

# Session #10

By Marie Duncan

It is time to trim our blocks, and add the borders.



## Supplies:

- Robison-Anton cotton thread
- Pictogram Pen
- Clear 1/4" Piecing Foot
- Clear 1/4" Piecing Foot with Guide

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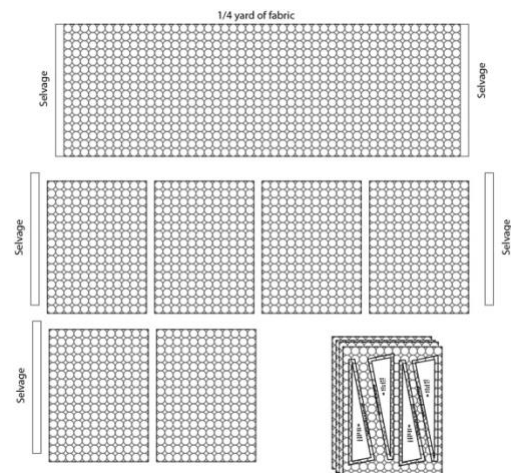
## Trim the blocks:

1. Print the patterns. You have a square that is 7 1/4" x 7 1/4" for the technique blocks. You have two ways to trim the blocks. Cut out the center of the 7 1/4" x 7 1/4" square, carefully, leaving a piece of paper with a square hole in it, and the pattern piece itself. You are trimming on the solid line, not the dotted line.
2. Now you can decide depending on the block, which method to use. If the block needs to be "fussy cut", like the circle of flowers, use the paper with the opening to carefully mark the placement of the cutting lines. This way you can visualize what you are cutting and exactly what your block will look like. If the square is covered randomly with stitches, then use the square to cut from.
3. Trim all your blocks to 7 1/4" x 7 1/4".



## Cut the Borders:

1. As you cut out the border pieces, pay attention to the markings. They have a notch along one side indicating that that side attaches to the center/black and white strip. The notch does NOT match up to another notch. This is crucial to making the blocks work. As you cut them you need to be sure that the pattern piece is placed on the right side of the fabric. That means that you **cannot** fold the fabric wrong sides together and pin the pattern piece on the layers. You need to cut them as shown in the diagram.



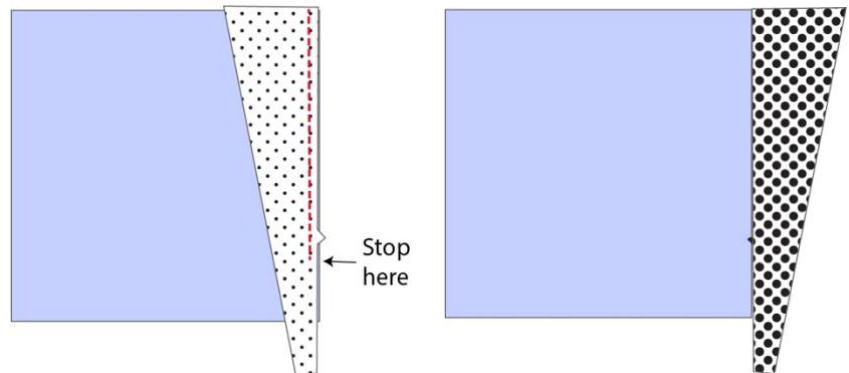
2. For the black and white border pieces, take your ½ yard of fabric and cut off the seam allowances. Then cut the piece in half, and then into four as shown.
3. You need six stacks of four with **all right sides of the fabric up**. Cut four pieces using the pattern given from each stack giving you **24 pieces**. I've given you one pattern piece. You can print it four times, or use one and move it each time.
4. Do this with each of the four black and white print fabrics giving you 24 pieces from each of the four different black and white prints.
5. For the multicolor pieces, you need **96 total border pieces**.
6. From the 4 yards of multicolor fabric, we need three yards for backing and one yard for the outer borders. So, cut off three yards of the multicolor fabric and set it aside for the backing. Cut the remaining yard of multicolor fabric into four strips. Layer them as you did the black and white prints with the right side of all layers up. Cut your outer border pieces.

### Sew your borders:

1. Begin with the first block. Place the border piece right sides together with the block, with the notch as shown.

2. Begin stitching and stop at the notch.

3. Fold the border piece out and finger press the seam so the seam allowance is towards the border strip.



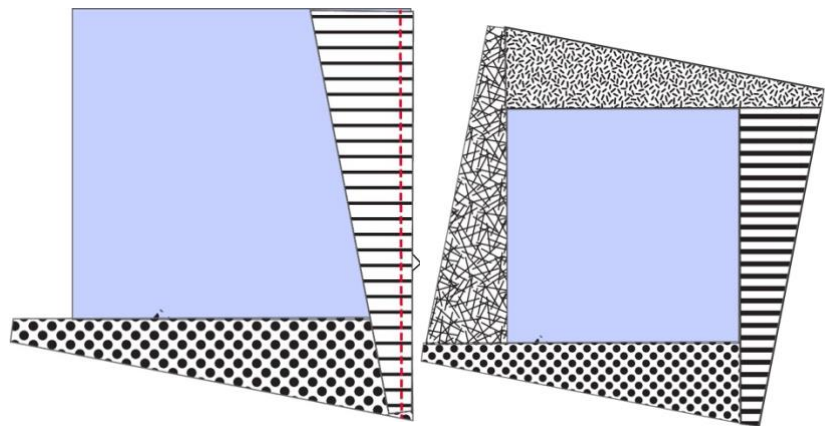
4. Stitch the same print border piece to all 24 of your blocks.

We want to keep the prints in order and it simplest to do if you stitch all the blocks at once.

5. To stitch the next strip, rotate the block clockwise and place the second border strip in place as before.

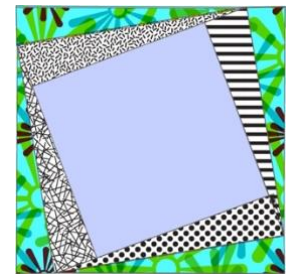
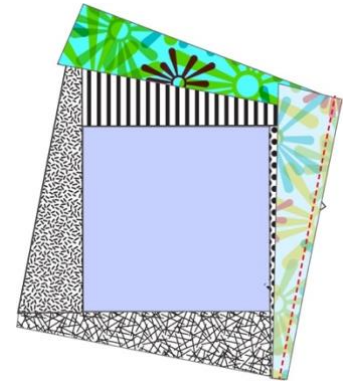
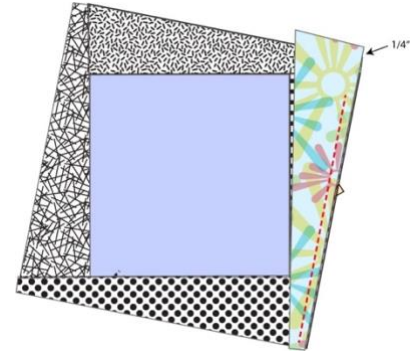
6. Stitch the full length of the seam.

7. Continue opening out the seam, finger pressing and rotating until all the four border pieces are sewn in place.

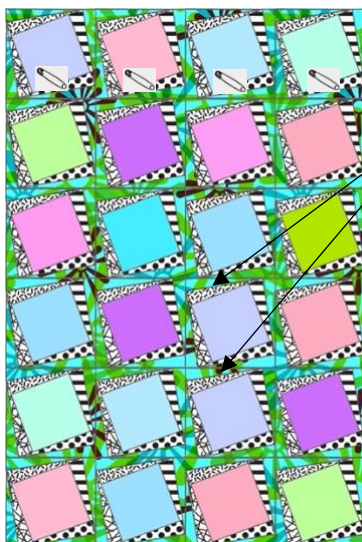


8. Finish the block by stitching the end of the first border piece you left open.

9. Complete all the 24 blocks.
10. Press the seams towards the borders.
11. To begin the outer multicolor border, place the first piece along the block. The top should extend  $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond the top edge of the block as shown.
12. The bottom (the narrow part of the triangle) should be even with the block. Pay attention that the notch is on the portion you will be sewing as show.
13. Begin sewing about 1" down from the beginning of the seam and stitch to the end of the block.
14. Open out the seam and push the seam allowances towards the border strip. Finger press.
15. Rotate the block counter clockwise and add the next border strip right sides together with the notch along the edge you are going to sew. The ends now are going to be even.
16. Stitch the full seam as shown.
17. Continue adding the next strip in the same manner.
18. For the last strip, hold the first strip out of the way as you finish the seam.
19. Then stitch the final bit from the first border strip.
20. Press your blocks.



21. Lay them out four across, six down. Pay attention to the black and white print, so the same print is in the same orientation on all the blocks as shown. Don't worry about the block order yet. In my illustration, the black and white stripe is always on the right.



22. Now, play with the arrangement of the blocks themselves. If two of the same color are together, change them.
23. When you are satisfied with your arrangement, pin the vertical rows together and stitch them together.
24. Press the seam allowances in the same direction. I found it easiest to keep track of "life" by putting a safety pin in the block at the top of each row. Then I know the orientation when I put back in order after I had sewn them together.

25. Finally, sew together the horizontal rows. Your quilt top is ready for it's two, final borders.