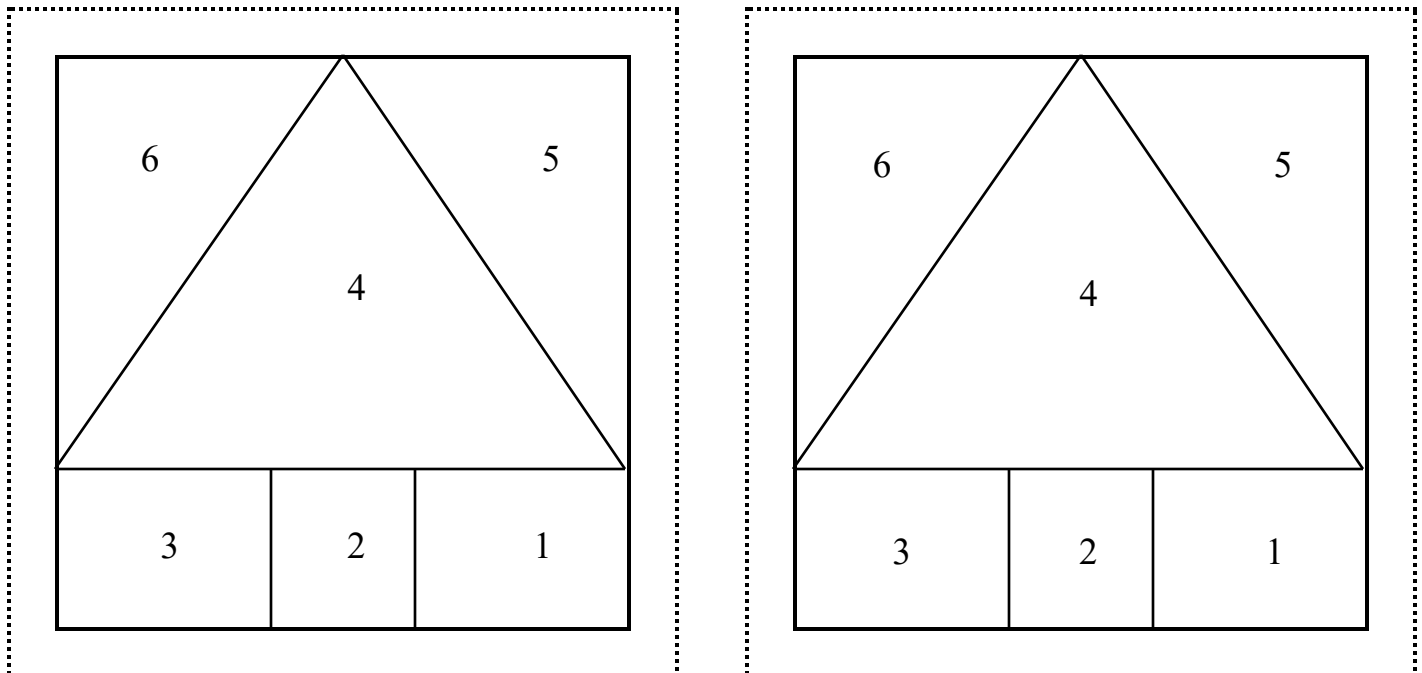


Foundation Paper Piecing

General Instructions

- Print foundation patterns onto a light weight paper such as Foundation Paper or Translucent Vellum, which will be much easier to remove when it is time.
- Use a medium needle and a stitch length of 1.5.
- It is best to cut generous size pieces of fabric for each area when first beginning to paper piece.
- Fabric is always placed on unprinted side of the paper.
- Always sew on the printed side of the paper, and sew directly on top of the printed lines.
- Fabric is added in numerical order, starting with the lowest number.
- Hold the foundation paper up to a strong light to adjust placement of the fabric, making sure you have allowed enough fabric to overlap the sewing line for a 1/4 " seam allowance.
- It is not necessary to backstitch.
- Some blocks will require that you assemble 2 or 3 units before you sew them together to complete a block.
- Remember that completed blocks are mirror images of the printed side of the foundation paper.
- Remove the paper from the blocks after they are sewn together.

Once you become comfortable with the method of Foundation Paper Piecing, you will find it to be quite easy, and very accurate. In order to understand this technique, you may want to practice piecing this simple block according to the instructions on the following page.

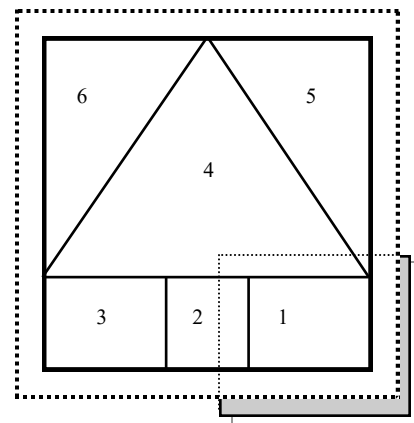


1. Make a copy of the block, in order to preserve the original for future use.

2. Cut out the block on the outer dotted line.

3. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover Area 1 making sure it will extend $\frac{1}{4}$ " on all sides.

4. Cut a piece of fabric for Area 2 as you did for Area 1.



5. Place fabric for Area 1 wrong side against the plain side of the paper. (The first fabric is the only piece that is placed this way. All others will be placed right side down, as fabrics need to be right sides together.)

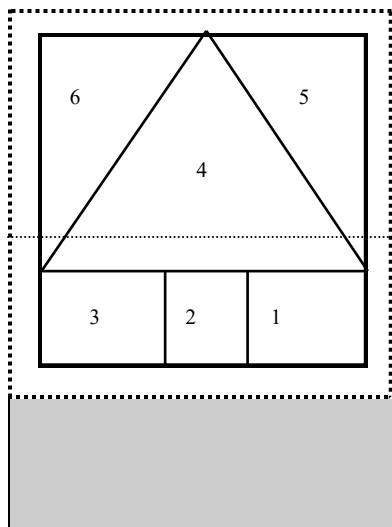
6. Place fabric for Area 2 right sides together with first piece, having both pieces extend at least $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond line between 1 & 2.

7. Stitch on the line between Area 1 & 2, through the paper and both fabrics.

8. Trim this seam to an accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " .

9. Flip Fabric 2 up to cover Area 2 and press.

10. Cut a piece of fabric to cover Area 3. Place it right side down on top of Area 2, making sure that it extends $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the line between Area 2 & 3. Stitch on this line, trim seam and press fabric in place.

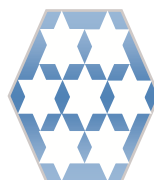


11. For Area 4, place cut fabric right side down $\frac{1}{4}$ " above line, sew on line, trim seam and press into place.

12. Continue in this manner to finish the block.

13. Trim block $\frac{1}{4}$ " from bold line, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

After you have followed these instructions, you will understand the basics of Foundation Paper Piecing. There are many intricate and beautiful patterns that are made with this method. Have fun!



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