

August 2022 Block of the Month: Four Mile House Star

This month's 12.5" block is another variation on a classic nine-patch star. I'm calling it "Four Mile House Star" because I saw it in a quilt at the historic Four Mile House in Denver. It is a good block for a large-scale print—my layer cake set has several squares with large prints that I hated to cut up into small pieces. It also requires some "creative" piecing to stay within the two 10" square limitation. I used one 10" Kaffe Fassett print square for "Square A" and a solid 10" square for "Square B," and Kona "Snow" for the background fabric.

Materials:

From the layer cake set or other print or solid fabrics:

- two 10" squares, contrasting but complimentary, one is Square A and the other is Square B

From the background fabric:

- one 4" x 16" strip

Cutting instructions:

Square A

- one 6.5" square
- three 3.5" squares
- two 3" x 3.5" rectangles (will be used to make one 3.5" square)

Square B

- four 4" squares

Background Fabric

- four 4" squares

Assembly:

- Sew the 3"x 3.5" rectangles together along the longer side, then trim the resulting piece to 3.5" x 3.5" (This is what I call creative piecing)

- Make eight half-square triangles from the Square B and Background fabric 4" squares. Trim these to 3.5" as shown in [this](#) tutorial.
- Make four half-square triangle pairs with Background fabric on the inside and Square B fabric to the outside (see illustration A).
- Sew two half-square triangle pairs to each side of the 6.5" square carefully, so you don't lose your points (see illustration B). [This](#) tutorial will show you how to avoid losing the points. Press seams toward the center square.
- Sew one 3.5" Square A fabric square to each end of the other half-square triangle pairs. (See illustration C). Press seams toward the outer squares.
- Sew the long sections to the top and bottom of the center square section, points facing toward the center, taking care not to lose the points when you sew these sections together. (See finished square.) Press seams toward center.
- Trim block to 12.5" if needed.

Illustrations

