A Note From Molly Mine:

Will Trimmer's document was created by Will Trimmer and edited by Elaine Raahauge and Bonnie Welsh.

Special thanks to Will for taking the time to put these together for us! Thank you Bonnie and Elaine for taking the time to help me get this into an electronic format so it could be shared with Will's quilt fans!

The xxx in these instructions cannot be filled in by me but Elaine thought this information would be helpful if we could get it added. I've asked Mr. Trimmer for the info but he travels A LOT and I've been unable to get it. *Please do not email for the info*, when I get it I'll be happy to send a revision to the Molly Mine Yahoo Group.

Will Trimmer's Christmas Star Quilt Using Molly Mine Christmas Crazy Quilt http://www.mollymine.com/product_info.php?cPath=15&products_id=91







"Crazy Quilt with Stars" Using Molly Mine Blocks

(Instructions are written for use with the 8" squares)

By

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Sew the embroidered crazy quilt blocks together with a strip of fabric on all four sides to separate the blocks and to create a secondary star pattern in the quilt top. This results in blocks that are slightly askew and adds depth and interest to the quilt.

Fabric requirements

Choose as many colors as you want for the stars but three colors work well. You will need xxxxx star segments:

- Xxx in color one
- Xxx in color two
- Xxx in color three

Each of the three colors requires xxxx material.

Make test blocks before you start

It is strongly recommended that you create some test blocks using scrap pieces of fabric (to simulate the embroidered blocks) and practice sewing the star segment strips onto them.

- 1. Cut three 8" squares and xxx star segments and sew the star segments onto the square blocks using either method A or B.
- 2. Practice trimming the blocks to size.

NOTE: This technique is for the 8" Molly Mine embroidered blocks and can be modified for any size block by changing the dimensions to fit your block size.

Embroidering the block edges

There are two options given in the digitized design for finishing the edges of the embroidered block:

- The 'qe' option that gives a zigzag around the edge.
- The 'ap' option that gives an appliqué edge around the edge.

These instructions cover adding the star segments to blocks where when the 'ap' option was used. This finish provides a nice interior border for each block and a definitive line on which the star pattern segments can be placed

Creating a color guide for the placement of the star segments

The color guide will show where each color has to go on each side of the block. This is very important as you will refer to this diagram frequently while adding your star segments.

- 1. Make a pattern of your star design on an $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" sheet of paper. Place the block at the angle you want and form the star pieces design (see attached).
- 2. Create a diagram and color the stars with colored pencils the colors you will be using for your quilt.

Two ways to add the star segments

Star segment strips can be added to the embroidered blocks in two ways. Read through the instructions for each and choose the right method for you.

- Method A uses freezes paper as templates for the star segments.
- Method B uses rectangle strips of fabric which sewn to the block, then trimmed. A nine inch square ruler will make it easier to trim the finished block.

While both methods work well, if you can remember to turn your blocks all in the same direction when attaching the fabric to the blocks, method B has fewer steps.

Using method A

- Cut templates from freezer paper. See attached diagram. Size bottom 8", right end 2 ¼", top 8 3/8", left end ½". These are the dimensions I used, however, you should play with a couple of patterns to get your precise sizes; not all block may be exact. Do not worry if your star segments are a little large, the finished blocks will be trimmed down to size once all four star segments are attached.
- 2. Cut about eight templates from the freezer paper to have several star segments ready.
- 3. Iron the templates onto your fabric (shiny side of the freezer paper to right side of fabric) and cut out the star segments being careful so the freezer paper templates can be reused.

- 4. Refer to your colored diagram and place the four star segments around the embroidered block *before* you sew them on.
- 5. Place right sides together and sew all four star segments to your block. **Note:** Place the star segment on the bottom and the embroidered block on top as you sew so that the appliqued sew line on the block can be used as a guide.
- 6. Start on one side and sew them in a counter clockwise direction. This eliminates any gaps on the right side where the star segment joins the embroidered block.

Using method B

- 1. Cut strips 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long on the straight of grain and then cut them into 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " lengths.
- Sew the 2 ½" by 8 ½" strips to the embroidered blocks right sides together as described in method A.
 Method B is a little trickier because you do not have the angle to help

keep the star segments in the correct position for sewing and trimming. Refer to your colored diagram.

Trimming the finished blocks to size

- 1. Lay out the embroidered block with the star segments right side facing up.
- 2. Use a 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square (with $\frac{1}{4}$ " markings on all four sides) and line up the finished block with the square where the band joins the star segment fabric so that there is a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on all four sides and trim away any excess fabric.

With method B you'll need to tip the 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square ruler at a consistent angle for each block prior to trimming to form the tilted block and stars. (**Tip:** This is a great place to use an Olfa cutting turntable since you can cut and turn without disturbing the block.)

3. Lay the blocks out to make sure your pattern is correct and correct any misplaced star segments.

Sew the finished blocks together

1. Sew the blocks together forming horizontal rows making sure that the angles and colors are correct (refer back to your colored diagram).

- 2. Iron the vertical seams for each row in opposite directions for ease of joining the horizontal rows together. Remember, the adjacent top or bottom should fit together like pieces of a puzzle.
- 3. Sew the rows together.
- 4. Add one or more borders.
- 5. Layer the finished top with backing and wadding and baste the three layers together.
- 6. Quilt, as required, and finish by binding the edges.

All finished? Now enjoy your lovely Molly Mine Crazy quilt project!







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