

alison glass + GIUCY GIUCE

MINI SERIES STRETCHED GESE



BY GIUSEPPE RIBAUDO  
A TINY BLOCK IN A RANGE OF SIZES

## NOTES

- Read through all instructions before beginning. Pay special attention to the notes on the template.
- **VERY IMPORTANT:** The seam allowance needed for the finished block is not included on the template. You will choose the size then add a seam allowance around the perimeter of the block by measuring and trimming  $1/4"$  out from the finished edge. A four inch block, as shown on the cover, is marked on the template.
- Choose fabrics carefully. Stick with solid color fabrics and small scale prints for this project. Large motifs can make the color story of the final block a bit muddy. The details of a mini block stand out, making fabric choice especially important.
- We recommend using an 80wt thread, such as DecoBob by Wonderfil, for constructing these blocks. A good quality fine thread reduces bulk in paper pieced seams.
- Tag your blocks on social media with #GiucyMiniSeries and #alisonglass. We love to see what you make!

## GETTING STARTED

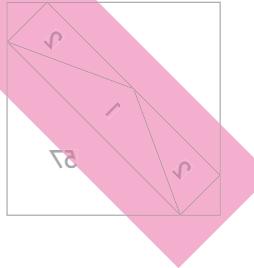
- Copy/print templates onto thin copy paper or foundation paper. Be sure to print or copy at 100%. Compare the half-inch marks with a ruler to be sure the template is printing correctly.
- Choose the finish size of your block and cut away any extra template sections with a ruler and rotary cutter. Trim a  $1/4"$  seam allowance past the desired finished edge of the block. Mark areas that are seam allowance to avoid confusion. Please see the notes on the template describing this process.
- Use a stitch length of 1.5 - 2 and a large, 90/14 size needle to make perforating and removing the paper easier.
- Trim seam allowances in each paper pieced section to  $1/8$ th of an inch. This is very important! Many template sections are less than a  $1/4"$  in width. Trimming seams to  $1/8"$  is necessary to avoid sewing back over seam allowances that result in unnecessary bulk. The Add-An-Eighth Ruler by CM Designs is a super tool for making  $1/8"$  allowances.
- Use a dry iron, seam roller, pressing tool, or finger press to press back each piece of fabric as it is added.

## DIRECTIONS FOR FOUNDATION PAPER PIECING

Paper piecing is done by attaching the fabric pieces to the unmarked side of the paper. Please pay special attention to this relationship in the diagrams and instructions.

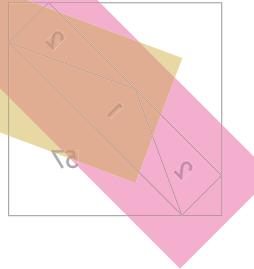
1. Cut fabric pieces to extend at least  $1/4"$  outside of the section you are filling. More generous pieces of fabric are easier to work with than exact pieces. Experiment to see what works best for you.
2. While holding the template and fabric up to the light (or use a lightbox), position the fabric for section 1 right side up on the wrong (unmarked) side of the paper (figure 1). Take care to ensure that section 1 is completely covered with at least  $1/4"$  of overlap into the adjoining shapes, including the seam allowance. If desired, use a water-soluble glue stick or pin to tack the fabric for section 1 in place.
3. With the right sides of fabric one and two together (figure 2), align the edge of the fabric for section 2 along the sew line between section 1 and section 2 with at least  $1/4"$  of both fabrics overlapping into section 2.
4. Hold (pin if desired) both fabric pieces and paper together and flip the stack over (figure 3). Stitch on the line between sections 1 and 2, backstitching at beginning and end. Trim threads.
5. Flip template over, fold the paper back toward the fabric pieces, and trim fabric to  $1/8"$  from seam line. Folding the paper back in this step will also help to perforate the paper making it easier to remove at the proper time. Re-open after trimming.
6. Press fabric 2 open being sure that all of section 2 plus seam allowance is covered.
7. Working in numerical order, repeat the steps until all sections are complete up to the size block you have chosen.
8. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, trim the edges of the fabric to  $1/4"$  past where you want the block to finish. This is the seam allowance for the block that you added to the paper template.
9. Remove papers by folding them against the seam to help perforate then tear each piece away. You may need tweezers to remove papers from tiny seams.
10. Use your finished block in whatever project you choose.

FIGURE 1



fabric 1: right side up centered over section 1. Printed side down, pictured as if holding up to the light, being able to see slightly through the fabric and paper.

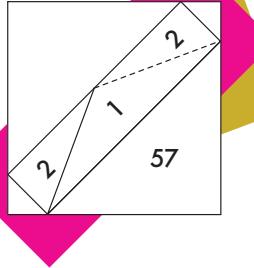
FIGURE 2



fabric 1:right side up centered over section 1.

fabric 2: right side down aligned with first sew line with 1/4" overlap into section 2.

FIGURE 3



Sew along the stitch line.  
— --stitch line

Printed side up, pictured as if ready to sew, paper template on top, fabric underneath.

# THE MINI SERIES



## COLLECT THEM ALL!

### A TINY BLOCK WITH BIG POSSIBILITIES

As makers we like to leave our mark on what we create by adding a touch that is all our own. But what about the things we use every day? With the Mini Series, turn those items into something extraordinary. Embellish a pin cushion with a tiny pineapple block, add a row of tiny geese to a pencil pouch, surprise a friend with a needle book adorned with a classic courthouse step block. No matter the size, everything we create can make a statement.

This pattern uses the foundation paper piecing technique. It includes a mini block template and detailed foundation paper piecing instructions. The cover block finishes at 4"; however, the template allows for a range of finished sizes between 1 1/4" and 7 1/2" inches. We love the flexibility!

### FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

foreground: scraps ranging from 3/4" to 1" width x 1 1/4" to 2" length  
background: a fat eighth to fat quarter of one fabric

Choose fabrics carefully. Every detail of a mini block is noticeable. The story you tell through fabric choices is especially important in tiny blocks.

### TOOLS

- thin copy or foundation paper and a printer/copier for making copies of the template
- sewing machine with adjustable stitch length
- rotary cutter, rulers, and cutting mat
- Add-An-Eighth Ruler by CM Designs, optional
- iron/ironing surface, seam roller, or pressing tool
- 80wt thread
- seam ripper

### FINISHING IDEAS

There are so many uses for tiny blocks! Here are some ideas:

- needle book
- project pouch
- pencil case
- laptop case
- planner cover
- wallet
- pin cushion
- Combine with other Mini Series blocks to make a sampler pillow.



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# MINI SERIES - STRETCHED GEESE

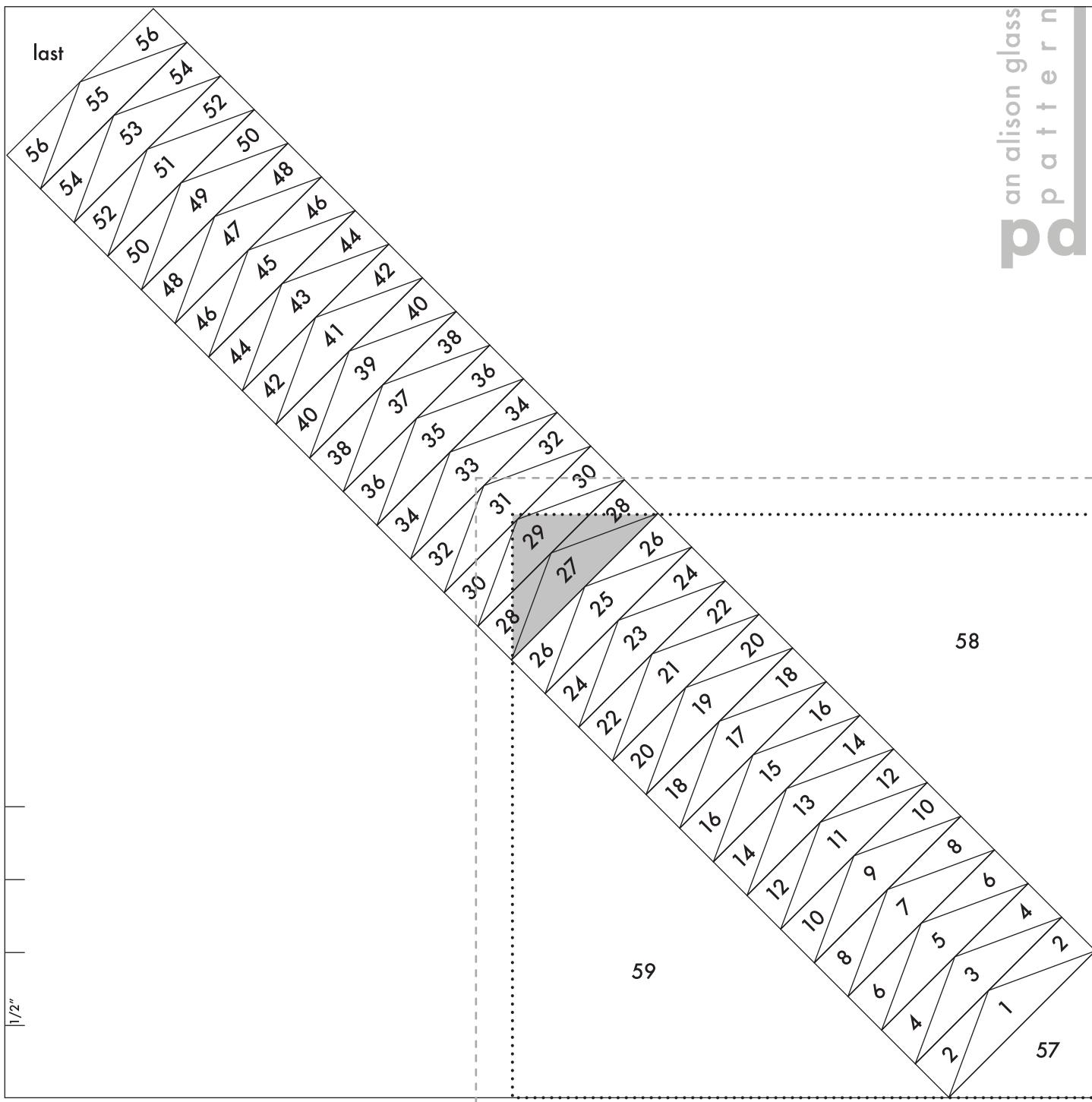
..... The dotted line shows the finished edge of a 4" block, as shown on the cover.

The greyed areas show how you will combine sections in block corners. Please mark your template accordingly.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Choose the size of your block. Draw a line from the top corners of the chosen geese rectangle to the outer edge of the block, perpendicularly, as shown on the template for the 4" version. Extend the lines to form a right angle triangle for the corner of the block. Cut away any extra template sections with a ruler and rotary cutter 1/4" past the finished edge for seam allowance. Mark areas that are seam allowance to avoid confusion.

---- The dashed line shows the seam allowance for a 4" block as an example for all sizes.

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MINI SERIES PINEAPPLE



BY GIUSEPPE RIBAUDO  
A TINY BLOCK IN A RANGE OF SIZES

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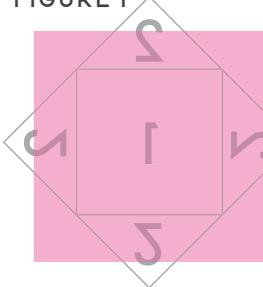
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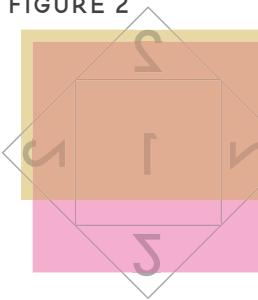
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3. With the right sides of fabric one and two together (figure 2), align the edge of the fabric for section 2 along the sew line between section 1 and section 2 with at least  $1/4"$  of both fabrics overlapping into section 2.
4. Hold (pin if desired) both fabric pieces and paper together and flip the stack over (figure 3). Stitch on the line between sections 1 and 2, backstitching at beginning and end. Trim threads.
5. Flip template over, fold the paper back toward the fabric pieces, and trim fabric to  $1/8"$  from seam line. Folding the paper back in this step will also help to perforate the paper making it easier to remove at the proper time. Re-open after trimming.
6. Press fabric 2 open being sure that all of section 2 plus seam allowance is covered.
7. Working in numerical order, repeat the steps until all sections are complete up to the size block you have chosen.
8. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, trim the edges of the fabric to  $1/4"$  past where you want the block to finish. This is the seam allowance for the block that you added to the paper template.
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10. Use your finished block in whatever project you choose.

FIGURE 1



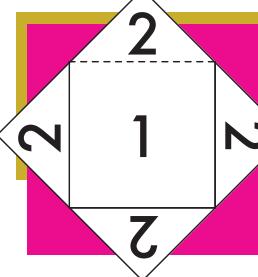
Fabric 1:  
right side  
up centered  
over section  
1. Printed  
side down,  
pictured as  
if holding  
up to the  
light, being  
able to  
see slightly  
through  
the fabric  
and paper.

FIGURE 2



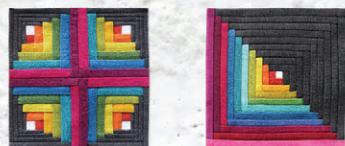
Fabric 1:right  
side up  
centered over  
section 1.  
  
Fabric 2: right  
side down  
aligned with  
first sew line  
with 1/4"  
overlap into  
section 2.

FIGURE 3



Sew along the  
stitch line.  
- - - stitch line  
  
Printed side  
up, pictured  
as if ready to  
sew, paper  
template on  
top, fabric  
underneath.

# THE MINI SERIES



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### FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

foreground: scraps ranging from 3/4" width x 1" to 4" length

background: a fat quarter of one fabric or fat eighths of a few coordinating fabrics

Choose fabrics carefully. Every detail of a mini block is noticeable. The story you tell through fabric choices is especially important in tiny blocks.

### TOOLS

- thin copy or foundation paper and a printer/copier for making copies of the template
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# MINI SERIES - PINEAPPLE

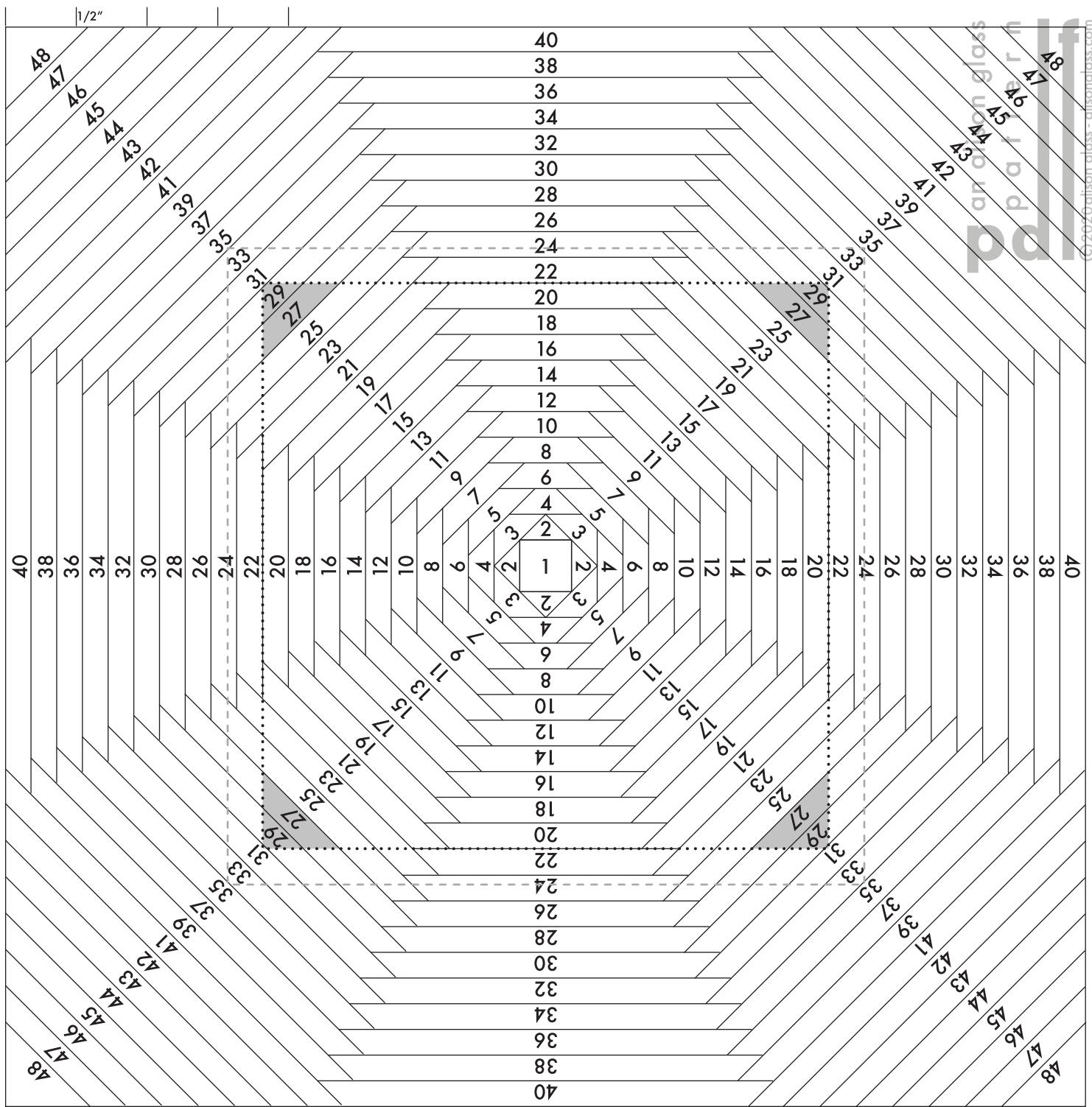
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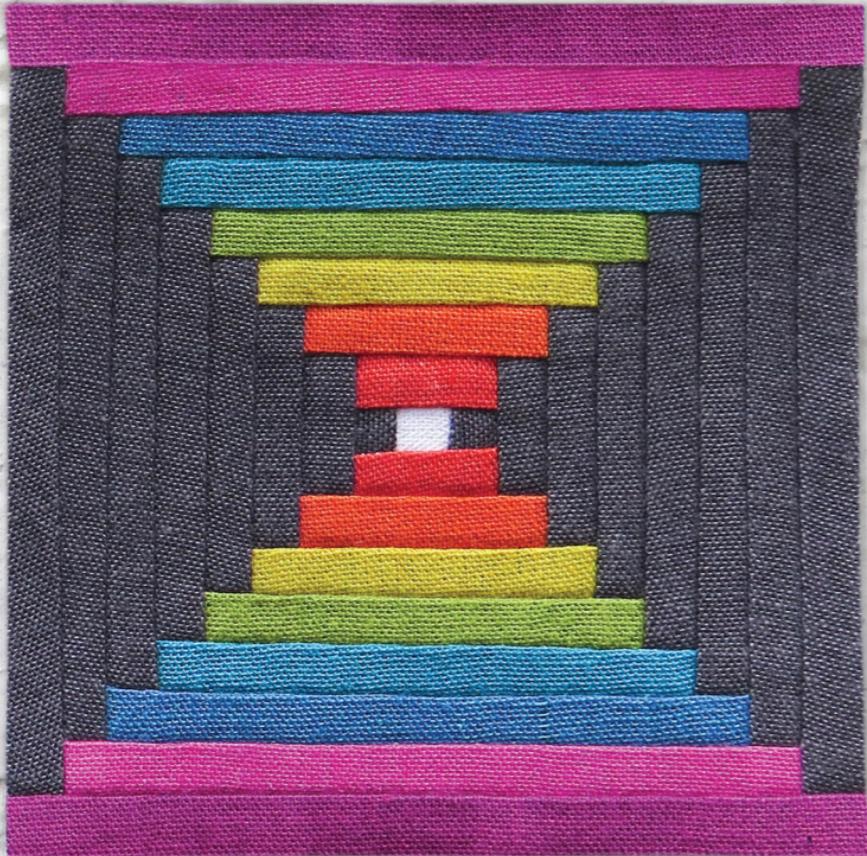
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MINI SERIES COURTHOUSE STEP



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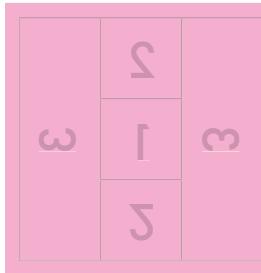
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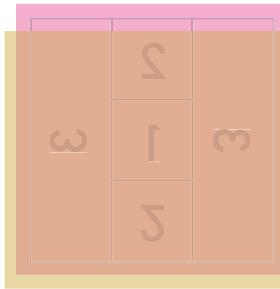
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FIGURE 1



fabric 1: right side up centered over section 1. Printed side down, pictured as if holding up to the light, being able to see slightly through the fabric and paper.

FIGURE 2



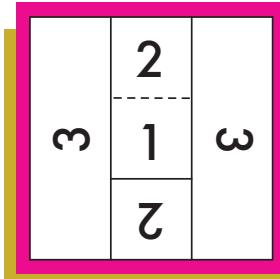
fabric 1:right side up centered over section 1.

fabric 2: right side down aligned with first sew line with 1/4" overlap into section 2.

# THE MINI SERIES



FIGURE 3



Sew along the stitch line.  
- - - stitch line

Printed side up, pictured as if ready to sew, paper template on top, fabric underneath.

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