

## Amish Style Sampler

by Sharon Zerkel, Cincinnati, Ohio

All pieced quilts are made up of very simple units. The 4 blocks shown in this sampler quilt are made up of half square triangles and plain squares cut to the size of the half square triangles. Half square triangles are the units we used to make the Windmill Quilt in the last issue.

### Dutchman's Puzzle and Pieced Star

The first two blocks: Dutchman's Puzzle and Pieced Star are made up of 16 half square triangles.

1. Choose two fabrics for each block, and layer them right sides together. Cut strips from the fabrics about 1" wide. Use a 3/4" square or cardstock as a pattern, and cut out 16 layered squares of fabric. Cut the layered squares diagonally, you may want to draw a line diagonally to cut on.
2. Sew the two layered triangles together along the long edge of the triangles. Use a small 1/8" seam allowance and sew from end to end. Sew 16 units and finger press them open.

Lay the squares out in the order they are to be sewn as shown in the quilt. Sew each row of 4 squares together and then sew the 4 rows together. Press with an iron.

### Star and Clay's Choice

The other blocks: The Star and Clay's Choice are each made with 8 half square triangles and squares to fill in between.

1. Make 8 half square triangles using 2 different fabrics.
2. For each of the blocks, cut 4 corner squares from one fabric.
3. For the Star block cut an additional large square for the center that is the same size as 2 of the half square triangles after they are sewn together.
4. For the Clay's Choice block cut 4 additional squares from the background fabric.

Dutchman's Puzzle

Pieced Star



Star

Clay's Choice

5. Lay out pieces and sew together using the photo as a guide for placement.

The sampler has sashing that was cut 3/4" wide between each block and around the outside of the four blocks. You could make any of these blocks into quilts with sashing or by making more of them sewn together without sashing.

When you have the quilt top done, press carefully so that it is very flat. Then add the backing cut to the same size as we did with previous projects and finish with binding.

### Binding

1. Cut 4 strips from one of your fabrics 1-1/2" wide and longer than the sides of your quilt top.
2. Press binding strips in half lengthwise. Then open it and press the 2 edges into the center and repress the folded strip. This forms a double fold binding.
3. Sew binding to top and bottom of quilt on opposite sides. Cut binding ends even with quilt top.
4. Then sew binding to other sides, but this time turn under ends or binding so that raw edges do not show.



Examples for cutting