

February Block- Martha Washington Star – 6” finished

Surprise!! I bet you were expecting a heart block!

Martha Washington Star was printed in 1926 in the Farmer's Wife, a periodical published in St. Paul Minnesota from the 19th century thru 1939 when it merged with the Farm Journal. This information was compiled by Barbara Brackman, author of the Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns.

Fabric required: Fat quarters or scraps of background and two coordinating prints

Cutting:

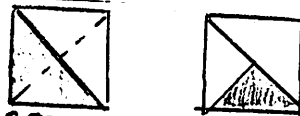
Background Fabric: (4) 2" X 2"
 (4) 2" X 3 1/2"
 (2) 2 3/8" X 2 3/8"
 (4) 2 1/8" X 2 1/8"
 Outer Star Points: (8) 2" X 2"
 Center Pinwheel: (2) 2 3/8" X 2 3/8"

Piecing: Center Pinwheel- Layer the (2) 2 3/8" X 2 3/8" background and center pinwheel fabric right sides together. On the back of the background fabric, draw a line corner to corner and sew scant 1/4" on each side of the drawn line. Cut apart on the drawn line to create (4) half square triangles. Press with seam allowance toward the pinwheel fabric.



make 4

Draw a diagonal line corner to corner on the wrong side of the 2 1/8" background squares and layer these with the half square triangles you just made, with the drawn line going across the seam line on the half square triangle like an X. (don't worry if they don't fit exactly- you will square them up) Sew on the drawn line.

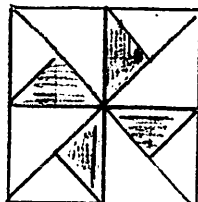


seams
cross
in X

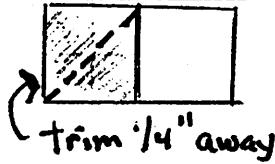
make 4

Before trimming 1/4" away from the sewn line be sure to open and make sure the color placement of the pinwheel fabric is the same in each block. If you trim the wrong side you will create a mirror image which will not work in this pinwheel. Now trim and square up to 2". (Discard the trimmed triangle- OR sew it again and make a miniature block!!)

Assemble these four units into the pinwheel center which should measure 3 1/2".



Outer Star Points:



Press & Repeat



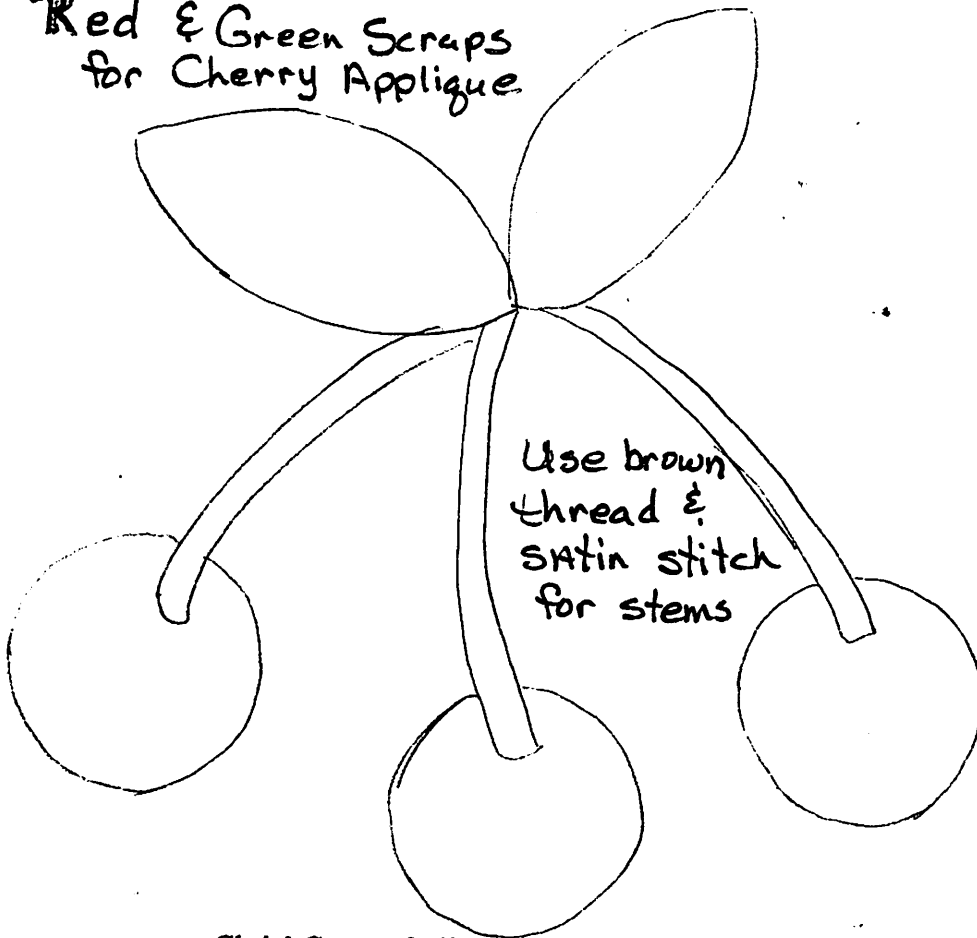
Make 4

On the back of the (8) 2" X 2" outer star point fabric draw a diagonal line corner to corner.

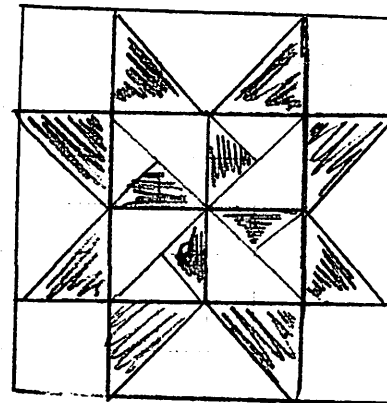
Lay a marked square on one corner of each of the 2" X 3 1/2" background rectangles and sew along the drawn line. Trim leaving a 1/4" seam allowance toward the corner, and press. (Discard the trimmed piece- OR sew again for a miniature block!) Repeat on the other side, to make (4) "Flying Geese" units. This is the same technique you use for your large star points that go around this block.

Assemble the Martha Washington Star as an unequal nine patch block with the pinwheel in the center.

Red & Green Scraps
for Cherry Applique



Use brown
thread &
SATIN stitch
for stems



Remember - your large
star points go around
this 6" block !!

Chris' Corner Quilt Shop FREE Block of the Month
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Ottawa, Ks 66067
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Red for heart
applique