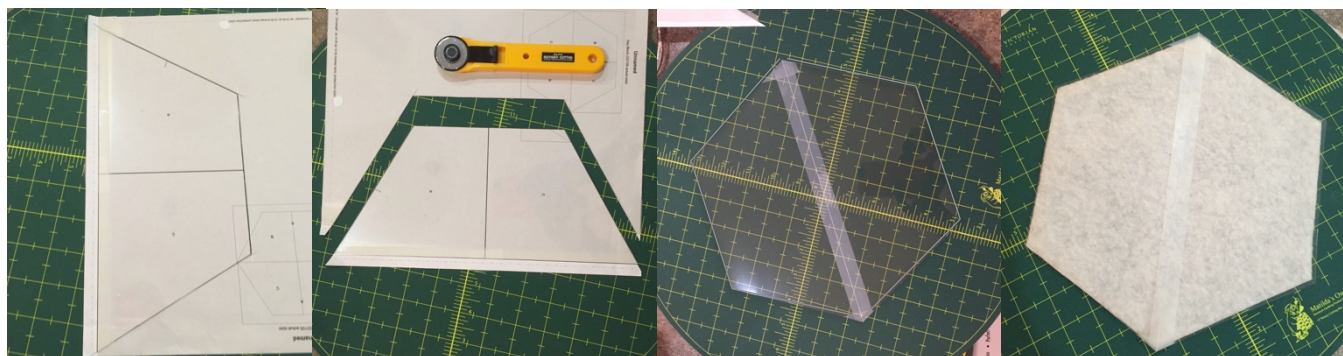


Blocks on the Go, for Quilts on the Grow!

AKA - The Always Done Quilt!

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Every week = one block = one completely finished quilt-let = Always Done!



Using the 5 1/4" Hexagon Template provided (in a separate document), make 2 paper copies (make sure to print at 100%), cut away the background, join together along the long edge to create a hexagon 5 1/4" along the edge (10 1/2" point to point in the center). Make a Mylar version of this hexagon from 1 – 11"x17" piece of Mylar. Mylar is template plastic that can be ironed. If you can't find the large sheets, use 2 – 8 1/2"x11" pieces joined in the center, as shown. Scotch Brand Magic tape can be used to join the two pieces and it will stand up to being pressed, other brands may not. You will use this template to cut your batting, backing/sashing fabric, and to press backing fabric forward to the front to become the sashing fabric between the blocks. Lay the Mylar template onto your batting (I cut two layers at a time) and carefully cut around it with your rotary cutter to cut your batting hexagons. Put some pressure in the center of the Mylar template to lift the edges slightly, this way you will not be as likely to shave off the edges of your Mylar keeping the template accurate. I cut all 52 pieces of batting at once in preparation.

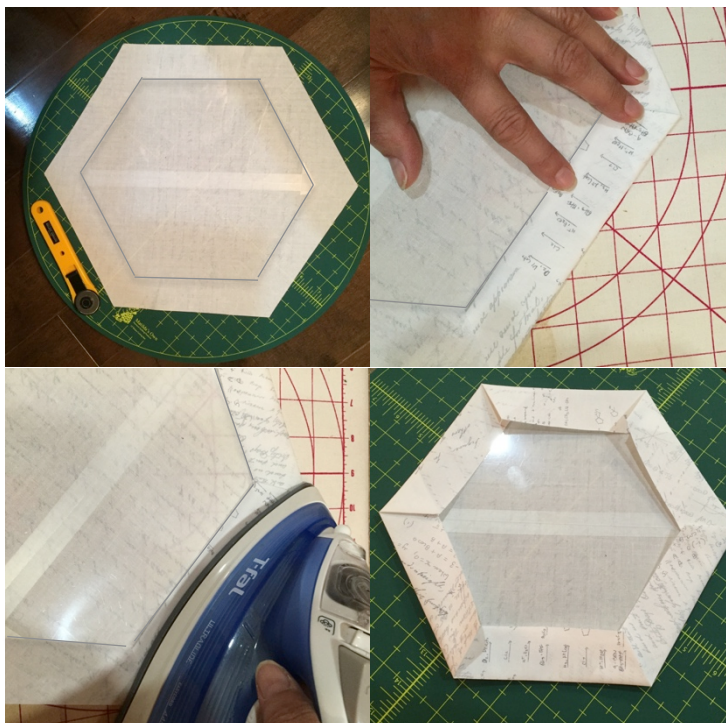
Center the Mylar template onto the wrong side of a piece of backing/sashing fabric. Lay the 1 5/8" line of a 6"x24" ruler onto the edge of the Mylar and trim away the excess on every side of the template creating a piece of hexagon shaped backing/sashing approximately 14 1/2" point to point.

On a pressing surface with the Mylar still centered on the wrong side of the backing/sashing fabric, press the edges of the backing/sashing over the edge of the Mylar.

Work consistently either clockwise or counter-clockwise, one edge at a time to create neat corners that are equal on each side of the fold.

The more accurate your Mylar cutting and pressing template is the more accurate your finished Quilt-lets and therefore your finished work will be.

Remove the Mylar and place a piece of batting inside the backing/sashing piece. Gently ease the cut edges of the batting away from the crease of the backing/sashing allowing it to refold along the crease lines and around the batting.



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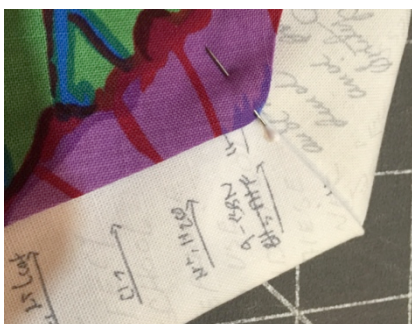


The New Hexagon – 52 Block to English Paper Piece available from **Martingale**, contains all the basic English Paper Piecing instructions (page 8-11) including glue basting (page 9) and fussy-cutting (page 16). Piece your blocks 133% enlarged from the original in the book – 4” finished (along the edge) hexagons.

Once your block is pieced, press it with a pressing agent (I like Mary Ellen's Best Pressed). Make sure all the tails around the edges of the block are pressed towards the center. This will give your completed block nice sharp edges and it will maintain its shape during applique.

Carefully remove the papers sliding an awl between the glued down fabric edge and the paper templates.

Center the pressed block onto the 'open' batting side of the backing/sashing and batting units completed previously. There should be 1” of sashing showing beside the block on all sides. Once centered, use applique pins to secure it during appliqué.



Using the Appliqué instructions from page 12 under Quiltmaking Basics from *The New Hexagon*, applique the block to the top side of the 'Quilt-let' making sure to hide your stitches inside the 'Quilt-let'. The open folds of the sashing on the front of the 'Quilt-let' are the perfect place to hide your knots.

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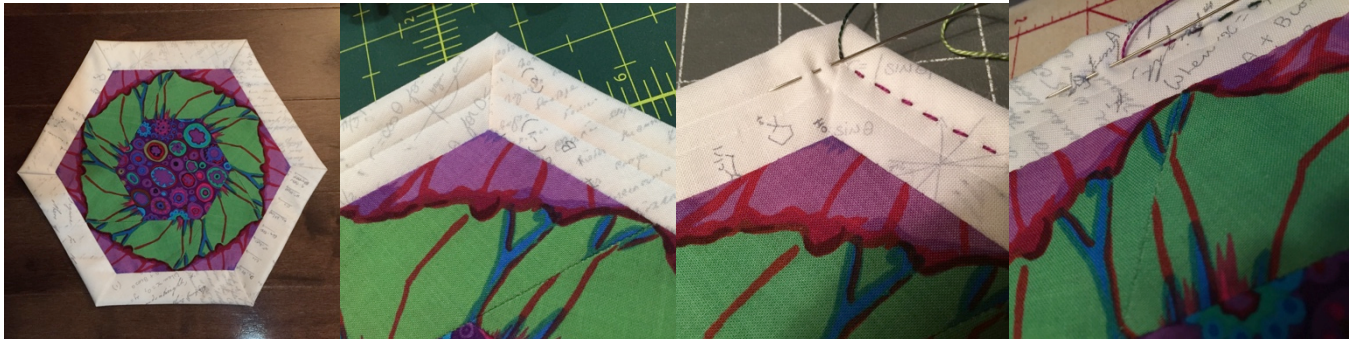


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Once the block has been appliquéd onto the 'Quilt-let' mark two parallel lines onto the sashing edge 3/8" and 5/8" away from the block. I've used a hera marker. A hera marker is a sharp edge that will not cut, but will crease the fabric allowing the quilter to see the line for quilting.

I've used 8wt Perle cotton from the Sue Spargo collection of Eleganza Threads for Wonderfil Specialty Threads. I've used big-stitch quilting with my stitches approximately 1/8" long. Each block is surrounded by two rows of stitching. And random lines within each block are quilted.



Once you have two 'Quilt-lets' completed they need to be ladder stitched together. I find it easiest to ladder stitch with my two quilt-let held right sides together and stitching into the creased edge. Hide your starting knot inside a corner fold, stitch into the crease with stitches about 1/8" long. Where your needle exits the fabric, stitch into the opposite crease exactly across it. If pulled apart the stitched will look like parallel rungs of a ladder.

I've stitched each seam twice for added strength.



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Week 1

Block 1: Marie

Philip Jacobs for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #PWPJ062 Brocade Peony

Kaffe Fassett for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #GP92 Millefiore

Modern Backgrounds Essentials by Brigitte Heitland for Zen Chic for Moda - Paper



Week 2

Block 2: Carol

Kaffe Fassett for Rowan Fabrics #GP57 Paper Fans

Modern Backgrounds Essentials by Brigitte Heitland for Zen Chic for Moda - Paper



Week 3

Block 3: Sarah

Kaffe Fassett for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #GP92 Millefiore

Philip Jacobs for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #PWPJ051 Brassica

Modern Backgrounds Essentials by Brigitte Heitland for Zen Chic for Moda - Paper



Week 4

Block 4: Lorraine

Philip Jacobs for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #PWPJ051 Brassica

Kaffe Fassett for Rowan. Westminster Fibers #PWGP020 Paperweight

Color: FULL design #14689 Jennifer Sampou for Robert Kaufman

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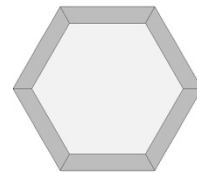
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One block can be:

A candle Mat

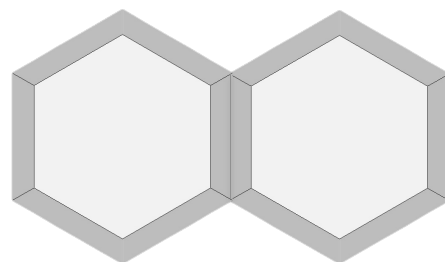
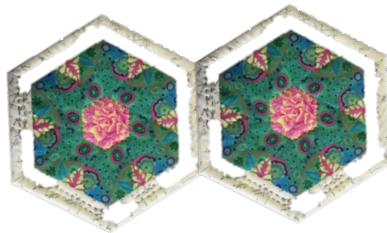
A Mug Rug



Two blocks can be:

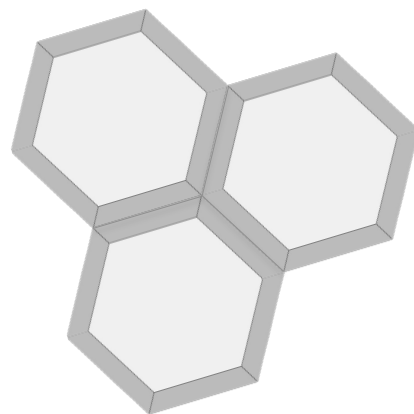
A mini topper for a side table

A mini wallhanging for the presently popular mini exchanges going on online.



Three blocks can be:

A small table center for a round table.



Four blocks can be:

An antimacassar for the back of a chair

A centerpiece on an oblong table



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