

The Magic of One-Block Wonder with Panels

Class Information

- **Instructor:** Elaine Holland
- **Registration Fee:** \$120 (Covers all three sessions)
- **Class Size:** 10 people
- **Session 1:** Saturday, August 8 from 10 am to 4 pm
- **Session 2:** Sunday, September 20 from 10 am to 4 pm
- **Session 3:** October (Date To Be Determined)

Course Description

Transform seven identical fabric panels into a spectacular, one-of-a-kind masterpiece! The One-Block Wonder technique uses a single repeating print to create a stunning kaleidoscope effect. Rather than traditional patchwork, you will stack and precisely align six panels to cut 60-degree triangles. When stitched together, these triangles form hexagon blocks where the original design melts away into shifting colors and mesmerizing geometric movement. The seventh panel remains entirely whole, acting as the dramatic center focal point of your quilt.

This comprehensive, three-part class is spaced roughly one month apart. This gives you plenty of independent sewing time at home to complete your hexagrams and layout between sessions. Designed for the confident beginner, you will learn how to transition colors seamlessly and build a breathtaking quilt.

Session Breakdown

Session 1: Panel Preparation, Precision Cutting, and Half-Hexagons

You will learn the critical step of aligning and pinning your six panels for perfect pattern matching. We will calculate your strip widths, use a 60-degree ruler to cut your triangle sets, and begin sewing them into half-hexagons. You will also pin the two matching hexagon halves together to keep your pairs organized.

- **Homework:** Complete making and pinning all your half-hexagons. For the queen size quilt pictured, I made about 125 hexagons.

Session 2: Designing and Straight-Seam Construction

Watch the magic happen! In this session, we will lay out your hexagons around your seventh focal panel to plan a smooth, beautiful color transition. You will learn the secret to sewing your half-hexagons into continuous vertical strips, allowing you to use easy, straight seams while completely avoiding tricky Y-seams.

- **Homework:** Finalize your layout design and sew your half-hexagons into their designated strips.

Session 3: Final Quilt Assembly

In our final session, we will bring your masterpiece together. You will learn how to assemble your prepared strips into the four main sections of the quilt: the top, bottom, and the two sides. Finally, we will cover the techniques for connecting these four main parts to your central panel.

Supply List and Class Preparation

Class Preparation

Before the first session, press all of your panels with Best Press or your favorite fabric-stabilizing pressing spray. Be sure not to stretch your fabric while pressing or it can alter how the prints will line up later in the process.

Required Materials and Tools

- **Fabric Panels:** 7 identical fabric panels. Larger pattern repeats are ideal (12" - 24"), Look for panels with a lot of variety in design and shapes. You can use the One Block Wonder Design Helper online at oneblockwonder.com when selecting your panels to preview the layout. Do not prewash fabric.
- **60-Degree Triangle Ruler:** Must have a pointed top. Please note that rulers with a flat top will not work for this technique. Tucker Star 60 Tool is recommended because it do so much more than cut triangles.
- **Pins:** Approximately 200 pins. Flat-head or flower-top pins are optional.
- **Rotary Cutter:** Use a brand-new blade, as you will be cutting through 6 layers of fabric.
- **Design Wall:** A flannel sheet, piece of batting, or flannel-backed tablecloth for layout and transferring hexagons. Alternatively, a commercial product like The Design Wall by The Gypsy Quilter works great.
- **Fabric Prep:** Best Press or your preferred fabric sizing.
- **Basic Sewing Supplies:** Sewing machine in good working order, neutral piecing thread, and a cutting mat.
- **Organization:** Ziptop bags or fabric clips to keep triangles organized by stack or color.
- **Sewing machine** with neutral thread.
- **Camera or phone** for viewing hexagon organization options.

Optional Tools

- **One Block Wonder Panel Quilts** by Maxine Rosenthal

- **Magic Mirror:** Excellent for previewing your fabric's kaleidoscope potential before making your cuts.
- **Wooden Seam Roller:** Great for pressing flat seams quickly at your design station without running to the iron.