

# Starry Irish Chain

Kelly Ashton / Kellyquilter Designs  
Designer and Instructor

## SUPPLY LIST & PRE-WORKSHOP PREP



The Starry Irish Chain quilt is a contemporary version of a traditional favorite. Kelly has combined a variable-sized Irish Chain with her Echo Star block, a block quickly and easily constructed **without** "y-seams".

The quilt can be made in two sizes. Or, if you simply wish to learn the block construction technique, fabric requirements are included for a single-block option to make the Echo Star.

### SUPPLIES:

**SEWING MACHINE:** PROVIDED!

**THREAD:** 50 wt or 60 wt machine-piecing thread, neutral color

**KELLYQUILTER ACRYLIC TEMPLATE PROJECT SET:** Templates H4, ET4, LQ4 AND HET8 are required for each participant. The cost of the template kit, which also includes anti-skid material, is \$28 (tax included; retail value \$34 before tax), payable to Kelly at the beginning of the workshop (cash or credit / debit card, please).

**ROTARY CUTTER for in-class cutting:** 28mm preferred

**CUTTING MAT:** There will be cutting stations in the classroom, HOWEVER if you have a mat (12" square or so) on a rotating base, please feel free to bring it. A rotating mat is very helpful when cutting around acrylic templates.

**RULERS:** Your favorite ruler for cutting width-of-fabric strips (typically 6"-8.5" x 18"-24.5").  
**You'll use this ruler for pre-workshop cutting AND please bring to class.**  
-a square ruler at least 6" square.

**NOTIONS:** Seam ripper (just in case), thread snips, pins, any other favorite notions

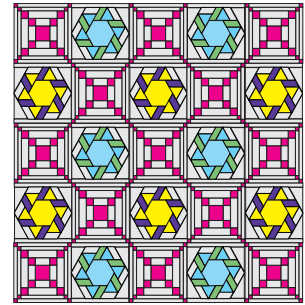
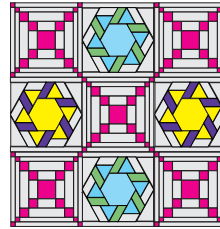
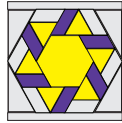
**MAGIC Premium Quilting & Crafting Spray** (my personal favorite) or Mary Ellen's Best Press (for pre-workshop fabric preparation - see next page)

**FABRIC:** See table on page 2

**LEGEND:**

WOF = width of fabric

FQ = fat quarter (approx. 18" x 22")



	Single Star Block (no Chain)	Small Quilt (4 Star Blocks + Chain)	Large Quilt (12 Star Blocks + Chain)
Finished Size	16" square	48" square**	80" square
<b>Fabric Requirements</b> (based on 41" of usable width of fabric, where applicable)			
Negative Space (background) - non-directional print	One FQ (Fat Quarter) or one quarter-yard cut	2½ yards**	5¼ yards**
Star - Main Color	One FQ or one quarter-yard cut	<i>For two pairs of two identical blocks:</i> ½ yard each of two different fabrics	<i>For two pairs of six identical blocks:</i> 1½ yards each of two different fabrics
Star - Accent Color	1/8 yard	<i>For two pairs of two identical blocks:</i> ¼ yard each of two different fabrics	<i>For two pairs of six identical blocks:</i> ¾ yard each of two different fabrics
Chain	N/A	½ yard**	1 yard**
Backing	One FQ	3 yards	5 yards* <i>*(This amount provides minimal overage on two opposite sides.)</i>
Batting	A piece at least 20" square	Throw size	Queen
Binding (based on 2½" wide strips)	¼ yard	½ yard	¾ yard

**\*\*If you wish to add a pieced border to the small quilt (extending the chain around the perimeter as I've done in the sample pictured on page 1), you'll need a total of 3 yards of negative space fabric for the small quilt OR a total of 6¼ yards of negative space fabric for the large quilt. The amount of chain fabric listed above is adequate to accommodate the border addition for the small quilt; purchase a total of 1½ yards chain fabric for the large quilt. By adding the pieced outer border, the finished size of the small quilt is 52" square; the finished size of the large quilt is 84" square. IF YOU ADD THE PIECED BORDER, BE SURE TO ADJUST THE AMOUNTS OF BACKING AND BINDING FABRIC ACCORDINGLY!**

## Pre-Workshop Fabric Preparation and Pre-cutting:

Please complete these steps *before* class.

### STEP 1: Fabric Preparation

Prepare all of your quilt top fabrics by generously (quite damp; not dripping wet) spritzing them with Magic Premium Quilting / Crafting Spray (or Mary Ellen's Best Press) to add body and mild stiffness to the fabric, then press the fabric until dry with a dry iron on cotton setting. Or, if you prefer, you can spritz the fabrics, iron them briefly, then hang them until completely dry. Once dry, press out the wrinkles using a steam iron on cotton setting.

### STEP 2: Cutting Prior to Class

If making **only** one Echo Star block,

#### Star Main Color Fabric - Fat Quarter:

Cut one strip, 8" X 22";

Cut one strip, 4" x 22"

Bring both cut strips and the remainder of the FQ to class.

**OR**

#### Star Main Color Fabric - Quarter-yard Cut:

Cut one strip, 8" x WOF (width of fabric). Bring the 8" strip to class.

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#### Star Accent Color Fabric:

Cut one strip, 4" x WOF

Bring the 4" strip to class.

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#### Negative Space / Background Fabric - Fat Quarter (approx. 18" x 22"), cut:

-Two rectangles, 1½" x 22"; trim each to 1½" x 16½"

-One rectangle, 8" x 22"

-One rectangle, 4" x 22"

Bring all the cut pieces to class.

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If making the small, or large quilt, for the Echo Star block:

#### Star Main Color Fabric - FQs:

From **each** of two **Fat Quarters**,

Cut one strip, 8" X 22";

Cut one strip, 4" x 22"

Bring all the cut strips and the remainder of the FQs to class.

**OR**

(continued)

**OR**

**Star Main Color Fabric - Quarter-yard Cuts:**

From **each** of two **Quarter-yard Cuts**,

Cut one strip, 8" x WOF (width of fabric). Bring the 8" strips to class.

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**Star Accent Color Fabric:** From each of two **Eighth-yard cuts**,

Cut one strip, 4" x WOF

Bring the 4" strips to class.

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**Negative Space / Background Fabric:**

**Square-up the cut edge of the negative-space fabric, then cut one 8" x WOF strip and one 1½" x WOF strip.**

-Fold the 8" strip with selvages together (like it came off the bolt). Cut the 8" x WOF strip in half yielding two rectangles each measuring approximately 8" x 22".

-Leave one rectangle as an 8" x 22" piece.

-From the second rectangle, cut two strips, 4" x 22".

**Bring all the cut strips and rectangles to class.**

**NOTE:** In our 3-hour class, we will be focusing *primarily* on the construction of the Echo Star block. **If you plan to make either the Small or Large Quilt, please bring your CHAIN fabric and remaining BACKGROUND fabric to class, also.** Kelly will talk through the Chain Block construction by demonstrating with block step-outs. Your workshop handout will also have instructions for the Variable Irish Chain block construction. As time permits, you may cut and piece a second Echo Star block or begin cutting for the Variable Irish Chain blocks.

I look forward to our workshop time together! If you have any questions before the workshop, feel free to email me at [kelly@kellyquilter.com](mailto:kelly@kellyquilter.com) and type "Starry" in the subject line. See you in the workshop!

**Kelly Ashton**

Website: [kellyquilter.com](http://kellyquilter.com)

Facebook: Kelly Ashton: Quilting Lectures & Workshops

Instagram: @kellyquilter (don't forget the "a"!)

Etsy: [kellyquilterdesigns.etsy.com](http://kellyquilterdesigns.etsy.com)