

# Paper Piecing Instructions

NOTE: The first one is the hardest!!

The side of the paper with the pattern lines and numbers is the BACK side of the block. The blank side is the FRONT side.

Set your sewing machine stitch length to 12-15 stitches per inch. The smaller stitches will help you remove the paper later.

1. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to generously cover patch #1. You need to have more than 1/4" extra all around.
2. Turn the paper to the FRONT side and place the first fabric, right side facing up, on the blank side.
3. Hold the paper up to the light to check that the fabric covers patch #1 with more than a 1/4" margin all around. Pin the first fabric in place.
4. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to generously cover patch #2.
5. Place the fabric for patch #2, right side down, on top of the first fabric. The two pieces will have right sides together. Hold or pin in place.
6. Turn the paper over to the printed BACK side.
7. Stitch on the line between #1 and #2. Sew a few stitches beyond the beginning and end of the line. Clip threads closely.
8. Turn the paper over to the FRONT. Trim the seam you just sewed to 1/4".
9. Fold the #2 patch back, exposing the right side of the fabric. Finger press.
10. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover patch #3. Continue the process as you did for the first step until you have the entire block completed.
11. Rotary cut 1/4" beyond the solid line for the block.
12. Piece the blocks together, lining up the corners by sticking a pin through from one block to the next.
13. Remove the paper backing after all the segments are assembled. It helps to lightly spray the paper with water. Avoid pulling the paper up, as you may rip out your stitches. Pull the paper towards yourself. Sometimes its easier to start at the outside of the block and work towards the center.
14. Assemble the quilt as you would any other quilt top.

Once you develop your own system of working with the paper, you'll be able to chain stitch segments. It helps to have a small rotary mat and cutter at your sewing station as well as a pressing mat.