

Christmas Cheer Blocks

a beginner quilt-block pattern



Three 6.5" Blocks (Unfinished) + Instructions for Use in Other Projects

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#ChristmasCheerBlocks
#BlueSkyModernCraft

The Christmas Cheer Blocks were a natural extension of the fun that started with my free Halloween [BOO! Blocks pattern](#). With the simple addition of "H," "J," and "Y" blocks to the "O" in the original pattern, you're all set for the holidays with blocks that can spell out "HoHoHo" and "Joy." Also, while I didn't include it here, these blocks also work with the exclamation-point block from the BOO! Blocks pattern, so feel free to add it on for a little extra cheer.

This pattern walks you through making the individual blocks and then provides basic instructions for turning them into coasters, a "Joy" pillow, and a "HoHoHo" table runner. The size of these blocks also makes them perfect for sampler-style holiday quilts. I can't wait to see how you use them in your own crafts.

Tips and Information Before You Start

- WOF = Width of fabric (pattern assumes standard WOF is 42")
- HST = Half-square triangle
- Seam allowance is 1/4"
- Binding yardage assumes 2 1/2"-wide binding.
- My favorite Havel's Sewing tools for this project are my [60 mm rotary cutter](#), [extra large cutting mat](#), and [8" serrated quilting scissors](#).

Fabric Requirements

Fabric	Individual Blocks 6.5" x 6.5" (unfinished)	Coasters/Trivets 6" x 6"	Joy Pillow 18" x 18"	HoHoHo Table Runner 12" x 40"
Red fabrics	Assorted 1 1/2"-wide scraps			
Background*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JOY (3 blocks): 1/8 yd. • HOHOHO (6 blocks): 1/4 yd. 		3/8 yd.	1/2 yd.
Backing	n/a	1/4 yd.	5/8 yd.	1/2 yd.
Binding	n/a	n/a	1/4 yd., if using (see p. 9)	1/4 yd.
Additional Supplies	n/a	6 1/2" square of batting for each coaster (JOY: 3 squares; HOHOHO: 6 squares)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19" square of batting • 19" square of muslin or similar fabric (will be hidden inside pillow) • 18" pillow form • Zipper (depending on finishing method, see p. 9) 	14" x WOF piece of batting

* I cut my background from assorted low-volume scraps; the cutting charts on p. 3 show the most efficient way to cut the background from yardage.

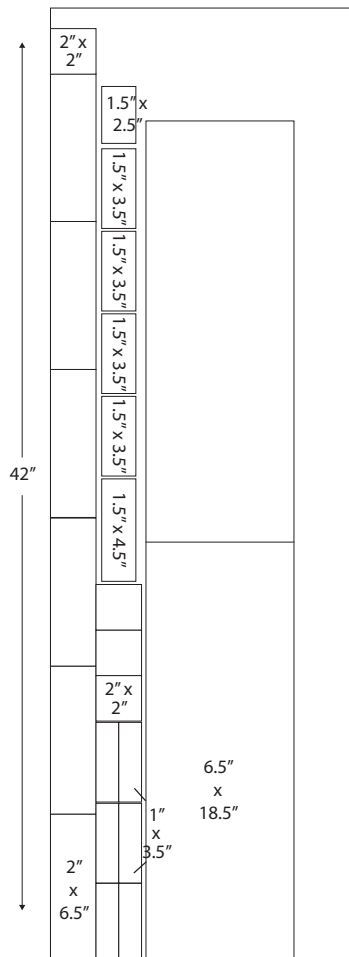


Cutting Instructions

Fabric	Individual Blocks	Coasters/Trivets	Joy Pillow	HoHoHo Table Runner
Red fabrics	--JOY (3 blocks): (19) 1.5" squares (4) 2" squares	--HOHOHO (6 blocks): (57) 1.5" squares (6) 2" squares	(19) 1.5" squares (4) 2" squares	(57) 1.5" squares (6) 2" squares
Background	--JOY (3 blocks): (4) 2" squares (6) 2" x 6.5" (6) 1" x 3.5" (1) 1.5" x 2.5" (4) 1.5" x 3.5" (1) 1.5" x 4.5"	--HOHOHO (6 blocks): (6) 2" squares (12) 2" x 6.5" (12) 1" x 3.5" (6) 1.5" x 2.5" (3) 1.5" x 3.5"	(4) 2" squares (6) 2" x 6.5" (6) 1" x 3.5" (1) 1.5" x 2.5" (4) 1.5" x 3.5" (1) 1.5" x 4.5" (2) 6.5" x 18.5"	(6) 2" squares (12) 2" x 6.5" (12) 1" x 3.5" (6) 1.5" x 2.5" (3) 1.5" x 3.5" (2) 2.5" x 12.5" (2) 3.5" x 36.5"
Backing	n/a	6.5" square for each coaster (JOY: 3 squares; HOHOHO: 6 squares)	Will vary based on your finishing method (see p. 9)	(1) 14" x WOF
Binding	n/a	n/a	(3) 2.5" x WOF, if using (see p. 9)	(3) 2.5" x WOF

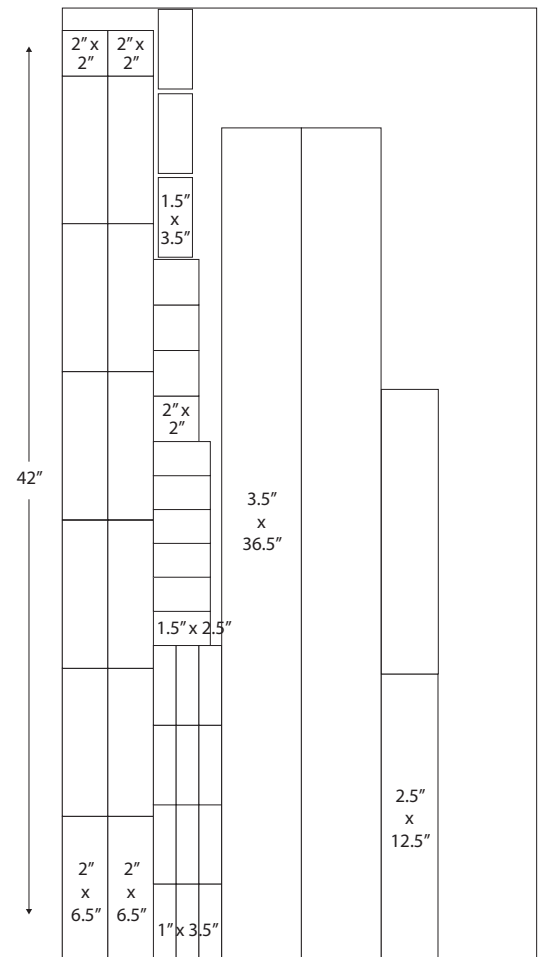
Background Cutting Chart for Individual JOY Blocks/Coasters (3) and Pillow

* Ignore (2) 6.5" x 18.5" pieces if not making the pillow



Background Cutting Chart for Individual HoHoHo Blocks/Coasters (6) and Table Runner

* Ignore (2) 2.5" x 12.5" and (2) 3.5" x 36.5" pieces if not making the table runner



Block Assembly Instructions

HST Assembly

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each 2" background square. **Fig. 1**
2. Pair each 2" red square with a 2" background square, placing right sides together. Sew a seam on each side of the diagonal line $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the line. **Fig. 2**
3. Cut along the marked line and press each HST open or away from the background. Trim to 1.5" square. Each pair of squares will produce two HSTs. **Fig. 3**

Fig. 1

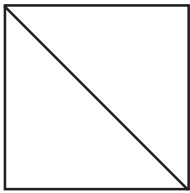


Fig. 2

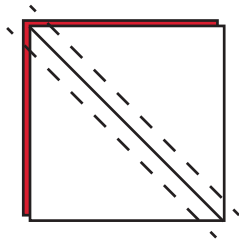
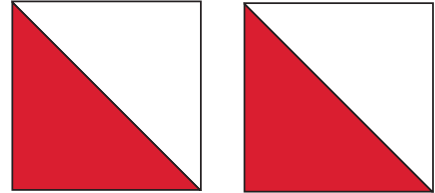


Fig. 3



"H" Block

1. Piece 11 - 1.5" red squares and two 1.5" x 2.5" background rectangles into Sections A, B, and C, as shown in **Fig. 4**. Press seams open.
2. Sew Sections A-C together. Press seams open. **Fig. 4**
3. Sew one 1" x 3.5" background rectangle to the top of the assembled "H" unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the bottom. **Fig. 5**
4. Sew one 2" x 6.5" background rectangle to the left side of the unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the right side. **Fig. 5**
5. For the HoHoHo blocks, repeat Steps 1-4 to make two more "H" blocks.

Fig. 4

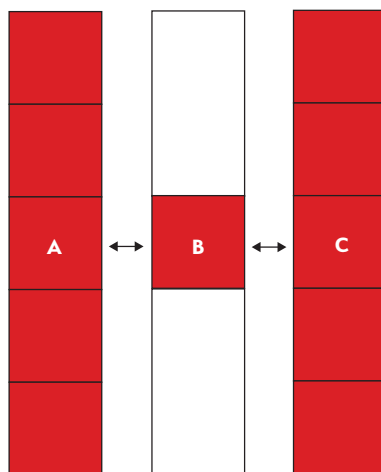
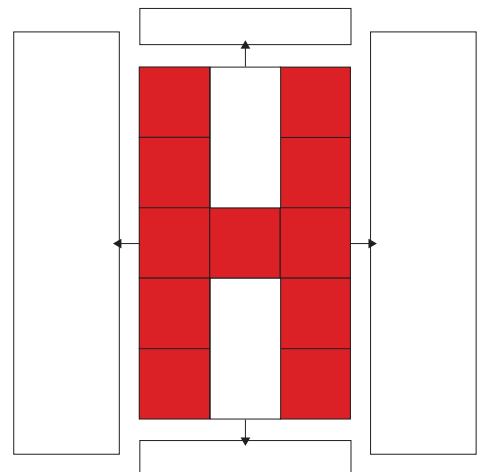


Fig. 5



“O” Block

1. Piece four HSTs and six 1.5” red squares into Sections A and C, as shown in **Fig. 6**. Press the seam between each HST and the adjoining red square toward the red square. Press other seams open.

2. Sew one 1.5” red square to the top of a 1.5” x 3.5” background rectangle. Press toward the red square. Repeat with a second 1.5” red square on the bottom of the background rectangle. Press toward the red square to create Section B.

Fig. 6

3. Sew Sections A-C together, as shown in **Fig. 7**, nesting the seams that were pressed to the side in Steps 1-2. Press seams open.

4. Sew one 1” x 3.5” background rectangle to the top of the assembled “O” unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the bottom. **Fig. 8**

5. Sew one 2” x 6.5” background rectangle to the left side of the unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the right side. **Fig. 8**

6. For the HoHoHo blocks, repeat Steps 1-5 to make two more “O” blocks.

Fig. 6

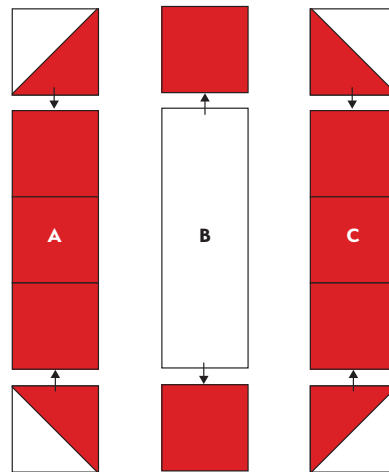


Fig. 7

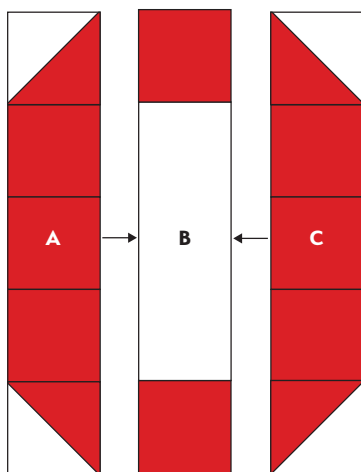
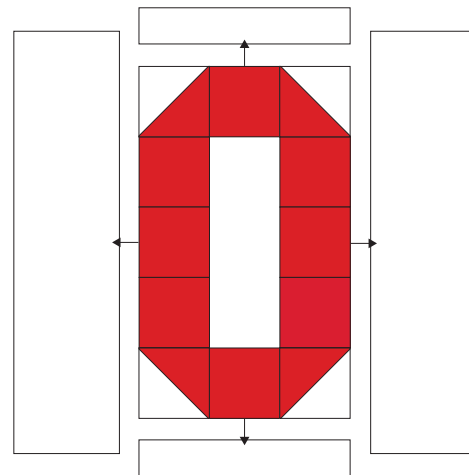


Fig. 8



“J” Block

1. Piece two HSTs, five 1.5" red squares, and one 1.5" x 3.5" background rectangle into Sections A and C, as shown in **Fig. 9**. Press the seam between each HST and the adjoining red square toward the red square. Press other seams open.
2. Sew one 1.5" red square to the bottom of a 1.5" x 4.5" background rectangle to create Section B. Press toward the red square. **Fig. 9**
3. Sew Sections A-C together, as shown in **Fig. 10**, nesting the seams that were pressed to the side in Steps 1-2. Press seams open.
4. Sew one 1" x 3.5" background rectangle to the top of the assembled "J" unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the bottom. **Fig. 11**
5. Sew one 2" x 6.5" background rectangle to the left side of the unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the right side. **Fig. 11**

Fig. 9

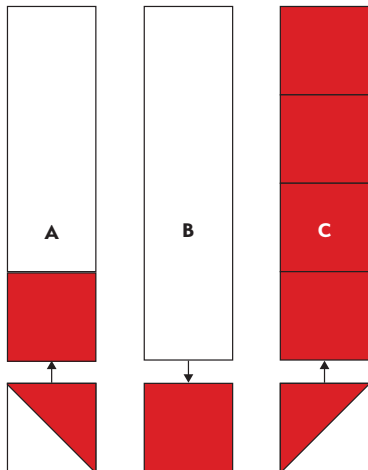


Fig. 10

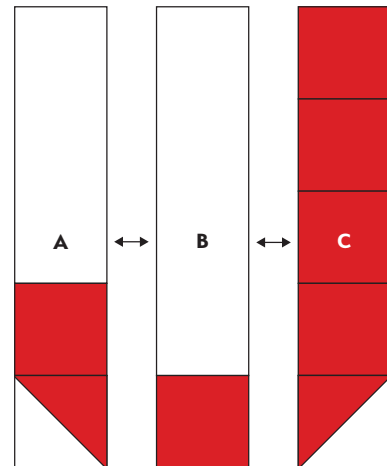
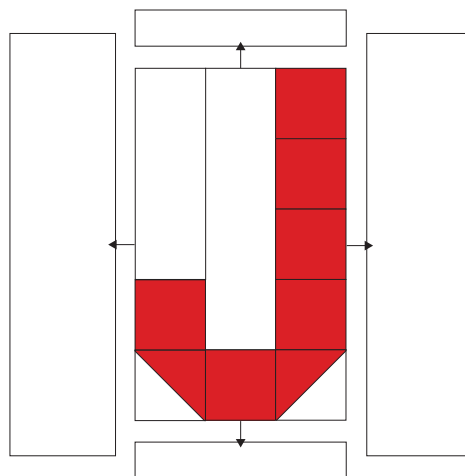


Fig. 11



“Y” Block

1. Piece two HSTs, two 1.5" red squares, and two 1.5" x 3.5" background rectangles into Sections A and C, as shown in **Fig. 12**. Press the seam between each HST and the adjoining background rectangle toward the background rectangle. Press other seams open.
2. Sew three 1.5" red squares and one 1.5" x 2.5" background rectangle together to create Section B. **Fig. 12** Press the seam between the background rectangle and the adjoining red square toward the background rectangle. Press other seams open.
3. Sew Sections A-C together, as shown in **Fig. 13**, nesting the seams that were pressed to the side in Steps 1-2. Press seams open.
4. Sew one 1" x 3.5" background rectangle to the top of the assembled “Y” unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the bottom. **Fig. 14**
5. Sew one 2" x 6.5" background rectangle to the left side of the unit. Press toward the background. Repeat on the right side. **Fig. 14**

Fig. 12

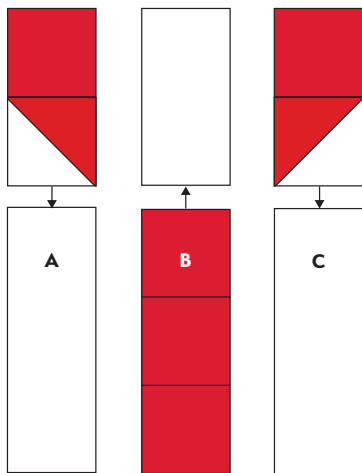


Fig. 13

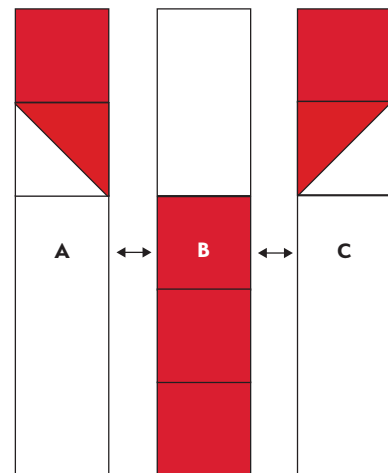
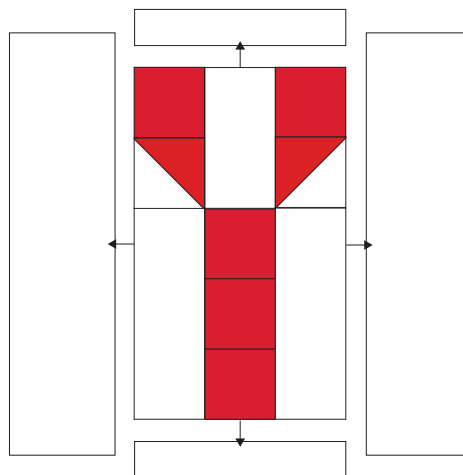


Fig. 14



Coaster Finishing Instructions

1. Optional: if you want to quilt the coasters, for each one, place the pieced block on top of a batting square and quilt as desired (no need to baste).
2. For each coaster, layer one piece of backing right side up, followed by one block right side down and then one piece of batting cut to 6.5" square. If you quilted your block in Step 1, then you will place one piece of backing right sides together with the quilted block/batting unit. Pin or clip the layers in place.
3. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, stitch around all four sides, leaving a 2" opening on one side. **Fig. 15** Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end.
4. Using a pair of sharp scissors, clip the points off the four corners to reduce the bulk. **Fig. 16**
5. Turn the entire coaster right side out through the opening. Use a point turner or similar tool to push out the corners of the coaster and then press the entire coaster flat, tucking in the fabric at the opening.
6. Topstitch around the entire coaster $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge, closing up the opening.
7. Share your finished coasters via social media using #ChristmasCheerBlocks!

Fig. 15

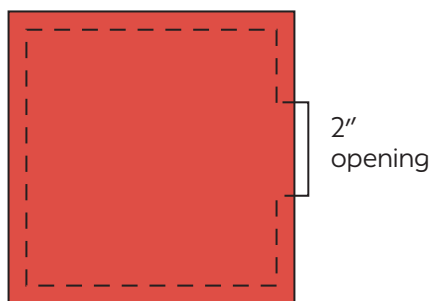
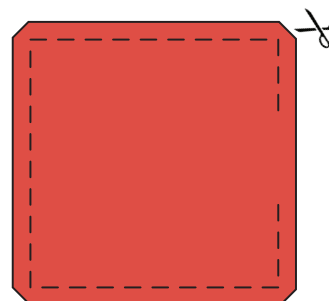


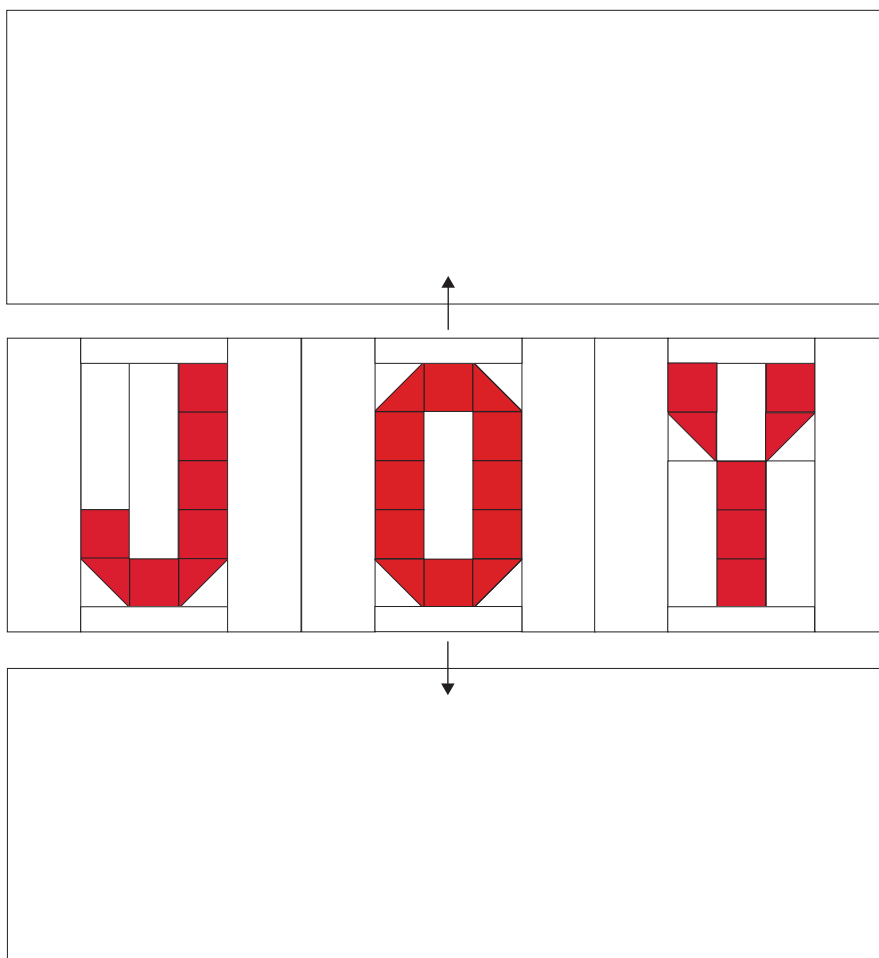
Fig. 16



“Joy” Pillow Finishing Instructions

1. Piece the three blocks (J-O-Y) together into a row as shown. **Fig. 17** Press seams open.
2. Pin one 6.5" x 18.5" background piece to the top of the assembled unit and sew. Press toward the background. Repeat with the other 6.5" x 18.5" background piece on the bottom of the unit. **Fig. 17**
3. Make a quilt sandwich by laying your muslin backing down, followed by the batting and then the pillow top right side up. Baste and quilt as desired. If needed, trim to 18.5" square.
4. Complete your pillow using your preferred method. I love Suzy Quilt's tutorials for finishing a pillow with [a hidden zipper](#) or [an envelope backing](#).
5. Share your finished pillow via social media using #ChristmasCheerBlocks!

Fig. 17



“HoHoHo” Table Runner Finishing Instructions

1. Piece the six blocks (H-O-H-O-H-O) together into a row as shown. **Fig. 18** Press seams open.
2. Pin one 3.5" x 36.5" background piece to the top of the assembled unit and sew. Press toward the background. Repeat with the other 3.5" x 36.5" background piece on the bottom of the unit. **Fig. 18**
3. Pin one 3.5" x 12.5" background piece to the left side of the unit and sew. Press toward the background. Repeat with the other 3.5" x 12.5" background piece on the right side of the unit. **Fig. 18**
4. Make a quilt sandwich by laying the backing right side down, followed by the batting and then the table runner top right side up. Baste and quilt as desired.
5. To make your binding, place one 2 1/2" x WOF binding strip perpendicular to a second strip, right sides together, and sew a diagonal seam across the intersecting strips. **Fig. 19** Trim the excess fabric 1/4" away from the seam and press open. **Fig. 19** Trim the dog tails. Repeat with remaining strips, adding them to create one long strip of binding. Press the strip in half lengthwise, then bind using your preferred method. Click [here](#) for a video showing my preferred method step by step.
6. Share your finished table runner via social media using #ChristmasCheerBlocks!

Fig. 18

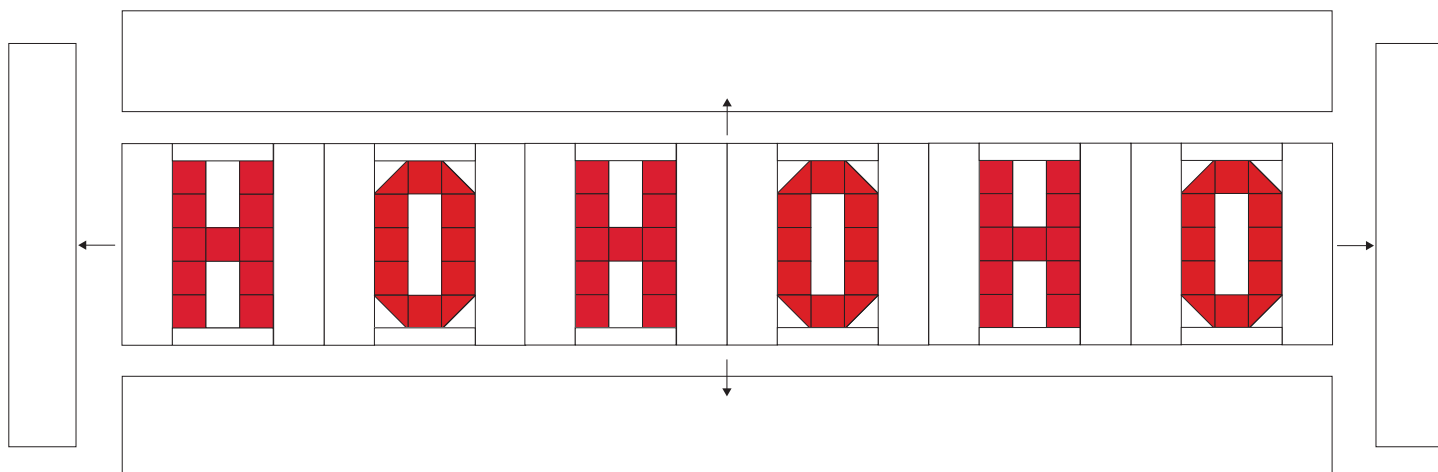


Fig. 19

