

## Templates & Template Layout Sheets

With this program, you will learn how to use the Templates and Template Layout Sheets that Judy uses for all of her instructions, but first you need to know what they are and why they are designed.

**Paper Piecing Templates:** Paper piecing templates are oversized templates, with extra seam allowances designed for each section on the foundation paper. The fabric pieces you cut with your templates are sewn under each individual section printed on your foundation papers. Paper piecing templates can be used to cut through several layer of fabric at one time.

The extra seam allowances on each template will vary depending on how the templates are used when positioning them under the foundation paper. **Why the extra seam allowances?** The extra room is needed when you position the fabric under the foundation paper. **After the fabric is sewn onto the foundation paper, the excess fabric is trimmed away using your Add-A-Quarter ruler.**

**Template Layout Sheets:** A template layout sheet is made by grouping together several *paper piecing templates*. The templates are arranged to fit on one large sheet of paper. The layout for the templates are designed to utilize grain line, save fabric and speed up the cutting process. The template layout sheets are then used to cut out your fabric pieces. Each *template layout sheet* is placed onto a stack of fabric before they are cut apart. Your rotary cutter is used to slice through the paper and fabric at the same time, allowing several layers of fabric to be cut at once. A *template layout sheet* works best when using several fabrics to complete a series of repetitious blocks.

**Template Layout Sheets** are quick and easy to use when cutting your fabrics. Below are (7) very good reasons for using the layout sheets to pre-cut your fabric pieces.

1. Fabric pieces can be stacked and cut at one time.
2. Stacking techniques and chain piecing techniques can be used when sewing the foundation papers.
3. Templates can be designed to utilize grain line.
4. Using templates will eliminate most fabric waste.
5. Cutting fabrics with oversized templates allows you the freedom to cut your pieces without having to worry about accuracy.
6. They eliminate fabric waste, and require very little math when figuring yardage.
7. Yardage can be estimated for your fabrics.

**Note:** Remember the individual templates for each section on the 'template layout sheet' are not separated or sliced apart until after the layout sheets are positioned onto the fabric.

### Cutting out the Foundation Papers, Templates, & Template Layout Sheets:

The foundation papers, templates and template layout sheets are provided with the instructions in each Booklet.

**Booklet 2:** Unit-C: Spokes, Unit-D: Spokes, Unit-B: Compass Flower

**Booklet 3:** Unit-K, E, & Z: Feathered Star

**Booklet 4:** Unit-A: Compass Rose, Unit-L: Sails, Unit-M: Sails

**Booklet 5:** Unit-H, G, I: Inner Rope, Unit-R, & S: Outer Rope

**Chapter 6:** Unit-O, P, T, & U: Octagon Background,  
Unit-V, & W: Triangle Background

**Queen Border:** Unit-V, & W: Unit-X, & Y: Triangle Background

The foundation papers are cut out before the template lay-

out sheets. This is done by trimming the excess paper away, approximately 1/8" beyond the outside cutting line. Once the papers are cut the papers are clipped together and placed into the corresponding bags assigned for each unit.

The templates and template layout sheets are cut out after the foundation papers. The templates and template layout sheets are cut out on the *dark solid line* that forms a box around each group. After the cutting is completed, the templates and template layout sheets are sorted as well, then placed into the assigned bags in each chapter.

**Note:** The Bag #s are printed on the Templates and Template Layout Sheets, but not on the foundation papers.

**Instructions on Template Layout Sheets:** Read the information printed on each template layout sheet before you begin cutting your fabrics. The fabrics are stacked and placed under the layout sheets before the templates are cut apart. Large paper clips are used to hold the template layout sheets onto your fabrics. I normally place my paper clips on each section around the edge of the template layout sheet before I cut the sections apart. This keeps the templates and fabrics together for each section.

**Hatching:** It is important that you position the template layout sheets onto the correct fabric before you complete the cutting. To help prevent cutting mistakes a light grey hatch has been printed in the center of each template section on both the templates, and template layout sheets, as well it has also been printed on the foundation units. This hatching was placed on the template layout sheets and foundation papers to help you identify at a glance which layout sheets are used with the different sections on the foundation papers.

**Accent Fabric, Template Layout Sheets:** In Chapters 1-5, the hatching is paired up to the accent fabric.

**Background Fabric, Template Layout Sheets:** In Chapters 1-5, the template layout sheets without the hatching are for the background fabrics.

In Chapters 6, 7, 9, and 10, this is not the case, so pay attention to your instructions and make sure you pair up the fabrics with the right templates before you cut.

**Template Layout Sheet, Cut Lines:** After the template layout sheets are positioned onto the fabrics, the template pieces are cut apart. We have given you designated cut lines on each layout sheet. These lines are referred to as **Cut Lines 1, 2, 3 and etc.** These are the only lines you cut. If you cut on any other lines you will ruin your fabric pieces. The excess fabric around each templates is not cut off until after the fabric pieces are sewn to the foundation papers.

### General Piecing Instructions

**Tension, Stitch Length, and Needle Size:** The tension and stitch length on your machine should be adjusted according to the weight of the paper on which you are sewing. Sew a couple practice seams through a few scraps of paper and fabric. Check the tension for even, tight stitches. If the paper is hard to pull away from the fabric, tighten the stitch a bit. If the paper falls apart during the sewing process, loosen the stitch a bit. Each time you begin to sew remember to always check your stitch length.

**Thread Size:** Size 50 and 60 weight threads are the most