approx. 1/2" long and as we did at the beginning, finish off a smidge in from the end.
- Once you have completed the star, press and then remove the papers.

Each star is appliqued to the centre of a 13 ½" x 13 ½" square. Once appliqued, trim the block to 12 ½" x 12 ½" taking care to keep the star centred, although you may wish to leave the trimming until December, when instructions for piecing the Quilt Top will be provided.