

PROJECT: Star Steps

For an elegant wall hanging, quilt tester Martha Gamm made one Double Nine-Patch and four Courthouse Steps blocks with plain setting triangles and added a simple border that has Nine-Patch cornerstones.

INSPIRED BY: *On Cloud Nine* from designer Darlene Zimmerman

QUILT MAKER: Martha Gamm

MACHINE QUILTER: Kristina Whitney



FABRICS are from the Willow collection by 1canoe2 for Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).

FINISHED QUILT:

37½" square

FINISHED BLOCK:

11" square

MATERIALS

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- ¼ yard yellow floral (Courthouse Steps and Double Nine-Patch blocks, border)
- 1⅞ yards cream print (Courthouse Steps and Double Nine-Patch blocks, setting and corner triangles, border)
- 9×21" piece (fat eighth) yellow print (Courthouse Steps and Double Nine-Patch blocks, border)
- ⅔ yard total assorted green prints and teal prints (Courthouse Steps blocks)
- ⅔ yard teal stripe (binding)
- 2⅔ yards backing fabric
- 46"-square batting

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

From yellow floral, cut:

- 2-1½×42" strips

From cream print, cut:

- 1-1½×42" strip
- 4-3½×31½" border strips
- 2-1½×21" strip
- 1-16⅞" square, cutting diagonally twice in an X for 4 setting triangles
- 2-1½×11½" rectangles
- 10-1½×9½" rectangles
- 2-8¾" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 4 corner triangles
- 8-1½×7½" rectangles
- 8-1½×5½" rectangles
- 4-3½" squares
- 8-1½×3½" rectangles

From yellow print, cut:

- 1-1½×21" strip

From assorted green prints and teal prints, cut:

- 8-1½×11½" rectangles
- 8-1½×9½" rectangles
- 8-1½×7½" rectangles
- 8-1½×5½" rectangles

From teal stripe, cut:

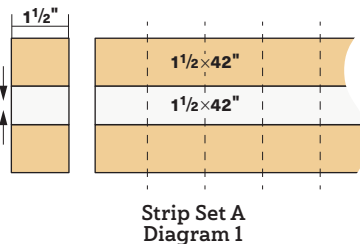
- 4-2½×42" binding strips

ASSEMBLE NINE-PATCH UNITS

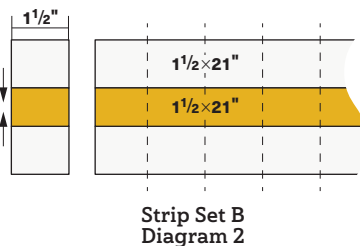
Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

1. Sew together yellow floral 1½×42" strips and cream print 1½×42" strip to make Strip Set A (Diagram 1). Cut strip set into twenty-six 1½"-wide A segments.



2. Sew together cream print 1½×21" strips and yellow print 1½×21" strip to make Strip Set B (Diagram 2). Cut strip sets into thirteen 1½"-wide B segments.



3. Referring to Diagram 3, sew together two A segments and one B segment to make a Nine-Patch unit. The unit should be 3½" square

including seam allowances. Repeat to make 13 Nine-Patch units total.

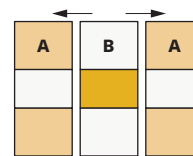


Diagram 3

ASSEMBLE COURTHOUSE STEPS BLOCKS

1. Sew cream print 1½×3½" rectangles to opposite edges of a Nine-Patch unit (Diagram 4). Add assorted green and teal print 1½×5½" rectangles to remaining edges.

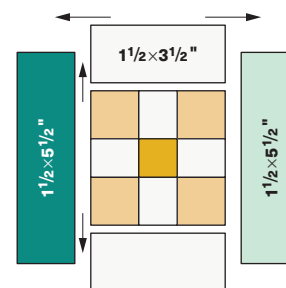


Diagram 4

2. Referring to Diagram 5, in the same manner add cream print and assorted green and teal print rectangles to Step 1 unit to make a Courthouse Steps block. The block should be 11½" square including seam allowances.

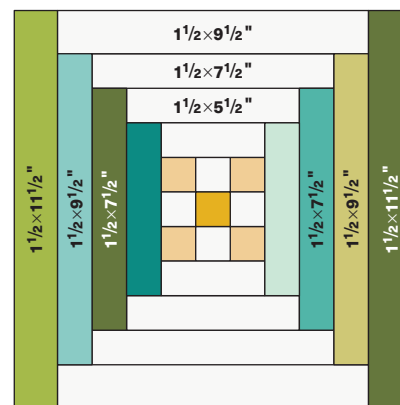


Diagram 5

3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to make four Courthouse Steps blocks total.

ASSEMBLE DOUBLE NINE-PATCH BLOCK

1. Lay out five Nine-Patch units and cream print $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares in three rows (**Diagram 6**). Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make a center unit. The unit should be $9\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

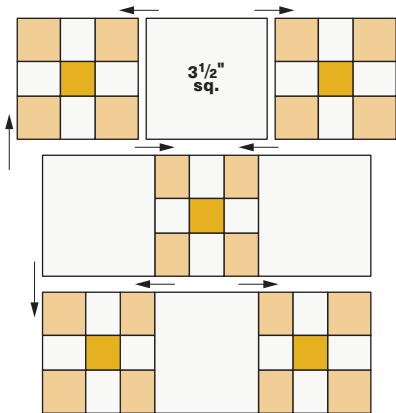


Diagram 6

2. Sew remaining cream print $1\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles to opposite edges of center unit (**Diagram 7**). Add cream print $1\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles to remaining edges to make a Double Nine-Patch block. The block should be $11\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

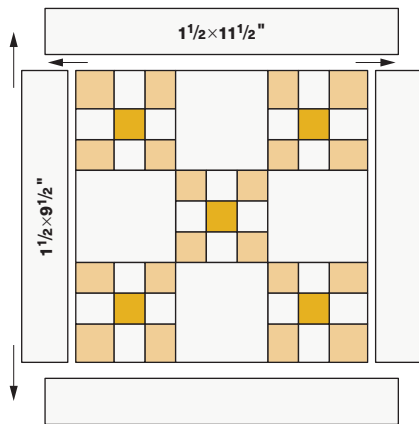


Diagram 7

ASSEMBLE QUILT TOP

1. Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, page 4, lay out cream print setting triangles and blocks, orienting Courthouse Steps blocks as shown, in three diagonal rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Press seams toward Courthouse Steps blocks. Join rows; press seams in one direction.

2. Add cream print corner triangles to make quilt center. Press seams toward corner triangles. The quilt center should be $31\frac{1}{2}$ " square including seam allowances.

3. Sew cream print $3\frac{1}{2} \times 31\frac{1}{2}$ " border strips to opposite edges of quilt center. Press seams toward border.

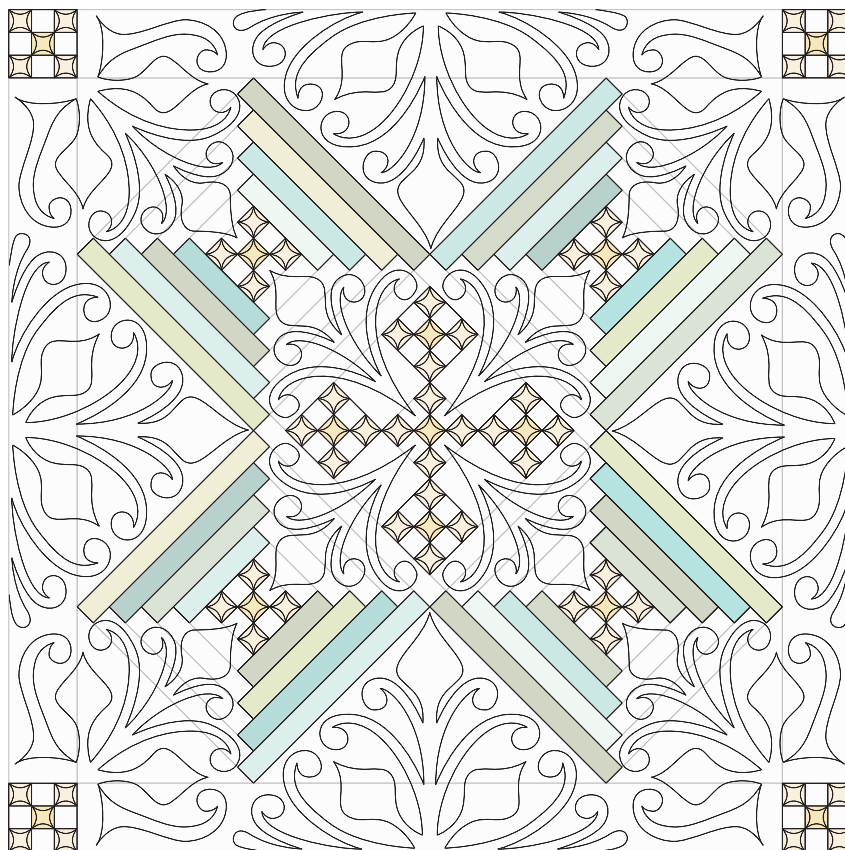
4. Sew remaining Nine-Patch units to ends of remaining cream print $3\frac{1}{2} \times 31\frac{1}{2}$ " border strips to make two pieced border strips. Sew pieced border strips to remaining edges of quilt center to complete the quilt top. Press seams toward border.

FINISH QUILT

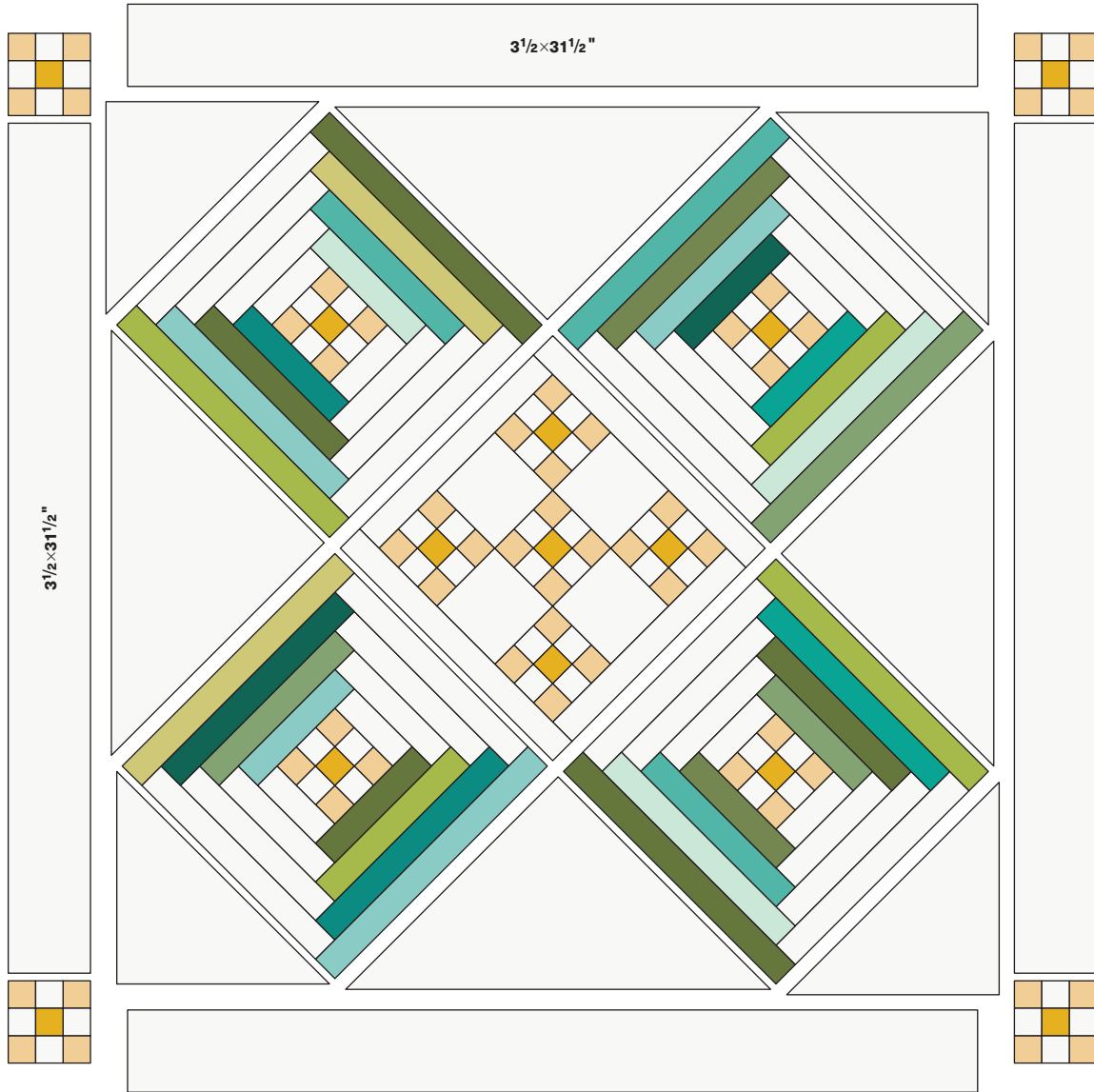
1. Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste.

2. Quilt as desired. Handi Quilter Educator Kristina Whitney used a combination of computerized motifs, rulers, and free-motion quilting to fill in the cream print spaces in the quilt (**Quilting Diagram**).

3. Bind with teal stripe binding strips.



Quilting Diagram



Quilt Assembly Diagram