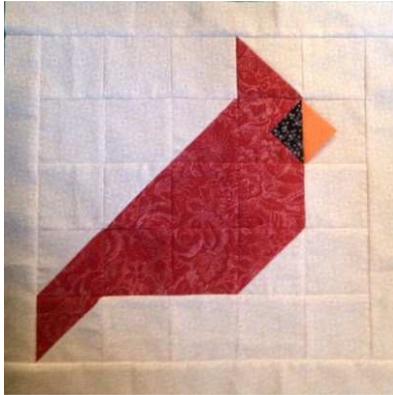


Cardinal Block
Evening Star Quilt Guild
Presented by Nan Hodge
November 21, 2016



Cardinal block (right facing)

Cardinal block uses squares, half square triangles (HST), a quarter square triangle (QST) variation, and a prairie point. The cardinal is 5 squares by 5 squares and is surrounded by additional strips to make a block that finishes at 12 inches.

Fabric needed:

Fat Quarter - red

Fat Quarter – white (background)

Scrap of orange

Scrap of black

Use the HST method where 8 HSTs are made at a time. **Only 6** will be used for this block. To make 8 HSTs at a time cut two $5\frac{3}{4}$ inch squares one from red and one from white fabric. Place right sides together. Draw 2 diagonal lines, and then stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on both sides of the diagonal lines. Now cut into fourths creating 4 squares, and cut on the drawn diagonal lines. Open, square to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and press. See diagram below for stitching and cutting for this method. For more information on this method, go to <http://chezstitches.blogspot.com/2011/01/magic-8.html>. Formula for the size of square is: finished measurement + $\frac{7}{8}$ inch X 2.

Cut 14 - $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares from white, 4 - $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares from red, and 1 - $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch square from orange to make a prairie point for the beak. (To make a prairie point, fold the square in half diagonally, and then fold in half diagonally again. Press.) Baste onto one of the white squares.

To make the variation of the QST (3-patch QST), first make an HST in red and black. Cut $3\frac{1}{4}$ inch square in both red and black. Place right sides together, draw one line diagonally across the square. Stitch scant $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on both sides of the diagonal line. Cut on the drawn line. Open, square to 3 inches, and press. This makes 2 HSTs, but **only one** will be used for this block. Now cut a 3 inch square from red. Layer that on top of the red and black HST with right sides together. Draw one line diagonally across the square, ensuring that the drawn diagonal line does not the run same direction as the HST. Stitch a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on both sides of the diagonal line. Cut on the drawn line. Open, square to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and press. (Tip: ensure when squaring up the 3-patch QST, that the

center point is maintained.) This makes 2 of the QST variation, but **only one** will be used for this block.

To create the cardinal block layout squares following the block above:

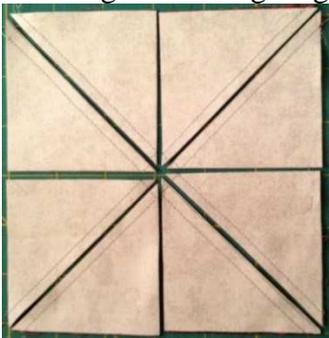
- 13 white squares
- 1 white square with orange prairie point
- 4 red squares
- 6 red and white HSTs
- 1 red and black QST

Stitch together the appropriate 5 squares to create each of the 5 rows. The cardinal can be right facing as shown in the completed block above, or left facing as the shown in the row placement below. (Pressing tips: press all seams in first row the same direction. And it does work best if the square with the prairie point is pressed the opposite direction of the direction you want the beak to face. Press the next row in the opposite direction; repeat for all rows alternating the direction of the pressed seams. This will make the seams nest when stitching rows together. After rows are sewn together, press the block from the top and let the seams go where they will.) Measure the cardinal block. It should measure 10 ½ inches. My block was slightly larger, but was square, and I did not trim further for fear of loosing points. And the additional strips used to finish the block can be adjusted so the block is the correct size.

Additional strips surround the block and will make a 12 inch finished block:

Cut two strips 1 ½ inches (or slightly wider) by 10 ½ inches. (The height of the block.)
Stitch to sides of block. Now cut two more strips 1 ½ inches (or slightly wider) by 12 ½ inches. Stitch to top and bottom of the block. Square to 12 ½ inches.

Stitching and cutting diagram for make 8 HST at a time:



Row layout (left facing)

