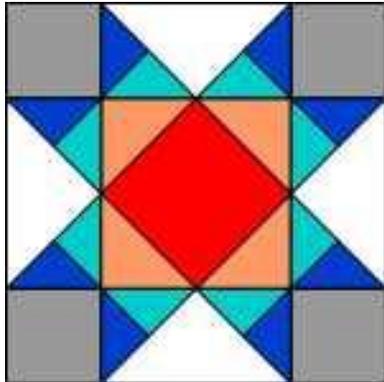


Month 9 – Confederate Star

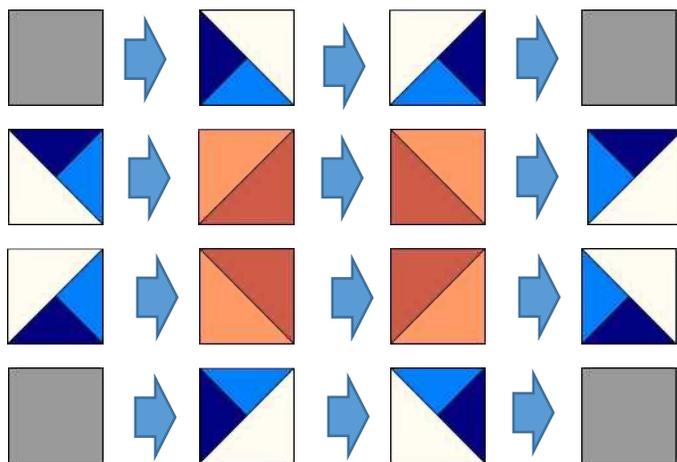


About this block: This block appears on a barn along the Stone County, Arkansas quilt trail (1-07). More information about the Arkansas Barn Quilt Trails may be found at www.arkansasquilttrails.com.

History: This block also is called the Missouri Star block. It appears in Barbara Brackman's *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns* (#2154). According to Brackman, the name Missouri Star was given to this block by Nancy Cabot in 1933 in her column in the *Chicago Tribune*. See <http://civilwarquilts.blogspot.com/2011/05/19-missouri-star.html> (Note that the tutorial contained in this blog is for an 8 inch block).

Construction: The block will finish 12" square, and is 12-1/2 inches raw. It is a deceptively easy appearing block, but is quite challenging to piece. Quilter's Cache.com has a paper pieced version of this block here: <http://www.quilterscache.com/M/MissouriStarBlock.html>

The easiest way I know to piece this block is to use four plain squares for the corners and construct the remaining units from half square and three-quarter square triangle units), like this:



Instructions for this method:

Fabric:

- Four gray squares 3.5" each
- Two 4-1/4" squares each of the dark and light orange.
- Two 4-1/2" squares each of the blue and navy fabrics (to make the four half square triangle units you will use to make the three-quarter square triangle units).
- Four 4-1/4" squares of white.

Unit construction:

- Make four orange half square triangle units for the center. First, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner of the light orange squares and place right sides together with the dark orange squares. Then, sew 1/4 inch on either side of the drawn line. Cut apart and press. Trim resulting squares to 3.5" square.
- Make the navy/blue half square triangle units in the same manner but DO NOT TRIM.
- To make the three-quarter square units, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on each of the white squares. Then, place right sides together with a navy/blue HST, making sure the drawn line on the white square is perpendicular to the sewn line on the HST. Sew 1/4 inch from the drawn line on both sides. Cut apart. Press and trim to 3-1/2".

Sew the units into the block. Trim to 12-1/2 inches raw.

Phew! You are done.

Here is a photo of my block.

