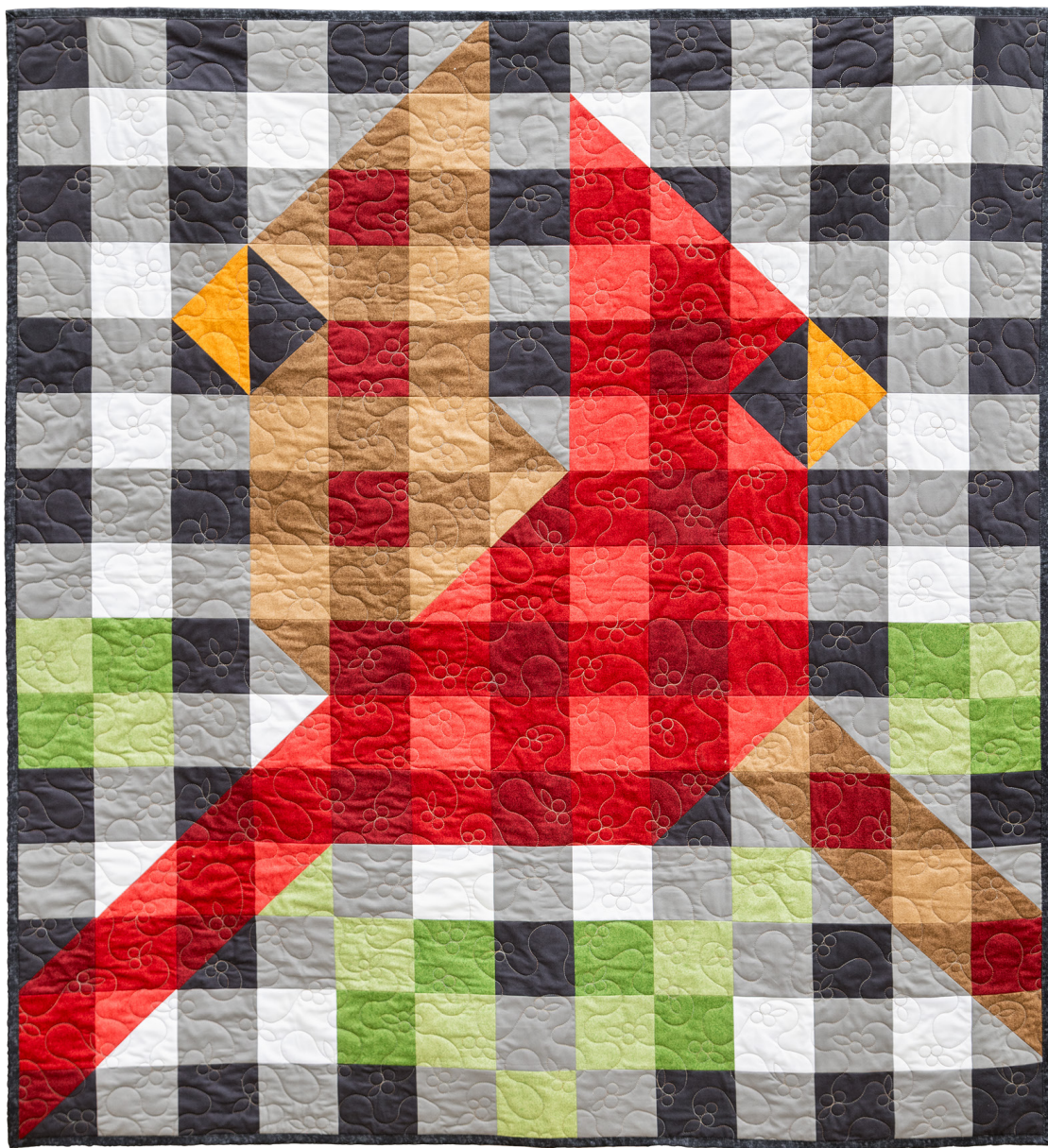


Cardinals Quilt

by Liz LePage for Connecting Threads

Approximate size: 52" x 60"



Cardinals Quilt

PATTERN BASICS

We encourage breaking the rules, but here are a few things you might want to keep in mind:

- Please read through all the instructions carefully before beginning a project. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this pattern.
- All instructions use a ¼" seam allowance unless otherwise stated.
- All fabrics are sewn right sides together, unless otherwise stated.
- There is a diagram to help you with your sewing process, we highly recommend printing it out to reference as you sew!

COMMON QUILTING ACRONYMS

FQ = fat quarter (18" x 22")

WOFQ = width of fat quarter (20")

LOFQ = length of fat quarter (18")

WS = wrong side of fabric

RS = right side of fabric

WOF = width of fabric

LOF = length of fabric

HST = half square triangle

QST = quarter square triangle

NOTES

This quilt pattern was designed as a collaboration with our sister company, Crochet.com. Cardinals is a beginner-friendly crochet pattern by While They Dream that I translated into a quilt pattern. To find While They Dream's crochet version, please visit:

<https://www.crochet.com/hooked-on-quilting-ebook/p/N4877>

Or scan the QR Code to the right --->



This design is wildly simple and very beginner friendly, as it's been created using a column and row-based system. If you're a newbie quilter looking for a simple quilt to start with, Cardinals is sure to be your next project!

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

1 yard - Solid - Grey

¾ yard - Solid - Slate

½ yard - Solid - White

½ yard - Faux Linen - Merlot

½ yard - Faux Linen - Scarlet

½ yard - Faux Linen - Brown

1 Fat Quarter - Faux Linen - Tomato

1 Fat Quarter - Faux Linen - Light Basil

1 Fat Quarter - Faux Linen - Fawn

1 Fat Quarter - Faux Linen - Basil

1 Fat Quarter - Faux Linen - Ochre

½ yard - binding fabric

Batting - Twin Size

3 yards - standard width backing or 1 ½ yards - wide backing

Thread

- Piecing thread: Essential™ Cotton - White

Basic sewing supplies

This pattern is designed to be one size only, however it would be extremely simple to adjust! It's meant to be sewn one row at a time, with each row being labeled for easy piecing. Skip to page 8 for the diagram.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

**Cutting Note* This pattern is written with the assumption you're using non-directional fabric, as seen in the sample. If you're using directional fabric, be aware of that direction while cutting and sewing your fabric!*

Grey

- Cut 46 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 7 x **5"** squares

Slate

- Cut 34 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 4 x **5"** squares

White

- Cut 16 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 2 x **5"** squares

Merlot

- Cut 14 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 2 x **5"** squares

Scarlet

- Cut 21 x **4 ½"** squares

Tomato

- Cut 8 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 4 x **5"** squares

Brown

- Cut 8 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 6 x **5"** squares

Light Basil

- Cut 11 x **4 ½"** squares

Fawn

- Cut 8 x **4 ½"** squares
- Cut 1 x **5"** squares (for HSTs)

Basil

- Cut 8 x **4 ½"** squares

Ochre

- Cut 2 x **5"** squares

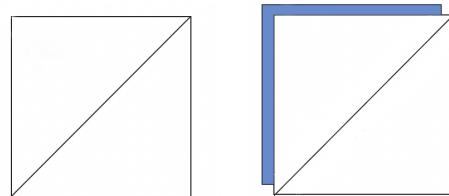
PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

This pattern is easier to follow when you have the diagram printed or open separately for quick reference. Find the diagram on page 8.

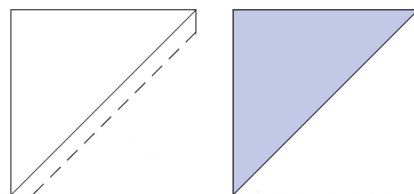
1-at-a-time HSTs.

**Sewing Note* You'll be sewing half square triangles (or HSTs) using two methods: the 1-at-a-time and the 2-at-a-time method. I've separated the methods - and the fabrics you'll be using for each - to make it easier to keep track!*

- Here is a list of the 1-at-a-time HSTs you'll be sewing. Use **4 ½"** squares for this method:
 - 1 x Slate (Fabric W) + Brown (Fabric X)
 - 1 x Slate (W) + Fawn (X)
 - 1 x Slate (W) + Scarlet (X)
 - 1 x Slate (W) + Merlot (X)
 - 1 x Tomato (W) + White (X)
 - 1 x Merlot (W) + Fawn (X)
 - 1 x Tomato (W) + Light Basil (X)
- On the WS of each Fabric **W**, mark a line through the center diagonally.
- Lay Fabric **W** and the corresponding **X**, RST (remember to double check you've selected the proper pairs!). Sew on the line you drew down the center.



- Cut ¼" away from the sewn line. Press toward Fabric **W**.



- Repeat the process for each pair, **7 HSTs** in total.

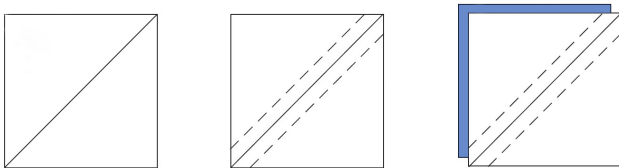
2-at-a-time HSTs.

1. Here is a list of 2-at-a-time HSTs you'll be sewing. Remember - each pair listed below will produce **TWO** HSTs, i.e. 1 x Grey + Ochre will produce 2 finished HSTs! Use **5" squares** for this method:

- 6 x Grey (Fabric Y) + Brown (Fabric Z)
- 1 x Grey (Y) + Ochre (Z)
- 1 x Slate (Y) + Ochre (Z)
- 1 x Slate (Y) + Tomato (Z)
- 2 x Slate (Y) + Merlot (Z)
- 2 x Tomato (Y) + White (Z)
- 1 x Tomato (Y) + Fawn (Z)

2. On the WS of all **Fabric Ys**, mark a line through the center diagonally.

3. Lay Fabric **Y** and the corresponding **Z**, RST (remember to double check you've selected the proper pairs!). Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from both sides of the line you drew down the center.



4. Cut on the center line (solid). Press toward **Y**.
5. Trim each HST down to **4 1/2" x 4 1/2"**.
6. Repeat the process for all pairs, **28 HSTs** in total.

**Sewing Note* You have all your blocks assembled! The instructions from here on will be row by row, then sewing rows together one at a time. For a visual reference, see the diagram on page 8!*

Sew Row A.

1. Sew Row A fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey-Brown HST, Slate Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate.

Sew Row B.

1. Sew Row B fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Grey, White, Grey, White, Grey-Brown HST, Fawn, Grey, Tomato-White HST, Grey, White, Grey, White, Grey.

Sew Row C.

1. Sew Row B fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey-Brown HST, Merlot, Brown, Slate, Scarlet, Tomato-Slate HST, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate.

Sew Row D.

1. Sew Row D fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Grey, White, Grey-Ochre HST, Slate-Fawn HST, Brown, Fawn, Grey, Tomato, Scarlet, Tomato-White HST, Grey, White, Grey.

Sew Row E.

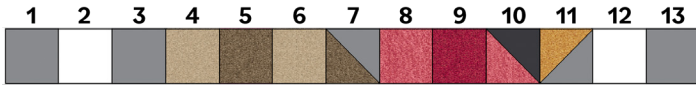
1. Sew Row E fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate, Grey, Slate-Ochre HST, Slate-Brown HST, Merlot, Brown, Slate, Scarlet, Merlot, Slate-Scarlet HST, Slate-Ochre HST, Grey, Slate.

Sew Row F.

1. Sew Row F fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Grey, White, Grey, Fawn, Brown, Fawn, Brown-Grey HST, Tomato, Scarlet, Tomato-Slate HST, Grey-Ochre HST, White, Grey.

Sew Row G.

1. Sew Row G fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate, Grey, Slate-Merlot HST, Brown, Merlot, Brown, Fawn-Merlot HST, Scarlet, Merlot, Scarlet, Slate-Merlot HST, Grey-Brown HST, Slate, Grey, Slate.

Sew Row H.

1. Sew Row H fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Grey, White, Grey, Fawn, Brown, Fawn-Tomato HST, Scarlet, Tomato, Scarlet, Tomato, Grey, White, Grey.

Sew Row I.

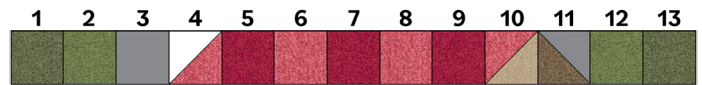
1. Sew Row I fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Light Basil, Basil, Slate, Grey-Brown HST, Merlot, Scarlet, Merlot, Scarlet, Merlot, Scarlet, Slate, Basil, Light Basil.

Sew Row J.

1. Sew Row J fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Basil, Light Basil, Grey, White-Tomato HST, Scarlet, Tomato, Scarlet, Tomato, Scarlet, Tomato-Fawn HST, Brown-Grey HST, Light Basil, Basil.

Sew Row K.

1. Sew Row K fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate, Grey, Slate-Merlot HST, Scarlet, Merlot, Scarlet, Merlot, Scarlet, Slate-Merlot HST, Grey-Brown HST, Merlot, Grey-Brown HST, Slate.

Sew Row L.

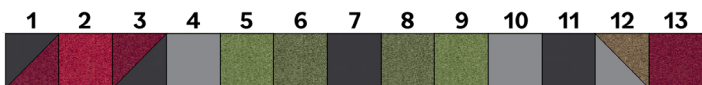
1. Sew Row L fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Grey, White-Tomato HST, Scarlet, Tomato-Light Basil HST, Grey, White, Grey, White, Grey, Light Basil, Grey-Brown HST, Fawn, Grey-Brown HST.

Sew Row M.

1. Sew Row M fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate-Merlot HST, Scarlet, Slate-Merlot HST, Grey, Light Basil, Basil, Slate, Basil, Light Basil, Grey, Slate, Grey-Brown HST, Merlot.

Sew Row N.

1. Sew Row N fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Scarlet, Tomato-White HST, Grey, White, Basil, Light Basil, Grey, Light Basil, Basil, White, Grey, White, Grey-Brown HST.

Sew Row O.

1. Sew Row O fabrics in order from 1 to 13.



From left to right: Slate-Merlot HST, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey, Light Basil, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate, Grey, Slate.

Sew Rows A-O together.

**Sewing Notes* I like to sew my rows in pairs while others might prefer going in order, so both ways are listed below.*

Double check the orientation of your rows as you sew, making sure the BOTTOM of one row matches the TOP of the one below it. This is where the diagram can come in handy!

Make sure you match up your seams as you sew your rows together - I highly recommend pinning at each seam intersection!

Sewing your rows in pairs:

1. Sew row **A** to **B**, **C** to **D**, **E** to **F**, **G** to **H**, **I** to **J**, **K** to **L**, and **M** to **N**.
2. Sew rows **A/B** to **C/D**, **E/F** to **G/H**, **I/J** to **K/L**, and **M/N** to **O**.
3. Sew rows **A/B/C/D** to **E/F/G/H**, and **I/J/K/L** to **M/N/O**.
4. Sew rows **A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H** to **I/J/K/L/M/N/O**.

Sewing your rows in order:

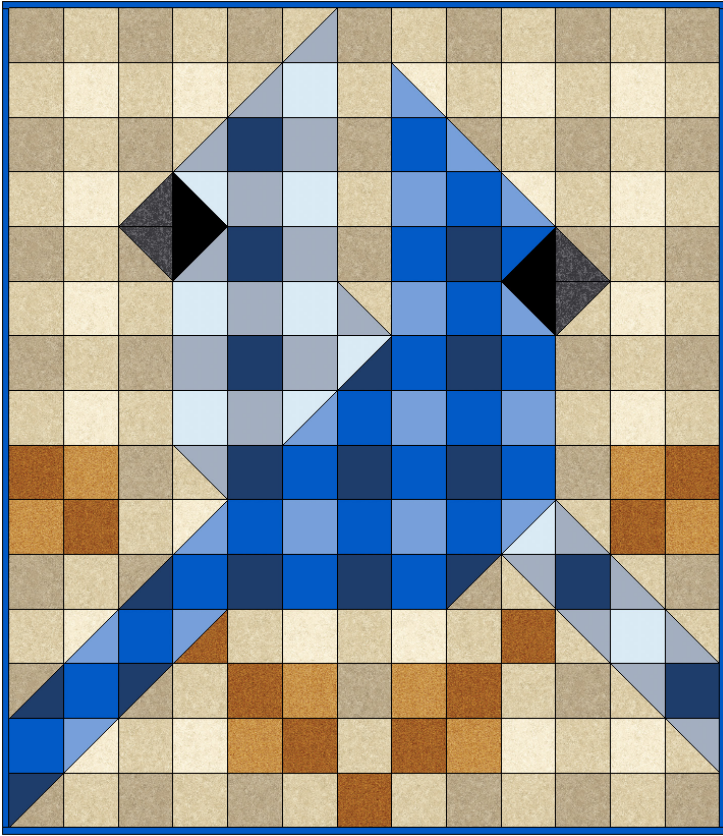
1. Sew rows **A** and **B** together.
2. Sew rows **A/B** to row **C**.
3. Sew rows **A/B/C** to row **D**.
4. Repeat this process until you've sewn on row **O**.

Tips & Tricks

- When preparing your backing, especially if you're sending it to a long arm quilter, remember to add 6-8" to each side of the quilt. For Cardinals, this means you should have a backing piece that's about 68" x 76".
- I found it incredibly helpful to print my diagram for the row sewing step and check them off as I sewed them together.
- Some quilting designs I was excited about for this design (but didn't get to use, because I could only pick one!):
 - Crabapple by Willow Leaf Designs
 - Sublime Leaves by Patrica Ritter
 - Olive by Quilting It
 - Leaf Berry Panto by Ida Houston
- I bound this quilt with Weathered Tonals in Slate.
- My favorite suggestions for other binding fabrics:
 - Faux Linen - Scarlet
 - Faux Linen - Ochre
 - Solid - Merlot

Additional Color Ideas for Cardinals

The color options for a quilt like this can be tough to visualize - you want to keep the birds visible, so how do you swap around colors? Here are two very different ideas for recoloring this pattern!



Blue Jays Variation

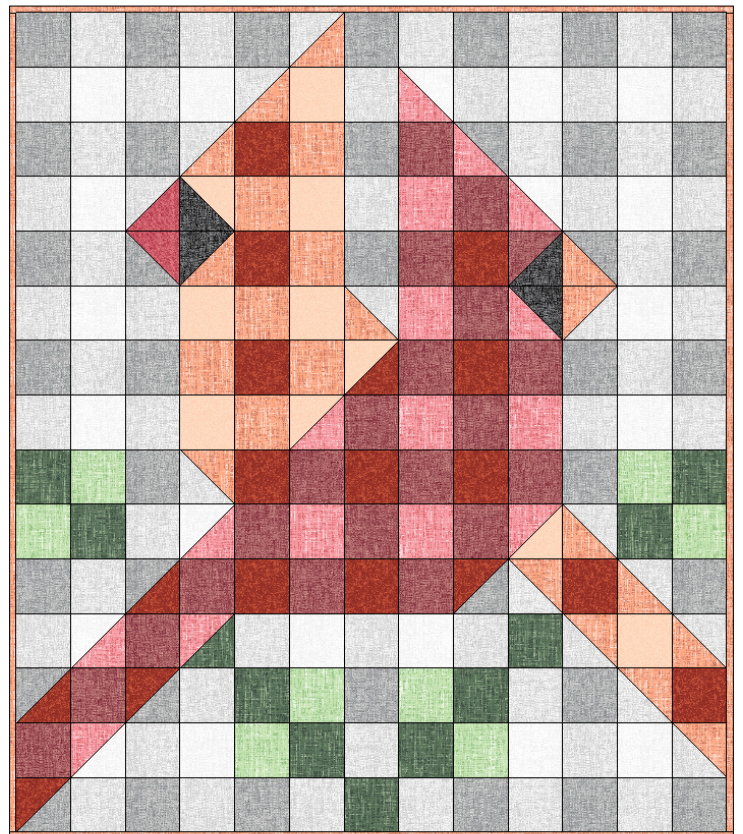
This color variation is based off of another bird that has a pointy, feathered head - the Blue Jay! I first saw a Blue Jay in person while visiting Vermont during fall, so this color variation is meant to evoke the warmer tones I remember from autumn.

Blue Jays aren't typically colors evenly from top to bottom, so try playing around with the blue placements near the head and tail!

Pastel Cardinals Variation

Cardinals come in a surprising array of colors (not just the stereotypical deep red!), so this variation pays homage to the softer, lighter hues of this adorable bird. Leaning into warmer tones and pastel, these colors are much softer than the original design.

Want to add a cool punch? Consider changing the gingham background to blues instead of greys for a more vibrant pop!



Cardinals Quilt Coloring Page

