

Star Mat

By Marie Duncan, Education Creative Coordinator

Make this patriotic star mat to proclaim your love of country! It's perfect for the summer holidays, to bring color and fun to your picnic table! Instructions are for one mat, but you can make one for each place setting and use as placemats, or make just one for the center of the table.

Sewing Supplies:

- 1/4 Yard each of Four Different Fabrics for Star
- 2/3 Yard for Lining and One Star Piece
- 23" Square of Warm and Natural Cotton Batting
- Sewing Thread
- Dual Feed Foot
- Clear 1/4" Piecing Foot w/Guide#412927445
- INSPIRA® Tear-A-Way Stabilizer
- 40 wt. Rayon Embroidery Thread
- Bobbin Thread
- 1/4" wide Steam-A-Seam 2



Cut:

Cut one pattern piece from each of five different fabrics.
Two rectangles 12" x 23" for lining

Piece the Star:

Follow these two rules for successful piecing:

Always start from the center.

Always start 1/4" from the end.

1. Snap on your Clear 1/4" Piecing Foot w/Guide.
2. Thread with sewing thread top and bobbin.
3. On the wrong side of the fabric, mark a dot 1/4" from the inner point.
4. Place the first two pieces right sides together.
5. Lower the needle in the dot.



6. Begin sewing, backtacking and stitch the seam.
7. Repeat with the next two pieces.
8. Add the third, to one of the two.
9. Sew the final seam, again beginning in the center on the marked dot. This insures that your center will match and your star will lie flat.
10. Press.

Embroider:

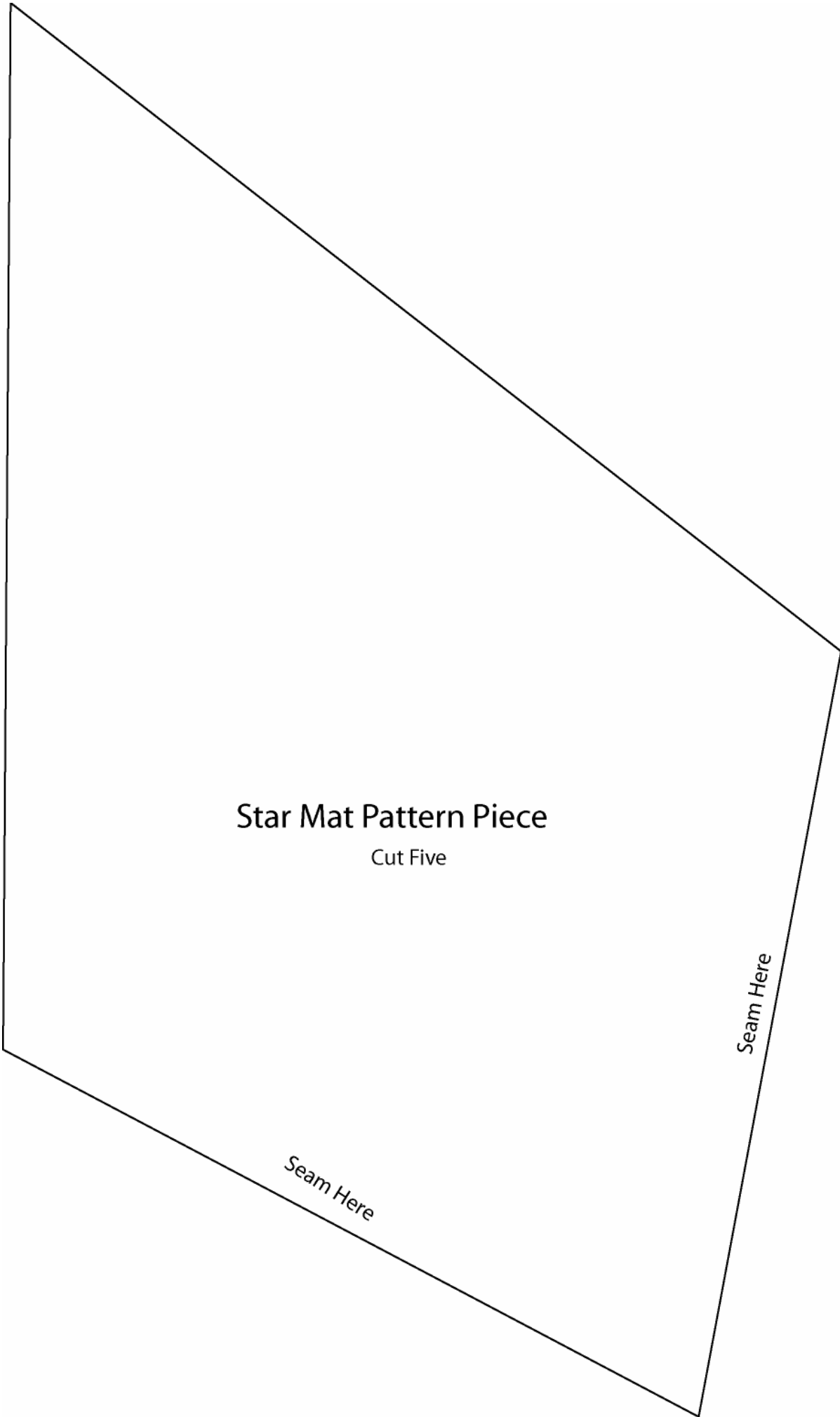
1. Hoop INSPIRA® Tear-A-Way Stabilizer.
2. Thread with 40 wt. rayon embroidery thread on top and bobbin thread in the bobbin.
3. Select the June 2009 Monthly Design and embroider it on one of the star sections.
4. Press, remove the stabilizer.

Finish Your Star Mat:

1. Thread with sewing thread top and bobbin.
2. Snap on your Clear 1/4" Seam Foot w/Guide.
3. Because all the star edges are on the bias, we will piece two rectangles for the star mat backing with an opening in the center. This is how we will turn the star. If we leave an opening on one of the bias edges, it is very difficult to turn it without stretching and distorting the edges.
4. Place the rectangles right sides together. Stitch along the 23" side leaving a 5" opening in the center of the seam.

5. Press the seam to one side.
6. Place the batting on a flat surface. Place the lining right side up on the batting. Place the star right sides down on top and pin.
7. Stitch all the way around the star.
8. Trim away the excess fabric and clip the points.
9. Cut a slit in the batting, to enable you to reach the opening in the lining.
10. Turn the star mat right side out.
11. Reach in through the opening in the lining and hand whip the batting edges together where you slit it.
12. Insert Steam in the opening in the lining and press with steam, to fuse closed.
13. Attach your Dual Feed Foot. Beginning in the center each time, stitch in the ditch of the star.





Star Mat Pattern Piece

Cut Five

Seam Here

Seam Here