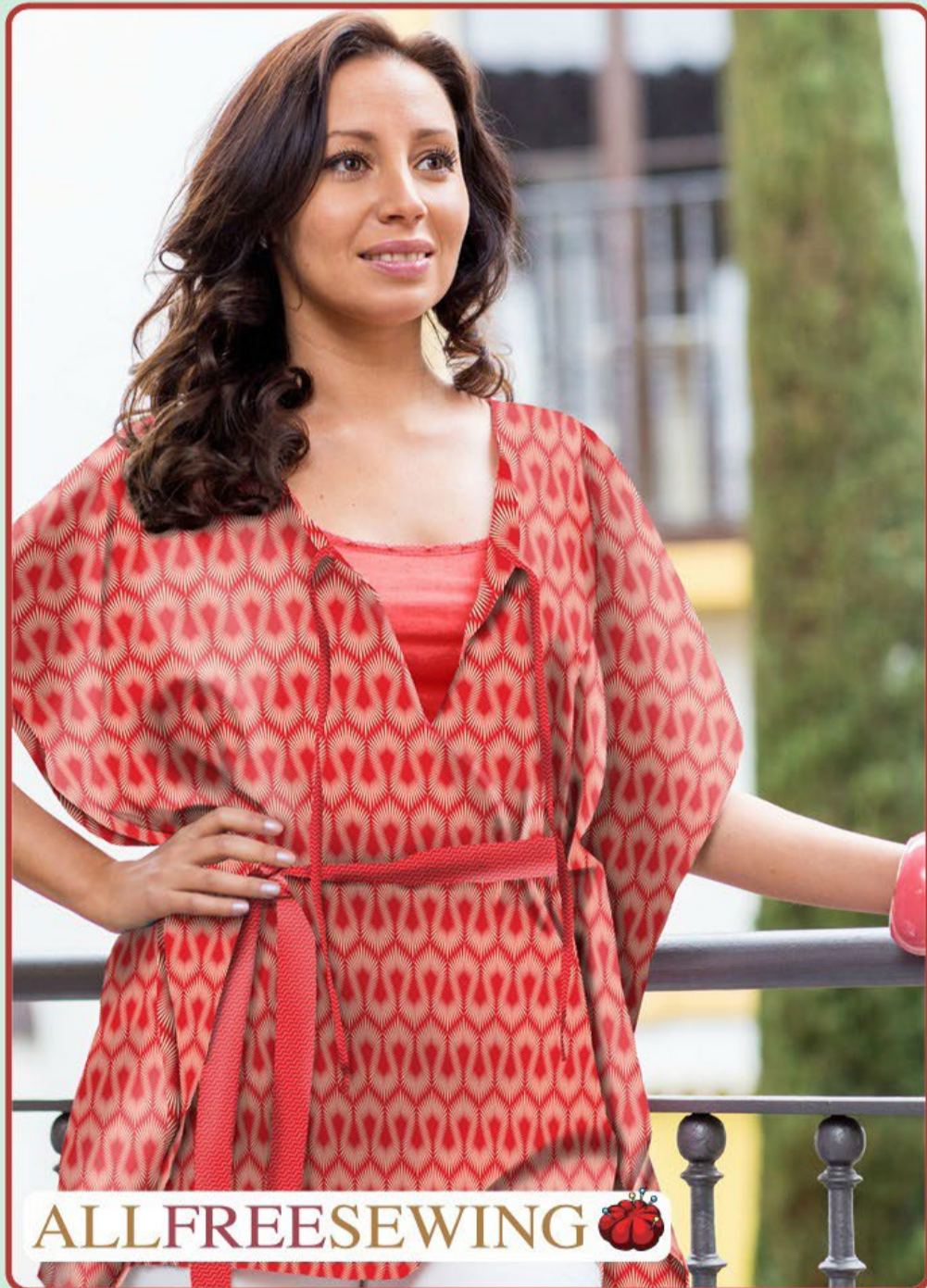


# 9 Insanely Awesome Sewing Ideas

How to Sew a Pillow, DIY Home Decor, and More



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## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Hello, Readers!

[AllFreeSewing](#) proudly presents our first ever National Sewing Month eBook, *9 Insanely Awesome Sewing Ideas: How to Sew a Pillow, DIY Home Decor, and More*.

Any crafter that embraces the art of sewing and quilting will warmly welcome the variety of projects and techniques available here in full. This eBook is particularly unique because it includes projects from companies that include [Fairfield/Foamology](#), [Sizzix](#), [Simplicity Creative Group/EZ Quilting](#), [American Quilter's Society](#), [BERNINA](#), and [Coats and Clark/FreeSpirit Fabric](#). The projects in this eBook yield more than just sewn decor ideas; in *9 Insanely Awesome Sewing Ideas: How to Sew a Pillow, DIY Home Decor, and More* you'll find professional approaches and techniques to delivering polished projects that you'll be proud to display. Celebrate the craft you love by joining us in creating these nine ideas during and after National Sewing Month.

You can find more free sewing projects, product reviews, and product giveaways at [www.AllFreeSewing.com](http://www.AllFreeSewing.com).

Satisfy your creative itch by sewing any one of these projects offered from some of our favorite companies. It doesn't stop with you, either. Feel free to share *9 Insanely Awesome Sewing Ideas: How to Sew a Pillow, DIY Home Decor, and More* and be sure to [sign up for our free newsletter](#) to get handmade inspiration right in your inbox.

We hope you enjoy reading and creating!

Sincerely,  
The Editors of AllFreeSewing  
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[www.SeamsandScissors.com](http://www.SeamsandScissors.com)

## PROJECTS FEATURED FROM



American Quilter's Society

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# Easy Fabric Wall Art



Make your own personal piece of art with Fairfield's Foamology™ Design Foam with stickybase™ adhesive and your favorite fabric. Using fabric sewing techniques like wave tucks, smocking, and reverse tufting; you can create a three dimensional wall art in no time at all.



# Easy Fabric Wall Art

## Wave Tucks

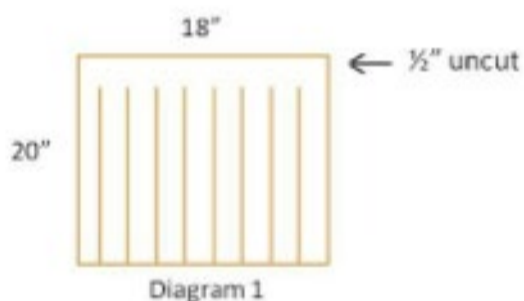
### Materials

- One - 18"x18" piece of fabric
- One - 18"x20" piece of fabric
- One - 12"x12"x2" piece of Foamology™ Soft Tile
- Coordinating Thread
- Sewing machine
- Pins

### Instructions

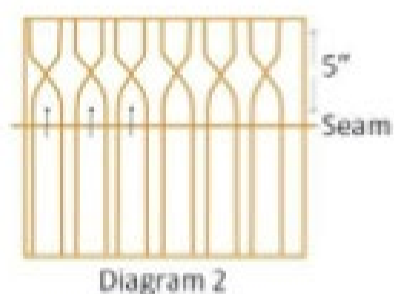
#### Step One

Cut 1" wide strips into the 18"x20" piece of fabric leaving ½" intact along one 18" edge. (Diagram 1)



#### Step Two

Layer strip-cut fabric on top of the base fabric and sew along ½" uncut edge to secure the strips and base together.



#### Step Three

Turn each strip of fabric in the same direction one turn and secure with pins as you go. Sew strips to base. (Diagram 2)

#### Step Four

Continue turning strips and sewing to base until complete.

#### Step Five

Place the finished fabric on a table with right side facing down. Center Foamology™ tile on fabric with stickybase™ side up. Peel back stickybase™ liner. Wrap fabric around foam tile like a present and secure to the stickybase™ adhesive on all sides.

#### Step Six

Adhere Foamology™ tile to the wall or other surface.



# Easy Fabric Wall Art

## Smashing Smocking

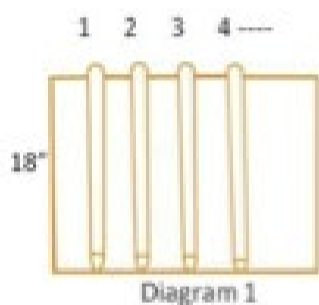
### Materials

- 18"x 30" piece of fabric
- One - 12"x12"x2" Foamology™ Soft Tile
- Coordinating Thread
- Sewing machine
- Pins

### Instructions

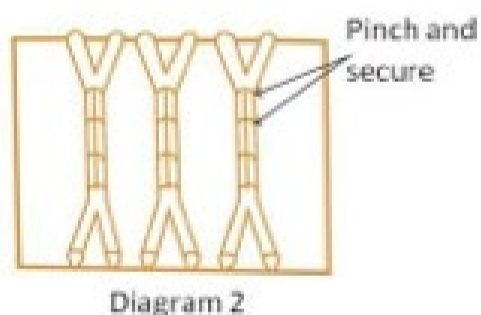
#### Step One

Starting two inches in from the 18" edge, fold fabric and pin. Sew a ¼" seam to form a tuck. Measure 2" from tuck and fold fabric parallel to the first tuck. Pin and sew a ¼" seam. Repeat across fabric to form vertical tucks at 1½" intervals. (Diagram 1)



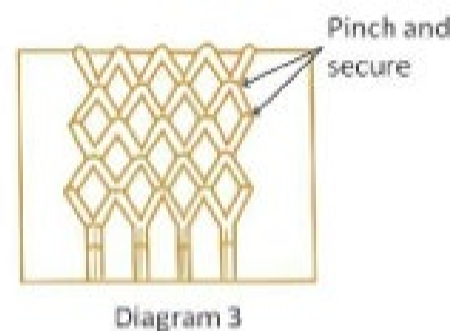
#### Step Two

Pinch tuck 1 and tuck 2 together and take a stitch or two to secure where pinched. Repeat with each pair of tucks. (Diagram 2)



#### Step Three

Pinch tuck 2 and tuck 3 together midway between original pinches and take a stitch or two to secure. Repeat with remaining tucks to form a honeycomb. (Diagram 3)



#### Step Four

Place the finished fabric on a table with right side facing down. Center Foamology™ tile on fabric with stickybase™ side up. Peel back stickybase™ liner. Wrap fabric around foam tile like a present and secure to the stickybase™ adhesive on all sides.

#### Step Five

Adhere Foamology™ tile to the wall or other surface.



# Easy Fabric Wall Art

## Criss Cross

### Materials

- ½ yd of fabric
- 1 - 12"x12"x2" Foamology™ Criss Cross™
- Soft Tile
- Cutting
- Two - 5"x28" strips of fabric
- Two - 5"x21" strips of fabric
- Four - 8"x8" squares of fabric (cut in half diagonally)

### Instructions

#### Step One

Place the Foamology Criss Cross™ soft tile on a table with the cut side facing up.

#### Step Two

Center the 5"x28" strip of fabric across the longest diagonal section of the tile. Working from the center out tuck the fabric into each crease in the row. Repeat with the other 5"x 28" piece. (Diagram 1)



Diagram 1

#### Step Three

Center the 5"x21" piece of fabric along the next diagonal section and repeat the above process. (Diagram 2)



Diagram 2

#### Step Four

Take one of the triangle pieces of fabric and place it over one of the corner triangles tuck about ¾" of the fabric into the creases. (Diagram 3)



Diagram 3

#### Step Five

Repeat on other 7 corner sections. Turn the tile over and wrap the fabric around the back like you are wrapping a present. Make sure the fabric overlaps a little along the sides so there are no gaps.

#### Step Six

Adhere Foamology™ tile to the wall or other surface.





# Easy Fabric Wall Art

## Reverse Tufting

### Materials

- One – 22”x22” piece of fabric
- One – 12”x12”x2 Foamology™ Soft Tile
- Five – ½” round beads
- Coordinating thread

### Instructions

#### Step One

Place fabric on the table with right side facing up. Place first bead under the fabric in the center. Push it up and tie thread around fabric and bead creating a raised fabric covered bead.



Diagram 1

#### Step Two

Lay the fabric back on the table and repeat the procedure with the beads working from the center bead out to the edges spacing them evenly apart.

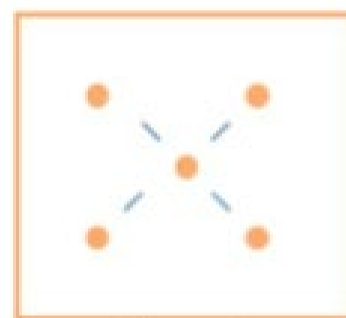


Diagram 2

#### Step Three

Place the finished fabric on a table with right side facing down. Center Foamology™ tile on fabric with stickybase™ side up. Peel back stickybase™ liner. Wrap fabric around foam tile like a present and secure to the stickybase™ adhesive on all sides.

#### Step Four

Adhere Foamology™ tile to the wall or other surface.





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# Who's Looking At Me Pillow



Who wouldn't like this wise choice for decor? Sizzix Quilting & Appliqué Dies quickly cut precise fabric shapes from stunning Bigz dies so you spend less time cutting and more time sewing.



# Who's Looking At Me Pillow

## Materials

### Dies used

- Sizzix Bigz Die - Owl #2 – #656783
- Sizzix Bigz Die - Leaves, Plain – #656667
- Sizzix Bigz XL 25" Die - Strips, 1/2" Wide – #658121

### Yardage

- 6" x 6"
- 2" x 2"
- 2" x 4"

### Fabric

- Orange print
- Red print
- Blue print

- Fat 1/8
  - 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"
  - 2 1/2" x 5"
  - 6" x 6"
  - 1/2 yd
  - 13" x 13"
  - 1
  - 1 package
- Brown print
  - Black
  - White
  - Green print
  - Background and backing fabric
  - Low loft batting
  - 12" Square pillow form
  - Fusible adhesive

## Instructions

### Cutting Instructions

- Cut (1) Owl\*
- Cut (1) Heart\*
- Cut (2) Wings\*
- Cut (1) Beak\*
- Cut (1) 18" x 1/2" wide Strip\* on the bias
- Cut (2) Eye centers\*
- Cut (2) Eye backgrounds\*
- Cut (7) Leaves\*, various sizes
- Cut (2) 13" Squares

### Notes

- Finished Size: 12" x 12"
- Fat 1/8 = approximately 9" x 22"
- Adhere fusible adhesive to back of fabric before die-cutting the shapes.

### Step One

Use one 13" Square for the front of the pillow and one for the back. Set back aside for now.

### Step Two

Place Branch about 4" from the bottom of front of the pillow. Heat fuse in place with an iron. Stitch around as desired.

### Step Three

Layer Owl pieces and Leaves on the Branch. Heat fuse in place with an iron. Stitch around as desired.





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# House Haunting Hexagon Pillow Top



Ensure that your home is fall-ready with the House Haunting Hexagon Pillow. This tutorial teaches you how to take a traditional design and put a spooky spin on it. Choose festive prints to infuse an autumnal element into your pillow. Rivaling decor you'll find in stores and catalogs, the final piece of this pillow will be an addition to your decorations year after year.



# House Haunting Hexagon Pillow

## Materials

- General sewing supplies
- EZ Quilting Tools 5" Hexagon Acrylic Tool by Darlene Zimmerman #882670181A
- EZ Quilting Tools 6 ½" x 24" Ruler #8829404A
- Scrap paper or card stock at least 7" x 7" square
- Water soluble marking pen

## Fabric Requirements

Note: This pillow can also be made using scraps of fabric that are at least 7" x 7".

- Gray Halloween fabric - one fat quarter or six scrap pieces for the hexagons
- Black Halloween fabric - one fat quarter or seven scrap pieces for the hexagons
- White Halloween fabric - one fat quarter or one scrap piece for the hexagon
- Border fabric - one fat quarter
- Pillow backing fabric - 1 yard
- Muslin - 5/8 yard or one 21" x 21" square for pillow top backing if quilting is desired
- Thin batting - 21" x 21" square if quilting is desired
- Pillow form - One 18" x 18" prefabricated pillow form

## Instructions

### Cutting The Fabric

- From the gray fabric, cut six 5" hexagons using the full size of the hexagon tool.
- From the black fabric, cut seven 5" hexagons using the full size of the hexagon tool.
- From the white fabric, cut one 5" hexagon using the full size of the hexagon tool.
- From the border fabric, cut:
  - Two 2 ½" x 16" rectangles
  - Two 2" x 19" rectangles
- From the pillow backing fabric, cut two 19" x 32" rectangles.

### Sewing Instructions

All seams are sewn right sides together with ¼" seam allowance.

All hexagons are marked with a dot where seams will intersect at each corner. The seams are stitched EXACTLY from dot to dot, never stitched across seam allowances. It is very important not to stitch beyond the dot, in fact, it is better to stitch the seam one stitch short of the dot than to go over the dot. This allows room for the set in 'Y' seam.

### Assembling the Pillow Top

#### Step One

Use the water soluble marking pen or a pencil to mark a dot where the seams will intersect at each corner on the wrong side of all hexagons. Tip: Here's an easy way to mark the seam intersections. Cut a hexagon template out of scrap paper or cardstock. Make a mark at each corner of the template where the quarter inch seams intersect and punch a small hole through each mark. Lay this paper template on the back of the fabric hexagon to mark the seam intersection at each corner.

#### Step Two

Lay out all of the hexagons as shown or in your own arrangement.

#### Step Three

Sew the hexagons in each column together. Match the dots at each corner. Start and stop stitching EXACTLY at the dot. Secure the seams by backstitching at the beginning and end. Wait to press the seams until the columns are sewn together and all of the set in 'Y' seams are stitched.

#### Step Four

Sew the first two columns together in a series of set in 'Y' seams. Start at one end of the column. As you stitched in step 1, stitch the first seam EXACTLY from dot to dot, securing the seam at the beginning and end. Now pivot the two hexagon columns, matching dots so that

# House Haunting Hexagon Pillow

## Instructions

the next seam will line up. Again, stitch EXACTLY from dot to dot, securing the seam at the beginning and end. Continue sewing the columns together in this manner, pivoting and stitching each seam along the column. Remember: do not stitch beyond the dot into the seam allowance of the previously stitched seams. Press each 'Y' seam in a circular direction around the center point.

### Step Five

Continue sewing all of the columns together. Trim the pillow top to 16" x 15".

### Step Six

Sew the two 2 1/2" x 16" border rectangles to the top and bottom of the hexagon center. Press seams toward the border.

### Step Seven

Sew the two 2" x 19" border rectangles to each side of the hexagon center. Press seams toward the border. The pillow top should now measure 19" x 19" square.

### Step Eight

Quilt the pillow top, if desired, using thin batting and muslin for backing.

## Finishing the Pillow

### Step One

Zigzag stitch around the perimeter of the pillow top.

### Step Two

Fold each 19" x 32" rectangle of pillow backing fabric in half, right sides out, so that folded it measures 19" x 16". Pin each folded piece to the front of the pillow top, with the folded edges overlapping each other and the corners lined up.

### Step Three

Sew around the entire perimeter of the pillow using a 1/2" seam allowance, going through all layers.

### Step Four

Again zigzag around the perimeter of the pillow. This adds strength and prevents any fraying.

### Step Five

Turn pillow right side out and insert the prefabricated pillow form.

Finished Dimensions: 18" x 18"





# Hexagon Pillow Top



A delightful combination of classic quilting traditions and trendy texture combinations, the Hexagon Pillow Top will appeal to any sewing enthusiast. From these instructions, learn how to make a pillow that uses a fabric with a rustic feel for the top and a motif print fabric for the focal hexagons. This project is easy to make and beautiful to display.



# Hexagon Pillow Top

## Materials

- General sewing supplies
- EZ Quilting Tools 5" Hexagon Acrylic Tool by Darlene Zimmerman #882670181A
- EZ Quilting Tools 6 ½" x 24" Ruler #8829404A

## Fabric Requirements

Note: If fussy cutting the hexagons, enough fabric for seventeen hexagons is required.

- Motif print fabric - ¼ yard or one fat quarter for the whole hexagons
- Coordinating fabric A - ¼ yard or one fat quarter for the half hexagons
- Coordinating fabric B - ¼ yard or one fat quarter for the half hexagons
- Pillow backing fabric - 1 yard
- Muslin - ½ yard or one fat quarter for pillow top backing if quilting is desired
- Thin batting - 18" square if quilting is desired
- Pillow form - One 16" x 16" prefabricated pillow form

## Instructions

### Cutting The Fabric

- From the motif print fabric, cut seventeen 3 ½" cut size hexagons using the hexagon tool.
- From each of the two coordinating fabrics A and B, cut three 2" x width of fabric strips.
- Or, if using fat quarters, cut six 2" x 21" strips from each fabric.
- From pillow backing fabric, cut two 17" x 28" rectangles.

### Sewing Instructions

All seams are sewn right sides together with ¼" seam allowance.

All hexagons are marked with a dot where seams will intersect at each corner. The seams are stitched EXACTLY from dot to dot, never stitched across seam allowances. It is very important not to stitch beyond the dot, in fact, it is better to stitch the seam one stitch short of the dot than to go over the dot. This allows room for the set in 'Y' seam.

### Make The Half Hexagons

#### Step One

Stitch a 2" strip of coordinating fabric A to a 2" strip of coordinating fabric B along one long edge. Press seam towards one side or open. Repeat for all of the 2" strips of coordinating fabrics A and B.

Tip: Using a small stitch length will prevent the seam from coming apart when cutting the hexagons.

#### Step Two

From the strip sets made in step 1, cut twenty-eight 3 ½" cut size hexagons using the hexagon tool. Make sure the strip seam runs through the middle of the hexagon from one point to the opposite point.

# Hexagon Pillow Top

## Instructions

### Assembling the Pillow Top

#### Step One:

Use a pencil to mark a dot where the seams will intersect at each corner on all hexagons.

#### Step Two

Layout the hexagons as shown or in your own arrangement.

#### Step Three

Sew the hexagons in each row together. Match the dots at each corner. Start and stop stitching EXACTLY at the dot. Secure the seams by backstitching at the beginning and end. Wait to press the seams until the rows are sewn together and all of the set in 'Y' seams are stitched.

#### Step Four

Sew the first two rows together in a series of set in 'Y' seams. Start at one end of the row. As you stitched in step 1, stitch the first seam EXACTLY from dot to dot, securing the seam at the beginning and end. Now pivot the two hexagon rows, matching dots so that the next seam will line up. Again, stitch EXACTLY from dot to dot, securing the seam at the beginning and end. Continue sewing the rows together in this manner, pivoting and stitching each seam across the row. Remember: do not stitch beyond the dot into the seam allowance of the previously stitched seams. Press each 'Y' seam in a circular direction around the center point.

#### Step Five

Continue sewing all of the rows together.

#### Step Six

Quilt the pillow top, if desired, using thin batting and muslin for the backing.

### Finishing the Pillow

#### Step One

Trim the pillow top to 17" x 17". Zigzag stitch around the perimeter of the pillow top.

#### Step Two

Fold both 17" x 28" rectangles of pillow backing fabric in half, right sides out, so that folded it measures 17" x 14". Pin each folded piece to the front of the pillow top, with the folded edges overlapping each other and the corners lined up.

#### Step Three

Sew around the entire perimeter of the pillow using a 1/2" seam allowance, going through all layers.

#### Step Four

Again zigzag around the perimeter of the pillow. This adds strength and prevents any fraying.

#### Step Five

Turn pillow right side out and insert prefabricated pillow form.

Finished Dimensions: 16" x 16" square pillow





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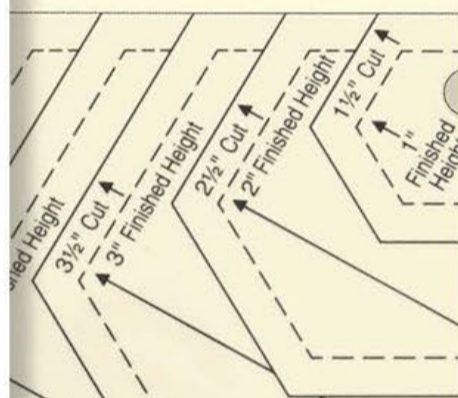
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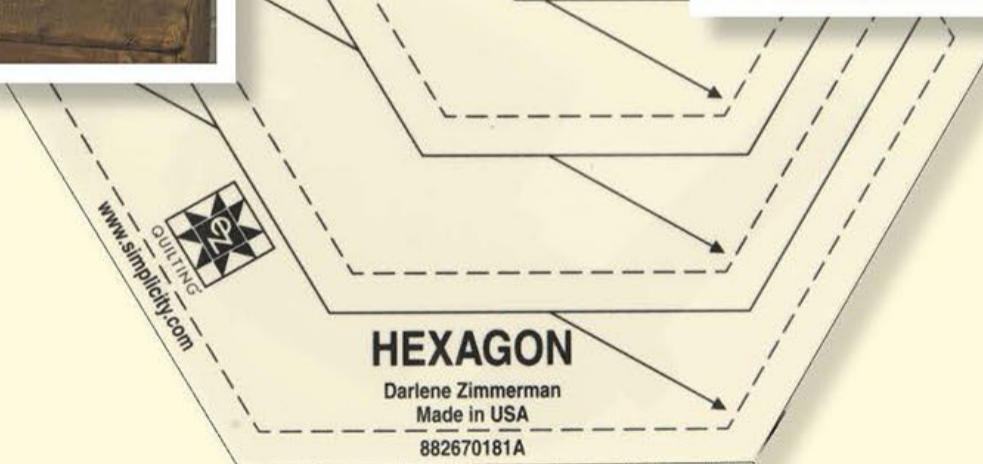
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# Modern Hexagon Flower Pillow



Sewing pillows is the perfect way to add a colorful element to your home decor. Learn how to make a pillow that is fully reminiscent of a gorgeous garden with this tutorial. Arranged in such a way as to resemble a geometric bouquet of flowers, you'll feel that spring is forever in reach when you add your finished pillow to any living space.



# Modern Hexagon Flower Pillow

## Materials

- General sewing supplies
- EZ Quilting Tools 5" Hexagon Acrylic Tool by Darlene Zimmerman #882670181A
- EZ Quilting Tools 6½" x 24" Ruler #8829404A
- Cardstock for templates - enough for six hexagons
- Embroidery floss

## Fabric Requirements

Note: If fussy cutting the hexagons, enough fabric for seventeen hexagons is required.

- Six different coordinating - One 6" x 6" square of each fabric for the hexagons
- Background fabric - 5/8 yard or one 21" x 21" square
- Pillow backing fabric - 1 yard
- Muslin - 5/8 yard or one 21" x 21" square for pillow top backing if quilting is desired
- Thin batting - 21" x 21" square if quilting is desired
- Pillow form - One 18" x 18" prefabricated pillow form

## Instructions

### Cutting The Fabric

- From each of the six hexagon fabrics, cut one 5" hexagon using the hexagon tool.
- From the cardstock paper, cut six 4½" hexagons using the hexagon tool to be used as templates.
- From the pillow backing fabric, cut two 19" x 32" rectangles.

### Assembling the Pillow Top

#### Step One

Center the cardstock hexagon templates on the wrong side of each of the fabric hexagons. Fold the edges of the fabric hexagon over the edge of the template. Baste the fabric to the template.

#### Step Two

Arrange the hexagons in a ring of six. The center remains empty.

#### Step Three

Place two hexagons right sides together. Using small stitches, whipstitch by hand the common edge to join the two hexagons together. Be careful to catch just the fold of the fabric and not the cardstock template underneath.

#### Step Four

Continue whipstitching the hexagons together to create the assembled ring of hexagons.

#### Step Five

Spray the sewn ring of hexagons lightly with starch and press. Remove the cardstock templates.

#### Step Six

Center the hexagon ring on the 21" x 21" square of background fabric. Sew the ring onto the background fabric with your favorite applique stitch.

#### Step Seven

Use three strands of embroidery floss to sew a decorative running stitch one quarter inch inside the center edge of the hexagon ring.

#### Step Eight

Quilt the pillow top, if desired, using thin batting and muslin for backing.

# Gwen's Liberated String Medallion



American Quilter's Society



By their very nature, string quilts are liberated quilts. There is no set block pattern so every string quilt is an original. All the blocks are made individually so there is no repetition and they all look different! Gwen's Liberated String Medallion is a great project for a busy quilter because fabric can be cut and pieced separately for each block.



# Gwen's Liberated String Medallion

## Materials

- Assorted light neutrals - approximately 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  yards
- Assorted dark solids - approximately 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  yards
- Medium tan print -  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard
  - border #3 top/bottom, 2 strips 3  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 28"
  - border #3 sides, 2 strips 3  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 22  $\frac{1}{2}$ "
  - border #1 top/bottom, 2 strips 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ "
  - border #1 sides, 2 strips 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 9  $\frac{1}{2}$ "
  - 5 strips 2  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 40" for 164" of continuous binding
- Binding -  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard
- Backing - 2  $\frac{5}{8}$  yards
- 43" x 43" Batting

Requirements are based on 40" fabric width.

Strips are cut selvage to selvage

## Instructions

Quilt size: 38  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 38  $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Finished block sizes: 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ "

### Choosing Fabrics

For my quilt, I chose 7 different lights. The variety of lights adds subtle depth to the quilt. I added dark solids for a dramatic and contemporary look.

For the light strings, cut 2" and 3" wide strips from several neutrals. The dark strings in my quilt tend to be narrower, which contributes to its overall minimalist look. For these narrow strings, cut several dark strips 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2" wide. Don't cut all the strips for the whole quilt, just some to get started. As you work you may find you need to add colors or cut some different widths.

### Making the Block Guides

You need a guide to act as a template for sizing up the pieced blocks. The guide must be the size of the finished block plus the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance all around. It works similar to a foundation except you do not sew the strings onto it. For the 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ " finished block, cut a guide 5" x 5" from paper or muslin. For the 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ " finished block, cut a guide 6" x 6". The advantage of a muslin guide is that it doesn't slip around. Label the guides so you don't confuse one for the other as you work.

### Piecing the Blocks

*Note: Instructions and figures are for the 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4  $\frac{1}{2}$ " finished block, but construction is the same for both size blocks.*

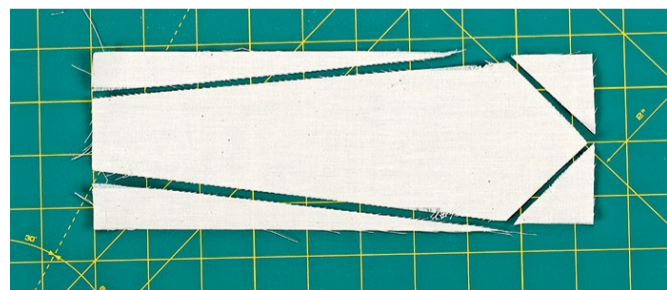
#### Step One

For the center strip, lay the guide diagonally on a light 3" strip, cut to length.



#### Step Two

Make two 45° cuts on the top, forming a point on the strip. Eyeball cut slight angles on both sides of the strip. *Tip: As you construct additional blocks, make these cuts slightly different.*



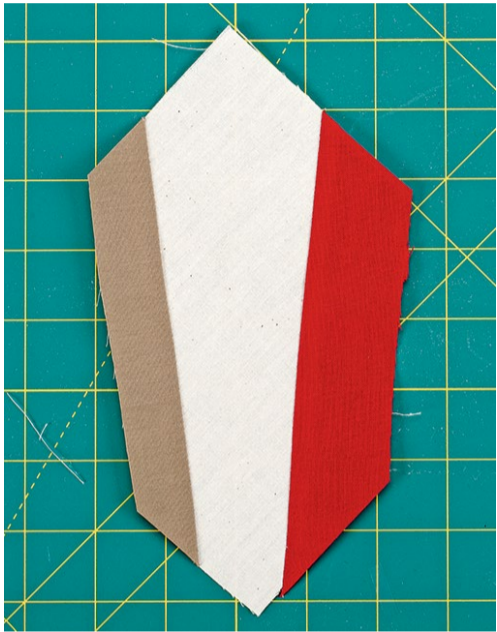


# Hexagon Pillow Top

## Instructions

### Step Three

Sew dark strings (1½" to 2" wide) to each side of the center. Press seam allowances away from the center. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, trim to fit the edges of the guide. Set the guide aside. Reshape the strips just added by cutting angles. This will make the blocks more interesting.



### Step Four

Continue building the block by adding light strips and then dark strips in the same manner, trimming as you go until it is the shape of the guide. As you sew the blocks, you will find yourself naturally making slight variations by adding more strings to some blocks and less to others, or by changing the shape and width of the center strip. String quilts invite improvisation. Make 4 blocks using the 5" x 5" guide and 36 blocks using the 6" x 6" guide.



### Assembling the Quilt

#### Step One

Following the quilt assembly diagram, lay out the smaller blocks in 2 rows of 2 blocks. Join the blocks into rows. Press seam allowances in opposite directions. Join the rows. Press seam allowances in one direction. The quilt center should measure 9½" x 9½" from raw edge to raw edge. If yours is different, adjust the seam allowances or trim to size.

#### Step Two

Sew the 1½" wide border #1 strips to the sides, then top and bottom of the quilt. Press seam allowances toward the border. The quilt should measure 11½" x 11½".

#### Step Three

Join 2 of the larger blocks. Sew them to a side of the quilt. Press seam allowances toward the tan border. Repeat for the other side.

#### Step Four

For the top and bottom borders, join 4 blocks. Sew them to the quilt. The quilt should measure 22½" x 22½" from raw edge to raw edge.

#### Step Five

Sew the ¾" wide border #3 strips to the sides, then top and bottom of the quilt. Press seam allowances toward the tan border. The quilt should measure 28" x 28".

#### Step Six

Join 5 blocks. Sew to a side of the quilt. Press seam allowances toward the tan border. Repeat for the other side. Join 7 blocks. Sew to the top of the quilt. Repeat for the quilt bottom.

### Quilting and Finishing

#### Step One

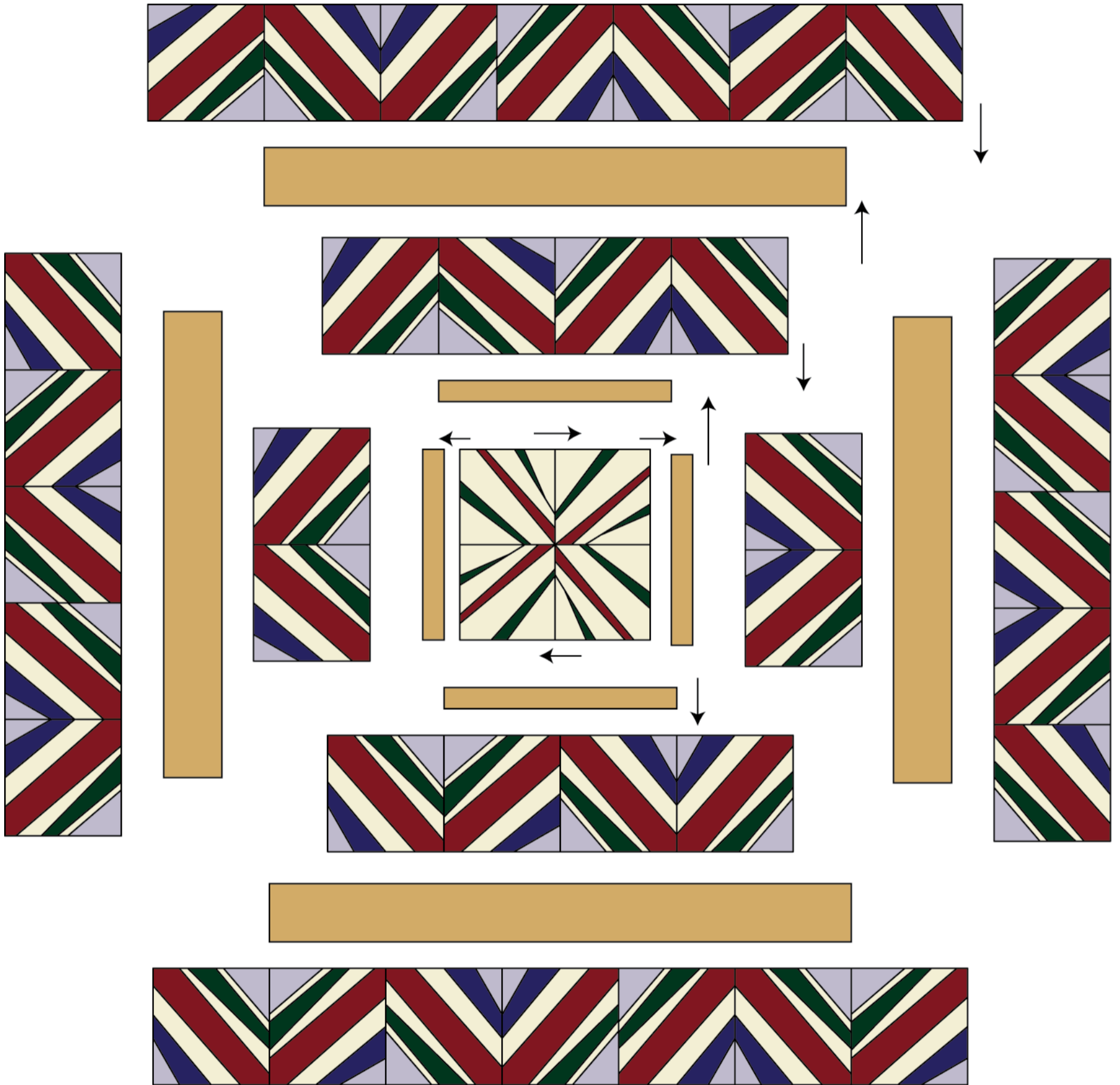
Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste the layers together. My quilt was hand quilted without marking, which adds to the informal look. I quilted lines parallel to some of the seams of the blocks, and angled lines in the tan borders.

#### Step Two

Sew the binding strips together to make 164" of continuous binding. Finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding.

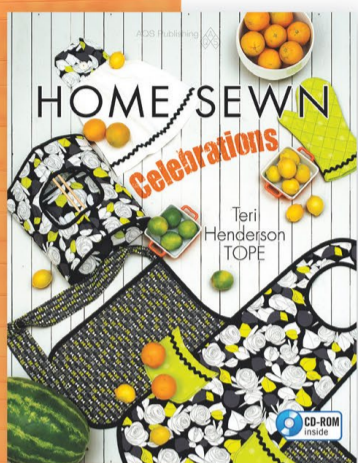
*Editor's note: Gwen prefers single-fold binding, cut 1 ¼" wide on the straight grain of fabric. To display your quilt, make a sleeve and sew it to the back of the quilt.*

# QUILT ASSEMBLY



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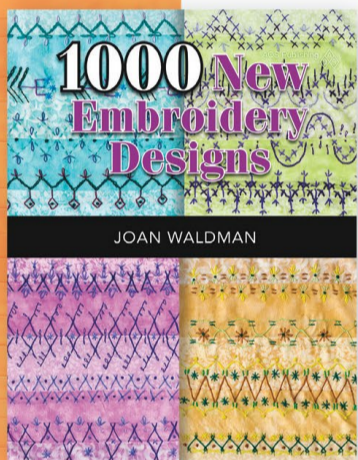
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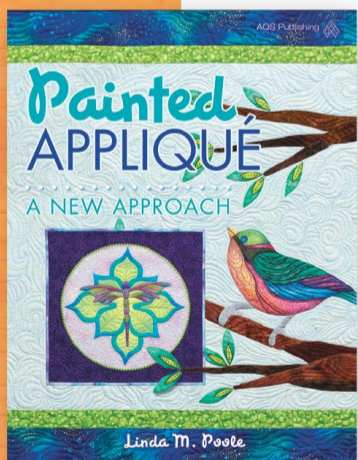
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# Voile Tunic

Free Spirit



With a relaxed fit, clean cut, and overall lightweight feel, the Voile Tunic has all of the elements to make you as comfortable as possible. Follow these easy instructions to create your own piece that rivals items you'll find in stores. Learn how to sew a tunic to fit your style needs by choosing the length of your top with the helpful sizing chart and instructions.



# Voile Tunic

## Materials

- FreeSpirit® Voile fabric from the Momentum Voile collection (100% cotton) by Heather Bailey, 54" (137CM) wide
- Short tunic: 1 ¾ YARD (1.60M)
- Knee-length tunic: 2 YARD (1.75M)
- Long tunic: 2 7/8 YARD (2.60M)
- Coats and Clark Dual Duty XP All-Purpose Thread in coordinating colors
- Lightweight fusible interfacing, small piece
- Pattern tracing paper

## Instructions

### Step One

Prepare pattern pieces: Choose tunic size from the size chart. Transfer measurements and markings from pattern diagrams to pattern tracing paper. Cut out paper pattern pieces. Pin to fabric. See attached chart and diagram.

Tunic Size - inches	S	M	L
Height	5'6"	5'6"	5'6"
Bust	34½" - 36½"	38½" - 40½"	42½" - 45½"
Waist	28½" - 30"	31½" - 33"	34½" - 37½"
Hip	38½" - 39¾"	41½" - 43"	44½" - 46¾"
Tunic Size - cm	S	M	L
Height	168	168	168
Bust	88-93	98-103	108-115
Waist	72-76	80-84	88-95
Hip	98-101	105-109	113-119

### Step Two

Cutting: Add 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance to pattern pieces.

- Front cut 1
- Back cut 1
- Tie band cut 2
- Belt cut 1

### Step Three

Belt openings: Transfer position of belt openings from paper pattern to front and back fabric pieces. Iron pieces of fusible interfacing, ¾" x 1 5/8" (2cm x 4cm) to wrong side of fabric over marked openings. Make 4 buttonholes 1 ¼" (3cm) long at pattern markings.

### Step Four

Belt and tie bands (neck edge): Fold and press seam allowances on all edges to the wrong side for the belt and tie band pieces. Fold each piece in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Topstitch close to all edges of belt and tie bands.

### Step Five

Shoulder seams: Pin front and back pieces together right sides together. Stitch shoulder seams using a 3/8" (1cm) seam allowance.

### Step Six

Neck edge: Turn seam allowance on neck edge to wrong side, 1/8" (3mm) and again 1/4" (7mm). Edge stitch in place, catching tie bands at neck edge as marked. Fold front piece along center front, right side facing in. Stitch a reinforcing seam in area of lower point (see illustration), to make the point wear better.

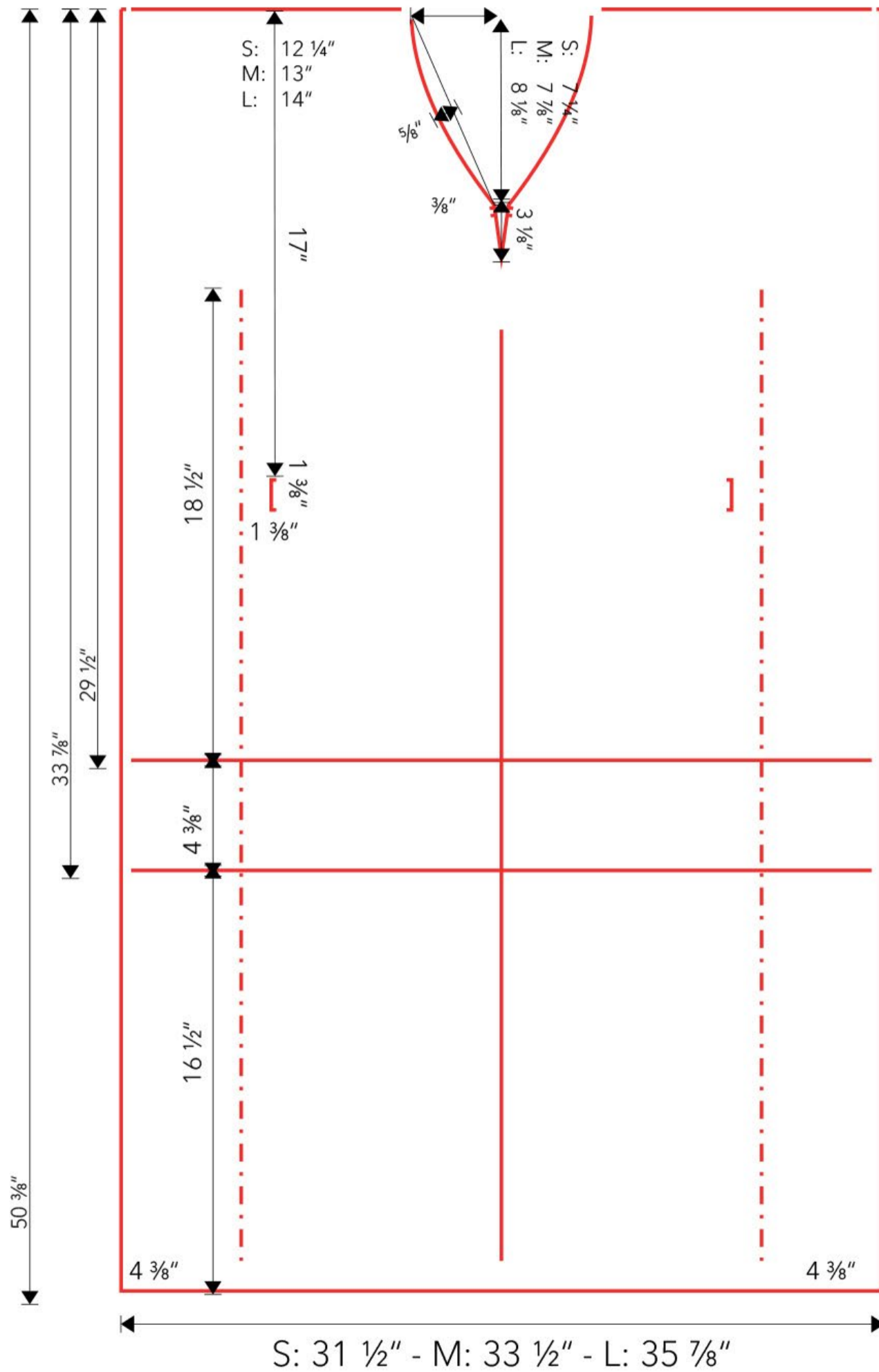
### Step Seven

Side and hem edges: Turn seam allowances on side edges to wrong side, 1/8" (3mm) and again 1/4" (7mm). Edge stitch. Turn seam allowances on hem edges to wrong side, 1/4" (0.5cm) and again 1" (2.5cm). Edge stitch.

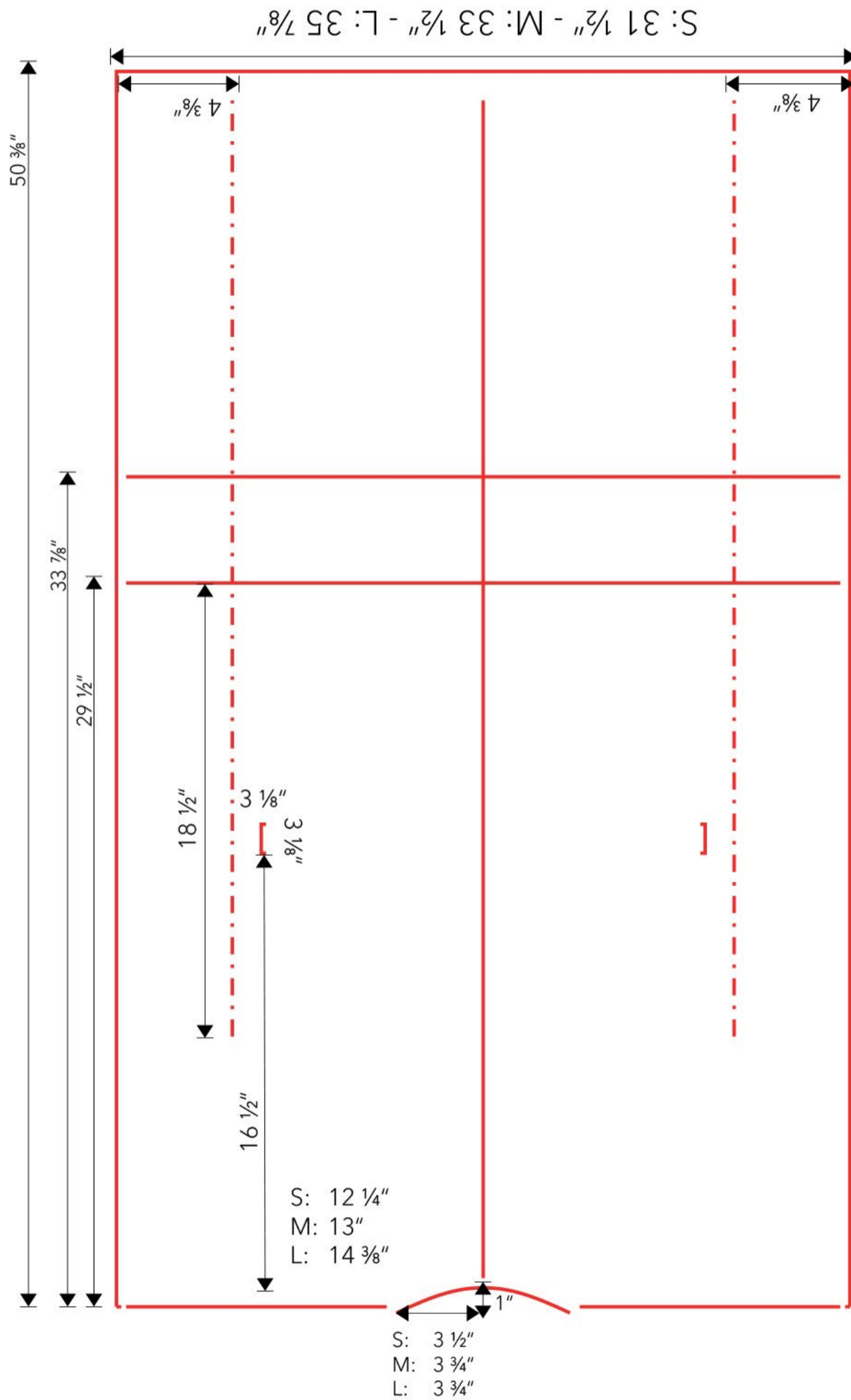
### Step Eight

Side Seams: Pin front and back together, wrong sides together. Stitch together alongside seam lines, as marked on the pattern.

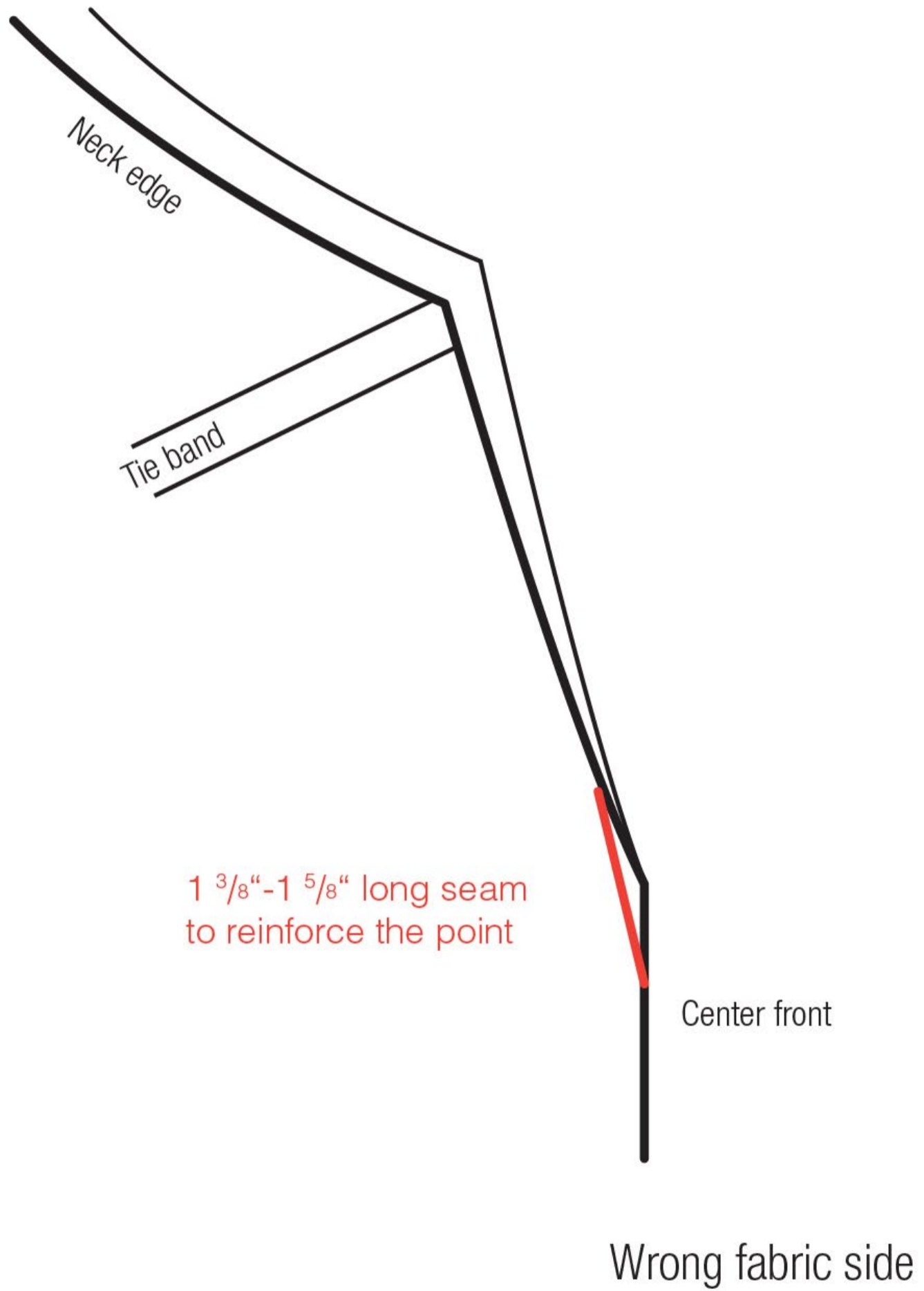
# Tunic Front



# Tunic Back



# Tunic Neck







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LACE MOUNTAIN COTTON TUNIC

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# The Great Gathered Tote

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From this bag tutorial, learn how to sew a tote that fulfills both your fashion and lifestyle needs. Coupling innovation with style, this fun tote bag is made flat with a band of grommets across the top. A colorful cord threaded through the grommets creates the closure. Put your sewing skills to the test with this striking bag tutorial.



# The Great Gathered Tote

## Materials

- ½ yard of medium weight woven fabric for bag
- ½ yard of medium weight woven fabric for lining
- Thread for construction
- 1 yard of grommet tape
- Wonder Tape
- 1 yard 1" wide black twill tape for strap
- 1 cord-lock (optional)
- All-purpose presser foot

## Instructions

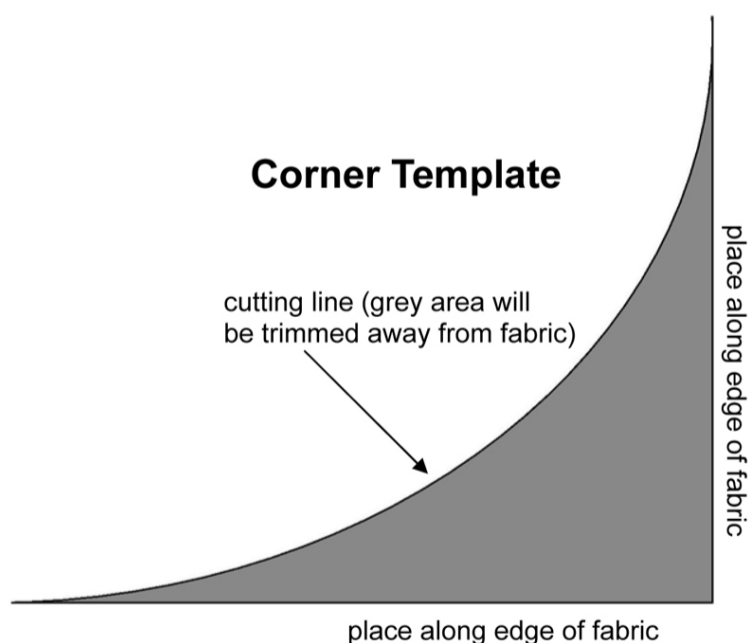
### Cutting and Preparation

#### Step One

Cut two rectangles from the fabric, 17" x 15", and two from the lining fabric, 17" x 15".

#### Step Two

Round the lower corners of each of the four pieces using the corner template to the right. Position the template on the corner of the rectangles and trim along the curved line.



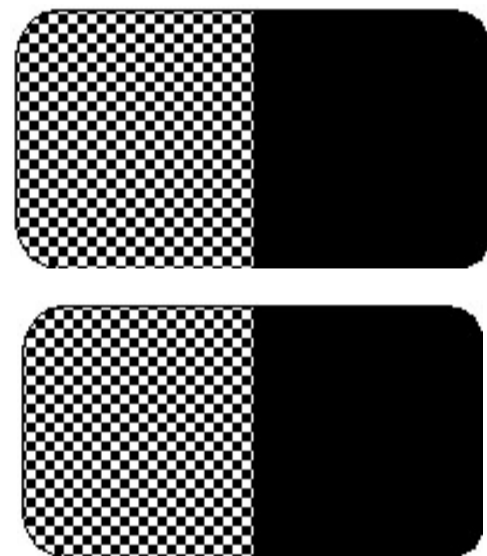
### Bag Construction

#### Step One

Place the upper edge of one bag rectangle right sides together with one lining rectangle. Stitch using a ½" seam allowance. Press the seam allowance toward the lining side.

#### Step Two

Repeat with the remaining bag and lining rectangles.



#### Step Three

Place the two bag/lining sets right sides together.

#### Step Four

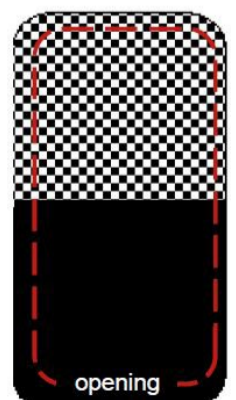
Starting at the lower lining edge, sew along all edges, leaving a 4"-5" opening for turning.

#### Step Five:

Press the seams. Notch curved seam allowances on the back and lining lower edges. Turn the bag to the right side; it should look like a tube with an opening at only one end.

#### Step Six

Slide the "tube" over a frearm and understitch (see below) to secure all of the seam allowances to the lining fabric.



# The Great Gathered Tote

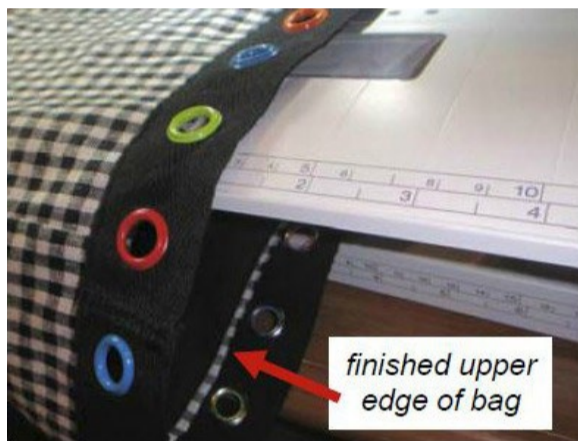
## Instructions

### Step Seven

Cut a piece of grommet tape to fit around the upper opening of the bag plus  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Overlap the ends of the tape to form a circle and secure with a medium zigzag stitch.

### Step Eight

Tuck the lining fabric down into the bag; press. Slide the bag over the frearm. Position the grommet twill on top of the finished upper edge of the bag, overlapping about  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Topstitch the band in place.



### Step Nine

Put one end of the wide twill tape through a grommet at the side of the bag. Tie the end into a large knot to hold it in place. Repeat with the other end on the opposite side of the bag.

### Step Ten

Pull the lining out of the bag; fold lower seam allowances to the inside and edge stitch the opening closed. Tuck the lining back into the bag.

### Step Eleven

Thread a decorative cord through the grommets and pull to gather the bag closed. Secure by tying the cord or use a cord lock closure for easy opening and closing.



### Skill Builder Technique

Understitching keeps lining or facings from rolling to the outside of a sewn item. Usually seen in garment making, it is also useful in bags to define & weight the bag/lining seam, helping to keep the lining inside. After stitching the lining to the bag at the upper edge, press all seam allowances toward the lining.

Stitch next to the seam, on the lining, not on the bag. Edgestitch Foot #10 makes this step easy because you can align the guide of the foot in the well of the seam, and then adjust the needle to sew on the lining. As long as you keep the guide of the foot in the seam, the needle will stitch parallel to it.



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# Just for You Monogram Tablet Keeper

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Dust, water, children — all of these pose threats to your prized tablet. Thanks to this easy sewing project you can make a tablet keeper that protects your device from everyday threats. The Just for You Monogram Tablet Keeper doesn't only guard your computer, it dresses it up. Completely personalized to your taste, adhere your initial onto your next sewing project for a chic look.



# Just for You Monogram Tablet Keeper

## Materials

- 2 coordinating fat quarters: One for the body and one for the lining, binding & front panel
- Natural linen or other light colored fabric, 8" x 8" piece
- OESD Fuse & Fleece
- Thread for decorative stitching, quilting and construction (can be the same)
- Temporary spray adhesive
- Permanent ink marker such as Sharpie, in desired color
- Large decorative button
- 6" of cord or one elastic hair band (ponytail holder)
- ¾ yard 1" wide grosgrain ribbon

## Instructions

### Cutting and Preparation

#### Step One

Cut the first fat quarter for outer fabric, 12" x 20".

#### Step Two

Cut from the second fat quarter:

- 12" x 20" for lining
- 4" x 3" for upper band
- 4" x 12" for lower band
- 2 strips, 12" x 2½" for binding upper edges

Note: These strips can be straight or bias cut

Note: The linen will be trimmed after the monogram has been completed.

#### Step Three

Following the manufacturer's directions, adhere Fuse & Fleece to all cut pieces and to the linen square.

### Creating the Monogram

#### Step One

Using a permanent ink marking pen, draw a block letter (about 2½" x 4") in the desired initial, placing it approximately in the center of the linen fabric square. Color it in until it is the shade you want.



#### Step Two

Stitch around the edges of the letter using a straight stitch, zigzag stitch, or blanket stitch as desired.

#### Step Three

Fill in the body of the letter with other stitches (ex. Feather stitch, Triple Straight Stitch, etc.) as desired to create texture.



#### Step Four

Trim the linen to 4" x 6", centering the letter.

### Quilting the Keeper

#### Step One

Place the front and back wrong sides together using temporary spray adhesive to bond.

#### Step Two

Using an all-purpose foot or a walking foot, lightly channel-quilt the layers stitching from side to side about 2" apart (see right).

# Just for You Monogram Tablet Keeper

## Instructions

### Creating the Center Band

#### Step One:

Seam the upper band to the upper edge of the linen monogram using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; press the seam open.

#### Step Two

Seam the lower band to the lower edge of the monogram of the linen monogram using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; press the seam open.

#### Step Three

Fold the side edge of the completed band under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " and press.

#### Step Four

Position the band down the center of the quilted keeper and pin. Stitch the long sides in place along the edges.

### Binding the Edges

#### Step One

Bind each end of the keeper (these ends will be the opening edges of the finished keeper) using the cut strips of lining fabric. Fold each strip in half lengthwise and press.

#### Step Two

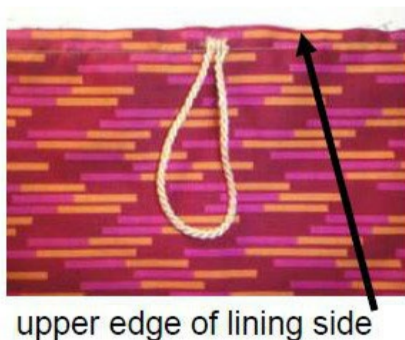
Working with the outer fabric up, place one folded strip along the upper edge of the front with the raw edges even. Stitch, using a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

#### Step Three

Wrap the binding around the raw edges to the lining side and pin.  
Note: Binding should cover the seam line on the lining side.

#### Step Four

From the right side (outer fabric) stitch-in-the-ditch (see below) to secure the binding.



#### Step Five

Repeat the previous steps for the other end. Before stitching the folded strip to the edge, position the elastic band or folded cord on the lining edge, centering it from side to side and letting it extend down into the bag.

### Finishing the Keeper

#### Step One

Fold the quilted keeper with right sides together and stitch each side seam, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

#### Step Two

Bind the seam allowances by wrapping the ribbon around the raw edges and stitching down the center using a zigzag or running stitch.



Tip: Use double-sided Wonder Tape to hold the ribbon in place for stitching.

#### Step Three

Sew the large decorative button to the front of the keeper to correspond with the loop in the back.





# Just for You Monogram Tablet Keeper

## Instructions

### Skill Builder Technique

#### Channel Quilting

To easily stitch parallel rows of stitching, attach Clear Foot #34/34C to the machine and insert the Quilting/Seam into the back of the foot. Set the guide 1½"-2" from the needle.

Mark one line at the angle desired. Sew along the first line. Sew the second line, aligning the guide with the previously sewn line of stitching. Continue until the body of the keeper is quilted.



#### Stitch-in-the-Ditch

Use the guide of Edgestitch Foot #10/10C/10D to precisely place the stitching along the seam line upper edge binding.

Position the guide in the well of the seam and make sure the needle is in the center position. As long as you keep the guide following the seam, the needle will track behind, sewing exactly in the "ditch".



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