## Block 6: February

This block starts exactly as the January block. We will just arrange the HST's in an another arrangement. So, the first paragraphs are just a repeat of last month.

This block includes a method of making eight half-square triangle units at once. If you wish to use other methods that will also work. All eight of our HST units will be the same color so if you wish your star to have all different colors, you will need to make four stars with four different colors and then arrange the colors.

For EACH Block: Cut one 5 3/4-inch square of a color and one 5 3/4-inch square of the background. (Or cut them 6 inches-see NOTE below.) Also cut four $21 / 2$ by $4 \frac{1}{2}$ inch background rectangles.

## Assembly:

1. Put the two squares right sides together and mark the diagonal lines in both directions. Sew a scant quarter inch seam on both sides of both lines.

2. Cut the square in half vertically and horizontally and then cut both diagonal lines. Notice that the half-way mark is $27 / 8$ inches.


I press the diagonal seams open on these little blocks; it makes them lie much flatter. They should all be 2 $1 / 2$ inches square. If you have cut and sewn an accurate scant quarter-inch seam there will be very little to trim. NOTE: If you don't feel that you are accurate in your seam allowances, then cut the squares 6 inches and cut apart at 3 inches vertically
and horizontally. You will have a bit more to trim, but you won't risk having them be too small.

3. Here's the different arrangement: Lay them out in pairs like this and sew together. If you are not pressing the seams open, then press toward the right triangle:

4. Sew the background rectangle to triangle pairs. Unlike last month you can't get them backwards. Press toward the background rectangle.

5. Arrange into a four-patch and sew. This you can mess up, so be careful:

6. Add your final border. Make 3 and add to your growing stack!! You should now have 18 blocks for your sampler quilt.


Alternate possibilities. If you make a lot of different half square triangle in step 1 , you could mix and match the triangles for multicolored stars.

Also, you could make 15 from Month 5 and 15 from Month 6 to make an entire quilt. Notice that I made one month all red and the other all blue and alternated the blocks for the quilt.


And look at this picture compared to step 5 and 6 above. If you start in the top left corner with the alternate placement of the background rectangle your stars look different.

