

## *X-Plus, Orangepeel X-Plus, and Accuquilt Over and Below Quilt*

Block Workshop with Jan Krentz, Jerre Mayer & Jan LaGrone  
PARADISE SEWING – Poway – Oct. 23, 2018



X-Plus “Down Under” quilt by Jan Krentz

The historic X-Plus block has become very popular in the past few years, inspiring many online group “quilt-along” activities by quilters around the world. The repeating block creates both a vertical-horizontal grid (the “plus sign”) and a diagonal pattern (the “x”).

The block, identified in Barbara Brackman’s *Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns* as block #1970 (pg. 249), and to designer Nancy Cabot (1939), called “Spool Block”. More recently, the block appeared in the background of an exciting contemporary quilt by Setsuko Inawaga and displayed at the Tokyo International Quilt Festival.

- Go online, and search (in Yahoo, Google or other search engine) for Setsuko Inawaga, 2011 Tokyo International Quilt Festival.
- Other search words: ‘Cross and Plus quilt’, ‘Japanese X and + quilt’, ‘X-Plus quilt-along’, ‘X and + quilt’, ‘Cross-X quilt’, ‘Over and Above’, and ‘Setsuko Inawaga quilt’.

This one-day workshop will cover fabric placement for the X-Plus blocks, cutting tips, layout strategies and construction techniques. Jan has created a beautiful X-Plus variation called “Orangepeel X-Plus”.

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Students will create a 10" X-Plus block, and a 10" Orangepeel X-Plus block. If time allows, students may create as many blocks as they desire. Class handouts will feature a variety of quilt design layouts in multiple sizes, and students are encouraged to create color schemes for their future quilt.

Questions? E-mail Jan before class: [jkrentz@cox.net](mailto:jkrentz@cox.net)

Supply List – X-Plus, Orangepeel X-Plus, and Accucut “Above and Below” blocks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rotary Cutter with new blade</li> <li>• 18" x 24" cutting mat (optional – use the cutting mats in the shop – these can be scarred and prone to skipped threads)</li> <li>• 12" x 6" (or similar size) acrylic ruler</li> <li>• Optional: 6" x 6" acrylic ruler</li> <li>• Optional: 12" x 12" or larger quilter’s square ruler <i>for use at home</i> to square-up blocks.</li> </ul>	<p>FABRIC SELECTION TIPS: you will be making two-three 10" blocks.</p> <p>FABRIC: A collection of your favorite fabrics in a range of light, medium and dark colors.</p> <p>Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ scraps 6"x 6" or larger, or</li> <li>○ Fat eighth and/or fat quarter bundles you’ve been saving for “that special quilt”</li> <li>○ smaller pieces fat eighths (approximately 9"x 21" or 11"x 18" size) and larger.</li> <li>○ This pattern can be “pre-cut friendly”. If you have a collection of pre-cut “jelly rolls” and 5-in. “Charm squares”.</li> <li>○ Solids, stripes, florals and conversational prints – anything goes/stash-buster, small to large fabric images</li> </ul>
<p>Sewing machine with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical cords</li> <li>• foot pedal</li> <li>• all presser-feet including quarter-inch foot</li> <li>• extension surface (makes a larger surface to sew on when your machine is not in a sewing cabinet)</li> </ul>	
<p>Yardage quantities are intentionally vague, because you will likely want to make more than 2-3 blocks. A smaller (baby or child’s) quilt would require far less yardage than a large (lap, twin or queen) quilt. Bringing an assortment of fabrics in your favorite colors provides lots of options!</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewing thread in neutral color (medium tones: blue, green, tan or grey) OR</li> <li>• Thread in a coordinating color that will with your fabric.</li> <li>• Pre-wound bobbin to save class time</li> <li>• sewing pins (fine, glass head preferred)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seam ripper</li> <li>• sharp fabric scissors</li> <li>• all-purpose scissors for Paper or plastic cutting</li> <li>• Heavy-duty template plastic – 1 sheet</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-ring notebook to hold your supply list and class handout.</li> <li>• Lead pencil (to draw on fabric)</li> <li>• Pen (for optional note-taking)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12" x 24" or larger sew-able light-weight paper-backed fusible web</li> <li>• Sharpie pen with twin tips (sold in most office supply or school supply departments) – any color</li> </ul>

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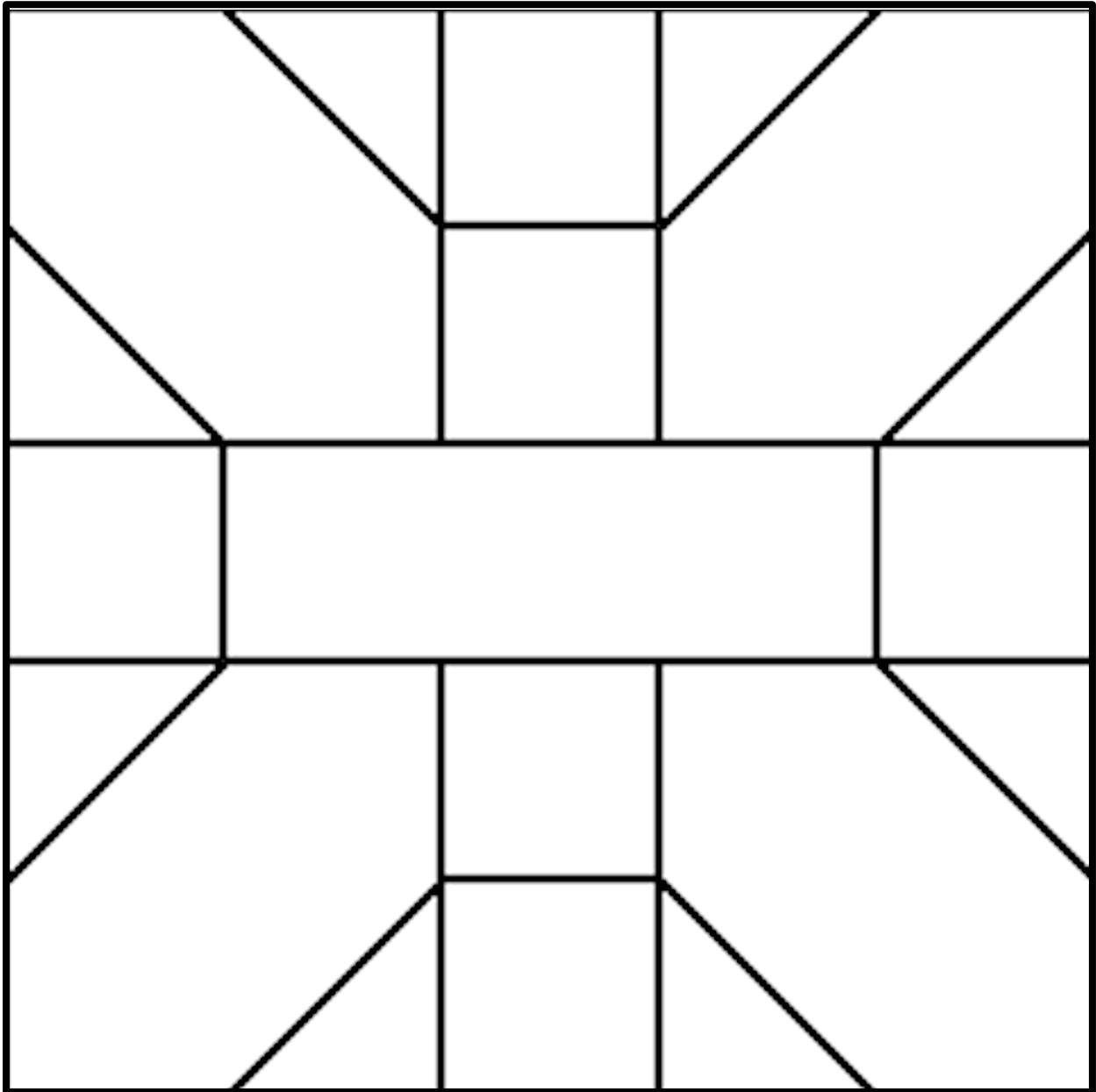
<b>OPTIONAL ITEMS:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading glasses (if you wear them)</li> <li>• 1-3 large zip-lock bags to store cut pieces</li> <li>• Digital camera or phone camera (used as a design tool in class)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• small rolling suitcase or totebag to carry supplies to class</li> <li>• Rolling sewing machine case</li> </ul>
<b>Considerations: How to expand your quilt at home</b>	
<p><b>CONSIDERATIONS:</b></p> <p>Determine the quilt size you desire.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Baby quilt – 30" x 40" (approximate)            Child's quilt – 30" x 45" (approximate)            Lap-size – 50" x 65" (approximate)            Twin bed – 70" x 90"            Queen bed – 90" x 108"            King bed – 110 x 108"</p> <p>How many 10-inch blocks do you need?            Multiply rows of 10" blocks, set in a grid.            Examples: 3 x 4 blocks = 30" x 40"                      4 x 5 blocks = 40" x 50"                      5 x 5 blocks = 50" x 50"</p> <p>If making a large bed quilt, you may want to increase the block size, and add borders to fit the bed.</p> <p>If using scraps, you can easily make up blocks from your scraps, and create components from new fabric as needed to fill in the "gaps".</p> <p>If you are a relatively new quilter, begin with a small size and try all the different steps to fully experience the cutting and sewing skills needed.</p>	<p><b>OPTIONS to add to your blocks:</b></p> <p>Add sashing and cornerstones between each block (as seen on the AccuQuilt "Over and Above" quilt) or sew the blocks side by side.</p> <p>Add a wide border, as seen in Jan's "X-Plus Down Under" quilt.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the quilt borders (any width) will increase the overall size of the quilt</li> <li>• selecting a border fabric <i>first</i> is a great way to select colorful fabrics that coordinate with the <i>border</i>.</li> <li>• A quilt with large borders requires fewer pieced blocks.</li> </ul> <p>Other options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a "border block" as seen on Jan's Orangepeel X-Plus. This can take a little extra planning, to ensure the units fit the blocks in the center of your quilt.</li> <li>• For experienced quilters or those who like "Improv" designs – make different-sized blocks and fit them together in a random, original setting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Skill requirements:</b></p> <p>In consideration of others, please arrive promptly to class with all necessary supplies and materials. Your machine should be in good running order, with a new needle and a freshly-wound bobbin. You should be able to wind and replace your bobbin and needle, and know how to change your presser feet for this class.</p>	
<p><b>Thank you!</b></p>	

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Coloring schematic – One X-Plus block



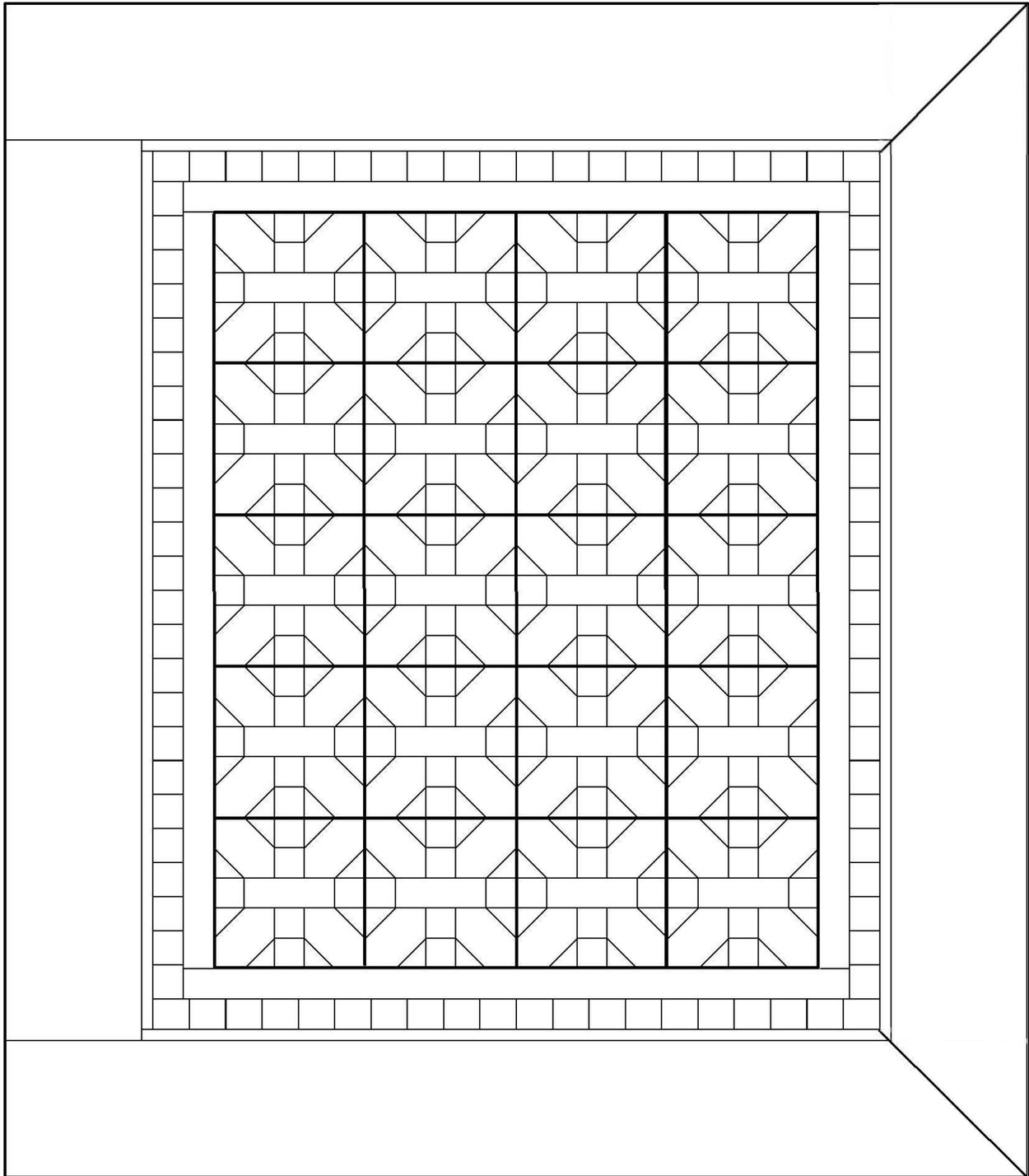
Make extra copies to play around with your fabric & color placement

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Coloring schematic – an X-Plus sample quilt layout



Sample layout – Jan’s “X-Plus Down Under”

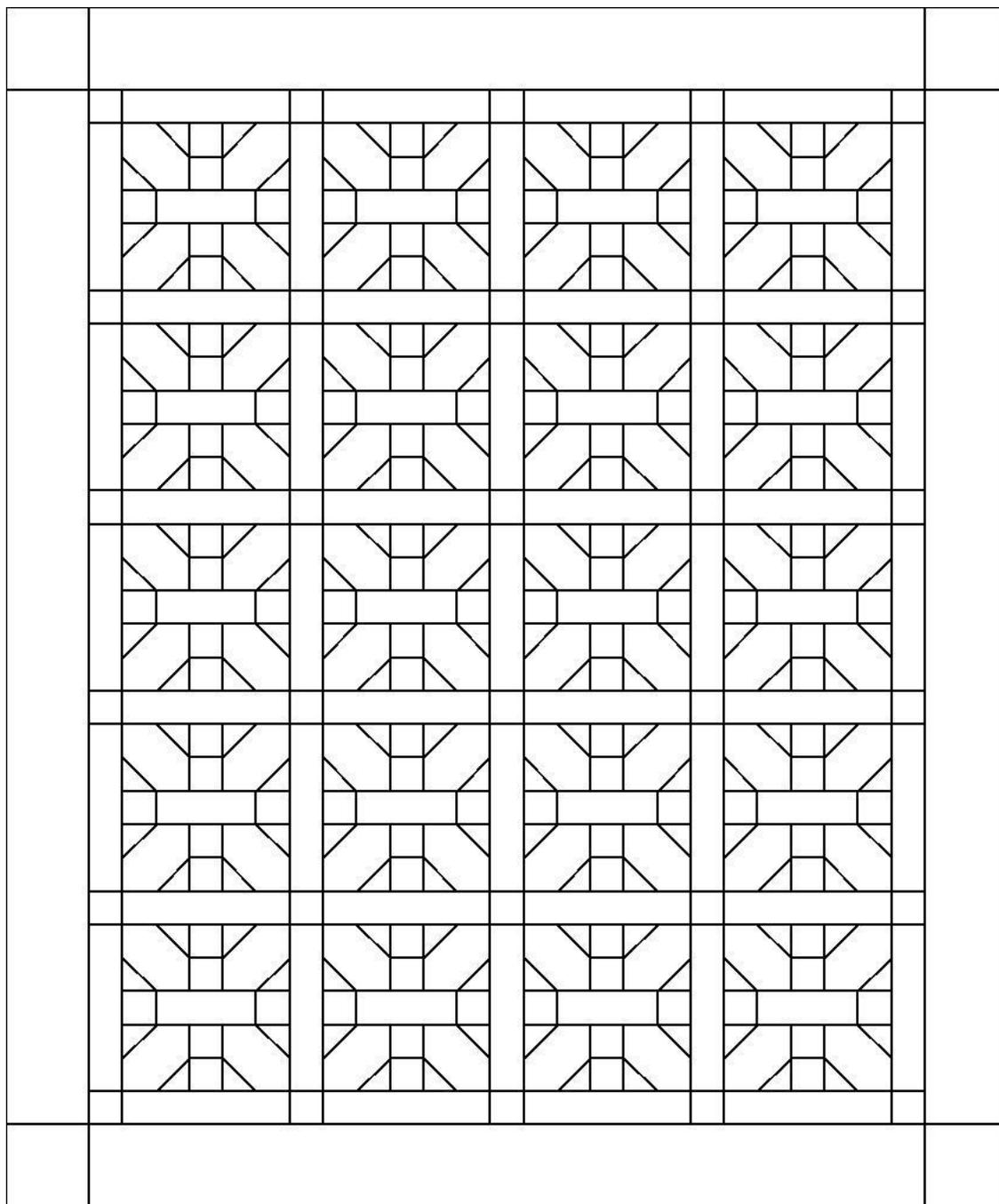
Outer border may be set with block corners (left) or mitered corners (right)

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Coloring schematic – an X-Plus sample quilt layout



Sample 4 x 5 block layout – including sashing strips and cornerstones.  
One wide border (half of the block width) is shown.

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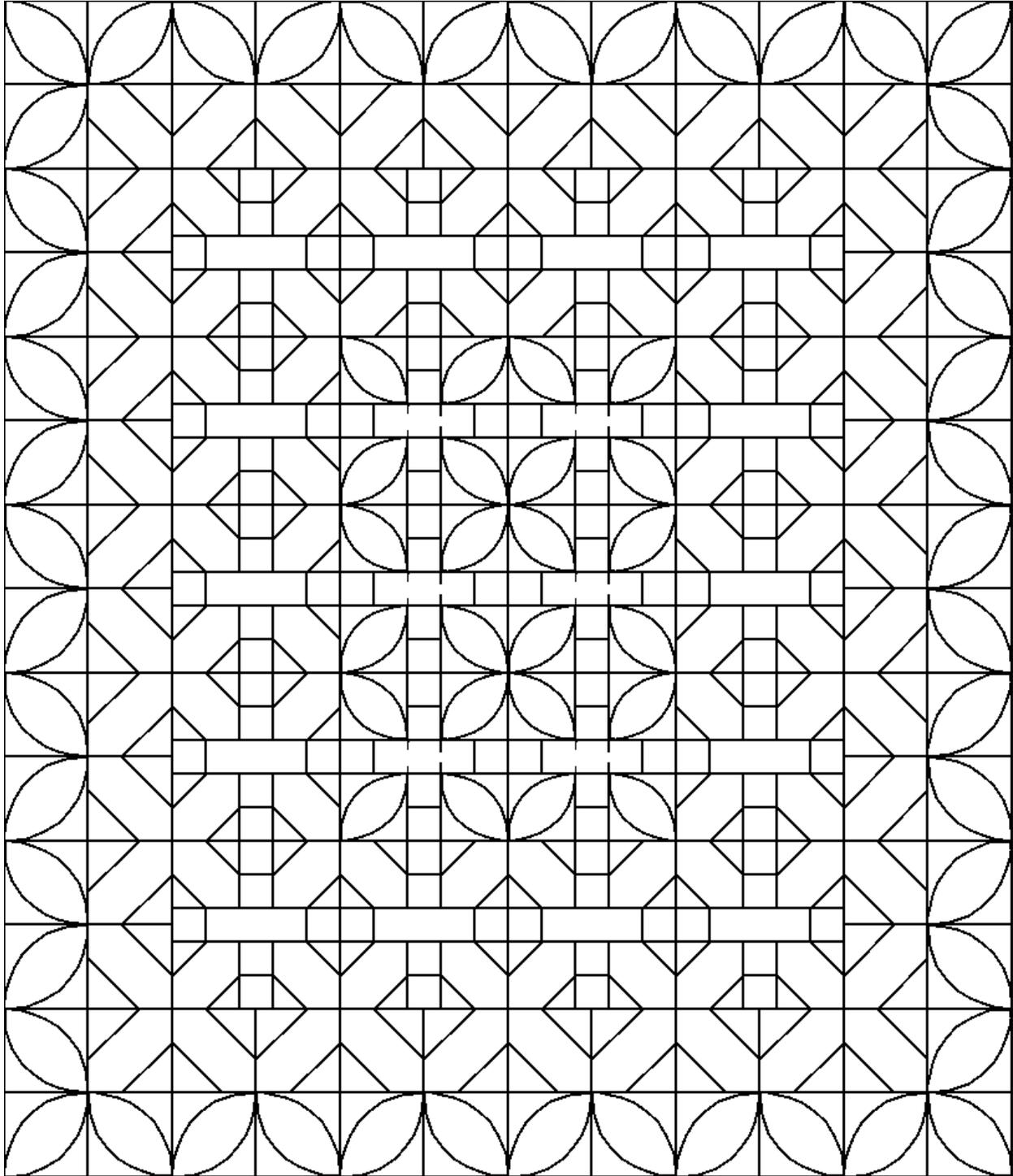
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**Jan Krentz's original Orangepeel X-Plus design**

Approximate size: 60" x 70"

Coloring page



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**Orangepeel variation blocks**

