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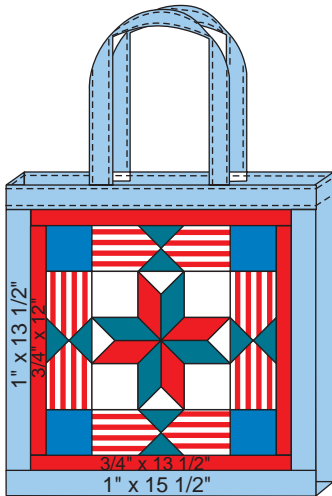


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# St. Louis Tote Bag

By Barbara Clayton

*Carry your summer quilting supplies around in this large denim tote bag.*



**St. Louis Tote Bag**  
Placement Diagram  
15 1/2" x 15 1/2" x 4"

## PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Project Size: 15 1/2" x 15 1/2" x 4"

Block Size: 12" x 12"

Number of Blocks: 1

## FABRIC & BATTING

- 1/8 yard blue print
- 1/8 yard blue mottled
- 1/8 yard red-and-white stripe
- 1/4 yard red solid
- 1/2 yard white solid
- 1 yard 60"-wide denim
- Batting 16" x 16"

## SUPPLIES & TOOLS

- All-purpose thread to match fabrics
- Blue quilting thread
- Clear nylon monofilament
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

## INSTRUCTIONS

**1.** Prepare one St. Louis block referring to the Placement Diagram for placement of colors in the block.

**2.** Cut two strips each 1 1/4" x 12 1/2" and 1 1/4" x 14" red solid. Sew the shorter strips to opposite sides and longer strips to remaining sides; press seams toward strips.

**3.** Cut two strips each denim 1 1/2" x 14" and 1 1/2" x 16". Sew the shorter strips to opposite sides and longer strips to remaining sides; press seams toward strips.

**4.** Cut a 16" x 16" white solid backing square. Sandwich batting between the bordered block and the backing square; pin or baste layers together.

**5.** Quilt as desired by hand or machine. *Note:* The project shown was machine-quilted in the ditch of seams using clear nylon monofilament in the top of the machine and all-purpose thread in the bobbin. The white solid pieces were hand-quilted 1/4" from seams using blue quilting thread.

**6.** When quilting is complete, remove pins or basting; trim edges even.

**7.** Cut three squares denim 16" x 16". Cut two strips denim 4 1/2" x 48". Sew a long strip around three sides of the quilted top, clipping corners as you



stitch; trim off excess at ends when stitching is complete as shown in Figure 1.

8. Sew a denim square to the other edge of the strip; press seams open. Repeat with remaining strip and denim squares for lining.

9. Cut two 4" x 19" strips denim for handles. Fold the strips with right sides together along length; stitch to make a tube. Turn right side out; press with seams flat on one side. Topstitch 1/4" from each long edge.

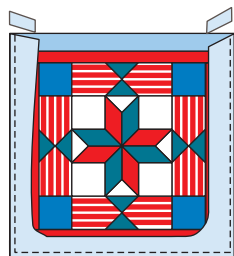
10. Pin a handle to each side of the open edge of the bag top as shown in Figure 2; baste in place.

11. Insert denim lining inside bag top with wrong sides together.

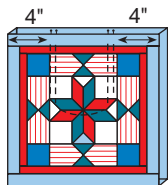
12. Cut one 1 3/4" x 39 1/2" strip denim; join together on short ends to make a tube. Press one raw edge under 1/4". Pin remaining raw edge to the right side of the bag front.

*Note: If the strip does not fit, adjust size at seams. Stitch all around.*

13. Turn the strip to the inside; press. Topstitch in place 1/4" from top edge and along bottom edge of the top denim border to catch the inside strip and hold in place to finish. ❖



**Figure 1**  
Trim off excess at ends when stitching is complete.

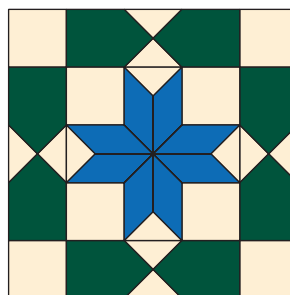


**Figure 2**  
Pin a handle to each side of the open edge of the bag top as shown.

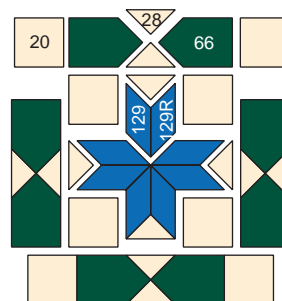
## St. Louis

### PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

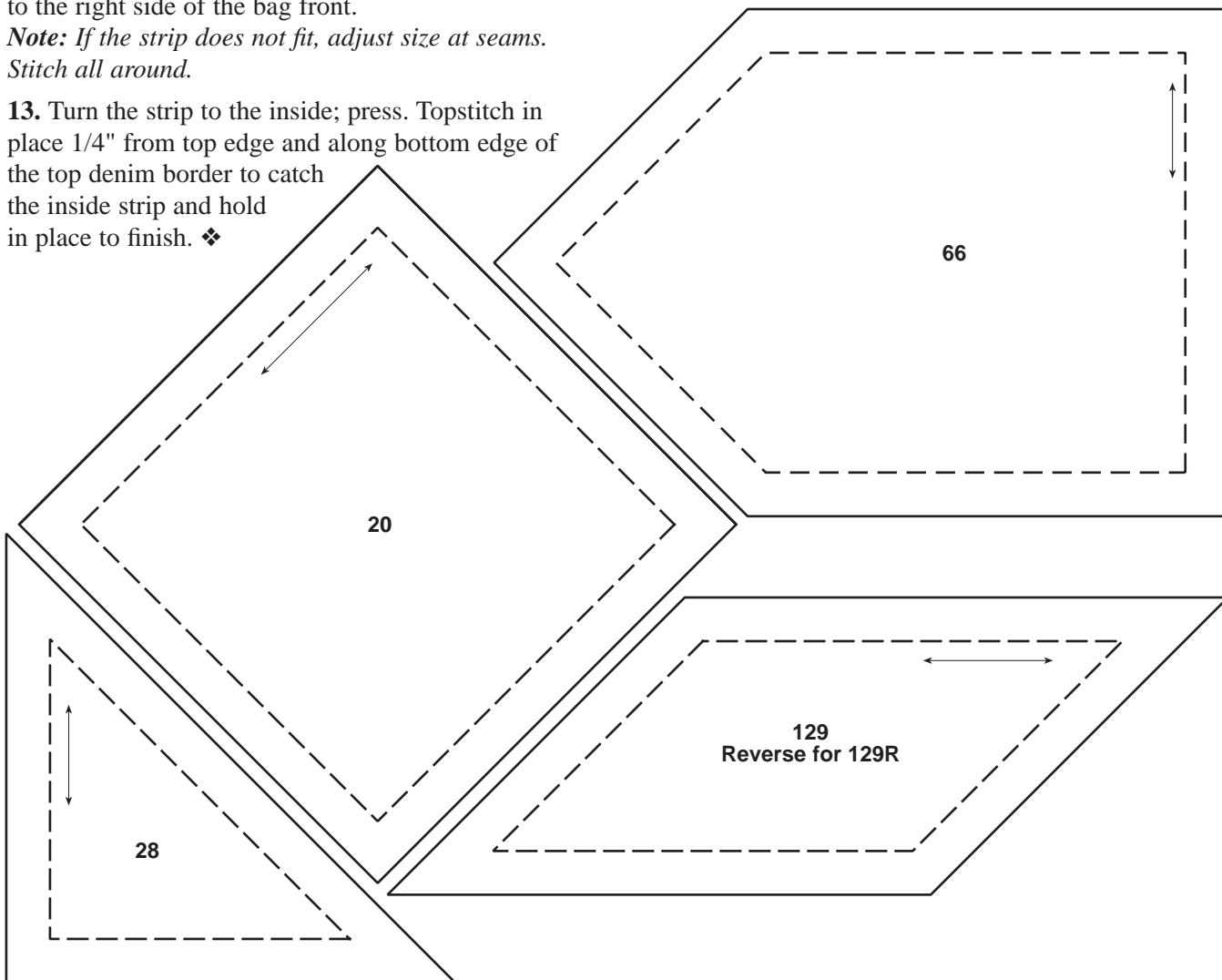
1. Referring to the Piecing Diagram to piece one block, sew a medium 129 to a medium 129R; repeat for four units.
2. Join the four units; set in a light 28 between points and a light 20 in each corner to complete the center unit.
3. Sew a light 28 to one angled end of a dark 66; repeat for eight units. Join two units to complete a side unit; repeat for four side units.
4. Sew a side unit to two opposite sides of the pieced center. Sew a light 20 to each end of the remaining two side units. Sew these units to the remaining sides of the pieced center to complete one block.



St. Louis



**Templates needed:**  
20, 28, 66, 129 & 129R

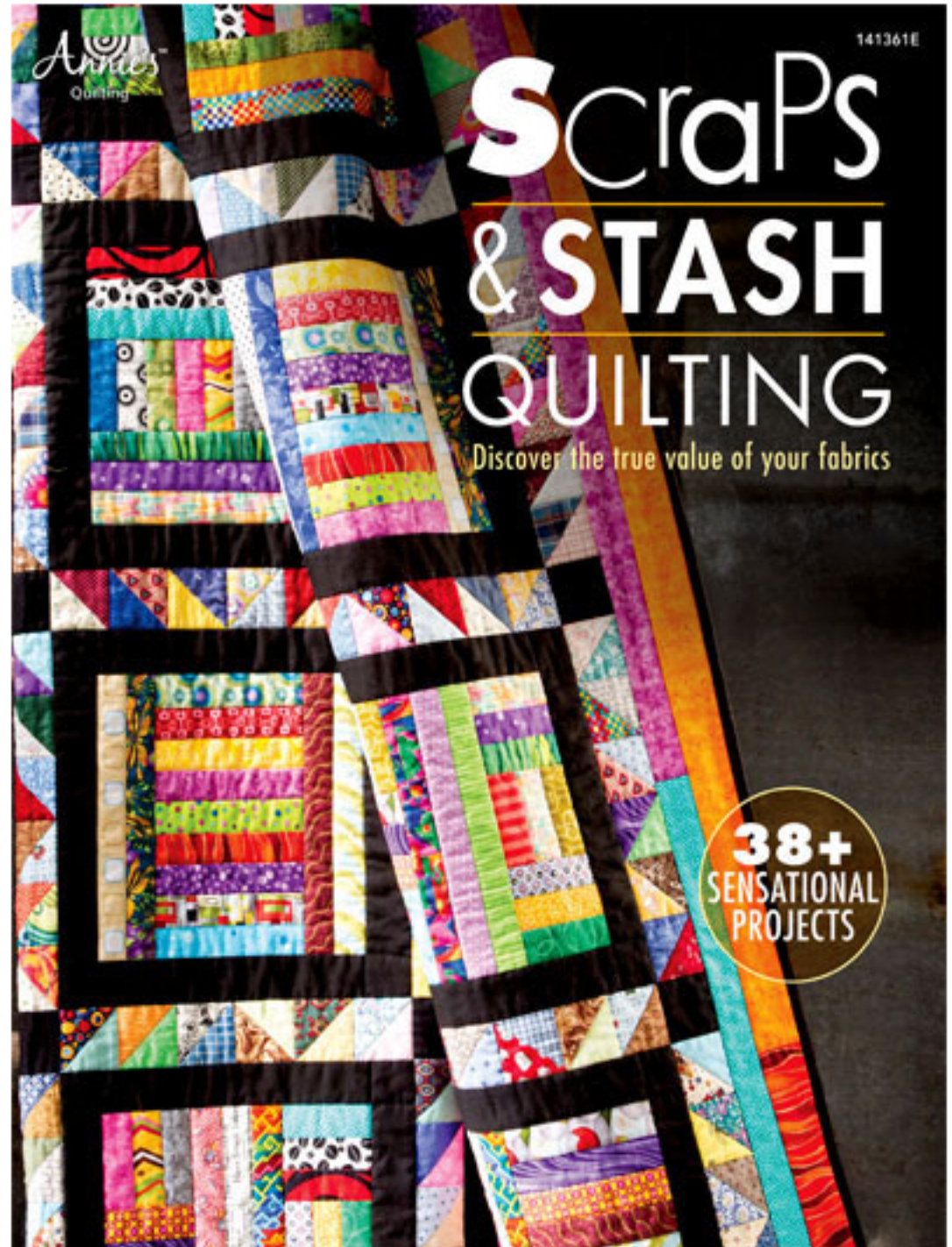


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