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PROJECT: Nautical Star Pillow

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Use a white-and-navy colorway to create a nautical-looking summer pillow.

INSPIRED BY: *Stitch & Switch Summer Pillow* from designer Corey Yoder ([corianderquilts.com](http://corianderquilts.com))

QUILT TESTER: Martha Gamm



**FABRICS** are from the Cotton Solids collection by American Made Brand for Clothworks ([clothworks.com](http://clothworks.com)).

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**PILLOW**

**Finished size:** 24½" square

**Finished block:** 18" square

**MATERIALS**

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- ❑ ¾ yard solid white (block, border)
- ❑ 1⅓ yard solid navy (block, border, backing, binding)
- ❑ 27"-square muslin (lining)
- ❑ 27"-square batting
- ❑ 24"-square pillow form

**CUT FABRICS**

Cut pieces in the following order.

If you prefer to make triangle-squares larger than needed and trim them to size, cut ¾" squares instead of the ⅜" squares specified in cutting instructions.

**From solid white, cut:**

- 1—5¾" square, cutting it diagonally twice in an X for 4 medium triangles total
- 1—5" square
- 4—3⅛" squares
- 4—3⅛" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 8 small triangles total
- 8—2¾×5" rectangles
- 44—2¾" squares
- 4—1¼×18½" strips

**From solid navy, cut:**

- 3—2½×42" binding strips
- 2—14¾×24½" rectangles
- 4—5⅜" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 8 large triangles total
- 4—3½" squares
- 4—3⅛" squares
- 16—2¾×5" rectangles
- 16—2¾" squares

**ASSEMBLE BLOCK**

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

- 1) Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of solid white 3⅛" squares. (To prevent fabric from stretching as you draw lines, place 220-grit sandpaper under each square.)
- 2) Layer a marked solid white square atop a solid navy 3⅛" square. Sew together with two seams, stitching ¼" on each side of drawn line (**Diagram 1**). Cut pair apart on drawn line. Press open to make two triangle-squares. Each triangle-square should be 2¾" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make eight triangle-squares total.
- 3) Referring to **Diagram 2**, sew together two triangle-squares and two solid white 2¾" squares in pairs. Join pairs to make a corner unit. The unit should be 5" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four corner units total.
- 4) Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each solid navy 2¾" square.
- 5) Align a marked solid navy square with one end of a solid white 2¾×5" rectangle (**Diagram 3**; note direction of marked line). Sew on marked line; trim excess fabric, leaving ¼" seam allowance. Press open attached triangle. Add a second marked solid navy square to opposite end of rectangle to make a solid navy Flying Geese unit. The unit should be 5×2¾" including seam allowances. Repeat to make eight solid navy Flying Geese units total.
- 6) Referring to **Diagram 4**, sew a solid white small triangle to each short edge of a solid navy Flying Geese unit. Referring to **Diagram 5**, sew a solid white medium triangle to bottom edge.
- 7) Referring to **Diagram 6**, sew two solid navy large triangles to the Step 6 unit to create a side unit. The unit should be 5×9½" including seam allowances.
- 8) Repeat steps 6 and 7 to make four side units total.
- 9) Referring to **Diagram 7**, lay out four solid white 2¾" squares, four solid navy Flying Geese units, and solid white 5" square in three rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make block center. The block center should be 9½" square including seam allowances.
- 10) Lay out corner units, side units, and block center in three rows (**Diagram 8**). Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make a block. The block should be 18½" square including seam allowances.

**ASSEMBLE BORDER UNITS**

- 1) Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each remaining solid white 2¾" square.
- 2) Using marked solid white squares and solid navy 2¾×5" rectangles, repeat Assemble Block, Step 5, to make 16 white Flying Geese units.
- 3) Sew together four white Flying Geese units in a row (**Diagram 9**). The row should be 2¾×18½" including seam allowances. Repeat to make four Flying Geese rows total.

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- 4) Join a solid white  $1\frac{1}{4}\times 18\frac{1}{2}$ " strip to bottom edge of a Flying Geese row to create a border unit (**Diagram 10**). The unit should be  $3\frac{1}{2}\times 18\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances. Repeat to make four border units total.
- 6) Bind pillow cover with joined solid navy binding strips. Insert pillow form through opening to complete pillow.

### ASSEMBLE PILLOW TOP

- 1) Referring to **Pillow Top Assembly Diagram**, lay out block, solid navy  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, and border units in three rows.
- 2) Sew together pieces in rows. Press seams toward border units. Join rows to make pillow top. Press seams in one direction. The pillow top should be  $24\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

### FINISH PILLOW

- 1) Layer pillow top, batting, and muslin lining; baste. Quilt as desired.
- 2) Trim batting and muslin lining even with pillow top edges.
- 3) Turn one long edge of each solid navy  $14\frac{3}{4}\times 24\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle under  $\frac{1}{4}$ "; press. Turn under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " again. Stitch in place to hem pillow back pieces. Each pillow back piece should be  $14\frac{1}{4}\times 24\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances.
- 4) Referring to **Pillow Back Assembly Diagram**, overlap hemmed edges of pillow back pieces by 4" to make a  $24\frac{1}{2}$ " square. Stitch across overlaps to make pillow back.
- 5) Layer quilted pillow top and pillow back with wrong sides together. Stitch a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from outer edges to make pillow cover.

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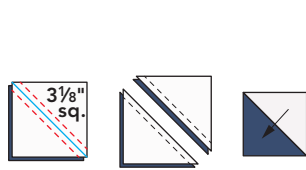


DIAGRAM 1

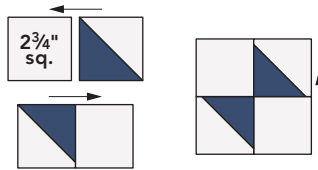


DIAGRAM 2

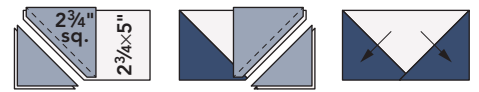


DIAGRAM 3

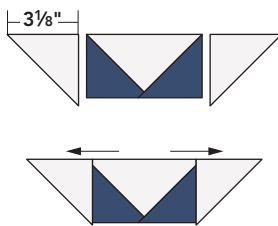


DIAGRAM 4

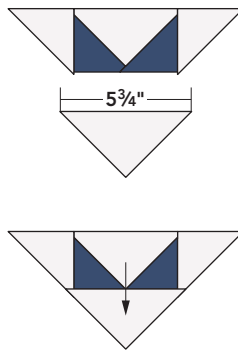


DIAGRAM 5

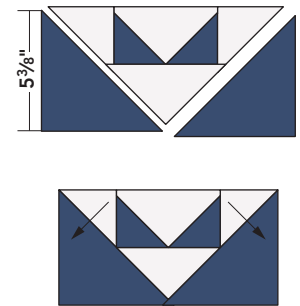


DIAGRAM 6

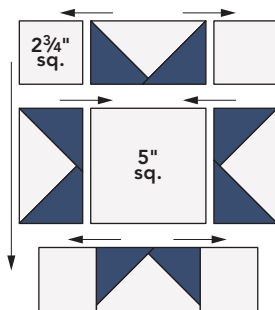


DIAGRAM 7

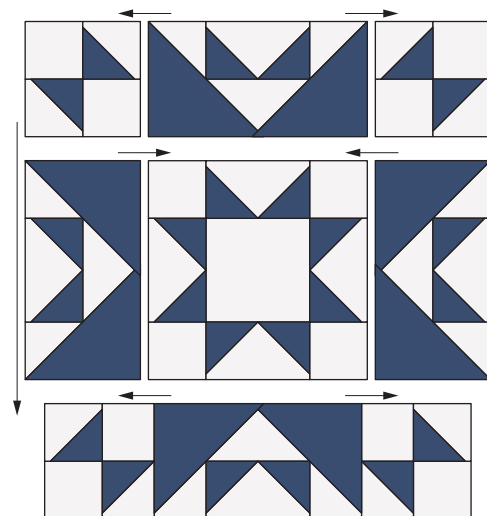


DIAGRAM 8

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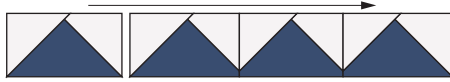


DIAGRAM 9

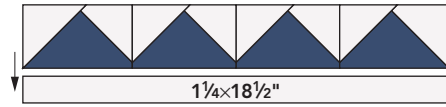
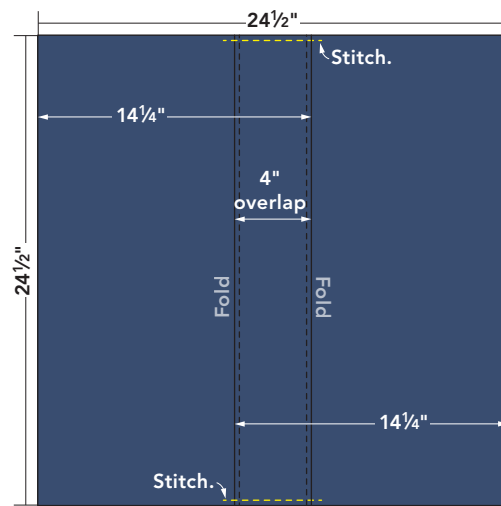
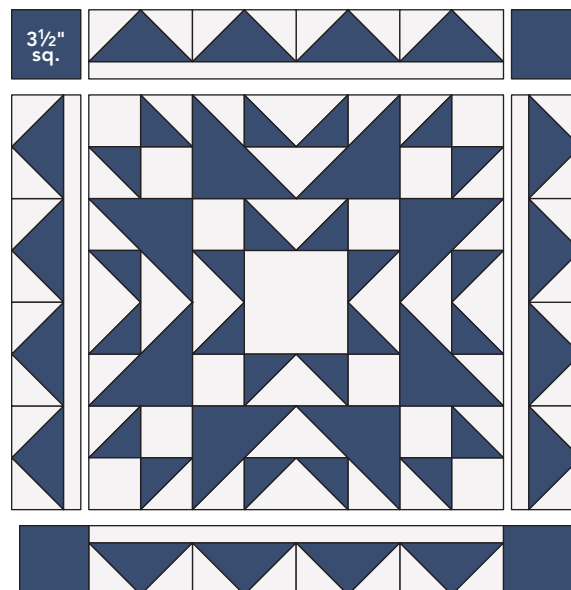


DIAGRAM 10



PILLOW BACK ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM



PILLOW TOP ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM