

Project: Winter Jewels Star Ornament

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Embellish a handmade fabric ornament with seed beads and, if you wish, embroidery stitches.

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Materials

- 2—7×9" rectangles green floral
- 2½" square contrasting print
- Polyester fiberfill
- 2" square heavyweight fusible web
- 6—6-millimeter apple green beads
- Seed beads
- Thread: light tan
- Beading needle

Finished star ornament: 5×7" (excluding hanging loop)

Make Star Template

Patterns A and B are on page 3. For tips on making pattern templates, see "Make and Use Templates" on page 4.

Assemble Star

1. Place green floral 7×9" rectangles right sides together on flat surface. Center Pattern A star on layered rectangles. Trace with a pencil, leaving approximately ½" on all sides for trimming. (You may fussy-cut the star, if desired.)
2. Set your machine length to 2.0 millimeter. Sew star shapes together along pencil line (Diagram 1), pivoting at each inner corner and squaring off outer points for ease in turning.
3. Cut out star a scant ¼" outside of stitching line. Clip inner and outer corner points.
4. Pull star shapes apart in the middle; cut a slit in center of one star shape (Diagram 2). Turn star right side out through opening.
5. Using the small end of a wood chopstick gently work each star tip into a smooth point.

6. Stuff star with fiberfill. Use the eraser end of a pencil to first push fiberfill into each star tip, then fill star center. Loosely overcast-stitch slit closed to make star ornament.

7. Use a pencil to trace Pattern B circle onto paper side of fusible-web square. Following manufacturer's instructions, press fusible-web square onto wrong side of contrasting print 2½" square. Cut out circle on drawn line and peel off paper backing.

8. Position prepared circle appliqué over stitched slit in star. Fuse in place.

9. Using light tan thread and beading needle, stitch a strand of seed beads through star tip. Wrap threaded beads around tip in a circle and pull needle through tip to secure thread. Whipstitch bead circle in place (Diagram 3). Repeat on three additional star tips. Then take a stitch in remaining star tip. Alternately thread 6-millimeter apple green beads and seed beads onto threaded needle (Diagram 4). Secure thread end of beads on back side of top star tip to make a hanging loop. Trim thread ends. With threaded needle, sew six seed beads randomly at star center to complete star ornament. Trim thread ends.

10. If desired, add decorative embroidery stitches to ornament.

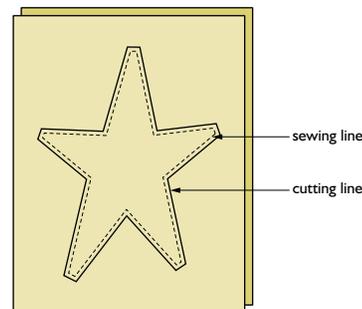


DIAGRAM 1



DIAGRAM 2

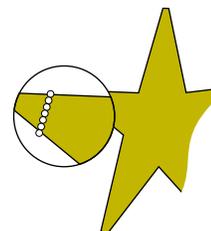
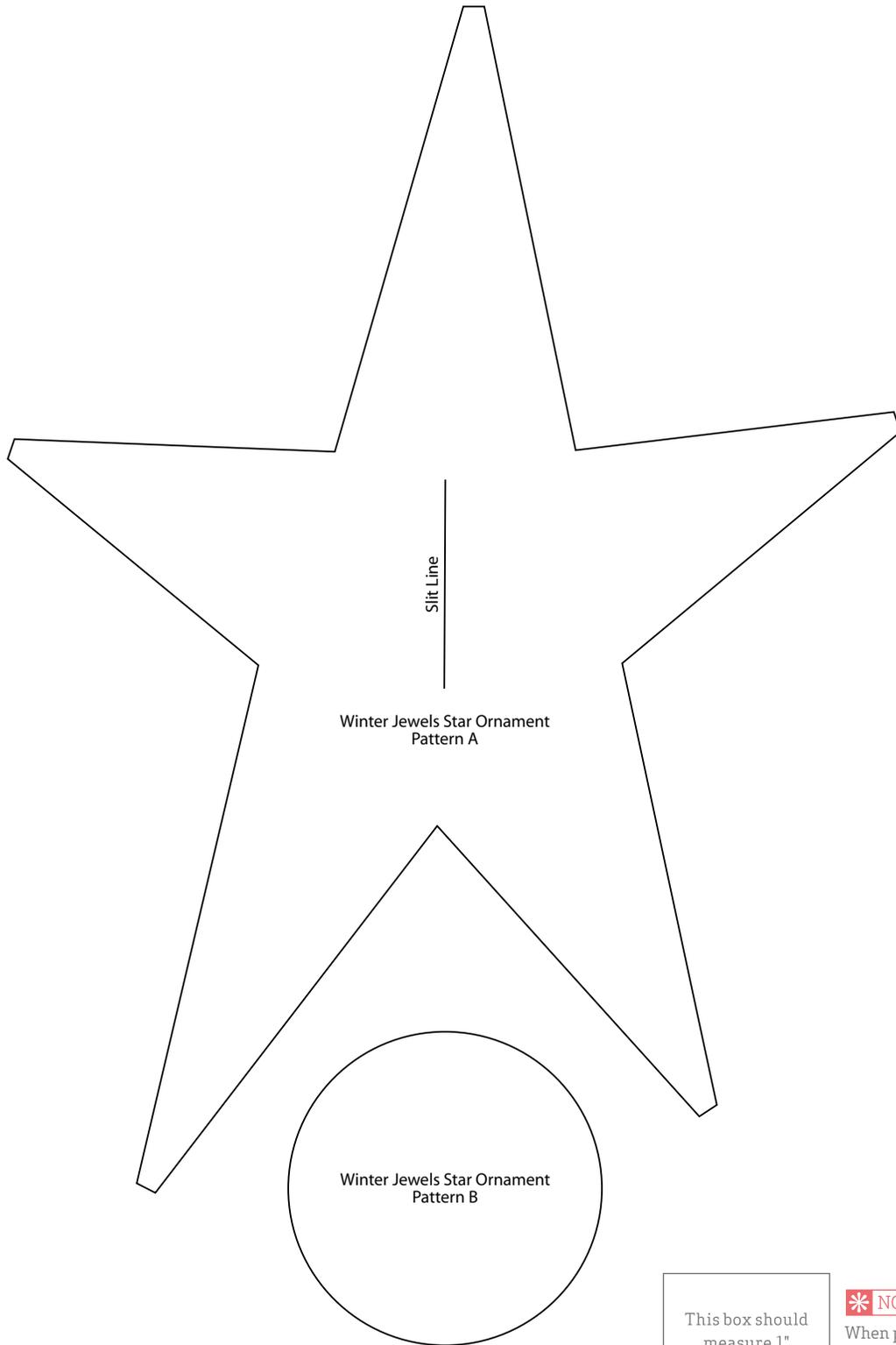


DIAGRAM 3



DIAGRAM 4

Project: Winter Jewels Star Ornament



This box should measure 1".
← 1" →

*** NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

Make and Use Templates

Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

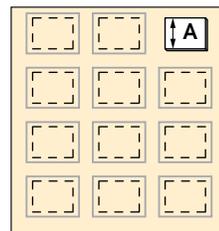


DIAGRAM 1

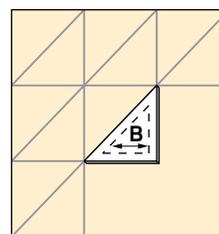


DIAGRAM 2