SIMON SAYS ......make a quilt!

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60”X80” 10” FINISHED BLOCKS SET 6 X 8

This very appealing quilt is made from three simple blocks. The borders are 24 double four patch blocks; the body of the quilt consists of 12 buckeye blocks and 12 floating star blocks

This quilt is best made scrappy. You need at least 8 blues and 6 reds. The white background can all be the same print or solid.

For one quilt with the red chain as pictured you need:
2-3/4 yd of blues
1-1/2 yd of reds
2 yd of whites
1/2 yd for the binding
4 yd for the backing
WOF= width of fabric, assume 40” usable fabric width
**DOUBLE FOUR PATCH: MAKE 24.**

BLUE: Cut (7) strips WOF cut 5-1/2”. Sub cut into (48) 5-1/2”x5-1/2” squares
BLUE: Cut (8) strips WOF x 3”. Sub cut into (96) 3”x3” squares
RED: (8) strips WOF x 3”. Sub cut into (96) 3”x3” squares

Each block uses (4) blue 3” squares, (4) red 3” squares and (2) blue 5-1/2” squares.

Make the small four patches first, then make the large four patch. Make sure the red forms a chain.

**BUCKEYE: MAKE 12**

**Do not cut the squares for the Half Square Triangles (HST) until you decide how you will be making them 😊** See page 3 for four ways to make HST
BLUE: Cut (2) strips 5-7/8” wide. Sub cut into (12) 5-7/8” squares for the HST
WHITE: Cut (2) strips 5-7/8” wide. Sub cut into (12) 5-7/8” squares for the HST
WHITE: Cut (4) strips 3” wide. Sub cut into (48) 3” squares
RED: Cut (4) strips 3” wide. Sub cut into (48) 3” squares

Make (24) blue/white HST (half square triangles) using the 5-7/8” squares.
Make (24) red/white four patches using the 3” squares.

Keep the red chain on the diagonal. Make sure the blue HST are on the outside of the block.
Making 5” finished Half Square Triangles – four ways

Method #1: This results in two identical HST
Cut one square of dark 5-7/8” and one square of light 5-7/8”
Draw a line on the wrong side of the light from corner to corner on the diagonal.
Put the two squares right sides together and sew ¼” away on either side of the drawn line.
Press, cut on the drawn line, press open.
Your square should measure 5-1/2” (or 5” finished)

Method #2: This results in two identical HST
Cut one square of dark 6” and one square of light 6”
Draw a line on the wrong side of the light from corner to corner on the diagonal.
Put the two squares right sides together and sew ¼” away on either side of the drawn line.
Press, cut on the drawn line, press open.
Trim to 5-1/2”.
Your square should measure 5-1/2” (or 5” finished)

Method #3: This results in eight identical HST
Cut one square of dark 11-3/4” and one square of light 11-3/4”
Draw a line on the wrong side of the light from corner to corner on both of the diagonals.
Put the two squares right sides together and sew ¼” away on either side of the drawn lines.
Press, cut in half on both the horizontal and vertical, then on the drawn diagonal lines.
Press open
Your square should measure 5-1/2” (or 5” finished)
(I would make the squares 12” and trim the resulting triangles)

Method #4: This results in four identical HST
Cut one square of dark 8-1/2” and one square of light 8-1/2”
Put the two squares right sides together and sew ¼” all around the outside on all four edges.
Sew off the square, do not try to stop and pivot.
Press, cut on the diagonal twice, press open.
Trim to 5-1/2”
This method puts the bias edges on the outside of the HST.

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FLOATING STAR: MAKE 12.

BLUE: Cut (6) strips 2-1/2” wide. Sub cut into (96) 2-1/2” squares. These are the star points.
WHITE: Cut (5) strips 3-1/2” wide. Sub cut into (48) 3-1/2” squares.
WHITE: Cut (6) strips 3-1/2” wide. Sub cut into (48) 3-1/2”x4-1/2” rectangles.
RED: Cut (2) strips 4-1/2” wide. Sub cut into (12) 4-1/2” squares. This is for the center of the stars.

The center is a good place for a flag print or a fussy cut print. You need 9” x WOF for the centers
You can also use any other star block. I used a flag fabric in my quilt. The EQ7 quilt has a red center for the stars.

See page 5 for instructions on how to make a floating star
HOW TO MAKE A FLOATING STAR  

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One (1) 4-1/2” square for the center of the star (Teddy bear in this example—flag fabric in my quilt)
Four (4) 3-1/2”x3-1/2” square of background fabric
Four (4) 3-1/2"x4-1/2” rectangles for star points background
Eight (8) 2-1/2” squares for star points

Draw a diagonal line across each star point from corner to corner on the wrong side. Mark all 8 squares.

Place the square right sides together on the rectangle.
Sew ON THE LINE and cut off the excess waste triangles.
Press seam to darker fabric.

Repeat for the other side

Make four sets of star points.

You now sew the floating star block together as a nine patch

This block should measure 10-1/2” square. Trim it to size if necessary
Select one of the layouts below—all take the exact same number of blocks.

Pay attention to the border blocks. You want the red chain to zig zag around the outside.
As an alternative, make the chain in the Buckeye block blue and the HST red. Both variations use the same amount of fabric. You only need to switch the red and blue in the Buckeye blocks.

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Note: This quilt is called Simon Says because I had children at the William E. Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester. I design and make quilts as graduation gifts—and made 4 queen size (10x10 set) quilts using the UR colors—yellow, blue and white.

I liked the resulting pattern so much, I adapted it for a QOV. Hence, Simon Says make a Quilt of Valor