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# 🧵 Complete Tutorial: Crafting the Patriotic Mounted Soldier Quilt

This step-by-step guide walks you through creating a patriotic wall quilt featuring a soldier silhouette, American flag, and radiant sky design. Follow carefully, and you'll be able to complete the project from start to finish with confidence.

## STAGE 1: FABRIC SELECTION & PREPARATION

**Key Fabrics (US-brand, cotton, specific patterns as seen):**

- A** Deep Navy Solid (A)
- B** Mid-Tone Blue (B)
- C** Red Striped (C)
- D** Cream Striped (D)
- E** Golden Yellow (E)
- F** Earthy Green/Brown Mix (F)

Wash & Press  
Starch

**PRECISE 1.5 CM SEAM ALLOWANCES**

**A/B/C MIX STRIP-PIECING THE SKESKY**

**FINISHED PROJECT**  
(approximate size):  
~91.4 cm x 121.9 cm

**HANGING TABS:**  
~15 CM length,  
2 CM width

## STAGE 3: THE APPLIQUÉ DETAILS

**KEY US APPLIQUÉ METHODS (Raw Edge and Turned):**  
Use fusible web and machine blanket stitch or hand slip stitch.

**THE MOON**  
(Diameter: ~12 CM)

**STARS**  
(Size: 3 CM point-to-point)

**THE US FLAG**  
~20 CM H x 30 CM W

**US Thread:**  
cotton, matching colors

## STAGE 4: THE SILHOUETTE & FLAG ASSEMBLY

**SOLDIER SILHOUETTE**  
(~35 CM H x 15 CM W)

**ASSEMBLING THE SKY PANEL**  
(~70 CM x 50 CM)

**FLAG D/F:**  
~40 CM length

## STAGE 6: BORDERS, QUILTING, & FINISHING

**QUILTING SANDWICH:**  
Inner Cream (3 CM)  
Inner Red (1.5 CM)

Top, Batting (e.g., US Warm & cotton wadding), Backing

Free-motion stipple quilting

Straight-line quilting

**BINDING APPLICATION**  
(2.5 CM finished width)

## STAGE 6:

**HANGING TABS:**  
~15 CM length, 2 CM width

Outer Navy (5 CM)  
Inner Cream (3 CM)  
Inner Red (1.5 CM)

**KEY QUILTING METHODS LEGEND**

- STRIP PIECING
- US APPLIQUÉ (RAW/TURNED)
- FREE-MOTION QUILTING
- STRAIGHT-LINE QUILTING
- BINDING ATTACHMENT

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## Stage 1: Fabric Selection & Preparation

Choose high-quality cotton quilting fabrics. Based on the design, you will need the following:

- Fabric A: Deep navy solid
- Fabric B: Mid-tone blue
- Fabric C: Red striped
- Fabric D: Cream striped
- Fabric E: Golden yellow
- Fabric F: Earthy green/brown mix

You'll need approximately 1 meter (or about 1 yard) of each primary fabric.

Before cutting:

- Wash and dry all fabrics to prevent shrinkage
- Press fabrics with an iron
- Apply starch if you want crisp, precise cuts

Important: Use a consistent seam allowance of **1.5 cm (about 5/8 inch)** throughout the entire project.

## Stage 2: Strip Piecing the Sky

Create the dynamic sky background using strip piecing:

- Cut strips from Fabrics A, B, and C (navy, blue, red stripes)
- Vary strip widths for a more natural, radiant effect
- Sew strips together into panels

Once assembled:

- Cut the strip panel at a **45-degree angle**
- Rearrange segments to create a radiating light effect
- Sew pieces back together carefully, aligning seams

Your sky panel should measure approximately **70 cm x 50 cm (27.5" x 20")**

## Stage 3: Appliqué Details

This stage adds the moon, stars, and flag.

### **Moon**

- Cut a circle about **12 cm (4.7") diameter** from a cream or pale yellow fabric

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- Position in the upper sky area

## Stars

- Create small stars about **3 cm (1.2") point-to-point**
- Use navy or contrasting fabric

## American Flag

- Size: approximately **20 cm high x 30 cm wide (8" x 12")**
- Use red stripes, white/cream stripes, and navy with small white dots

## Appliqué Method

Use either:

- Fusible web + machine stitching (blanket stitch), or
- Hand slip stitch for a softer finish

Layering order:

1. Base panel
2. Fusible web
3. Fabric shape

Use matching cotton thread for clean results.



## Stage 4: Soldier Silhouette & Scene Assembly

### Soldier Silhouette

- Cut a soldier figure approximately **35 cm tall x 15 cm wide (14" x 6")**
- Use dark navy or black fabric
- The pose should be saluting

### Landscape Base

- Create a ground layer (rolling hills or terrain) using earthy tones
- Height: about **30 cm (12")**

### Assembly

- Attach the sky panel above
- Add landscape at the bottom
- Position and appliqué the soldier standing on the terrain
- Attach the flag so it appears held by the soldier

Ensure proportions feel balanced and centered.

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## Stage 5: Quilt Top Assembly

Join all sections:

- Sky panel (top)
- Landscape (bottom)
- Appliqué elements (moon, stars, soldier, flag)

Final central panel should be approximately **70 cm wide x 100 cm tall (27.5" x 39")**

Press all seams flat before moving forward.

## Stage 6: Borders, Quilting & Finishing

### Borders

Add three borders around the quilt:

- Inner red border: **1.5 cm (0.6")**
- Middle cream border: **3 cm (1.2")**
- Outer navy border: **5 cm (2")**

### Quilt Sandwich

Layer as follows:

1. Quilt top
2. Batting (cotton or cotton blend recommended)
3. Backing fabric

Baste layers using pins, spray, or thread basting.

### Quilting Techniques

Use a combination for visual texture:

- Free-motion stippling for sky or background
- Straight-line quilting along strip piecing
- Outline quilting around appliqué shapes

### Binding

- Use binding strips to finish edges
- Finished binding width: **2.5 cm (1")**
- Attach by machine or hand

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## Hanging Tabs

To hang your quilt:

- Create fabric tabs about **15 cm (6") long and 2 cm (0.75") wide**
- Attach evenly along the top back edge
- Insert a rod for wall display

## Final Dimensions

Your finished quilt should measure approximately:

- **91.4 cm wide x 121.9 cm tall (36" x 48")**

## Final Thoughts

Take your time with each stage, especially appliqué and strip piecing. Precision and pressing are key to a polished final result. This quilt makes a meaningful decorative piece or gift, honoring patriotic themes with craftsmanship and care.