

A great patriotic table runner, consider using outdoors to dress up a drab picnic table, or over a solid colored table cloth to make just the right statement for your event. You'll be amazed at how quickly this project makes up.

Patriotic Tale Runner – This is a fun (and quick!) project to make. One thing that makes it fun is that you sew through the batting and the backing as you go -when you put the last piece on all you have to do is bind the edges because you were quilting as you went!

Finished project size: approximately 18" x 43"

Materials:

- 5/8 yard backing material
- Cotton batting piece 22" x 44"
- 3/8" yard red fabric for top
- 2/3 yard white fabric for top
- 2/3 yard blue fabric for stars on top and binding

Suggested Tools: (other than your standard sewing supplies)

- OLFA Rotary Cutter & Mat
- 6" x 24" OLFA Ruler
- 6 1/2" OLFA Square Ruler

Construction –

1. Trim the backing fabric and batting to 22" by the WOF (approximately 22" x 44")
2. Fold the batting in half to find the center of the long side (44") of the piece. Draw a line on the batting.
3. Cut 6 strips of red 2" by WOF – then cut strips in half, giving you 12 strips, approximately 2" x 22" each
 - *NOTE:* you will only use 11 of the 12 strips
4. Cut 4 strips of white 2" by WOF – cut these in half so you have 8 strips, approximately 2" x 22" each
5. Layer with backing facing up, batting on top, red strip centered on the line you drew on the batting facing up, white strip facing down directly over the red strip.
6. Pin together and sew 1/4" from edge on one side of the white stitching through all the layers. After stitching, flip the white strip over and iron flat.
7. Continue to add strips in each direction until you have 9 strips of red and 8 strips of white added.
8. Making the star strips (please note, this step will be repeated for each star)
 - Cut 4 white strips 3 1/2" X 2"
 - Cut 4 white 2" squares (corners of blocks)
 - Cut 8 blue 2" squares
 - Cut 1 blue 3 1/2" for center of star
 - To make the points on the star, lay one 2" blue square on the 3 1/2" x 2" white strip (right sides together) sew a diagonal line (corner to corner)
 - Trim off corner leaving 1/4" seam allowance, and iron the seam open
 - Repeat on opposite corner. When you iron the seam open you will have a set of point for one side of your star. Do this three more times to finish the star
9. Repeat step 8 to make a total of 6 stars. Each star should measure 6 1/2".
10. Sew 3 star blocks together to form a border strip for the table runner 6 1/2" x 18 1/2"
11. After you have made both star strips double-check your width. Trim your table runner with the red & white strips to the width of the star strips.
12. Add the star borders to each end using the same 'stitch & flip' method used in adding the red and white strips.
13. Finish the table runner with a red strip at each end.
14. Add binding and your project is done and ready for the 4th of July!

Project Level - Intermediate