

# Hoffman

CALIFORNIA-INTERNATIONAL FABRICS

## PALETTE of the Season



### Checkmate

designed exclusively for Hoffman Fabrics by







### Jean Impey

Finished Size: 62.5" x 62.5"

# CHECKMATE

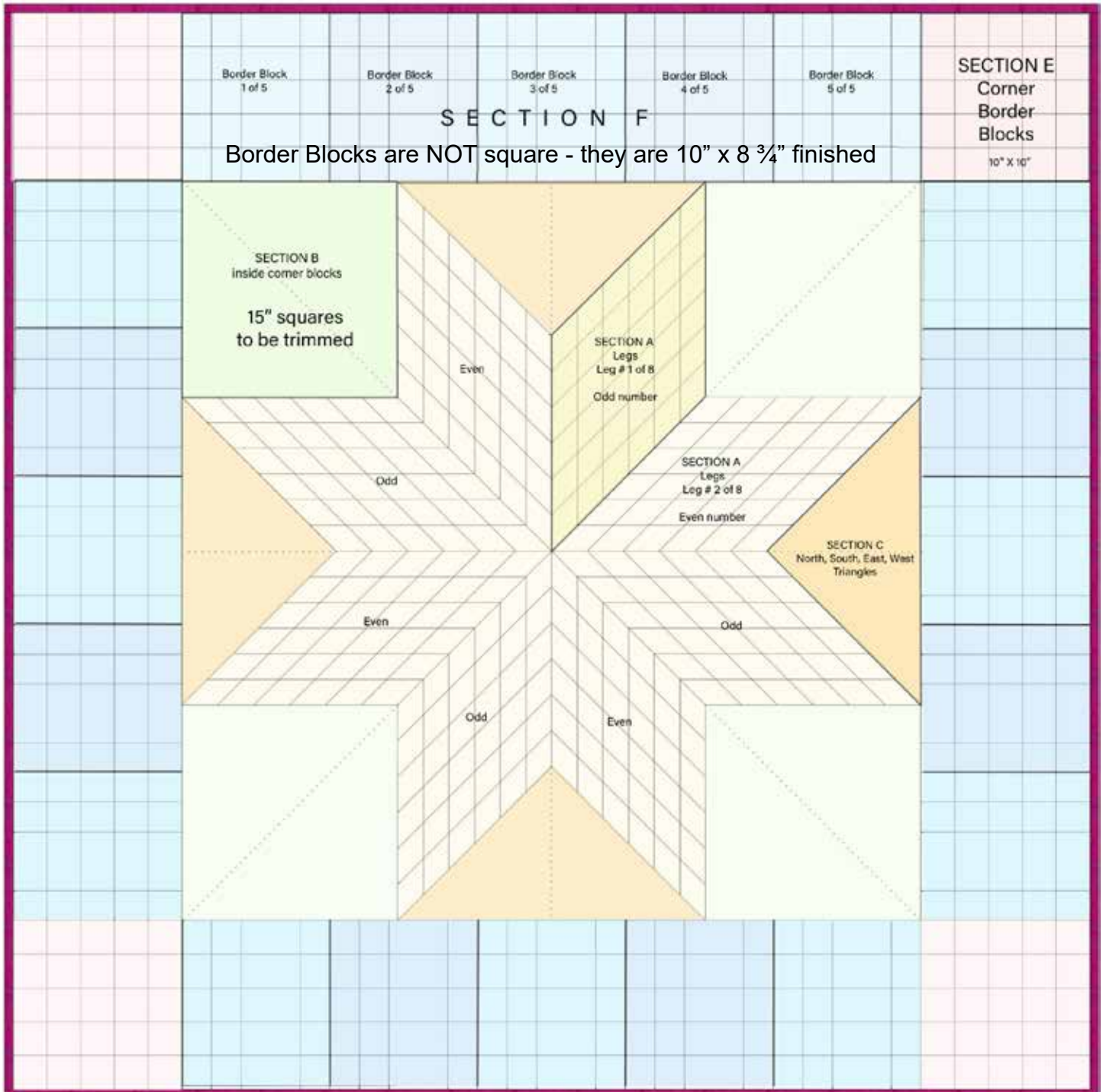
## Fabric Requirements

Code	Swatch	Yards	Placement
1	 1895 494-Raven	1 1/4 Yards	Border checker design
2	 1895 515 Rum Raisin	1/8 Yard	20 Diamonds
3	 1895 305-Gravel	1/8 Yard	28 Diamonds
4	 1895 46-Plum	1/8 Yard	16 Diamonds
5	 1895 72-Magenta	1 1/4 Yards	56 Diamonds; 8 Appliqué sections; Binding; 4 Squares for corner border blocks
6	 1895 245-Victoria	1/4 Yard	32 Diamonds

Code	Swatch	Yards	Placement
7	 1895 174-Seamist	1/8 Yard	12 Diamonds
8	 1895 581 Bluegrass	3/8 Yard	40 Diamonds; 20 Squares for corner border blocks
9	 1895 459-Lotus	1/4 Yard	16 Diamonds; 12 Squares for corner border blocks
10	 1895 105 Celadon	1/8 Yard	12 Diamonds
11	 1895 110-Daffodil	1/4 Yard	36 Diamonds
12	 1895 412 Buttercream	2 1/4 Yards	20 Diamonds; Border checker design

# CHECKMATE

## Layout Details





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Directions are specific for Hoffman Watercolor Hand-dyes as there is no right or wrong side of fabric. If using a printed fabric, you would need to reverse the diamond shapes on half of your templates.

## *General Sewing Tips:*

### *Tip #1:*

For this quilt, it is important to have a perfect  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance before you begin to sew. Most likely the width of your presser foot is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide. If you are not sure about this, line the edges of a scrap piece of fabric with the edge of the presser foot and sew a few stitches. Stop and measure the seam allowance and make any adjustment(s) needed. A magnetic seam guide can be used on the right of the presser foot to help you keep that  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch consistent.

### *Tip #2:*

Be as gentle as possible with your fabric because you are working with bias edges. This goes for general handling and when you're guiding the fabric through the machine. Avoid pulling and stretching.

### *Tip #3:*

The Lone Star uses 45-degree angles, which means that you are cutting fabric diagonally, these are bias edges and can be stretchy and unwieldy. When you are sewing diamonds together, use starch or a pressing spray to keep your fabric behaving *before* you start your diagonal cuts.

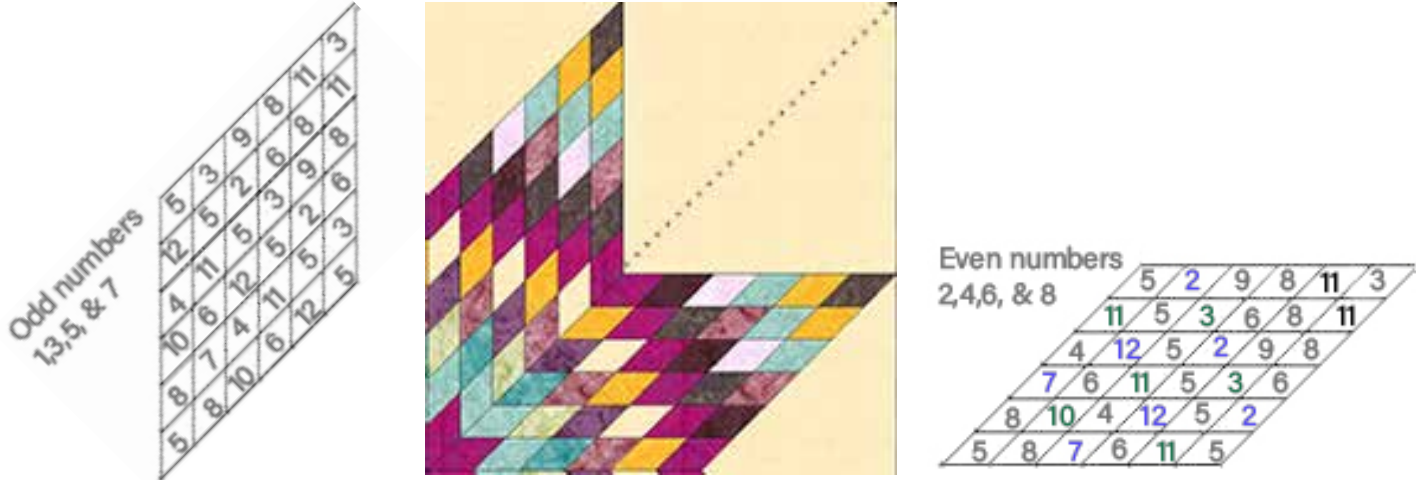
### *Tip #4:*

As you cut and sew your strips, your 45-degree angle may start to stray from a true 45-degree. Check the 45-degree along a few seams to avoid your angle from "creeping." If it's starting to creep, trim off a bit to make it true again.

# Section A: The Legs of Star (4 sets of legs)

REMINDER: This pattern assumes that you are using hand-dyes which are reversible fabrics, therefore, there would be no right or wrong side.

Each quarter of the star has two legs. There is an even leg and an odd leg. Notice that on the even leg, there are some numbers shown written in green and some in blue. This indicates a change in position of colors for 4 of the 8 legs. Reference colors 11 (Daffodil) and 12 (Buttercream).

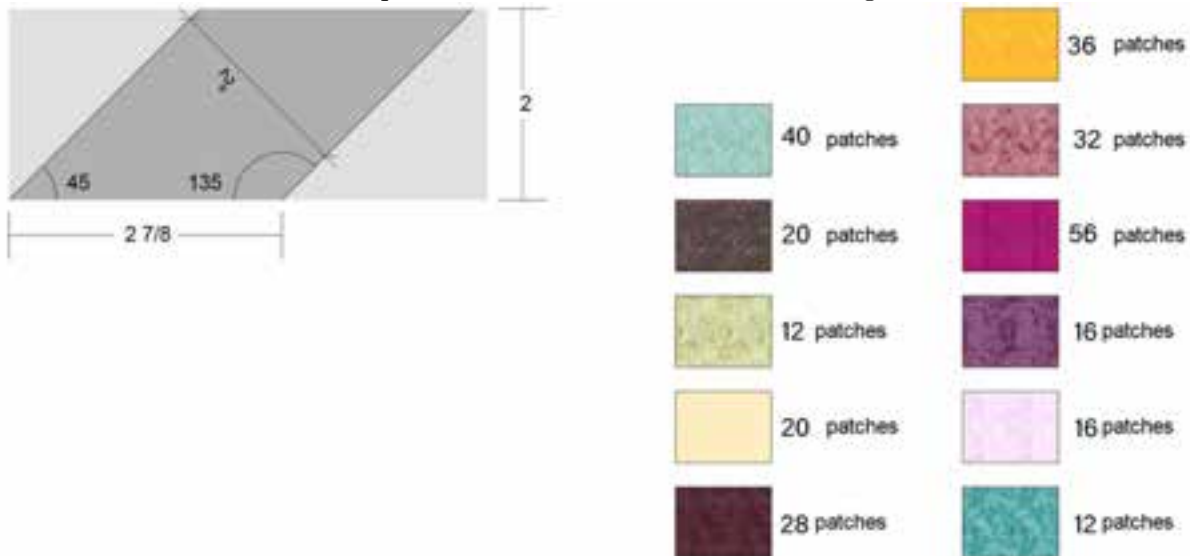


On the Odd leg, there are 2 Daffodil and 3 Buttercream, however, on the even leg, there are 2 Buttercream. And 3 Daffodil. Not all rows alternate. It is easier to make all four odds at one time and then all four evens at one time. I love working with hand-dyes because there is no wrong side of the fabric, therefore, I do not have to cut mirror images of the diamond shapes as I would normally if I were using printed fabrics.

Cut your pieces using the cutting diagrams below or if you prefer to Paper Piece, make a total of 12 copies of the PP diagram included in this pattern.

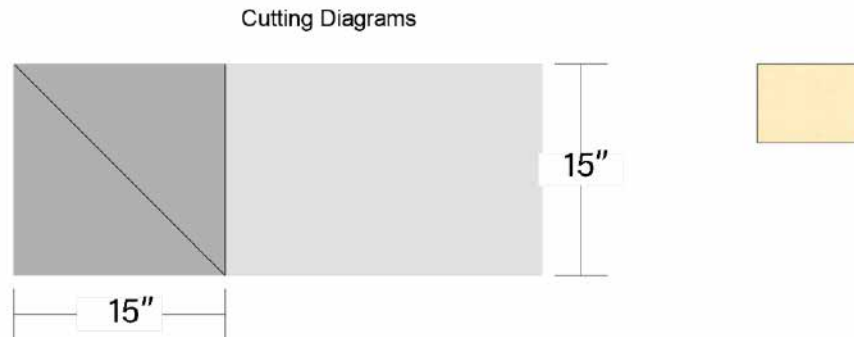
Cutting a 2" strip x width of fabric (WOF), you will yield 14 diamonds, extra strips may be necessary. For example: The Plum fabric needs 16 diamonds. You will cut 14 from one WOF, so you will need to then cut an additional 2 more diamonds.

Using your 2" strip from a width of fabric and a ruler with a 45-degree line, cut 2" diamonds. Lay out your pieces in the correct order and begin sewing them as strip-sets together, careful not to stretch. When you begin assembling your strips, pin the intersections so that they meet up and intersect at the exact placement. Assemble and sew all 8 legs.



## Section B: Inside Corners (4 corners)

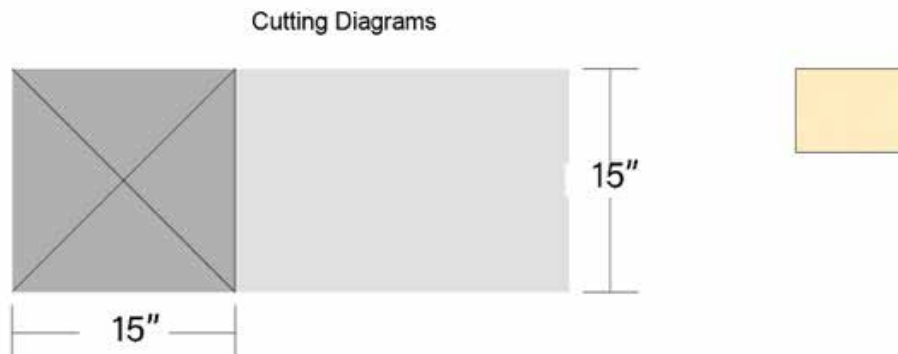
Cut four 15" squares of Buttercream fabric.



To avoid making “Y seams” cut each 15” square on the diagonal for ease of assembly. Attach the triangles to the respective sides of legs to fill in the four outer corners. By oversizing the triangles, you can avoid distortion and comfortably fit the triangles into place; you may have some oversized corners which we can true-upped later.

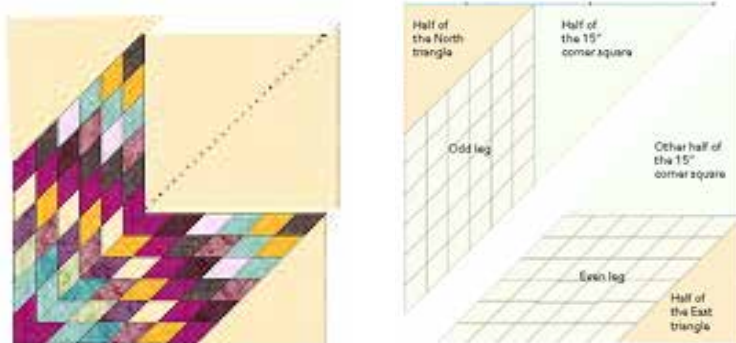
## Section C: Triangle Shapes Located North, South, East & West (N,S,E,W)

Cut two 15” squares of Buttercream fabric, cutting twice diagonally as shown.



Add a triangle to the opposite side of each leg to complete the four quadrants.

Once you have all corners and triangles sewn together to the legs, you will have four large blocks that look like this (below). Sew all four blocks together. Begin sewing from the center out to keep the star as squared as possible. TRUE UP later, after making borders. Use your center seam on the NSEW sections for appliqué placement.





## Section D: Appliqué Shapes

There are two main shapes/foilage, large and small. The large shape is to be used on the 4 corners; the smaller shape is for the NSEW triangles. Additionally, there are two round circle templates. The largest is used on the 4 corners, the smallest is duplicated (28 pieces) and used as accents on all of your appliqué details.

Trace and make your appliqué shapes and appliqué using your favorite method. Reference your center seams and the diagram for placement.

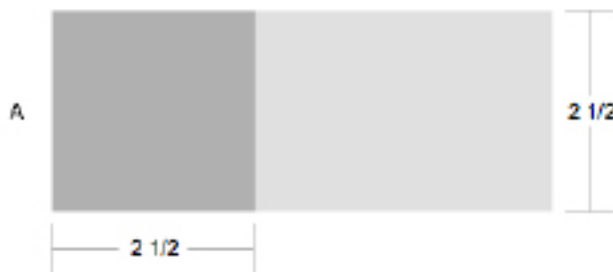


## Section E: Corner Blocks for Border (4)

Fabric	Quantity	Shape	Size
Raven	8 x 4 blocks	Squares	2-1/2 x 2-1/2"
Bluegrass	5 x 4 blocks	Squares	2-1/2 x 2-1/2"
Buttercream	8 x 4 blocks	Squares	2-1/2 x 2-1/2"
Lotus	3 x 4 blocks	Squares	2-1/2 x 2-1/2"
Magenta	1 x 4 blocks	Squares	2-1/2 x 2-1/2"



Cutting Diagrams



Patch Count



Your unfinished corner blocks will be 10 1/2" x 10 1/2". I press my seams towards the darkest colored fabric so that I can nest\* seams. Cut your squares 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" placing the colors as shown above. Sew 5 squares across each row and then the rows to each other. When placing, turn your blocks so that the Lotus colored squares are facing outward. Make 4 blocks for the corners of your border.

\* The term ***nesting seams*** simply means aligning the seams of each row so that they not only line up nicely but seem to almost fit together perfectly like a puzzle piece. The easiest way to get those seams to line up is to pay attention to the direction you are ironing the seams. When sewing two pieces together that have a seam, you should make sure the seams are ironed in opposite directions. That way when they are sewn together, they pull together and the bulk on either side will make them nestle.



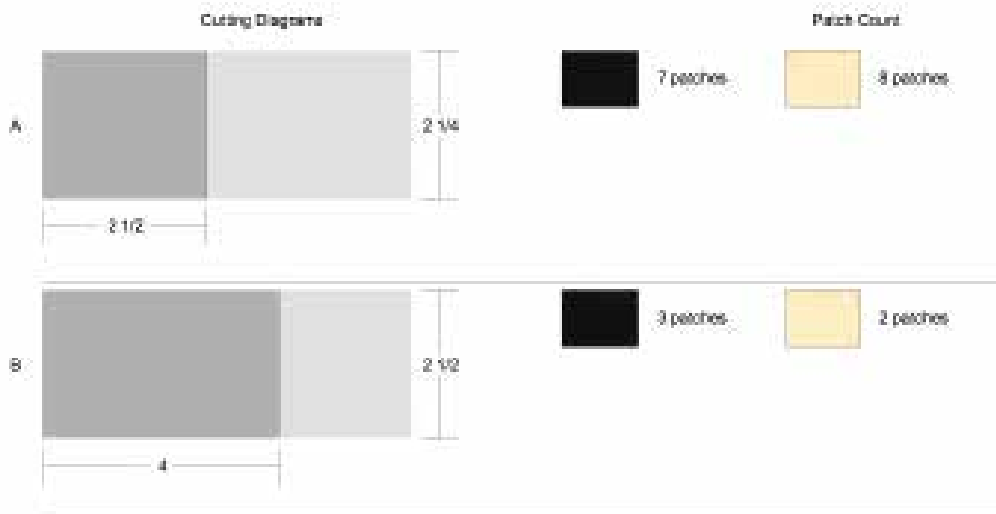
## Section F: Border Blocks (20)



Fabric Color	Patches per block	Shape	Patch size
Raven	7 x 20 blocks	Rectangle	2-1/4 x 2-1/2"
Raven	3 x 20 blocks	Rectangle	2-1/2 x 4"
Buttercream	9 x 20 blocks	Rectangle	2-1/4 x 2-1/2"
Buttercream	2 x 20 blocks	Rectangle	2-1/2 x 4"

The remaining Buttercream fabric is sufficient to complete your border blocks.

It is important to know that this is NOT a square block. It will be a 10" border, consisting of 5 blocks on each side of the perimeter. Each block will be 10 1/2" x 9 1/4". You will need 20 blocks. Cutting directions below.



Assemble rectangles. Press seams towards the darkest colored fabric and nest seams. Sew together 5 blocks for each side.

Your borders should measure 44 1/4" unfinished.

Once your borders have been pieced, now TRUE UP the inside block to fit the length of the borders. *Seam allowances differ from machine to machine, you may have as much as an inch of difference. Take measurements before you cut. Trim accordingly to make your quilt top (without borders) square. Remember to have a 1/4" beyond your star points.*

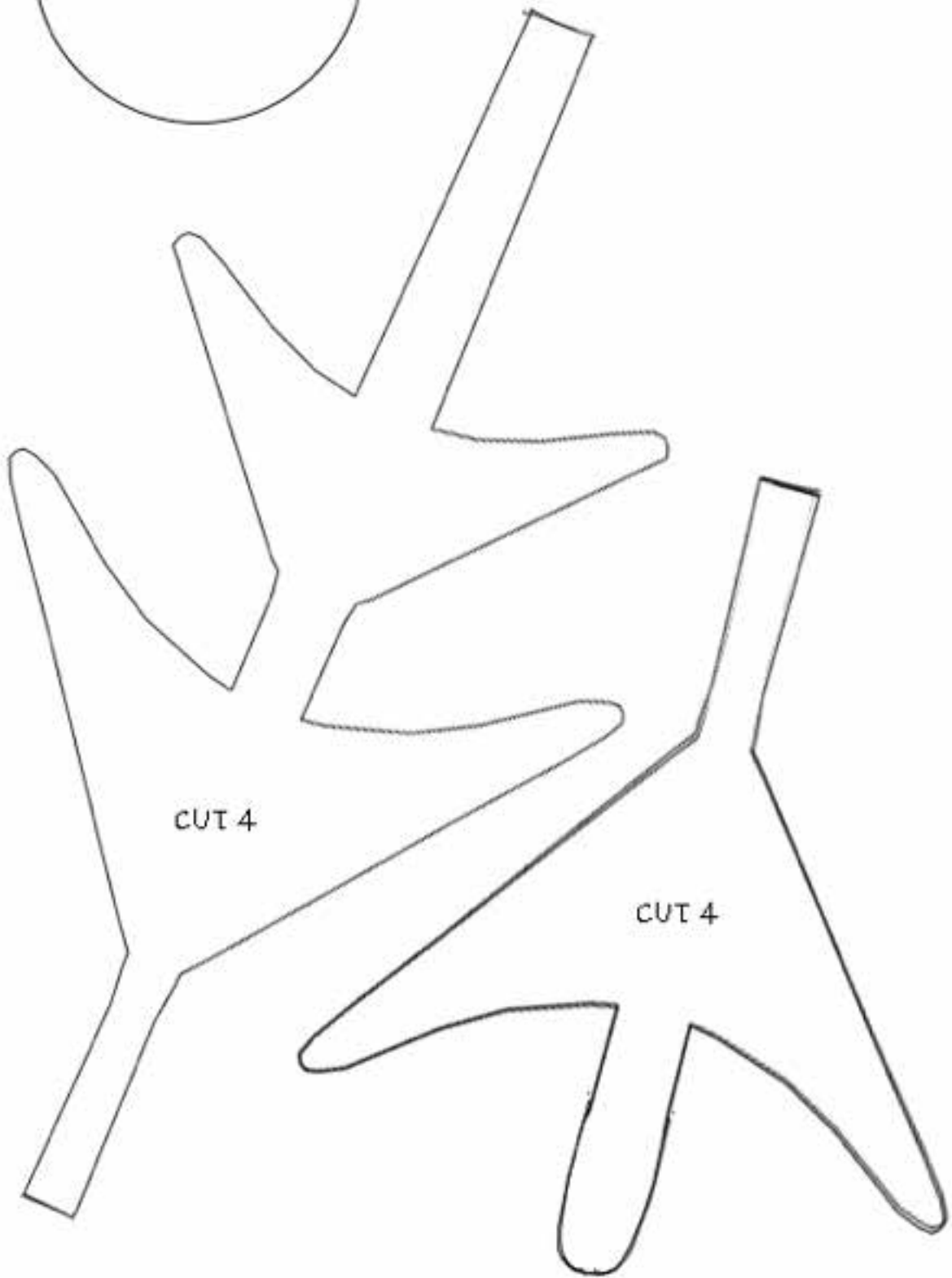
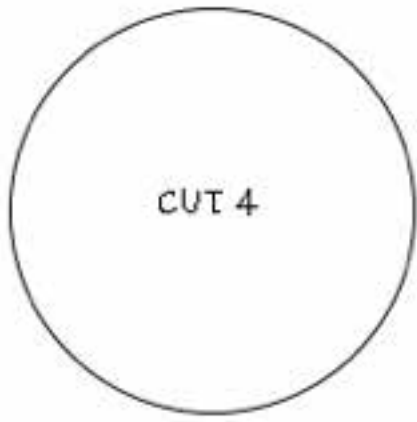
Attach top and bottom borders to your quilt. Add the corner border squares to the remaining 2 borders and attach them to your quilt.

Choose your batting and backing then quilt and bind as desired.

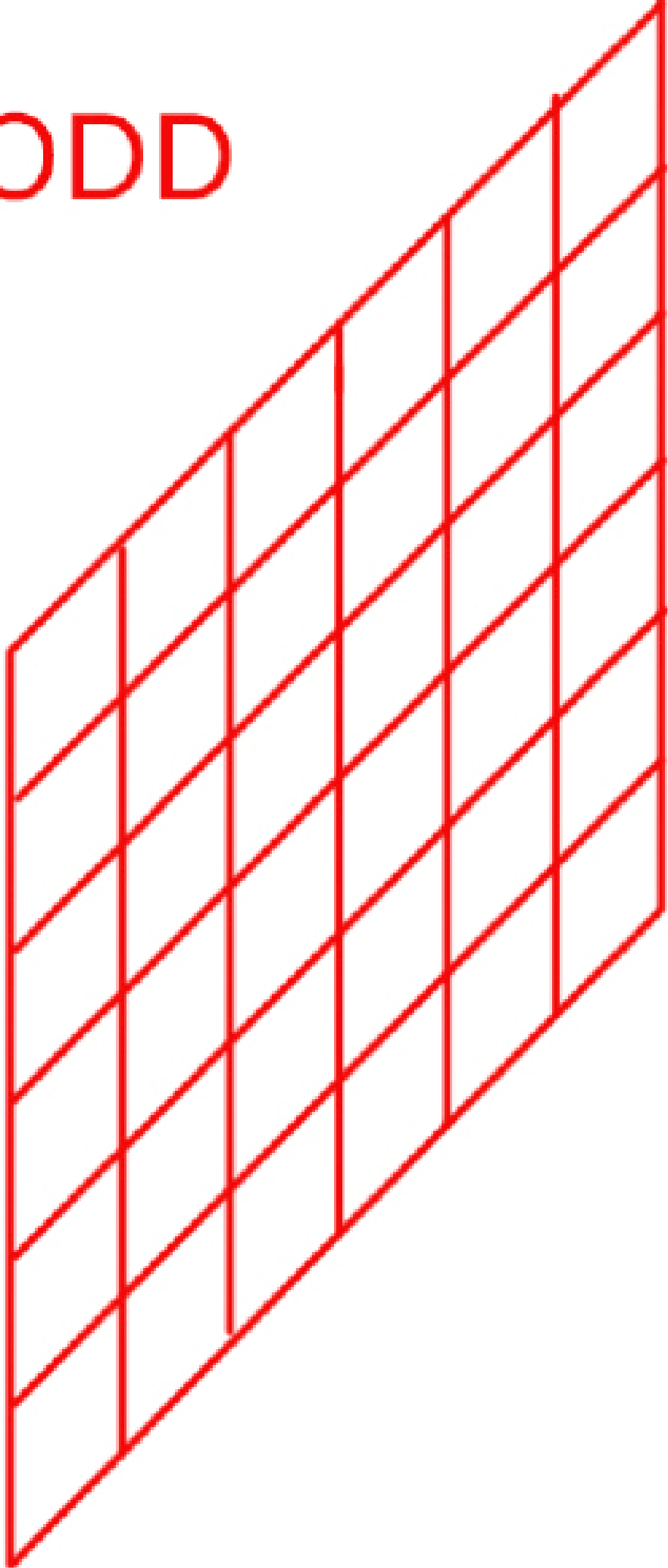
*Recommendation:*

Print out the diamond sheets showing the even and odd star legs colored or cut a scrap of fabric and glue it to your gridded star points to use as your guide for sewing in an accurate order.

Designed for you by Jean Impey  
[www.SewJean.com](http://www.SewJean.com)



ODD





EVEN

