

Month 10 – Army star



About this block: This block appears on a barn along the Baxter County quilt trail (5-17). More information about the Arkansas Barn Quilt Trails may be found at [www.arkansasquilttrails.com](http://www.arkansasquilttrails.com).

History: This block is traditional Army Star block pattern. According to Barbara Brackman in her book *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns*, this block was published in the *Kansas City Star* in 1943 (see block #1981 at page 248). Eleanor Burns also included this block in her book *Victory Quilts*. She attributes it to a 1941 *Kansas City Star* pattern. See link provided, below.

Construction: The block will finish 12" square, and is 12-1/2 inches raw. In an online excerpt from her book *Victory Quilts*, Eleanor Burns provided a tutorial, which will make either a 6" or a 12" finished block. The tutorial has excellent instructions for assembling the block. Please note, though, that the tutorial uses some rulers that are made by Quilt in a Day, so you may need to use a slightly different method if using other rulers or techniques. See Eleanor Burns' tutorial here: [https://www.quiltinaday.com/imgs/eleanorandcompany/ArmyStarBlock.pdf?utm\\_source=Quilt+in+a+Day+Main+List&utm\\_campaign=83f71036d6-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_12\\_21\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ee5abe7078-83f71036d6-35007801](https://www.quiltinaday.com/imgs/eleanorandcompany/ArmyStarBlock.pdf?utm_source=Quilt+in+a+Day+Main+List&utm_campaign=83f71036d6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_12_21_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ee5abe7078-83f71036d6-35007801)

To make this star without using any specialty rulers, you will need the following:

- Color 1 (red)
  - Two 4-1/2" squares for making half square triangles
- Color 2 (white)
  - Two 4-1/2" squares for making half square triangles
  - four 2"x2" squares
  - five 3-1/2" squares
  - One 4-1/2" square OR 2-3-1/2" rectangles for flying geese\*
- Color 3 (blue)
  - Eight 2"x3-1/2" rectangles
- Color 4 (navy)
  - Four 2-1/2" squares OR eight 2" squares for flying geese\*

\*Notes about the flying geese units.

- The flying geese are 1-1/2"x3" finished (or 2x3-1/2 inch raw).
- Fabric.com has a great tutorial that covers three ways you can make flying geese. You can get it here: <https://www.fabric.com/blog/sewing-101-flying-geese-3-ways/>
- If you are using the "four at a time method." (Way #3), you will need one 4-1/2" square of white and four 2-1/2" squares of navy.
- If you are using the "stitch and flip" method (Way #2), you will need four 2x3-1/2 rectangles of white and eight 2 inch squares of the dark blue.
- Whatever method you choose, the raw units should be squared up to 2x3-1/2" before assembling the block.

Here is a photo of my finished block:

