

Storytelling Tees:

THE CHRISTMAS STAR



FINISHED QUILT MEASUREMENTS: Using a variety of t-shirt sizes and the enclosed "Coloring & Layout" sheet, each quilt made from this pattern is one-of-a-kind.

A NOTE FROM ASHLI

Dear Quilter,

Thank you for trying something new and adventurous in this “choose your own design” quilt pattern!

I began making Storytelling Tees many years ago, most often incorporating sports team t-shirts with traditional quilting blocks to create baby gifts. Over time, the technique turned into my signature quilt. I’m elated to share this pattern design – my first public release – with you.

In addition to my Storytelling Tees, I spend a lot of time cutting, sewing, and quilting on behalf of my nonprofit quilt business, [Quilt 2 End ALZ, Inc.](#) I launched Q2EA in January of 2019 to create a platform to advocate for a world without Alzheimer’s disease through my love of quilting. Now I travel the country sharing my story and educating quilt guilds on how we can quilt to end ALZ. Together!

I hope you will join our Q2EA community to keep in touch, share our progress, and join in our mission:

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

I would love to see your fabric pulls, t-shirt themes, and finished projects, so please share your photos by shooting me an email or tagging me on social media.

With love and hugs,



Ashli

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THE CHRISTMAS STAR QUILT PATTERN

FINISHED QUILT MEASUREMENTS: Using a variety of t-shirt sizes and the enclosed “Coloring & Layout” sheet, each quilt made from this pattern is one-of-a-kind.

8-POINTED STAR BLOCKS MEASURE 4”, 8”, 12”, 16”, 20”, and 24” square;
Use the appropriate blocks to fill in your unique layout design.

Use a scant ¼” seam allowance throughout. | Width of Fabric (WOF) assumes unwashed and 40” wide.

HST = Half Square Triangle

MATERIALS

T-Shirts	You get to choose! You’ll want anywhere from 5 – 12 total.
Fusible T-Shirt Interfacing	I like June Tailor T-Shirt Project Fusible Interfacing (6” x 72”, white), but any lightweight fusible interfacing will due; amount needed will vary with your t-shirt selection, but one package of June Tailor or about 4 yards should be enough.
Fabric	Amounts will vary by design, but this is a good rule of thumb: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 yard White Fabric• 1 yard Green Fabric• 1 yard Red Fabric

DESIGNING YOUR LAYOUT

1. Measure each t-shirt that you've selected to use in your quilt topper.
2. Determine sizes for your shirts so that measurements are divisible by 4. For example, a t-shirt graphic that measures 9" wide and 14" tall is rounded up to 12" wide by 16" tall. Record the measurements on the T-SHIRT COLLECTION CHART, but **do not cut your shirts quite yet.**
3. Using the measurements you recorded and the enclosed Christmas Star Templates, finalize your quilt design. I like to begin by setting the t-shirts scattered around the topper. Then, fill in with the larger stars that you like. Finally, fill in the empty spaces with the smaller stars.
4. Now count how many of each star size your layout requires and record on the HST CHART & CUTTING GUIDE.
5. Once your charts are complete, your sewing plan is ready to go.

PREPARING YOUR T-SHIRTS

1. Cut each of your t-shirts "open" by cutting off the sleeves at the seam and then down each side (along the crease/fold when the t-shirt is laid flat). Cut along the shoulder seams to separate the front from the back so you have less extra material to handle. [SEE DIAGRAM A](#)
2. Cut a piece of fusible, t-shirt interfacing at least 2" larger in width and length than your t-shirt measurements.
3. With your t-shirt face down, lay the interfacing on the t-shirt with the "nubby" side down. Check to be sure that the interfacing is centered over the t-shirt graphic and that everything is laid smooth and flat.



4. With your iron on the “wool” heat setting, adhere the fusible interfacing by setting the iron on a spot, leaving it for about 10-12 seconds, and then lifting the iron to another spot. Do not push the iron back and forth as it will create wrinkles and gathers in your t-shirt panel.
5. Once the interfacing is fully attached, turn the t-shirt, position the graphic to be centered, and trim to the accurate **cutting measurements** recorded on your chart (0.5” larger than your finished width and length to account for seam allowances).
6. Repeat for each shirt.
7. Set shirt panels aside until you are ready to piece the topper.

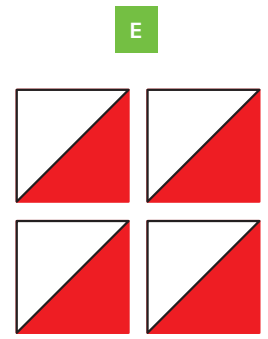
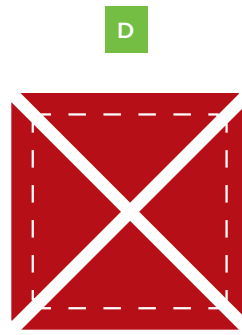
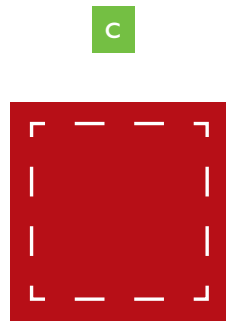
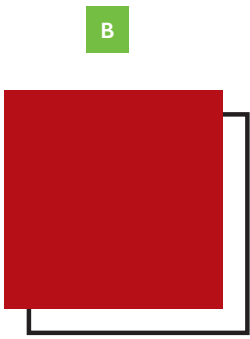
PIECE YOUR CHRISTMAS STARS

Each Christmas Star block is pieced using the same steps. The only thing that changes is the size of your Half-Square Triangles depending upon the desired finished block size.

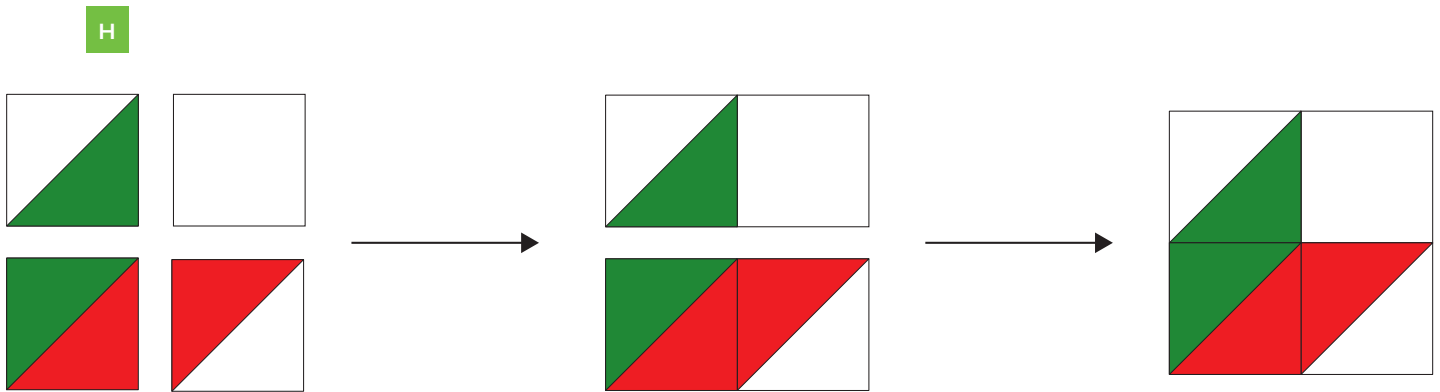
Use your Coloring Page and Layout Worksheet to determine the HST units you need to create and the squares that need to be cut from your fabrics.

NOTE: This method of creating 4 HST units at one time creates an outside biased edge, so there will be extra “give” in the units. Take these steps to stabilize the fabric if it gives you fits, or use a traditional method to create your Half-Square Triangles:

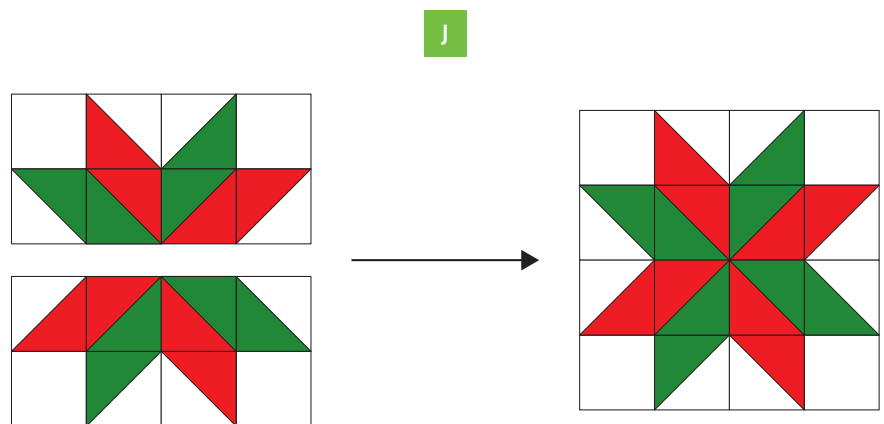
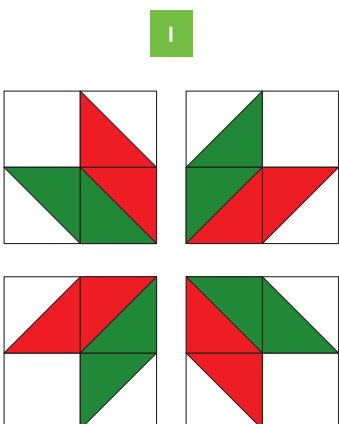
- a. Use spray starch to stiffen fabric
 - b. Press, but never iron back and forth
 - c. Pin pieces together for stitching
1. Create (1) RW unit by stacking (1) R square on top of (1) large W square with right sides together.
[SEE DIAGRAM B](#)
 2. Stitch along all four outer edges of the square. [SEE DIAGRAM C](#)
 3. Cut along each diagonal to create (4) RW Half-Square Triangles. Press towards red fabric to open.
[SEE DIAGRAM D](#)
 4. Trim each HST to the correct size according to the HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLE CHART. [SEE DIAGRAM E](#)



5. Repeat steps 1-4 to create (1) RG unit of (4) RG Half-Square Triangles. Press towards red fabric to open.
6. Repeat steps 1-4 to create (1) GW unit of (4) GW Half-Square Triangles. Press towards green fabric to open.
7. Using (1) RW HST, (1) RG HST, (1) GW HST, and (1) small W square, assemble as shown to make (1) corner unit. [SEE DIAGRAM H](#)

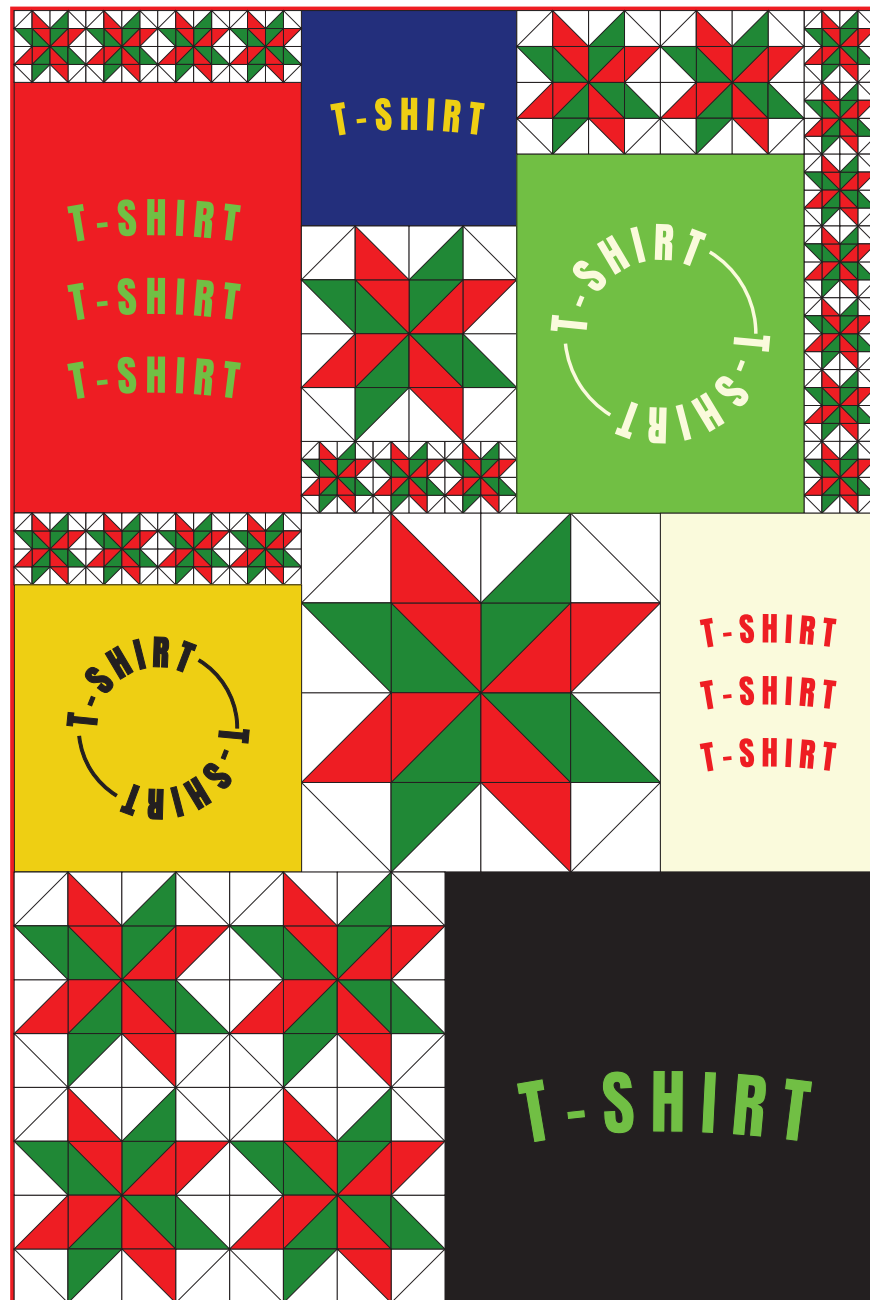


8. Repeat the process (3) times to create a total of (4) corner units. [SEE DIAGRAM I](#)
9. Layout and assemble the corner units as shown. [SEE DIAGRAM J](#)
10. Follow steps 1-8 for each Christmas Star needed for your design.



ASSEMBLE THE TOPPER

1. Using your Coloring & Layout Worksheet, arrange your t-shirt panels and Christmas Star blocks.
2. Sew the elements together as arranged, pressing seams to one side as you go to minimize bulk.



TO FINISH: Layer topper, batting, and backing and quilt as desired. Finish with binding.

COLORING & LAYOUT WORKSHEET

T-SHIRT COLLECTION CHART

Fill in as many rows as needed for your selected t-shirts:

T-Shirt	Color	Description	Width	Height	Add .5" to width and length for cutting measurement
EXAMPLE	Red	Ugly Sweater	16"	24"	16.5" x 24.5"
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLE CHART & CUTTING GUIDE

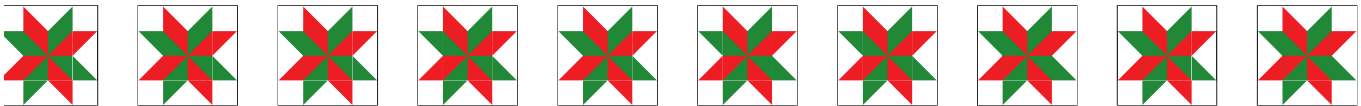
Fill in the quantities you need to complete your desired layout:

Finished Christmas Star Size	Cut (2) Red Squares	Cut (2) Green Squares	Cut (2) Large White Squares	Cut (4) Small White Squares	Trim HST units to	Quantity needed for my layout
4x4	3"	3"	3"	1.5"	1.5"	
8x8	4.5"	4.5"	4.5"	2.5"	2.5"	
12x12	6"	6"	6"	3.5"	3.5"	
16x16	7.5"	7.5"	7.5"	4.5"	4.5"	
20x20	9"	9"	9"	5.5"	5.5"	
24x24	10.5"	10.5"	10.5"	6.5"	6.5"	

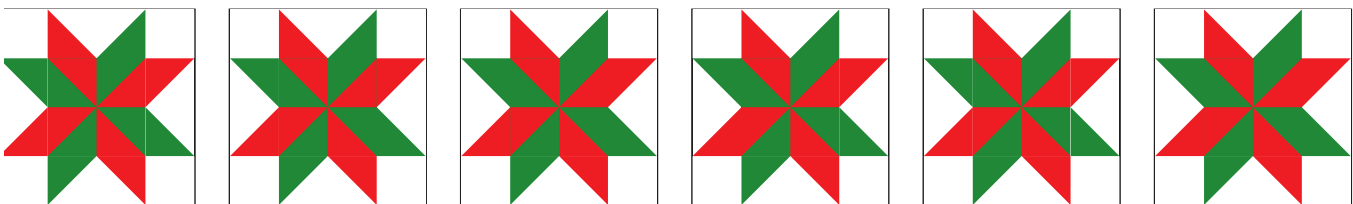
CHRISTMAS STAR TEMPLATES

Make as many copies as you'd like to cut and place on the TOPPER GRID to finalize your layout:

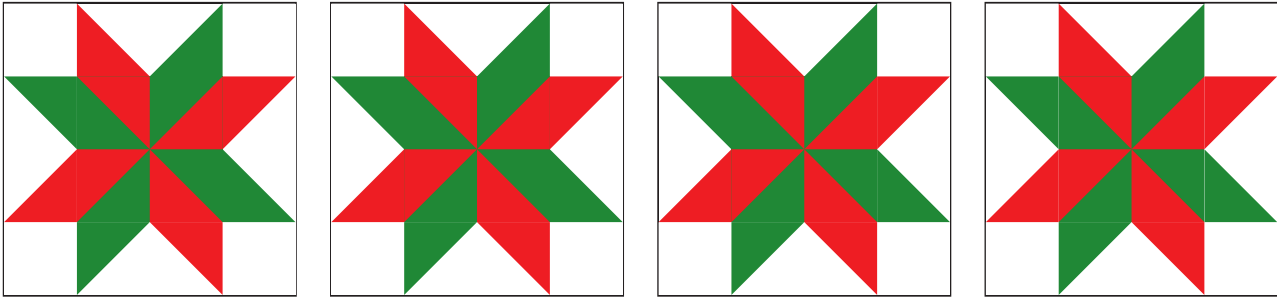
4x4



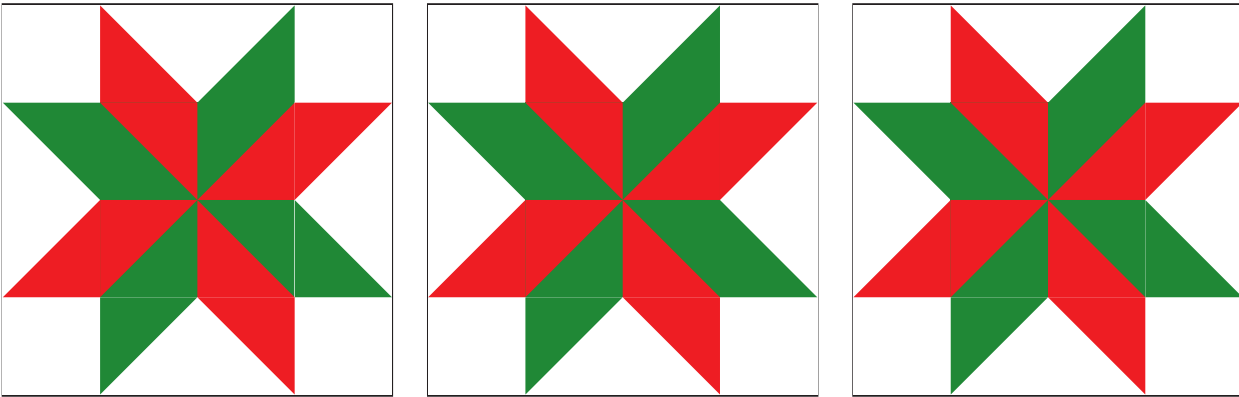
8x8



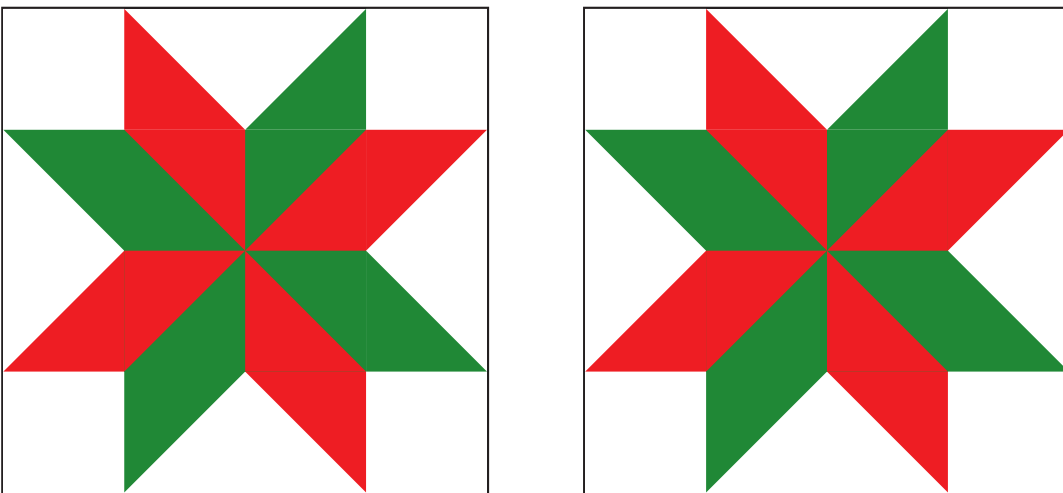
12x12



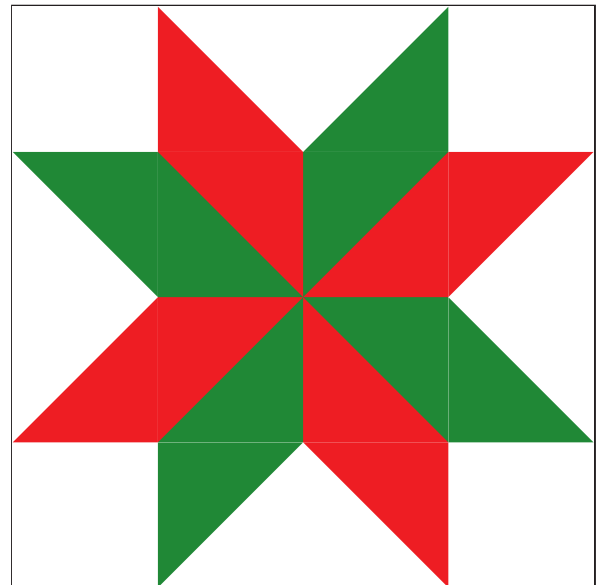
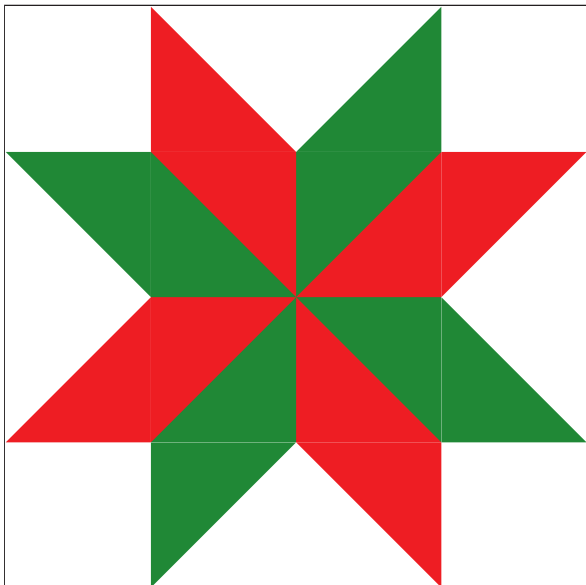
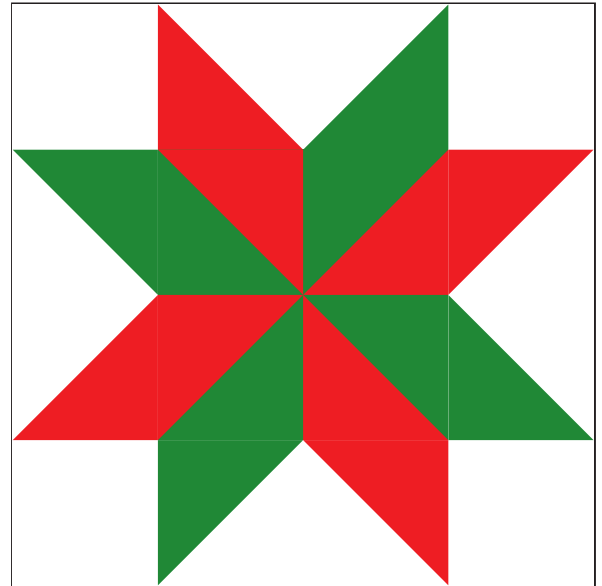
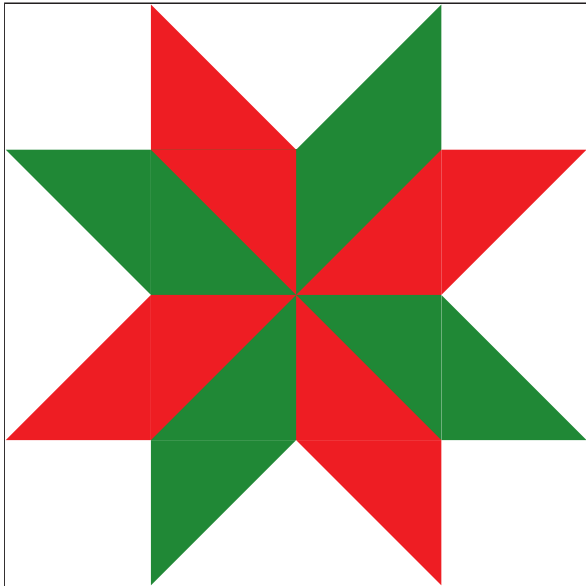
16x16



20x20



24x24



TOPPER DESIGN

Color in your t-shirt panels. Then fill in the open space with a variety of Christmas Stars:

