

moda
FABRICS + SUPPLIES



Bodoko

— — — — — a project featuring — — — — —

BORO BORO
WOVENS

Bodoko



BORO BORO
WOVENS

by *moda*

means "life cloth"

PATTERN NOTES

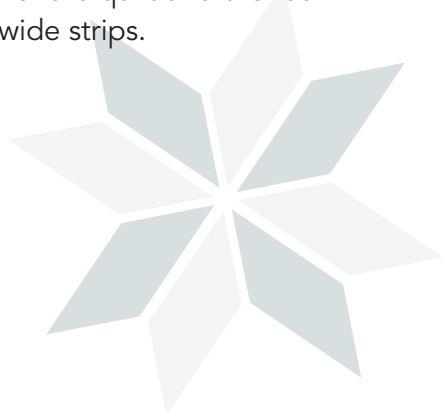
Finish size: 64" x 72"

Blocks: Made with 2 different blocks, both finishing at 8" x 8"

- 8 four-patch squares – each made with two fabrics
- 64 plain squares

The quilt is assembled with nine rows of eight squares/blocks each. The stars are appliquéd to the surface of the pieced and quilted top using fusible and/or machine-appliqué. Additional quilting is then added to the stars – big-stitch or sashiko-style.

Note: The binding is faced – it will not show on the front of the quilt. The 5¼ yard backing fabric allows for 4½ yards backing and ¾ yard for binding. However, if you piece two 42" wide by 81" long lengths for the backing, the 80" pieced width of the backing will accommodate both the 64" width of the quilt and the four 2½" wide strips.



Boro is a style of patchwork, though it is less about a craft or technique than a way to salvage textiles using scraps. The farming classes of Japan would mend torn clothing, futon covers and other textiles using rough running stitches out of economic necessity and the scarcity of cotton cloth.

Embodying the Japanese aesthetic of wabi-sabi – the acceptance of imperfection – boros have many shades of color and a variety of textures resulting from being created over the course of many years by successive generations of a family.

While each boro is unique, the process is the same. As everyday textiles would run thin or tear, a scrap of fabric would be layered over the spot and joined with sashiko stitching – long straight running stitches done with white cotton thread, though a bit of red thread might be used for a special occasion.

With the industrial production of post-war Japan and the modernization of the mid-20th Century, boros were largely forgotten as a reminder of an impoverished rural past. The work of historians to preserve the cultural legacy of the textiles brought boros back to prominence, as did the recognition of their artistic importance. Modern Japanese fashion brands have popularized boros by creating garments, accessories and home décor items using the layered, mended patchwork of vintage boros.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

Blocks Fabrics

From the 3/8 yard pieces for Blocks:



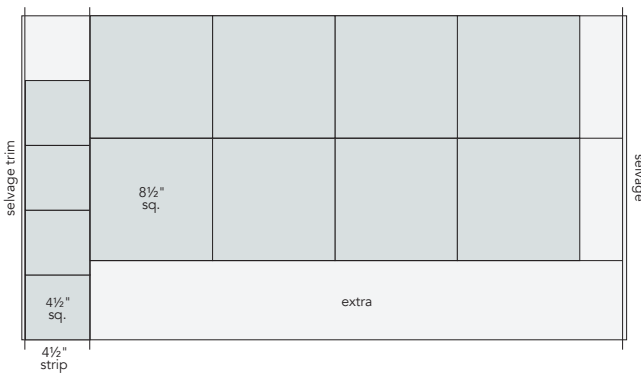
Trim the selvage on one side. Cut 1 strip – 4½" x approx. 13½" length of fabric.

- From the strip, cut 2 squares – 4½" x 4½".

From the remainder – cut 1 strip – 8½" x approx. 37" width of fabric.

- From the strip, cut 4 squares – 8½" x 8½".

From the 5/8 yard pieces for Blocks:



Trim the selvage on one side. Cut 1 strip – 4½" x approx. 22½" length of fabric.

- From the strip, cut 4 squares – 4½" x 4½".

From the remainder – cut 2 strips – 8½" x approx. 37" width of fabric.

- From the strips, cut 8 squares – 8½" x 8½".

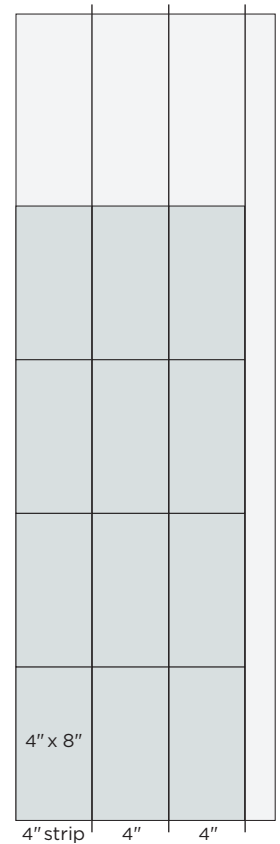
Star Fabrics

From the 3/8 yard pieces for Stars:

Note: For fusible appliqué of the stars, the fusible web can be adhered to the fabric before cutting the rectangles. See Fusible appliqué tips on Page 4 for more information.

Cut 3 strips – 4" x 42" width of fabric.

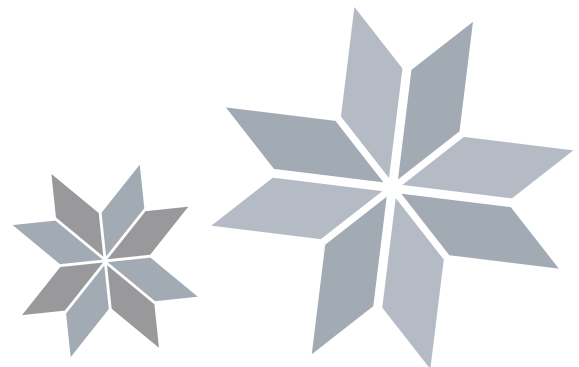
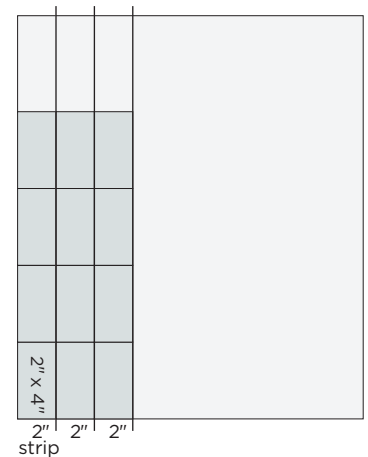
- From the strips, cut a total of 12 rectangles – 4" x 8".



From the FQ pieces for Stars:

Cut 3 strips – 2" x 21" width of fabric.

- From the strips, cut a total of 12 rectangles – 2" x 4".



ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Unless specified otherwise, all seams are a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

Collect the 32 squares – $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ ". Sort them into 16 pairs of 2 matching squares. Match up two pairs of matching squares for each four-patch square.

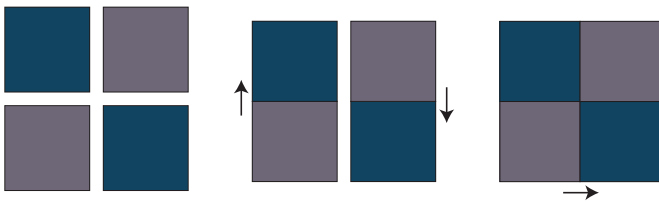
Join the squares as shown.

Press the seam in one direction – or press the seam open.

Join the two halves as shown.

Press the seam in one direction – or press the seam open.

The block will measure $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ".



QUILT TOP LAYOUT

Lay out the squares and four-patches in nine rows of eight blocks each as shown on page 5.

Join each row. Press the seams in one direction – alternating the direction of each row. Or press the seams open.

Join the rows – press the seams in one direction. Or press the seams open.

Quilt as desired – yes, quilt the top before adding the stars.

Adding the Stars

Because of the variety of methods for cutting and fusing the diamonds, and the challenge of getting the direction of the angles correct, I chose to cut rectangles first.

Fusible appliqué tips

To minimize fraying along the edges:

Use the fusible product of your choice and cut 24 rectangles – 4" x 8". Then cut 40 rectangles – 2" x 4". Adhere the fusible to the wrong side of each rectangle.

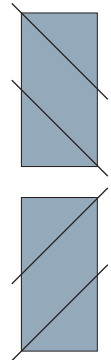
To keep the edges and pieces soft:

Use a Sewline glue stick to adhere the diamonds to the quilt top.

Sort the rectangles into sets of four matching pieces. Each star is made with two fabrics – two different sets of four matching rectangles.

Note that each set of rectangles is not cut the same way – the direction is opposite.

Set A: Using a ruler with a 45° line, cut all four matching rectangles as shown.



Set B: Using a ruler with a 45° line, cut all four matching rectangles as shown – in the **opposite** direction.

Attaching the stars to the quilt top

The position and placement does not need to be exact, and we recommend pinning the diamonds in place before stitching or fusing them to the quilt top. Just to be sure.

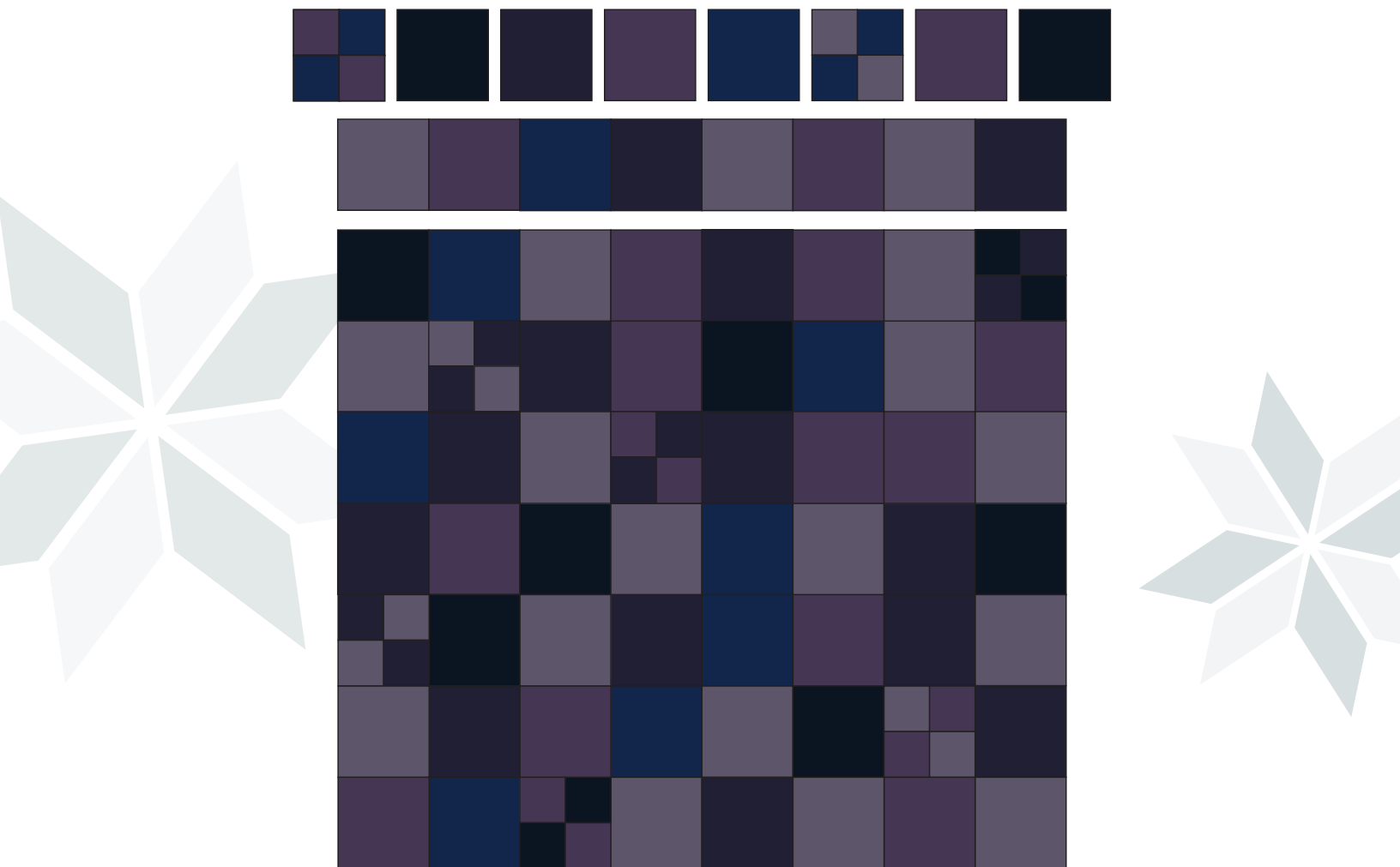
The space between the diamonds is approximately $\frac{3}{8}$ " – more or less is fine.

When you're satisfied with the placement, attach the diamonds with your preferred method.

- Fuse: machine-stitching the edges is optional.
- Machine-applique: straight-stitch or zig-zag.

Using big-stitch quilting, machine-quilting or sashiko, stitch the diamonds through all the layers.

To give the finished quilt a utilitarian look, the lines of machine quilting are not evenly done, the length is random, as is the spacing of the quilting lines.



FACED BINDING

The binding can be completed before or after the stars are attached.

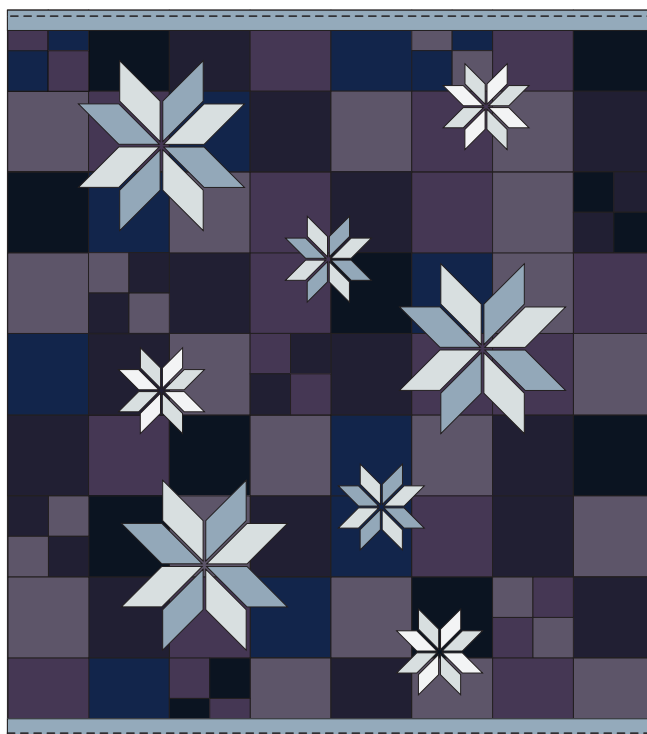
Backing strips: If you'd like to use strips cut from the excess of the backing – cut 4 strips – 2½" x approx. 81" length.

Yardage strips: Using yardage, cut 8 strips – 2½" x 42" wof. Join 2 strips using a diagonal seam – press the seam open.

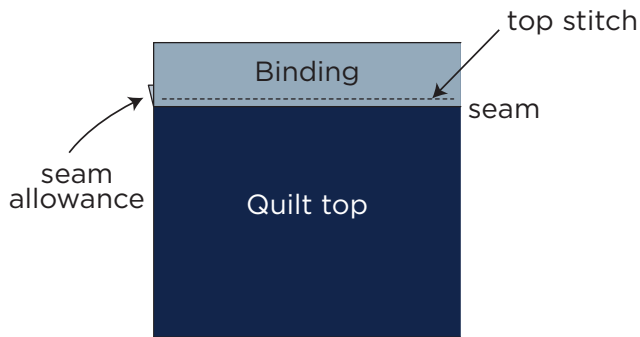
On one long edge of each strip, press under ½" for a hem.

On the **top** and **bottom** edges, pin a strip to the entire edge of the quilt top on the **front of the quilt top** – one end to the next. Trim the excess.

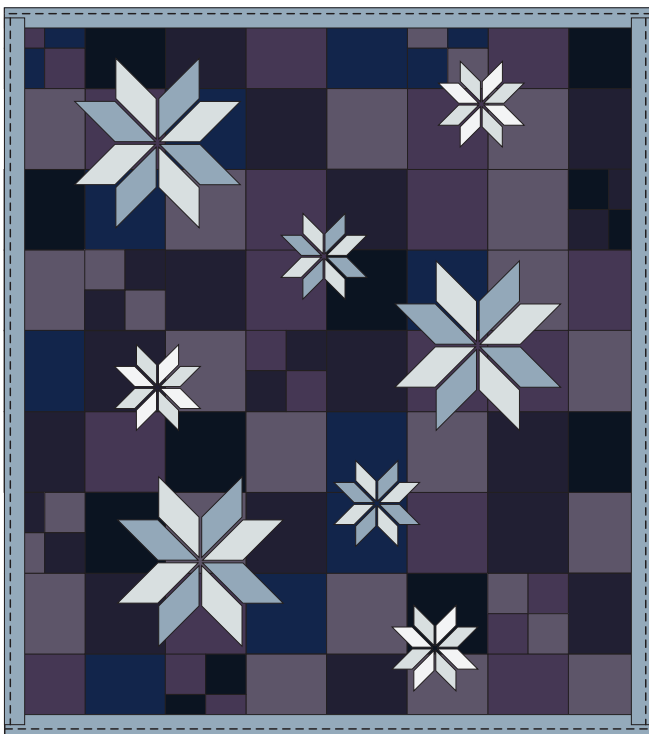
Stitch a scant ¼" seam.



Optional: Press the binding strip away from the quilt top, on top of the seam. Top-stitch the length of the seam starting and stopping approx. 2" from the end. The line of stitching will be approx. 1/8" to 1/4" away from the seam through the binding and quilt top **in the seam allowance**.



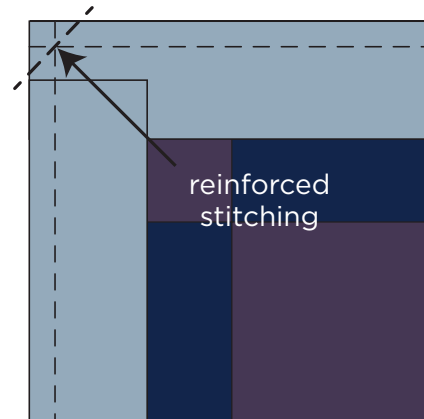
On the **side** edges of the quilt top, pin a strip to the length of the quilt top **starting** and **stopping** approx. 1/2" to 3/4" from the top and bottom edges – also on the **front of the quilt top**.



Stitch a scant 1/4" seam allowance the entire length of the strip crossing the ends of the top and bottom strips.

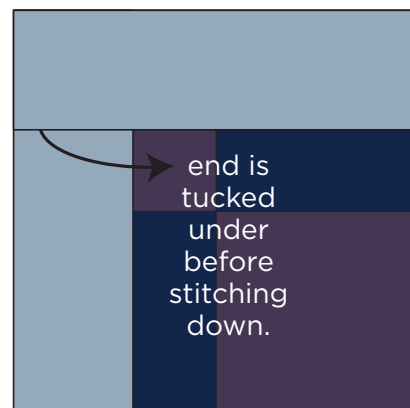
Optional: as before, press the binding away from the quilt top and stitch an 1/8" to 1/4" seam securing the binding strip to the seam allowance.

Reinforce the corners by stitching across the point with a line of stitching at a 45° angle to the corner as shown.



Carefully trim the points on the four corners. Turn the binding to the back of the quilt top by gently pushing out the four corners. The loose edges of the side binding strips are folded underneath the top/bottom binding strips as shown.

Hand-stitch down the binding.

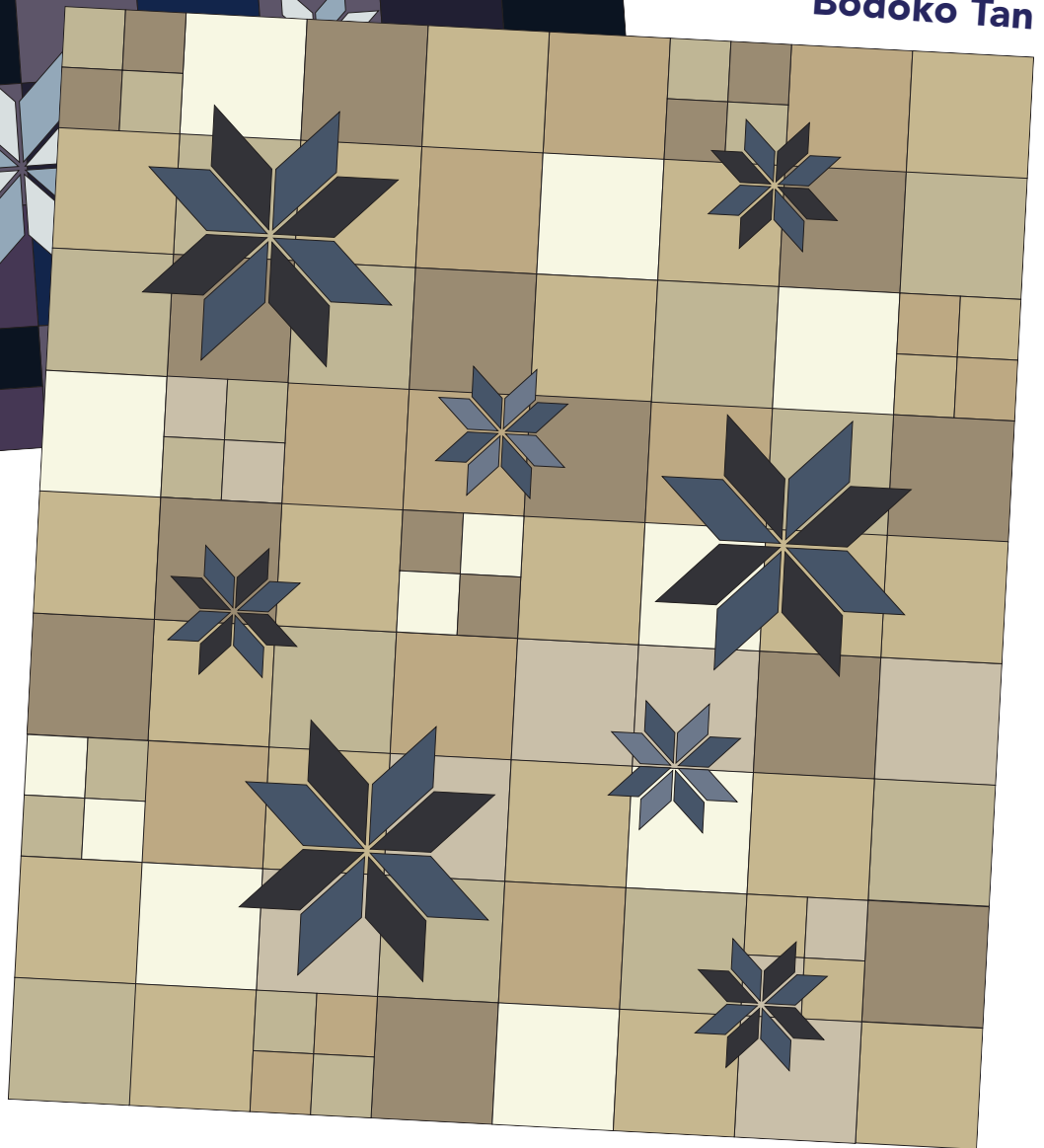




Bodoko Blue



Bodoko Tan



Bodoko



BORO BORO
WOVENS

by *moda*

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

Bodoko Blue

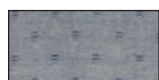
FAT QUARTERS



12560 12***



12560 13***

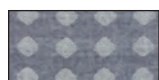


12560 15***



12560 16***

$\frac{3}{8}$ YARD



12560 14**



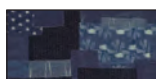
12560 35



12560 36



12560 37



33400 14



33401 11



33404 12



33405 13



33406 11



33407 12



33408 22**

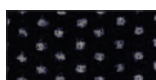


33409 19

$\frac{5}{8}$ YARD



12560 34



33402 12



33408 12

Bodoko Tan

FAT QUARTERS



12560 16***



12560 18***



33407 23***



33408 22***

$\frac{3}{8}$ YARD



33400 15**



33405 17**

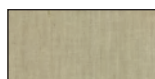
$\frac{5}{8}$ YARD



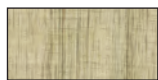
12560 21



12560 22



12560 23



12560 24



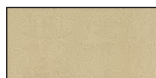
12560 25



33402 18



33404 19



33409 24

** Denotes SKUs used for Large Stars

*** Denotes SKUs used for Small Stars

BORO BORO...

... meaning something that is tattered, ragged or repaired. Born out of necessity, these mended and patched-together textiles are now highly collectible works of art representing an important part of Japanese history.

Using scraps of leftover, indigo-dyed cottons, Boros celebrate the beauty of the ordinary with layers of fabrics stitched together by hand for utilitarian purposes.