

cutting templates included to layer up to (12) pieces of fabric beneath each template before cutting.

GENERAL PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

Tension, Stitch Length, and Needle Size: Your machine tension and stitch length 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. Check the stitch length every time you begin sewing.

Thread Size: Size 50 and 60 weight threads are the most commonly used thread for foundation paper piecing on newsprint. They are strong enough to hold up to the stress of removing the paper without breaking.

Needles for Lightweight Paper: We at Quiltworx recommend size 70 Microtex Sharp needle when sewing through the newsprint because the lighter weight threads require a smaller stitch length and needle.

Stacking the Templates: The template pieces for each section on the foundation paper are pre-stacked by aligning the sew-side along the top edge of each template. This is done to help organize and position the template pieces, making it possible to pull each fabric piece off the stack in the order they are sewn. The stacking process is a prerequisite to Chain Piecing.

Sewing the Fabric Pieces on the Foundation Paper:

When sewing the fabrics to the foundation paper, each fabric piece must cover the underside area plus the extended seam allowance for each section you are sewing. The dashed lines can be used to locate this area before adding your fabrics. This can be done using three different techniques and each technique works.

1. I fold and crease the papers on the dashed line before I add the next piece of fabric. After creasing the dashed lines, I flip the paper over to find each section on the backside of the paper.
2. You can also trace the dashed lines on the backside of the foundation paper. This can be done by using a light-table or by placing the paper up to a window. Tracing works best when you are working on large foundation units.
3. Some people hold the paper up to a light-source to see if the fabric has been properly placed under the section they are sewing.

Template Pieces: The Template pieces designed for this pattern are bigger than the sections they were designed to cover on the foundation paper. If a fabric piece does not cover the section it was intended to cover, it means one of several things:

1. The fabric piece may have been positioned incorrectly before sewing it onto the foundation paper.
2. The fabric pieces may have been cut out incorrectly by cutting on the wrong lines, or cutting with fabrics facing wrong-sides together.
3. You may have forgotten to trim the quarter-inch seam on the previous strip. Whatever the reason, remember, mistakes can be corrected.

Fabric Glue: Fabric glue is used to adhere the first piece of fabric under Section 1 on the foundation paper. If you prefer not to use fabric glue, flower pins are a great alternative. The pin head is flat making it possible to fold back the paper and trim with the add a quarter ruler.

Sew-Sides: The sew-side is the first side of any template piece that is sewn onto the foundation paper. The sew-side is instrumental in defining the correct position of each fabric piece before positioning it under the foundation paper.

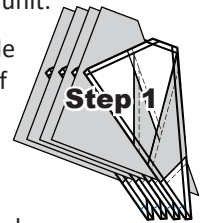
Pressing: Most ink used for printing is not permanent if it gets pressed into your fabric, but it can cause a big mess. The ink will wash out of most fabrics but try to avoid this problem by following these guidelines.

1. Press on the backside of the paper to avoid the black lines, keeping ink off the bottom of the iron. Protect your ironing board by placing a strip of muslin over it while working on foundation paper.
2. Press the foundation papers, one piece at a time, to prevent pressing ink marks into the fabric directly under the piece you may be pressing. Set it to the side, and then press the next piece. Steam may cause the ink to come off easily and shrink the paper a little, so use caution with the steam. If the paper curls in the pressing process, turn the temperature down on the iron just a bit and adjust the steam.

Chain Piecing Example

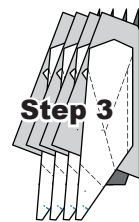
The paper piecing instructions only show single layers of each paper piecing step. Here we will show you the stacking process that we follow to increase production. Chain piecing (which is very fast) can be accomplished while foundation paper piecing by completing each step multiple times, stacking as you go, and keeping your units and work space organized as you sew. I recommend using this process once you've made your first unit.

Step 1: Number the papers on the front side and backside of Sec. 4. Then, the first piece of fabric is placed under Sec. 1 on each of the foundation papers before moving onto the next step.



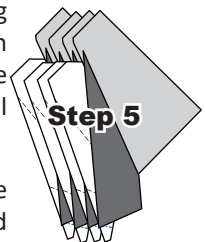
Step 2: The next part of the chain piecing involves:

1. Lining the Fold Template up with Sew Line 1 and fold the paper back over the fold template.
2. Positioning the **Add-A-Quarter** ruler and trimming a quarter-inch seam allowance.



Step 3: Fabric #2 is now placed in position under each paper.

Step 4: The fabrics are sewn onto the paper, playing follow the leader, starting with the first piece of paper on the top of your stack, then the second and third, and so on, until all the pieces have been added.



Step 5: The fabric is pressed on the backside of the paper. The steps are repeated as you add each new section.

COMPASS BLOCK AB INSTRUCTIONS

Foundation Papers and Templates:

Ziploc Storage Bags: You need (6) small bags, and (1) large bag to complete the organization for Units AB1 through AB6.

- Bag #AB1 [Small]: (6) Unit AB1 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB2 [Small]: (6) Unit AB2 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB3 [Small]: (6) Unit AB3 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB4 [Small]: (6) Unit AB4 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB5 [Small]: (6) Unit AB5 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB6 [Small]: (6) Unit AB6 Foundation papers.
- Bag #AB7 [Large]: (3) each of the Templates and Templates Layout sheets associated with Units AB1 through AB6.