

BONUS PROJECT: CHEER PILLOW

FINISH SIZE: 14" x 36"

Cheer up your space for the holidays with this festive 'CHEER' pillow! If you prefer, finish as a table runner or wall hanging rather than adding the pillow back.

Perfect fit for a 16" x 38" Poly-fill Bench Pillow Form (Stock #CPI1638)

Letters to Santa QAL Blocks Used, with slight modifications to be discussed:

- (1) 'CHEER' block
- (8) Poinsettia Star Filler Blocks

Links & pattern info on last page

FABRIC NEEDED:

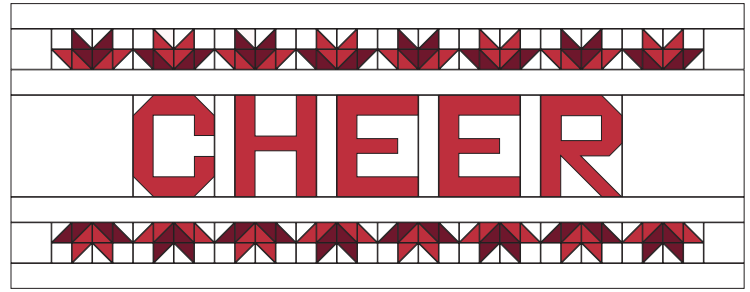
- $\frac{3}{4}$ Yard - Background Fabric
(Bella Solid in Off-White 9900 200)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Yard - Main Letters & Accent Fabric
(Bella Solid in Christmas Red 9900 16)
- 1 Fat Quarter - Dark Accent Fabric
(Bella Solid in Kansas Red 9900 150)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Yard - Backing
- $\frac{1}{4}$ Yard - Binding (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

Use a scant 1/4" seam allowance throughout. Press all seams open.

CUT BACKGROUND SETTING PIECES:

- Cut (1) $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF strip. Subcut (2) $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles, and (4) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.
- Cut (4) $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x WOF strips. Subcut each strip to $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x $36\frac{1}{2}$ ".



INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)

PREP BACKING:

- Cut yardage into (2) $14\frac{1}{2}$ " x $20\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces.
- Turn under one of the $14\frac{1}{2}$ " sides by $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Press. Then turn under $\frac{1}{4}$ " again to enclose raw edge. Press to set, and topstitch to finish edge.
- Repeat on the other piece, so that the finished edges will overlap in the middle of the backing.

MAKE (1) 'CHEER' BLOCK:

- Make (1) C, H, E, E, R letter set following the Mini Alphabet Quilt by Primitive Gatherings lettering pattern.
- From the Background Fabric, cut:
 - (4) $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles
- Unlike the main quilt, here you will sew the letters together with $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " sashings in between each letter, but NOT add the top/bottom or side sashings to finish the full block.
- The CHEER block will measure $24\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " when assembled.



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INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)

MAKE HALF-STAR UNITS FROM THE POINSETTIA STAR FILLER BLOCK:

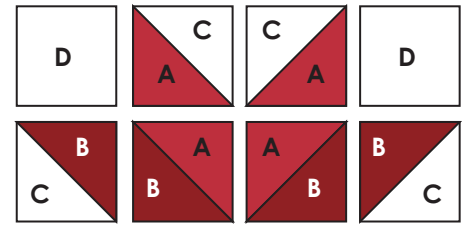
- Cut the following to make all (16) half-stars (8 of each style):

- A** - (32) 2" x 2"
- B** - (32) 2" x 2"
- C** - (32) 2" x 2"
- D** - (32) 1½" x 1½"

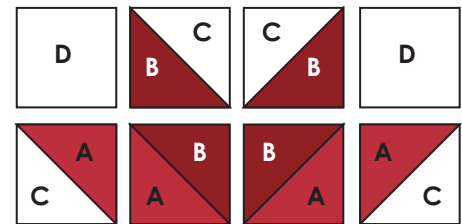
- Make 2-at-a-Time Half Square Triangles using the instructions in the Poinsettia Star Filler Block pattern. You will end up with the following:

- (32) 1½" x 1½" Fabric A & B HST's
- (32) 1½" x 1½" Fabric A & C HST's
- (32) 1½" x 1½" Fabric B & C HST's

- Assemble into (8) Style A & (8) Style B Half-Stars as shown. Units will measure 2½" x 4½".



Make (8) Style A Half-Stars w/ Fabric A in center



Make (8) Style B Half-Stars w/ Fabric B in center

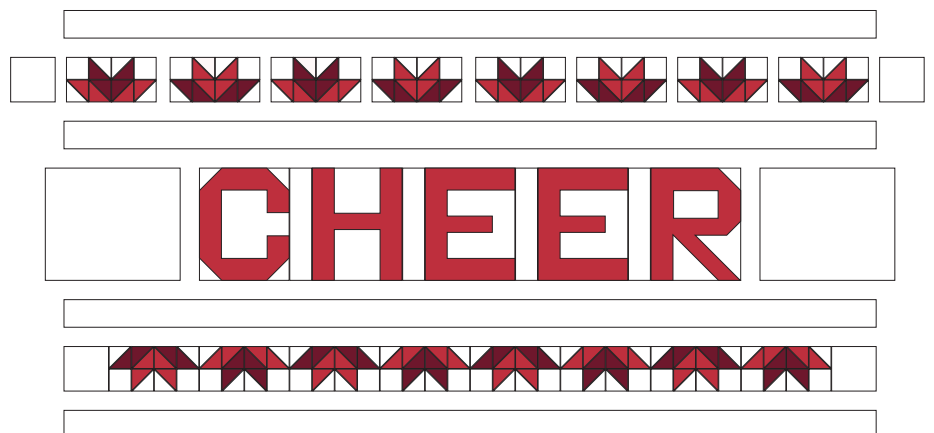
ASSEMBLY

- Make (2) rows of Half-Stars, each with (4) Style A & (4) Style B, plus (2) 2½" setting squares. Alternate the Half-Star styles, and press seams open.

- Attach 5½" x 6½" setting pieces to either side of the CHEER block. Press seams open.

- Follow the assembly diagram to the right to join together the full pillow top, making sure the two Half-Star rows both point 'out'. Press seams open.

- Baste & quilt pillow top as desired.



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PILLOW FINISHING

WITH BINDING:

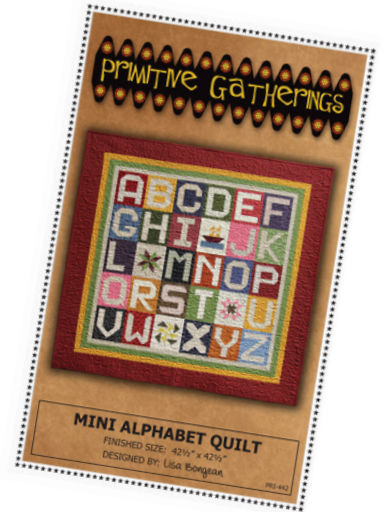
- Lay out the pillow top and both envelope backing pieces Wrong Sides Together, so that the raw edges of the backing pieces line up with the edges of the pillow top and the finished edges overlap in the center.
- Pin around pillow sandwich, and baste around all 4 sides $\frac{1}{8}$ " away from edge. You can just pin and skip to attaching binding, but it's much more secure to baste first.
- Make and attach binding in your preferred method. For this pillow, you need (3) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x WOF strips worth of binding.

WITHOUT BINDING:

- Lay out the pillow top and both envelope backing pieces Right Sides Together, so that the raw edges of the backing pieces line up with the edges of the pillow top and the finished edges overlap in the center.
- Pin around pillow sandwich.
- Sew around full pillow to join, using a generous $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Make sure to backstitch at the beginning and end of your stitching.
- Clip seam allowance at corners to reduce bulk, making sure not to cut into the thread from your seam.
- Turn pillow Right Side Out. Using the end of a Hera marker or chopstick or other dull pointed object, press out corners gently.
- Press pillow flat, and enjoy!

PATTERN INFO

The lettering for this QAL is from the pattern-for-purchase **Mini Alphabet Quilt by Primitive Gatherings** (PRI 442). You can find the pattern at your local quilt shop (or they can order it for you), and select retailers have the pattern as a PDF download.



You can find the free Filler Block pattern referenced in this tutorial at the following links on the Moda website:

POINSETTIA STAR BLOCK:

<https://modafabrics.com/webfiles/LetterstoSanta-FillerBlock6-PoinsettiaStar.pdf>

And don't forget to check the Moda Inspiration & Resources Blog for updates on the Letters to Santa QAL! We will release new words and bonus projects on the 25th of every month through November 2022.

<https://modafabrics.com/inspiration-resources>

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And make sure to use the quilt-along hashtags so we can see your progress: #LettersToSantaQAL #ShowMeTheModa