



Cathedral Star Quilt Block

STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

This beautiful Cathedral Star block is a classic design in American Quilting. It is made using curved seams and the Folded Corner method. Perfect for quilts, pillow covers, and table projects.

FINISHED BLOCK SIZE

30 cm x 30 cm (12" x 12")

1 MATERIALS & TOOLS

FABRIC (100% COTTON)

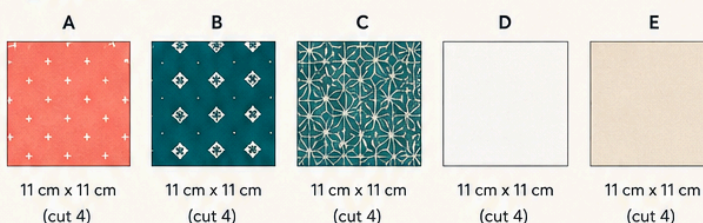
- Coral fabric (A) 4 squares – 11 cm x 11 cm
- Teal print 1 (B) 4 squares – 11 cm x 11 cm
- Teal print 2 (C) 4 squares – 11 cm x 11 cm
- White fabric (D) 4 squares – 11 cm x 11 cm
- Beige fabric (E) 4 squares – 11 cm x 11 cm
- Backing fabric 33 cm x 33 cm
- Batting 33 cm x 33 cm

TOOLS

- Sewing machine
- Rotary cutter and mat
- Quilting ruler
- Pins or clips
- Fabric marker
- Iron and ironing board
- Needle and thread
- Scissors



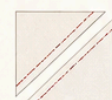
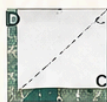
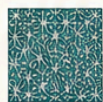
2 CUTTING



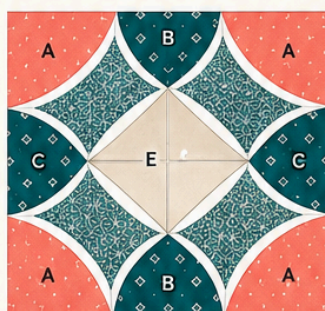
You will use a total of 20 squares (5 fabrics).

3 MAKING THE CORNERS (FOLDED CORNER METHOD)

1. Take one Fabric C square (right side up).
2. Place one Fabric D square (wrong side up) on top.
3. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner.
4. Sew 0.7 cm (1/4") on both sides of the drawn line.
5. Cut on the drawn line.
6. Open and press. Repeat for all C + D squares.

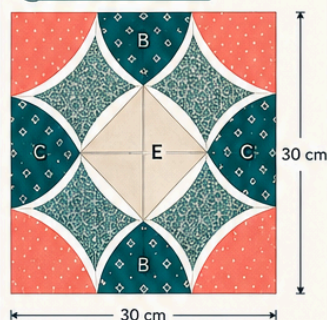


4 ASSEMBLING THE OUTER SQUARE



1. Arrange the 9 units as shown.
2. Sew each row, pressing seams.
3. Join the rows to complete the block.
4. Press well.

5 FINISHED BLOCK



Block size:
30 cm x 30 cm
(12" x 12")

SEWING & QUILTING METHODS USED



1. Accurate 1/4" Seam
Use a 0.7 cm (1/4") seam allowance for all seams.



4. Pinning
Pin or clip at seam intersections.



2. Pressing
Press seams open or to the side for a flat block.



5. Nesting Seams
Match seams carefully when joining rows.



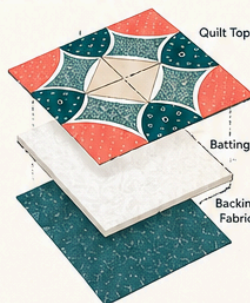
3. Folded Corner / Quick Curve
Creates the curved Cathedral window effect.



6. Final Press
Press the finished block flat before quilting.

6 QUILTING & FINISHING

1. Layer the block with batting and backing fabric.
2. Baste the layers (pins or basting spray).
3. Quilt as desired (stitch in the ditch or free-motion).
4. Trim the backing and batting to 30 cm x 30 cm.
5. Bind the edges with 5 cm wide binding strips.



YOUR BEAUTIFUL CATHEDRAL STAR BLOCK IS READY!



Use in quilts, cushions, table runners, and more!

TIPS

- Use starch for crisp corners.
- Press carefully to keep curves smooth.
- Accurate cutting makes a big difference!

ENJOY QUILTING!

Share your creations and inspire others.
Happy Sewing! ♥

Corner Method, creating an elegant star that looks much more complicated than it actually is.

Whether you're making a quilt, pillow cover, table runner, wall hanging, or another home décor project, this tutorial will guide you through every step from fabric selection to the final quilting.

The finished block measures 12" × 12" (30 cm × 30 cm).

 **Happy quilting!**

Materials & Tools

Before starting, gather everything you need.

Fabric Requirements (100% Cotton Recommended)

Fabric A – Coral Fabric

- **Cut 4 squares**
- **Size: 4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)**

Fabric B – Teal Print #1

- **Cut 4 squares**
- **Size: 4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)**

Fabric C – Teal Print #2

- **Cut 4 squares**
- **Size: 4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)**

Fabric D – White Fabric

- **Cut 4 squares**
- **Size: 4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)**

Fabric E – Beige Fabric

- **Cut 4 squares**
- **Size: 4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)**

Backing Fabric

- **One piece measuring 13" × 13" (33 cm × 33 cm)**

Batting

- **One piece measuring 13" × 13" (33 cm × 33 cm)**

Sewing Supplies

- **Sewing machine**
- **Rotary cutter**
- **Cutting mat**
- **Quilting ruler**
- **Fabric scissors**
- **Fabric marker or pencil**
- **Pins or quilting clips**
- **Iron**
- **Ironing board**
- **Neutral cotton thread**
- **Seam ripper (optional but helpful)**

Step 1 – Cut All Fabric Pieces

Accuracy is essential for this block.

Using your rotary cutter and ruler:

- **Cut 4 squares from Fabric A.**
- **Cut 4 squares from Fabric B.**
- **Cut 4 squares from Fabric C.**
- **Cut 4 squares from Fabric D.**
- **Cut 4 squares from Fabric E.**

Each square must measure:

4¼" × 4¼" (11 cm × 11 cm)

You should now have:

- **20 fabric squares total**
- **5 different fabrics**
- **4 squares from each fabric**

Keep each fabric grouped separately to avoid confusion during assembly.

Step 2 – Make the Folded Corner Units

This is the signature technique that creates the Cathedral Star appearance.

For every Fabric C square:

Place the square right side up.

Take one Fabric D square.

Place it wrong side up on top of the Fabric C square.

The edges should line up perfectly.

Using a ruler, draw one diagonal line from one corner to the opposite corner.

Carefully sew a seam ¼" (7 mm) away from each side of the drawn line.

You will now have two parallel stitching lines.

Using your rotary cutter or scissors:

Cut directly on the drawn center line.

Open the fabric.

Press carefully with your iron.

Repeat this process until all Fabric C + Fabric D combinations are completed.

Take your time while pressing because crisp seams make the curved design much cleaner.

Step 3 – Arrange the Block Layout

Lay all of your units on a flat design wall or table before sewing.

Arrange the fabrics exactly as follows:

Top Row

- **Fabric A**
- **Fabric B**
- **Fabric A**

Middle Row

- **Fabric C**
- **Fabric E**
- **Fabric C**

Bottom Row

- **Fabric A**
- **Fabric B**
- **Fabric A**

The four folded-corner units should point toward the center.

The beige Fabric E square creates the center diamond.

The curved shapes should naturally form the Cathedral Star design.

Before sewing, double-check that every fabric is in the correct position.

Step 4 – Sew Each Row

Begin with the top row.

Place the first two pieces right sides together.

Sew using a ¼" seam allowance.

Add the third piece.

Press the seams.

Repeat for the middle row.

Repeat for the bottom row.

Keeping the seam allowance consistent is one of the most important parts of accurate quilting.

Step 5 – Join the Rows Together

Place the top row on the middle row with right sides together.

Match every seam intersection carefully.

Pin or clip each intersection.

Sew across using a ¼" seam allowance.

Press the seam.

Now attach the bottom row the same way.

Again, match all seam intersections carefully.

Press the finished block flat.

At this point, the Cathedral Star pattern should be clearly visible.

Step 6 – Check the Finished Block

Before quilting, inspect your block.

The finished block should measure approximately:

12" × 12" (30 cm × 30 cm)

Check that:

- **Every corner is square.**
- **Curves are smooth.**
- **Seams lie flat.**
- **The center diamond is centered.**
- **All points align evenly.**

If something looks slightly uneven, a careful press often improves the appearance.

Step 7 – Prepare the Quilt Sandwich

Create the quilting layers.

From bottom to top:

- 1. Backing fabric (right side down)**
- 2. Batting**

3. Quilt block (right side up)

Smooth each layer carefully.

Remove all wrinkles.

Secure the layers using:

- **Quilting pins**
- **Safety pins**
- **Quilting spray adhesive**
- **Hand basting stitches**

The layers should remain perfectly flat during quilting.



Step 8 – Quilt the Block

Choose your preferred quilting style.

Popular options include:

Stitch in the Ditch

Sew directly in the seam lines.

This creates a clean, professional appearance.

Echo Quilting

Quilt lines following the curves.

This emphasizes the Cathedral Star shape beautifully.

Free Motion Quilting

Use feathers, loops, swirls, or floral motifs.

This gives the block an elegant custom finish.

Take your time and quilt evenly across the entire block.

Step 9 – Trim and Bind

After quilting:

Trim away the excess batting.

Trim the backing fabric.

Square the block carefully.

Prepare 2" (5 cm) wide binding strips.

Join the strips.

Press them in half lengthwise.

Attach the binding around the entire block using your preferred binding method.

Fold to the back.

Hand stitch or machine stitch the binding closed.

Give the entire project one final press.

Quilting Techniques Used

Throughout this project, you'll practice several essential quilting skills.

Accurate Quarter-Inch Seam

Maintain a consistent ¼" seam allowance throughout the project.

This ensures every section fits together properly.

Pressing

Press after every seam.

Avoid dragging the iron.

Lift and press instead to prevent fabric distortion.

Folded Corner Method

This technique creates the beautiful curved illusion without sewing actual curved seams.

It is one of the easiest ways to achieve the elegant Cathedral Star look.

Pinning

Pin every seam intersection.

Proper pinning helps maintain accurate alignment.

Nesting Seams

Press neighboring seams in opposite directions whenever possible.

This allows seams to "lock" together for perfect matching points.

Final Press

Always give the completed block one final thorough pressing before quilting.

It improves the overall appearance dramatically.



Helpful Tips



Starch your fabric before cutting for greater accuracy.

- ✨ Use a fresh rotary blade for clean edges.
- ✨ Always measure twice before cutting.
- ✨ Finger press before using the iron.
- ✨ Test your thread tension on scrap fabric first.
- ✨ Match seam intersections carefully for crisp points.
- ✨ Use quilting clips if working with thicker layers.
- ✨ Keep your iron nearby throughout the project.
- ✨ Don't rush the pressing process.
- ✨ Good lighting makes fabric alignment much easier.

❤️ Finished Project Ideas

Your completed Cathedral Star Quilt Block can be used in many beautiful projects, including:

- Full-size quilts
- Baby quilts
- Throw quilts
- Pillow covers
- Table runners
- Table toppers
- Wall hangings
- Tote bags
- Mini quilts
- Placemats
- Decorative cushions
- Seasonal home décor
- Quilt samplers

Congratulations!

You have successfully completed your Cathedral Star Quilt Block!

By following each step carefully—from cutting the fabric and creating the folded corner units to assembling, quilting, and binding—you've created a timeless quilt block inspired by a classic American quilting design. The combination of carefully arranged fabrics and precise stitching produces the striking cathedral-style star effect without the complexity of traditional curved piecing.

Enjoy incorporating this beautiful block into your next quilting project, and don't be afraid to experiment with different fabric collections and color combinations to create your own unique version. Happy quilting!  