American Flag

Laser-Gut Quilt Kits

Perfectly cut and ready to sew!



5 Stars 27 ½" x 20"\*

Stripes are 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide (1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch squares)

## Machine Set Up

- 1. Use a ¼ inch presser foot or ¼ inch marking on your machine.
- 2. Set your machine to end in the needle down position.
- 3. Use a shortened stitch length and a fine thread such as Aurofil Mako 50/2 in a neutral color.
- 4. Use extra fine pins (0.4 or 0.5 mm).
- 5. Install diagonal seam tape using the tool included in your kit

#### **Fabrics**

#### Light Stripes

Hoffman Bali Watercolors OYSTER
Hoffman Bali Watercolors PAPYRUS

Hoffman Confetti OYSTER
Hoffman Bali Dots OYSTER
Hoffman Bali Dots PAPYRUS

Hoffman Bali Chop Sunflower OYSTER Hoffman Branches and Leaves OYSTER

Island Batiks Foundation Neutrals BUTTERMILK Island Batiks Foundation Neutrals DOUGHNUT

Island Batiks Foundation Neutrals FLOUR
Island Batiks Foundation Neutrals ICING
Island Batiks Foundation Neutrals MOO MILK

## **Red Stripes**

Hoffman Bali Watercolors RED Hoffman Bali Dots CHERRY

Hoffman Bali Chop Sunflower CHERRY

Timeless Treasures Tonga Batik Packed Poinsettia MERRY Timeless Treasures Tonga Batik Holiday Mistletoe RUBY Timeless Treasures Tonga Batik Pearl River Flower NOEL Timeless Treasures Tonga Batik Floral Paisley CRIMSON Timeless Treasures Tonga Batik Dotty Spirals TOMATO

Riley Blake Floral Reflections Leaves CHERRY
Riley Blake Good Vibrations Stripes RED RED
Riley Blake Good Vibrations Triangles CURRANT
Anthology Doodle VALENTINE

#### Blue

Hoffman Bali Watercolors SAPPHIRE

#### Stars

Hoffman Bali Watercolors OYSTER

## Binding (Optional)\*

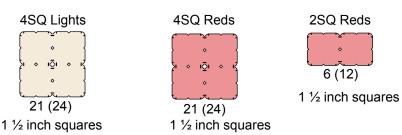
Your choice of fabrics

Hoffman Bali Watercolors and Bali Dots are kept in stocked at LaserCutMyQuilt.com. All other fabrics are available while supplies last. New fabrics will be stocked to replace fabrics that are not available to cut more kits in the future.

#### Standard LCMQ Fabric Preparation, Pressing Recommendations, and Disclosures

All fabrics are prepared for laser cutting by saturating with plain water and pressing until dry. This process relaxes all the threads and "resets" the fabric back into a more natural state. After laser cutting, the edges of the fabric will have a very slight burnt edge, only noticeable on light fabrics. I have noticed that over time, a brown residue bleeds into the seam allowance.\* This has not been a problem for any of my quilts because it stays in the seam allowance and it washes away. I have noticed that spraying water or using steam while piecing can cause the brown residue to transfer onto the front side of the quilt which can be a problem for quilts that are not going to be washed. In addition, I have had issues with some fabric dyes used in batik fabrics that will transfer from dark to light fabrics while ironing if the fabrics are wet. So, as a precaution, dry pressing is recommended to avoid any bleeding of the brown residue or fabric dye onto the lighter colored fabrics.

<sup>\*</sup>Starch is not used. Starch is a sugar and seems to create more burning at the edges.



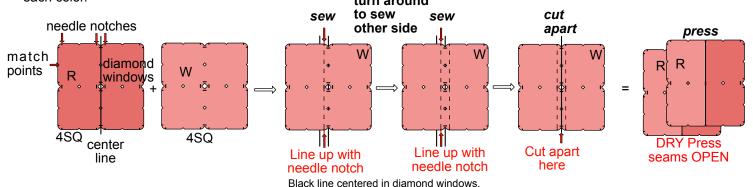
4SQ shapes are 4 squares plus seam allowances merged into 1 piece. These are used to make 4-square units (4 patches) similar to a common method for making half-square triangles and quarter-square triangles. 2SQ shapes are 2 squares plus seam allowances merged into 1 piece and used to make 2-square units. The small flag has only 1 row of squares per stripe, so it is assembled differently from the other sizes and uses some 2SQ shapes. Diagonal seam tape or other diagonal seam guide is <u>required</u> to sew these shapes.

### 4-Square units

#### Step 1

The kit contains 24 red 4SQ shapes and 24 light 4SQ shapes cut from 12 different fabrics each. Separate each stack into 2 sets of 12 shapes by starting from the top of the stack and counting 12 pieces. You will notice that all the fabrics are different. To help distribute the different fabrics evenly throughout the quilt, assemble the units in step 1 into 2 sets of 12 for each color.

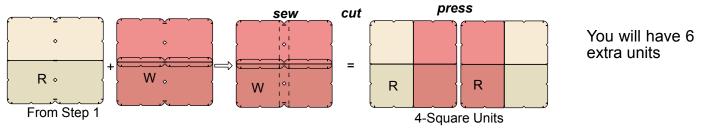
\*\*Turn around\*\*



Preform Step 1 for the light fabrics before proceeding to step 2.

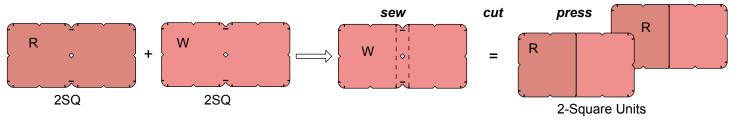
### Step 2

From one set of reds and one set of lights, randomly put together into 12 pairs, a light unit and a red unit. With right sides together, sew a seam on each side of the center line and then cut apart to make 2 4-square units. DRY Press seams open. Repeat with the other 2 sets to make a total of 48 units.



## 2-Square units

The kit contains 12 2SQ shapes, 12 different fabrics. Pair 2 shapes together and sew 2 seams, one on each side of the center line as you did with the 4SQ units.



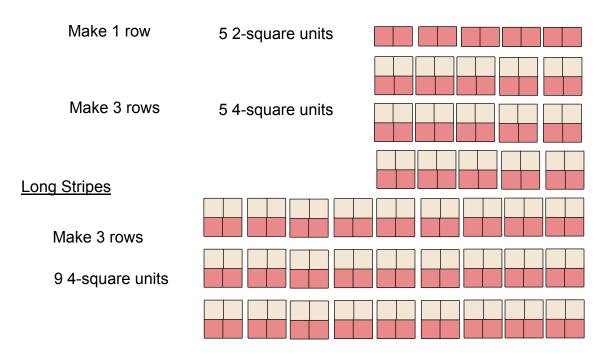
Select 5 units made with 10 different fabrics to include in the quilt. You will have 7 extra units.

R = Right Side Up, W = Wrong Side Up

DRY Press seams OPEN
LaserCutMyQuilt.com

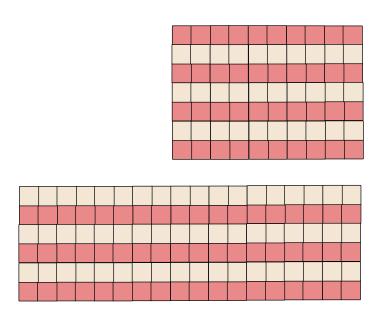
## 5 Star Flag Assembly

#### **Short Stripes**



To help arrange randomly and evenly, layout the 2-square units first as the top row. Each set of 24 will have 12 pairs of 4 patches that are the same fabrics but an opposite arrangement. Working with the first set, separate the pairs into 2 groups of 12 units. Lay out the units from the first half of set 1 starting with the second row and working downward. Continue with the second half and then proceed with set 2 in the same manner. There are 6 extra 4SQ units and 7 extra 2SQ units that can be used to substitute for any repeats.

Sew the units into rows. Sew the rows into 2 sections, a right section and a bottom section.



# The Star Panel Shapes\*

Star Block:	<u>5 Star</u>	<u>13 Star</u>	<u> 25 Star</u>	<u>50 Star</u>
A	10 (12)	26 (28)	50 (52)	100 (104)
B	15 (18)	39 (42)	75 (78)	150 (156)
C	5 (6)	13 (14)	25 (26)	50 (52)
DE	5 (6), 5 (6)	13 (14), 13 (14)	25 (26), 25 (26)	50 (52), 50 (26)
F	5 (6)	13 (14)	25 (26)	50 (52)
The Panel:	2	4	6	10
H	2, 2	2, 2	2, 2	2, 2
J	2	4	6	8
K	(laser cut) 13.12 x 2 inch	(laser cut) 19.43 x 1.375 inch	(42" x 3") 25 ¾ x 1 ¾ inch	(42" x 5") 38 % x 2 ½ inch
L Bonus Packet:	none	none	none	25 x 1 1/4 inch
M 2.08" x 6.81"	1	1	1	2
H	2, 2	2, 2	2, 2	4, 4

<sup>\*</sup>Each kit contains extra pieces in case of damage or loss. The quantity needed is followed by the quantity provided in parentheses.

## The Star Panel

All the pieces in the star panel are designed to fit together perfectly using traditional piecing techniques. Accuracy is assured by the design features cut into each shape which include needle notches, match points, and rounded corners. All seams start and end with a needle notch. All seam have a match point to ensure proper alignment. Rounded corners create a ¼ inch radius of seam allowance around the corner point to make a perfect fit with any two shape.

The panel is made up of star blocks (shapes A thru F), side triangles (G thru J), and rectangles (K and L). The star blocks are assembled by making 4 different units and then sewing the 4 units together into a diamond shaped block. The star blocks and side triangles are arranged into a rectangle shaped panel. Pieces K and L are then added and the panel is trimmed to the size needed to fit the stripe sections.

Throughout the instructions, wrong side (W) and right side (R) refers to the side with or without a seam allowance, respectfully. Pieces D and E and pieces H and I are the same shapes, however oriented as mirror opposites in the quilt. When cut with batik fabrics, which are dyed, there is not any visible difference between the two sides so the pieces can be oriented either way. Units 1 and 2 are mirror opposites and not interchangeable after piecing, so make sure you make the correct number of units for each orientation.

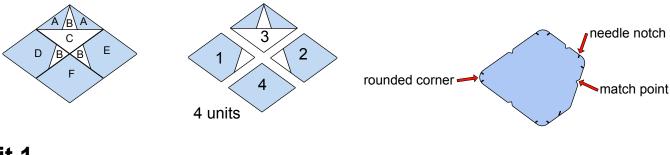
All kits have one or two extra star blocks. Make one star completely to familiarize yourself with the block, then assemble the remaining star blocks using a chain sewing method. Performing the same step over and over will help you master the step. If all the star blocks are made well, you will be able to use the extra block(s) to make a bonus mini-quilt.

## 5-Pointed Star Block

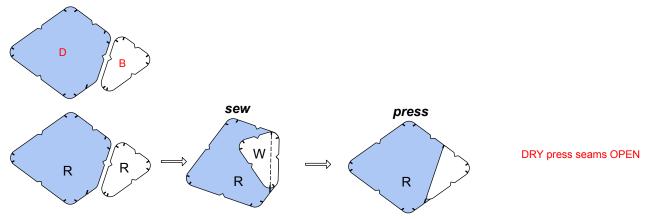
Place the 2 shapes together and match up the needle notches, fabric edges, and match points. With the needle in the down position, place the 2 shapes under the presser foot and insert the needle into the notch. Sew a straight seam from needle notch to needle notch. This is a scant ¼ inch seam.

Pin where intersections join to ensure that points meet.

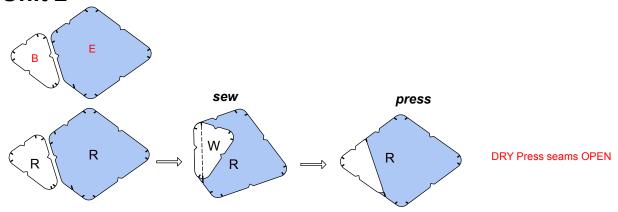
If seams are sewn accurately, the shapes and units should fit together pretty well as the block is built. If something is not matching up, examine the seams and resew any problem seams. Never trim to make it fit. Trimming will only cause problems down the line.



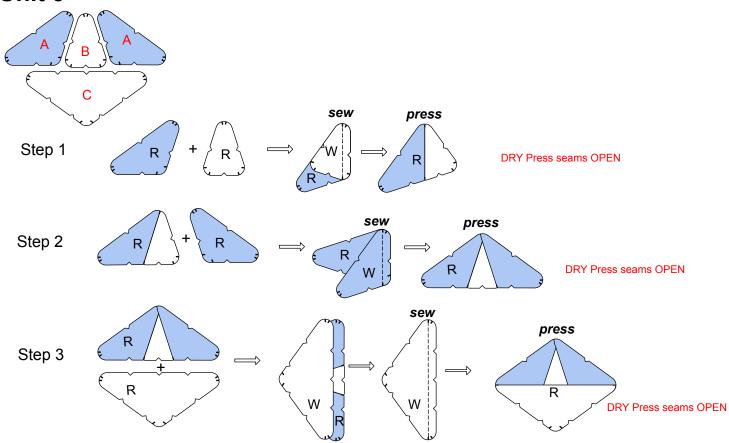




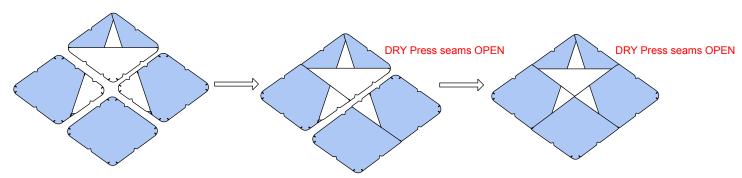
## Unit 2



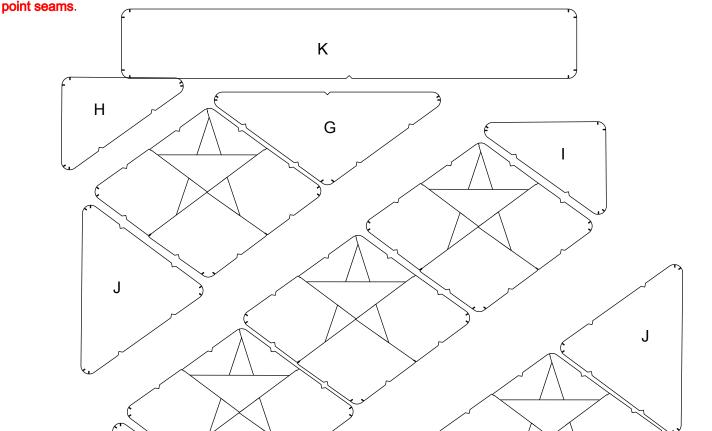
## Unit 3



## The block



Assemble in diagonal rows and then sew the rows together, as illustrated below. Sew piece K to the top of this rectangle, matching the center match points. DRY Press the seams to the side of least resistance, which is away from the star



G

# Trimming the Star Panel

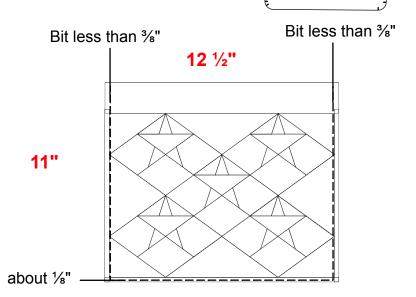
The panel will be trimmed a small amount on the bottom edge and the sides as shown by the dotted lines. The top edge (edge with the single star point) will not be trimmed.

Press with a dry iron so it is as flat as possible. Place on a cutting mat of sufficient size. Place some books or large rulers on the panel to keep flat while measuring.

The dotted lines show the suggested trimming line and the estimated amount to trim. Trim the bottom edge first, making the panel the stated length in **red**. Next, trim the left and right sides equally, making the panel the width stated in **red**. The trimmed panel should fit perfectly with the stripe panels.

# Completing the flag:

Sew the short stripe panel to the right side of the star panel and then sew the long stripe panel to the bottom. Add your flag to a quilt, add a border, or finish as is.



Н

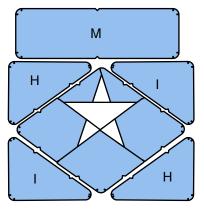
## **Bonus Mini-Quilt**

As stated on the previous pages, extra shapes are included in the kit in case of damage or loss. If you have not damaged or lost any shapes, you will be able to construct a small bonus quilt. There is an additional packet with some bonus shapes to help you change the extra star block into a rectangle or square. This is the number of extra shapes/units in each kit:

Star Blocks 1

4-Square Units 6

2-Square Units Reds 7



Unfinished size: 6.66" x 6.81"

The H, I, and M shapes are used to turn the diamond shaped star block into a square or rectangle block. When constructed, as shown above, the star will be centered in the block, but it is not a perfect square. You will need to trim it down to the size you want. It can be trimmed to a square or rectangle to put in another quilt or combined with the other extra units to make a mini quilt. See an example below.

