

MAY 2025 quiltmuseum.org/botm



Night Watch by Becky Glasby

Round 7

Welcome to Round 7 of our Block of the Month Club!

Round 7 will run April - December 2025, with new patterns dropping on the first of the month at Noon Central in the BOTM Facebook group and to the BOTM website.

This Round, we are changing things up by following a row format, instead of square blocks.

We anticipate the final quilt measuring 48" wide x 52" long. There will be a total of 9 rows, 4 of the rows will be 8" in height, and 5 rows will be 4" in height. Of course, you are welcome to add extra rows, or make them wider/shorter than the pattern size, or switch them around as desired to best fit your creativity!

Rows in Round 7 are inspired by both the natural world and interesting details in some of our NQM Collection quilts.

Round 7 Designer



Follow Becky Online!

Instagram:
obumblybzs

Becky Glasby is a self-taught quilter who turned her love of quilting from a personal hobby into a professional career at the National Quilt Museum.

At NQM Becky works to inspire the next generation of quilters and promote the art of quilting through: youth & adult tours, hands-on programs, community collaborations, Summer Quilt Camps for kids, the Block of the Month Club program, and coordinating the annual School Block Challenge.

Becky had a solo exhibition of her quilts at The National Quilt Museum, and has exhibited several quilts in shows across the country.

Night Watch



Inspired by the night sky! Stars, planets, constellations, satellites - all of it is awe-inspiring. I love stars - both in nature and in quilts so it made sense to dedicate a whole row to them. I also love the variety of techniques you can use to create stars in quilts, and included several in this row. A night sky doesn't seem complete without a few planets (or moons) to fill in the view, so there are a couple of options to expand your night sky.

Inspiration for the variety of types of stars came from my 100 day project from 2020 where I made a star block everyday and then puzzled all 100 blocks into a quilt (shown below).



Materials

- -Erasable Marking Pen
- -Sharp Scissors
- -Needle and thread that matches your background fabric color for hand appliqué
- -Add a Quarter ruler for 5 point foundation paper pieced star
- -Fusible web
- -Plate/Round object for tracing, about 8" in diameter
- -Pencil

FABRIC

- 3/4 yard Background Navy
- 10" x 5" for partial Planet
- FQ star fabric for 8 point star
- FQ star fabric for 5 point star
- 6" circle for second Planet
- smaller stars approx. 4" squares in various colors/prints

1. From the Background fabric, cut a piece that is 30" x 9" in size. This is the main background piece for the row. *It's cut a little bigger than needed to allow for trimming up later.* Set this piece to the side.

For the 8-Point star cut:

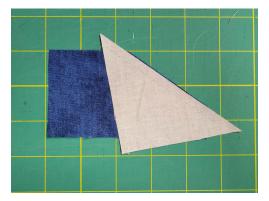
- 4 2.5" x 4.5" rectangles background
- 4 2.5" squares background
- 1 4.5" square star fabric
- 4 3" squares star fabric, then cut these in half diagonally

8 - Point Wonky Star

2. Take two triangle pieces of the star fabric, and one background rectangle. Place one triangle, right sides together, with the rectangle. The long side of the triangle should spread from the middle of the rectangle to one of the short sides.



3. Stitch the triangle with a 1/4" seam. Before trimming away the excess rectangle from the seam, open the star point to make sure it covers the rectangle corner. Once trimmed, open the point and press.





4. Take the second triangle and adjust as needed to create a shorter or longer angle, making sure it overlaps with the first triangle in the center of the rectangle. Stitch in place.

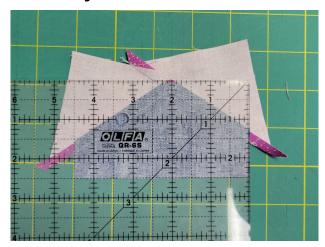


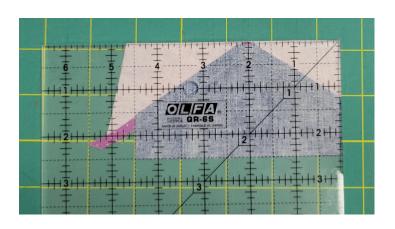
5. Trim away the excess rectangle fabric from the seam, then open and press the point fabric.



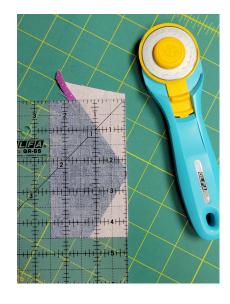


- 6. Using a ruler and rotary we'll trim up this unit to measure 2.5" x 4.5". I prefer to do this from the back side of the unit.
- 7. Align the ruler with the non-stitched corners of the rectangle. Then trim away the extra material of the star point fabric.





8. Turn the unit, and re-align the ruler to trim the final side. Repeat steps X with the remaining rectangles and triangles to make 4 units that are 2.5" x 4.5" in size.





9. Once all four star point units are finished, layout the star pieces as shown. Stitch them together to create the 8 - Point Star. Set aside.





5-Point Foundation Paper Pieced Star

These sizes are minimum sizes needed for the pieces, but if you need to cut your pieces larger that's okay.

10. Print out the pattern on page 25. Make sure printer settings are set to 100% to print this page.

Lower your stitch length to about 1.5 to make it easier to rip out the paper at the end.

If you need a reminder on paper piecing, check out the tutorial on our YouTube Playlist by Clicking Here.

5 -Point Star Cut:

Section A

A1 - 2.5" square - star fabric

A2 - 7" x 9" - background

A3 - 6" x 7" - star fabric

Section B

B1 - 2.5" x 5" - star fabric

B2 - 7.5" square - background

B3 - 4" x 6" - background

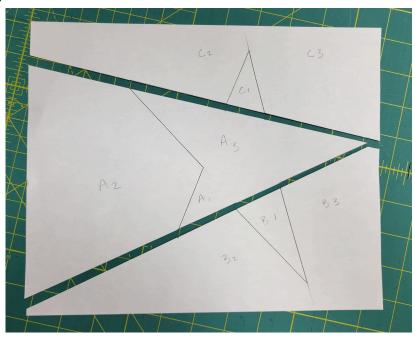
Section C

C1 - 2.5" x 3.5" - star fabric

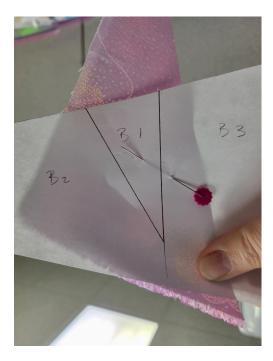
C2 - 7" x 4.5" - background

C3 - 5" x 6" - background

11. There are three sections - A - B - C. Cut apart the sections by cutting on the line between Section A and C. Then cut on the line between Section A and B.



12. Starting with Section B (we'll come back to A in a minute), place the wrong side of the star fabric B1 piece on the backside of the paper. Make sure the fabric covers the entire B1 spot, and extends past the paper at least 1/4" for seam allowance. Pin in place.



13. From the lined side of the paper, fold the paper only back on the line between pieces B1 and B2.



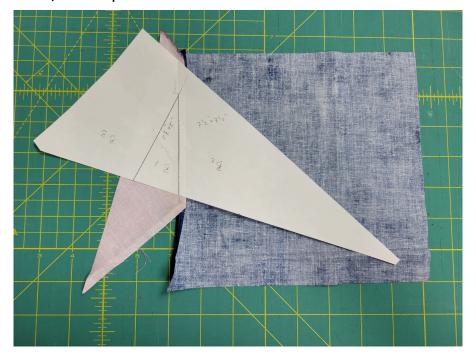
14. Use an Add-a-Quarter ruler, or measure with your regular ruler, 1/4" from the folded paper and trim any extra fabric away.



15. Take fabric for piece B2, and place it right sides together with B1, aligning along the trimmed edge.



16. Carefully place under the needle, and stitch directly on the line between pieces B1 and B2. Open up the fabric, make sure it covers the full section of B2, then press the seam.



17. View from the right side of the fabrics, once pressed.

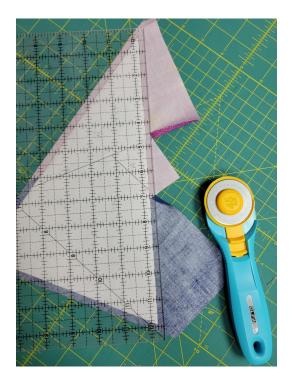


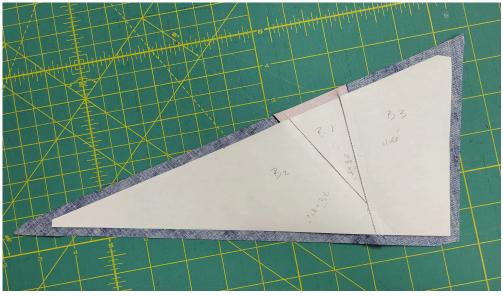
- 18. Fold the paper back along the line between pieces B1 and B3. Then measure 1/4", and trim away any extra fabric.
- 19. Take fabric for piece B3, and place it right sides together with B1, aligning along the trimmed edge.
- 20. Stitch directly on the line between B1 and B3. Open the fabric to make sure it covers the section completely, and press with the iron.



21. Measure 1/4" away from the paper edges of Section B and trim away any excess fabric on all sides. This 1/4" will be the seam allowance for joining the sections together and is very important to include!

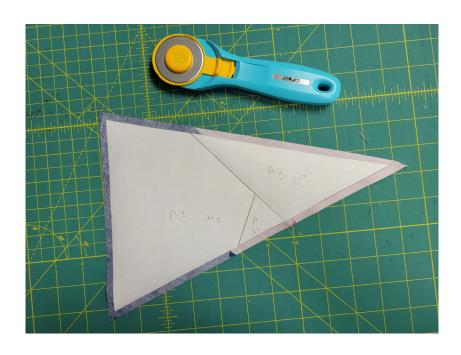
Once trimmed, set aside Section B and move onto Section A.





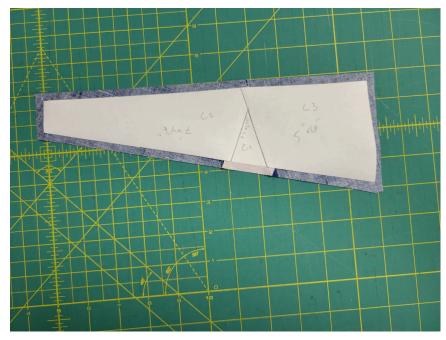
22. Assemble Section A following the same steps, going numerically in order from A1 to A2 to A3. Once this section is stitched, trim the edges to measure 1/4" away from the paper and set aside.



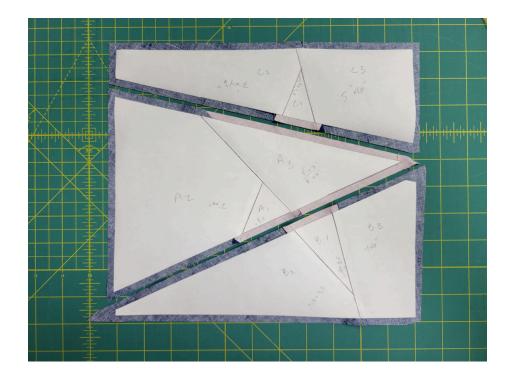


23. Assemble Section C following the same steps, going numerically in order from C1 to C2 to C3. Once this section is stitched, trim the edges to measure 1/4" away from the paper and set aside.





24. Once all three sections are stitched and trimmed, lay them out. At this point, I like to switch back to a 1/4" foot to keep my seam allowance accurate when joining the sections.



- 25. Place Section A and Section B, right sides together. I like to pin these where the star point seams cross along pieces A1 and B1 so I know they are aligned properly.
 - Stitch with a 1/4" seam and press.
- 26. Align Section C with Section A, then stitch together and press.

27. Once this block is pressed, trim it to measure 8.5" x 11.5" in size. Then set block aside.



Partial Planet

28. Take the large 9" \times 30" piece of background and set on the table with the 10" \times 5" piece for the partial planet.

29. To create the curve, trace part of a round object, like a plate or bowl, onto a piece of paper/cardstock. I used a plate about 8" in diameter. Cut out this partial circle, and place onto the background piece, lining the straight edges together.

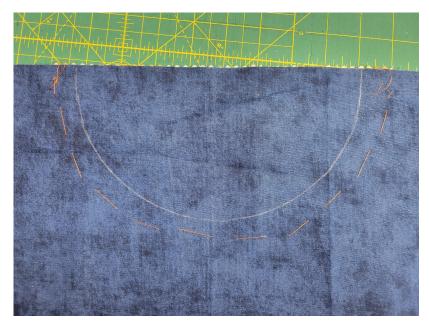


30. Using the marking tool, trace the curved outline onto the right side of the background fabric.



31. Place the 10" x 5" piece of fabric right side facing up, underneath the background fabric, so that it will fill the partial circle. Then baste these fabrics together so they won't shift.

I did a quick running stitch to thread baste the fabrics in place, outside the traced line.



32. Once basted, carefully cut only the background fabric directly on the traced line. This will reveal the fabric underneath for the planet.



33. To needle turn appliqué, match your thread to the color of the background fabric, I used a navy thread. Start from one edge, and come up from the bottom so your knot is on the backside of the fabric.

As you stitch, turn the cut edge of the background fabric slightly under itself (about 1/4") using your fingers, or the side of the needle so there's a smooth curve.

34. The needle should come up through the turned edge of the background, and go down right into the planet fabric. This helps keep the stitch mostly invisible.



35. Continue to turn and stitch the edge of the background fabric until you reach the opposite end. Bring your thread to the backside of the fabric and tie a knot to secure the stitches. Remove the basting

stitches.



36. From the back, trim away excess planet fabric, leaving about 1/4" -1/2" for seam allowance. Trim this strip to measure 8.5" x 29".

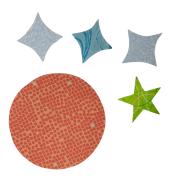


37. Now you can assemble the main pieces of the row. Layout your 8-point and 5-point star blocks and the partial planet strip. Feel free to arrange them in any order you like!



38. Once satisfied with the layout, stitch them together, making sure they will measure 48" in length once assembled.

Here you can add in any extra stars/planets using fusible appliqué. You could also use hand embroidery to add in extra stars or leave some room for quilting in any extra shapes, or constellations.



- 39. Trace the shapes you want onto the paper side of the fusible, then cut them out leaving space around the drawn line. Adhere the fusible to the wrong side of the fabric and let cool.
- 40. Once cool, cut out on the line the star shapes. Use a pin to score the paper down the middle of the shape and peel off the paper from this line to help keep points intact.
- 41. Set the fusible star shapes in place as desired on the row, and press them with an iron to secure in place. Congrats! The row is complete!



