



# Wheelhouse Quilt Series

**Modern Quilt Version - a digital PDF pattern for a 54" x 54" quilt top**

Designed by Lauren MacDonald

**Introduction** (So, in other words, feel free to skip right past this section and on to the pattern!)

What's in a name? This quilt began as an experiment to find blocks that would 'play' together well. It was my way of exploring the new software from Electric Quilt – BlockBase+® - as I scrolled through the various categories, I would copy the blocks that I liked and pasted them into 4x4 quilt layouts to help me visualize how they would meld with each other into a good quilt design.

After many experiments and consultations with other quilters, I arrived at this pattern for a modern quilt, using just three of the blocks from the program. Along with a pattern, I was lucky enough to gain a partner and we have collaborated with the series. Shirley Jobson, a quilt designer from the Next Stop Englehart Quilters Guild, has developed the Beginner Version of this quilt. There is also a Traditional Wheelhouse quilt pattern. During one of our conversations the term 'wheelhouse' came up. If something is in your wheelhouse, it is in your comfort zone. All these blocks took me out of my wheelhouse! But, as with most quilters, I was happy to tackle and learn new skills.

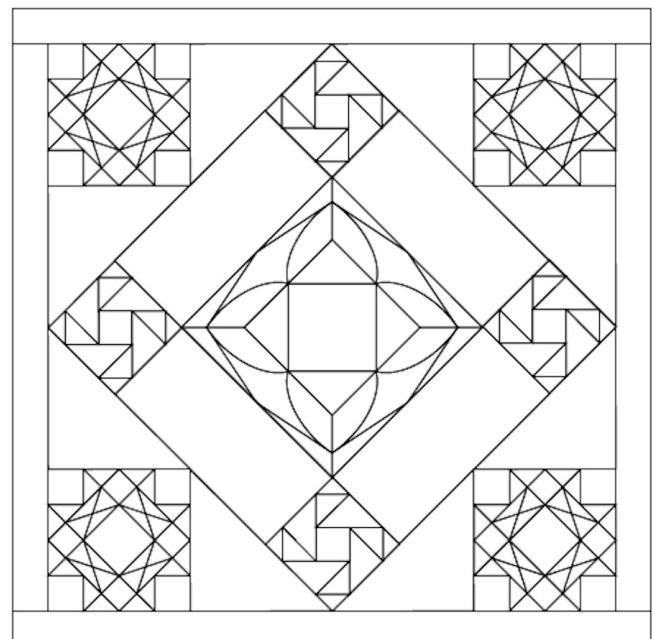
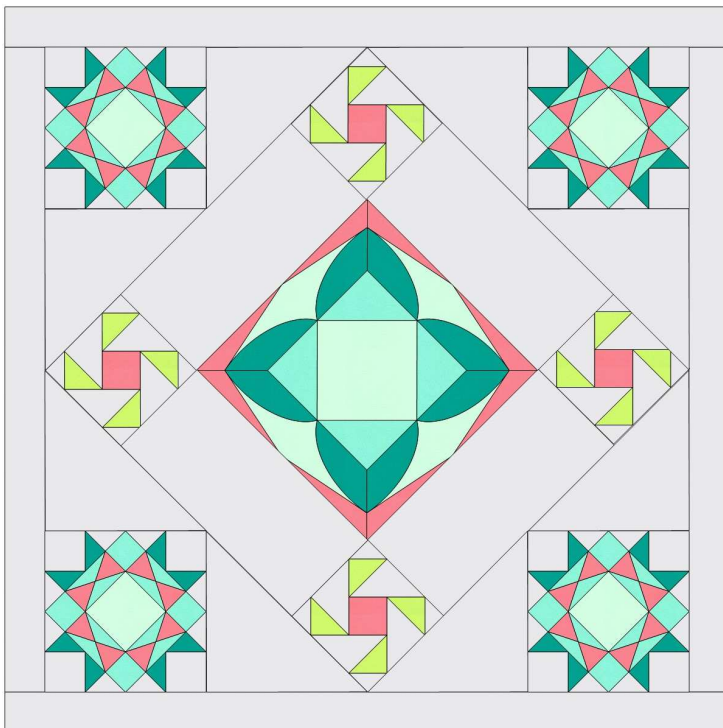
What types of skills make these blocks (possibly) tricky? Here's a quick list and that might help you decide which block to begin with:

**Side Blocks** – cutting some of the pieces using 'eighths', partial piecing, exact  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seams so that the points of all the triangles show at the end, ensuring that 2 of the corner triangles are in one position on 4 blocks and reversed on the other 4

**Corner Blocks** – doing one section with Foundation Paper Piecing methods, working with many triangles

**Centre Block** – creating an 18" block, sewing curves

**Note:** each of the blocks has a centre section so a quilter may decide to leave it plain or insert a unique item – appliqué or fussy cutting or embroidery or a mini-quilt block.



# Wheelhouse Quilt Series

## Modern Quilt Version - a digital PDF pattern

NOTE: Be sure to test your ¼" seam before you begin to sew (and if you change machines during the project). Each block depends on you having a perfect ¼" seam.

If you enlarge your PDF copy while on your device - you will be able to view the pictures even better!!

Before beginning to cut or sew...read, read and re-read the pattern. There are a number of pictures to help you along the way, as sometimes explanations need more than words to be understood.

### Yardage

I will refer to my colours here, to make it easier for you to see what colours go where in the quilt to help you pick your own colours.



Colour 1 - background - about 2½ m



Colour 2 - dark - star points, petals - about ½ m



Colour 3 - medium - about ½ m



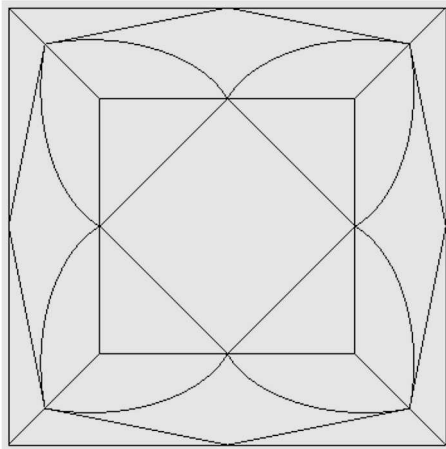
Colour 4 - light, inner star points, accent - about ¼ m



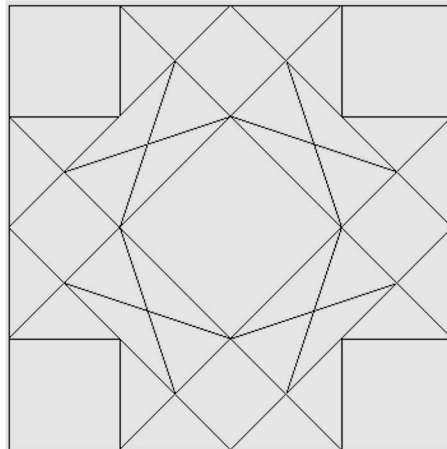
Colour 5 - very light - about ⅝ m



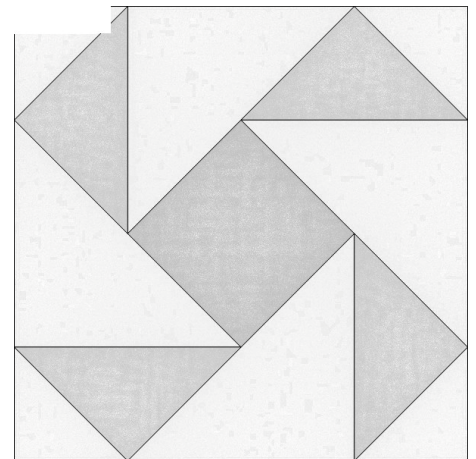
Colour 6 - accent in side blocks - about ¼ m



Centre Block



Corner Block



Side Block

## Wheelhouse Quilt - Modern

**Side Blocks** - make 4 (8" finished, 8½" unfinished)

### Cutting:

#### Background colour 1:

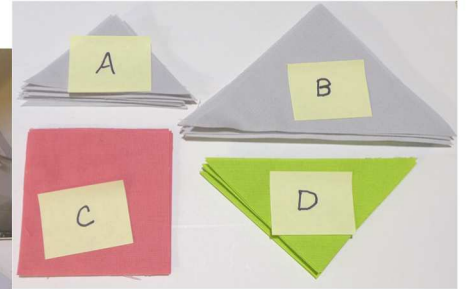
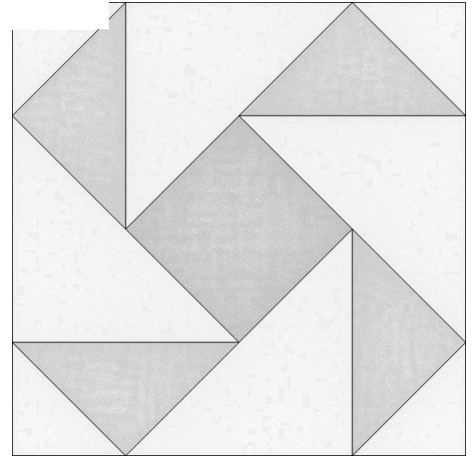
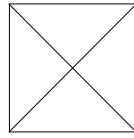
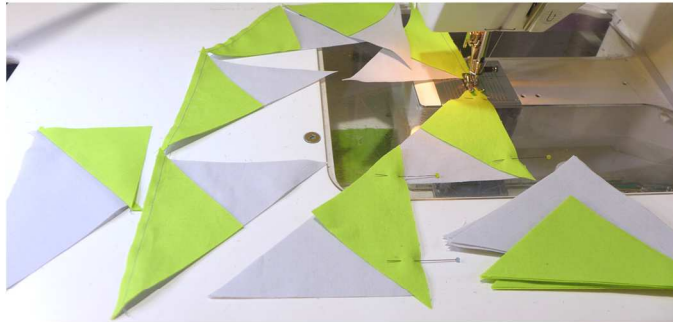
- **A** For 4 blocks - 8 squares  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ ", cut once diagonally to give 16 triangles
- **B** For 4 blocks - 8 squares  $4\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $4\frac{7}{8}$ ", cut once diagonally to give 16 triangles

#### Other:

- **C** - For 4 blocks - 8 squares  $3\frac{3}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{3}{8}$ "
- **D** - For 4 blocks - 4 squares  $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{4}$ ", cut twice, diagonally to give 16 triangles

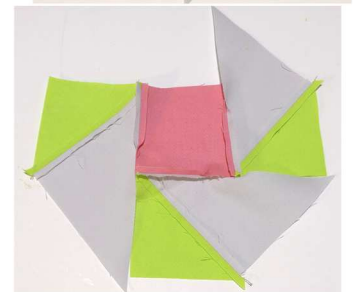
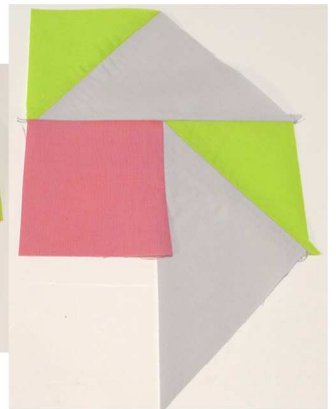
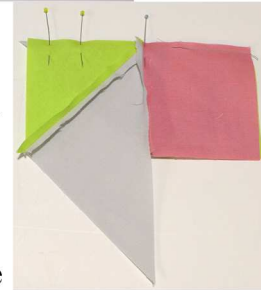
#### Directions:

**Sew D to B** - Place D right side down on B. Line up the straight lines on the bottom and the diagonal side on the left side of B. Sew along the diagonal side of D. Chain piece all 16 units



**'Stop and Go' Step:** adding the B/D sections to the centre square C

- Take one B/D section and place it right sides together on C
- Sew a partial seam from the corner – about an inch and a half
- Stop, then take the next B/D section and lay it on the next corner
- Sew a partial seam from the corner – about an inch and a half
- Press the second partial seam either open or to the side, then pin to the first B/D section and complete the seam (Note: if you press the seam open, you will see where the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam must travel so that the point is not 'cut off')
- Take the third B/D section and lay it on the next corner
- Sew a partial seam from the corner – about an inch and a half
- Press the third partial seam either open or to the side, then pin to the second B/D section and complete the seam (Note: if you press the seam open, you will see where the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam must travel so that the point is not 'cut off')
- Take the fourth B/D section and lay it on the last corner.
- Sew a full seam, then press
- Complete by finishing the seam from part 'h'

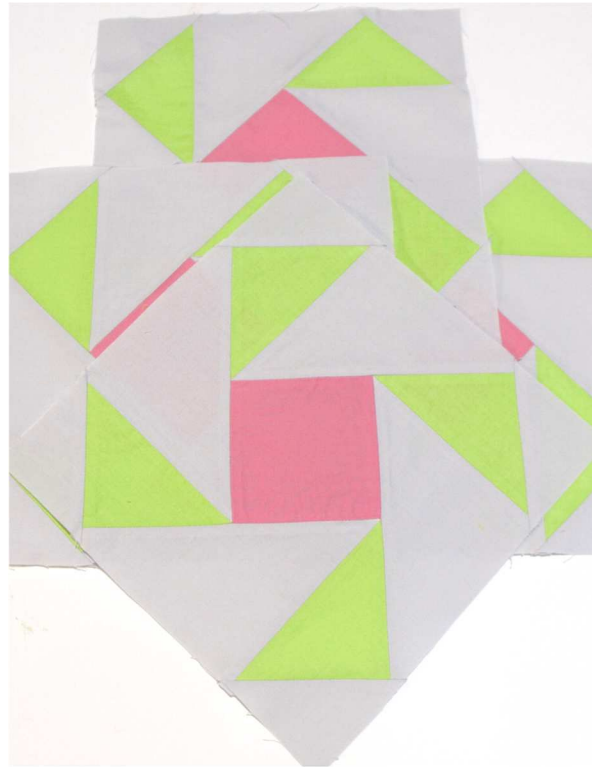


**Adding A triangle:**

- a) To place A accurately, mark the mid point in the diagonal line and match to the mid point of D
- b) Sew A triangles to all the D triangles on the units



Completed side blocks



**Corner Star Blocks:**

**Cutting:** (numbers given to make 4 blocks)

**Background colour fabric:**

A - 16 squares 3½" x 3½"

B1 - 2 squares 4¼" x 4¼" , cut twice diagonally



**Star fabric:**

B2 - 2 squares 4¼" x 4¼" , cut twice diagonally



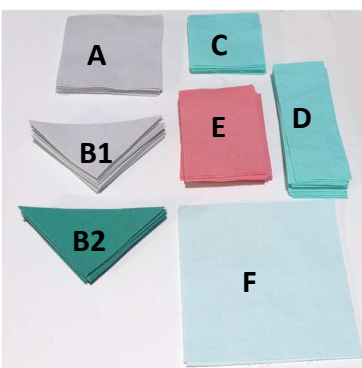
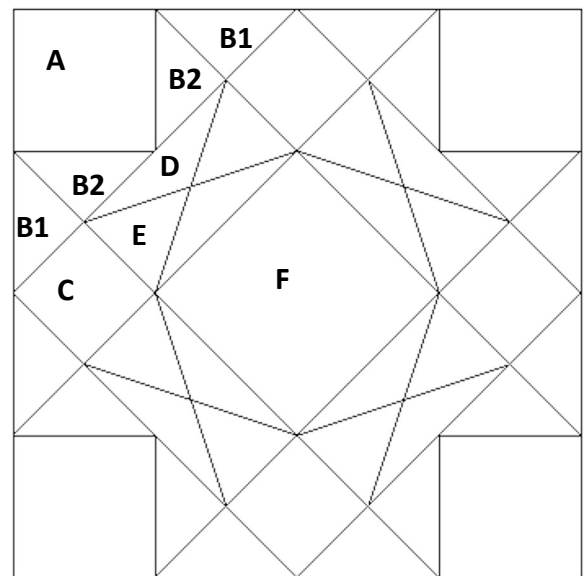
C - 16 squares 2⅝" x 2⅝"

D - 32 rectangles 4¾" x 1¾"

E - 32 rectangles 3¼" x 2½"

F - 4 squares 4¾" x 4¾"

D/E for foundation paper piecing sections #1 & 2



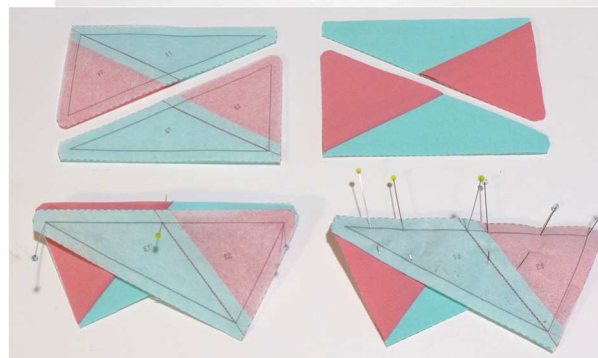
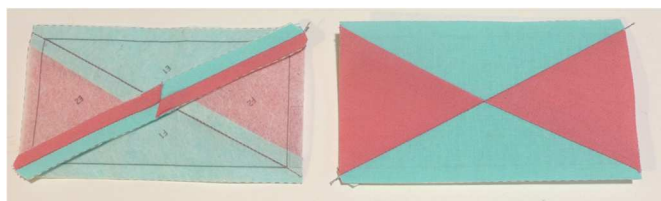
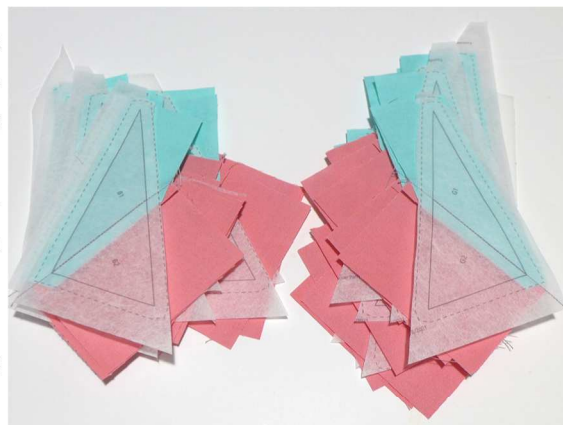
**Directions:**

**Foundation Paper Piecing (FPP)** with D & E rectangles (PDF pattern named

**Corner\_Star\_PPsection\_BB2465.pdf)**

If you are a beginner at paper piecing, increase the rectangles by ¼" each side to allow for practice

- a) Print out the pattern sheet 'Corner\_Star\_PPsection\_BB2465.pdf' and check the 1" square to see that the pattern printed correctly. This prints the 8 shapes necessary for 1 block so if you are using stabilizer or paper, you will need 4 copies.
- b) The shapes are all the same so begin by placing (can use a glue stick dab) a D piece of fabric, right side up on the non-printed side of the pattern piece. Optional - fold back the pattern piece and cut  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the seam line on D
- c) Place an E fabric piece, right side down, on top of the D fabric in line with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the seam line and sew right on the seam line
- d) After completing all the unit sewing, trim the fabric
- e) Be very careful to pin the units so that the intersecting points will match and the seam lines will match

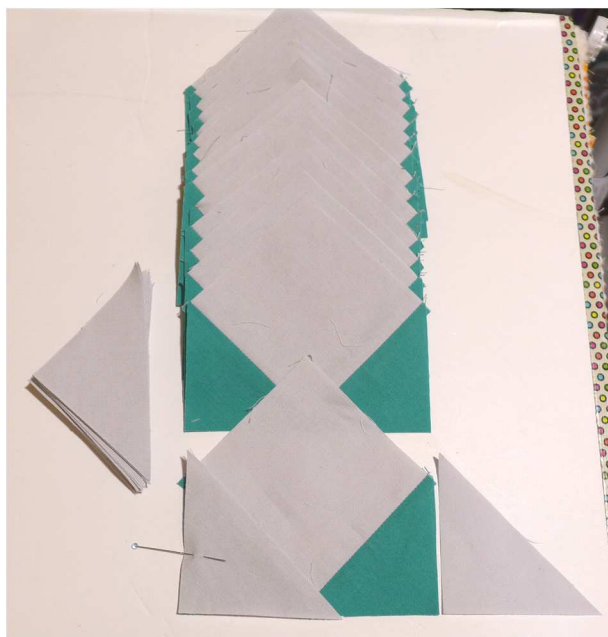
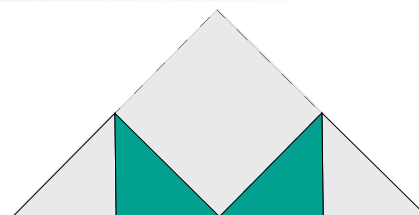
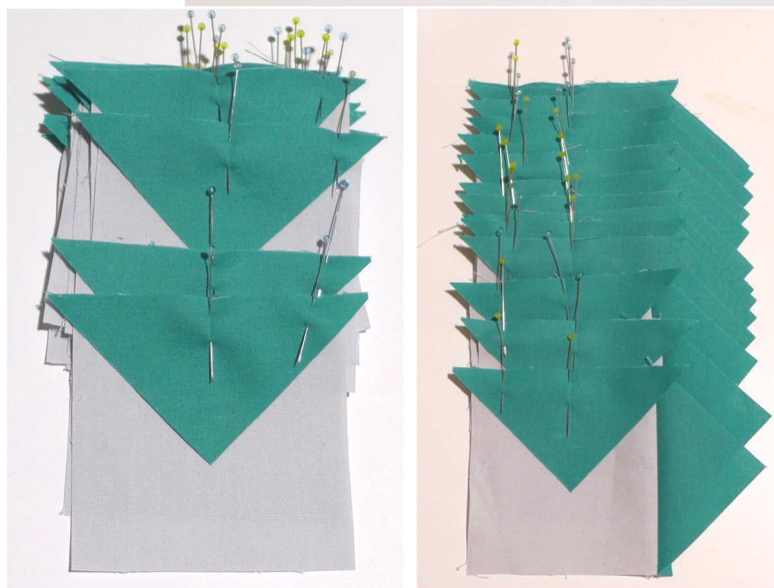


Sewing the Star points to corners of the block:

- a) Pinch each A square in half and pin right side up to a B star point at its centre point. Sew. Continue to make 16 units for the 4 corner blocks
- b) Repeat with the rest of the B blocks on the side of the blocks

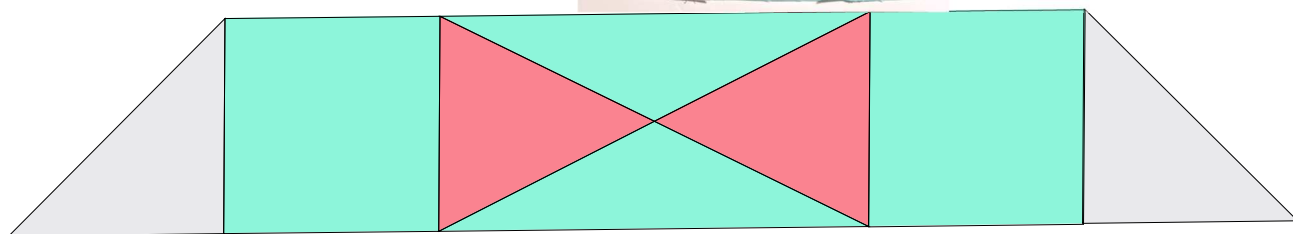
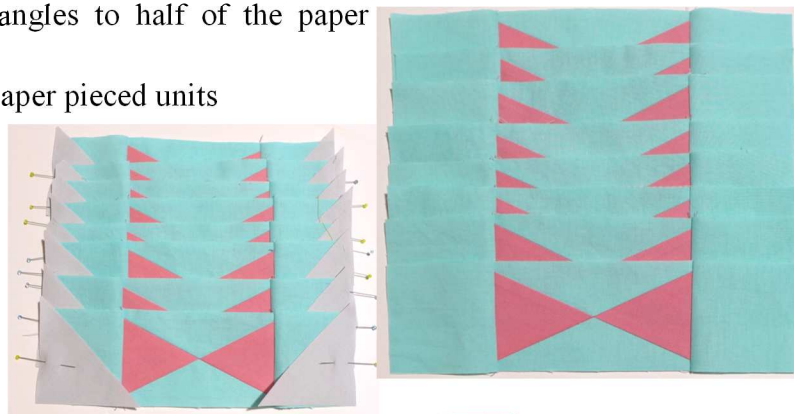
Adding the B background triangles to half of the units completed in the previous step:

- a) Add a B triangle to a corner unit, aligning the right angle base to the base of the star point. Do this for 8 units



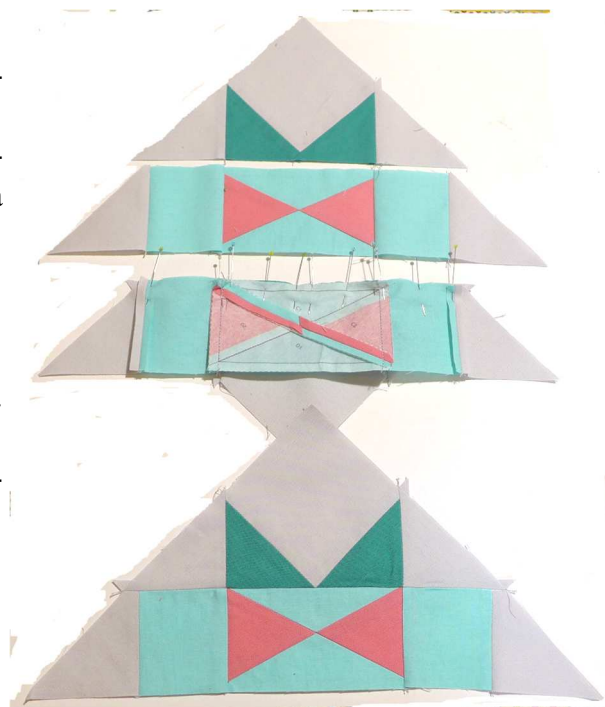
Adding the C squares and B background triangles to half of the paper pieced units:

- a) Add a C square to either side of 8 of the paper pieced units
- b) Add a B triangle to a corner unit, aligning the right angle base to the base of the star point. Do this for 8 units



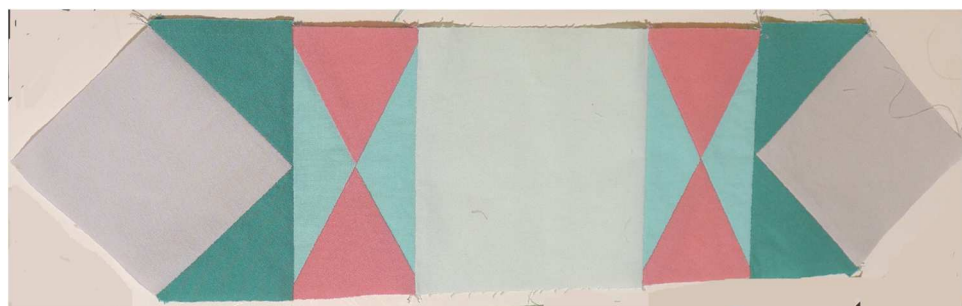
Completing the corner units:

- a) Join the sections from the previous two steps by first pinning the centre of each section together, right sides facing
- b) Ensure that the seams match and that the B triangles beside the star sections stick out beyond the unit facing it (a distance of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " is ideal)
- c) Sew 8 corner units



Completing the centre sections:

- a) Add a paper pieced unit to opposite sides of the F square. Repeat to make 4.
- b) Add a corner star point section to each end as shown below.



Completing the corner star blocks:

- a) Sew together the three sections to complete the corner star
- b) Repeat to make 4 stars

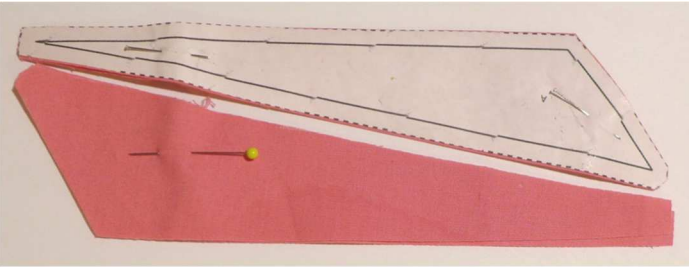


### Centre Block:

The centre block requires the use of templates (the templates PDF is named [Centre\\_block\\_18inBB2551\\_templates.pdf](#) - see end of this pattern for the PDF pages for A,B, C, E and G templates - must tape 2 parts of G together) and will end up 18½" unfinished. Use the diagram to assign fabrics to each section. (Option: if the quilter desires one fabric only for the centre (pieces D & F) cut a square 11" x 11")

### Cutting:

A & B - use the templates to cut 4 of each pair - fabric about 10" x 3½" for each pair

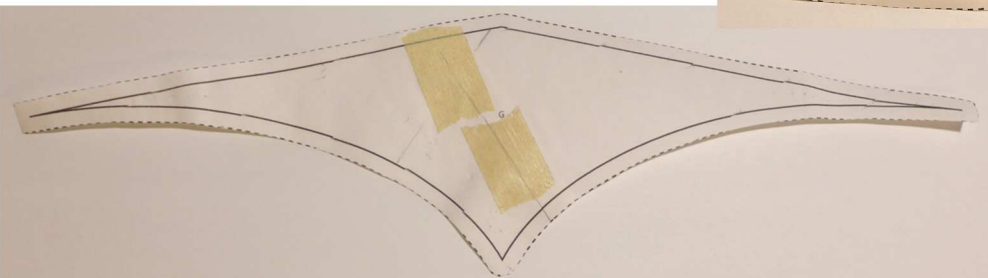
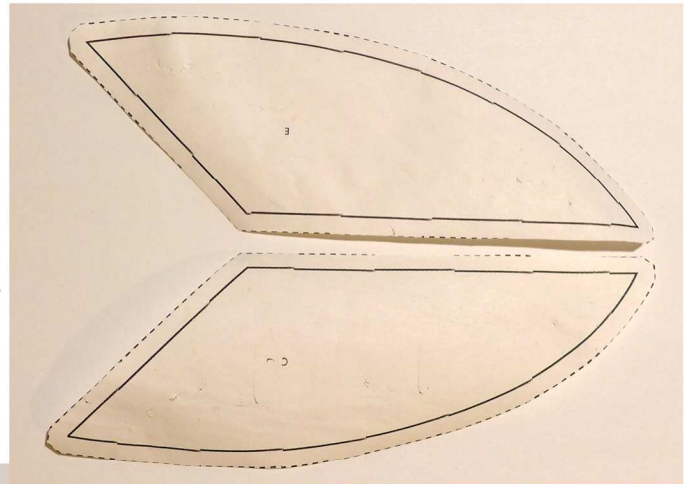
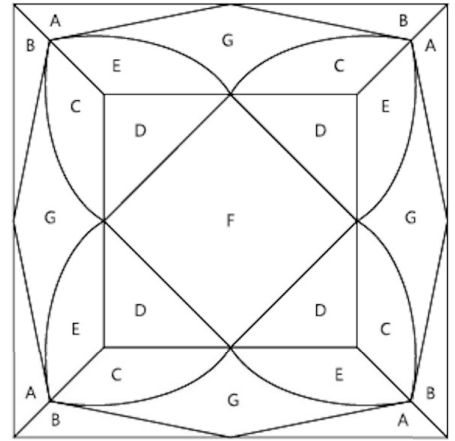


C & E - use the templates to cut 4 of each pair - fabric about 6" x 8¼" for each pair

D - 2 squares 6⅛" x 6⅛" - cut each one once diagonal- to give 4 pieces

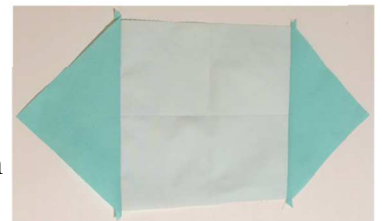
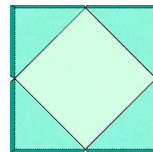
F - 1 square 7⅞" x 7⅞"

G - use the template to cut 4 - fabric about 15½" x 4½" for each copy



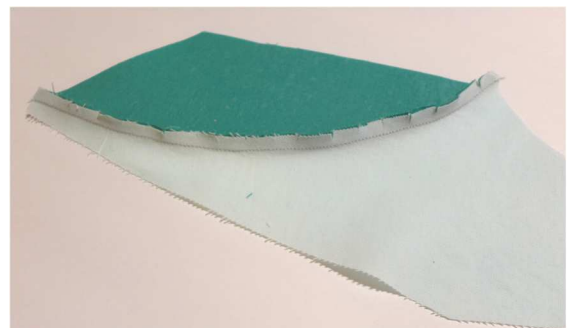
### Directions:

1. Sew the long diagonal side of 2 D triangles to opposite sides of F. Press open or towards F
2. Sew the other 2 D triangles to F and press - set aside
3. Sewing C and E to G:



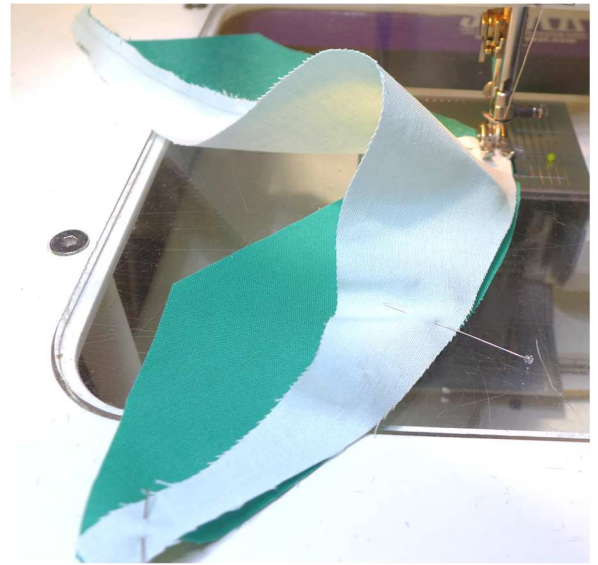
- a) Pin the curved edge of E (right side down) on the left side of G (right side up). Pin the centre points of each and the ends. Sew with G on top and ease the sewing from one end to the other.

- b) Clip the curves





- c) Pin piece C to the other curve in G
- d) Sew and clip the curved seam
- e) Repeat to complete the 4 sides



4. Adding A & B to C/E/G section

- a) Pin A to the C/E/G section (right sides facing)
- b) Sew and press
- c) Add B on the other side and press
- d) Repeat to sew A and B to each side

**NOTE: the author of this pattern skipped Step 4, so please follow the written instructions. There are no accurate photos.**

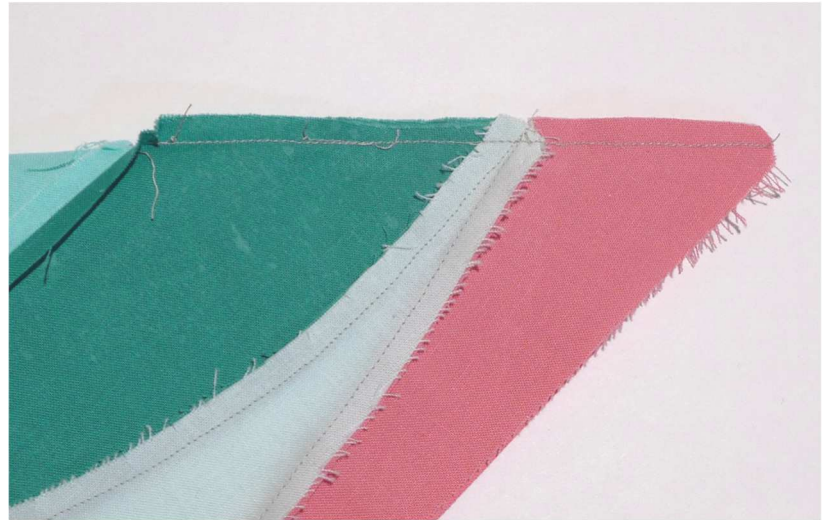
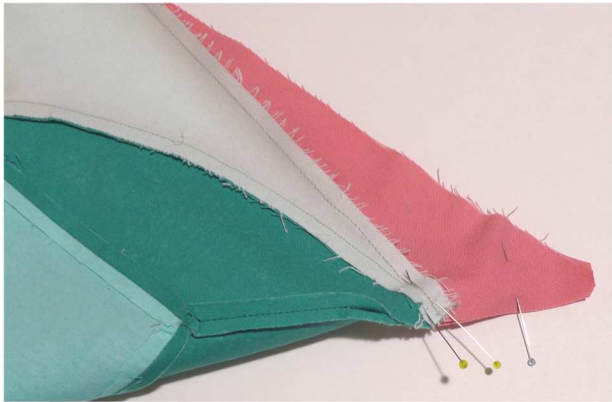
5. Sewing the 4 outside sections to the centre section completed in Step 1 (Photo missing the A & B sections - *quilter error!*)

- a) Pin one outside section to the centre - pin at the centre point, then the edges, then in between. Start sewing  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the end and stop sewing  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the other end, and press
- b) Add the next outside section to the opposite side of the centre in the same way.
- c) Add the other 2 sections (at this point the corner seams are not sewn - see the next section for this part)



6. Sewing together to diagonal outside seams

- a) Fold the block diagonally. At each corner, match and pin seams. Sew from the centre section out to the edge

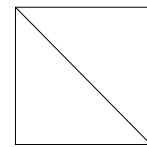


**Sewing the side blocks to the centre:**

**Cutting:**

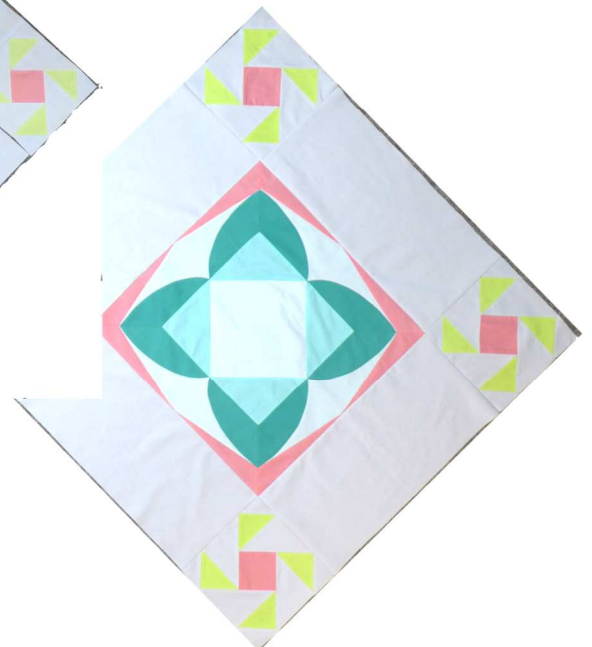
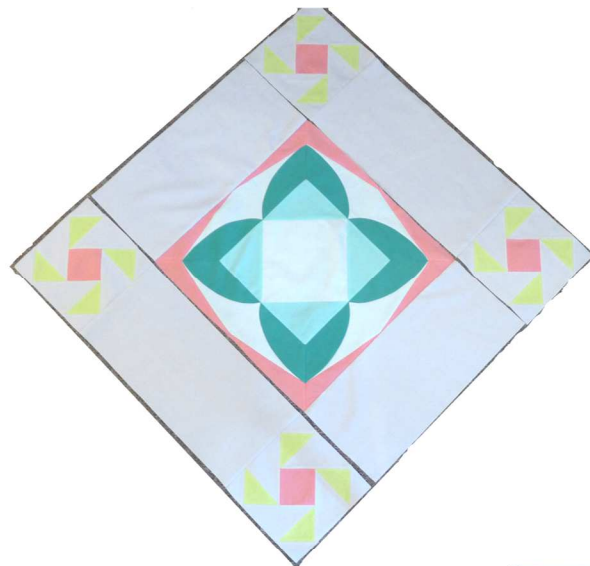
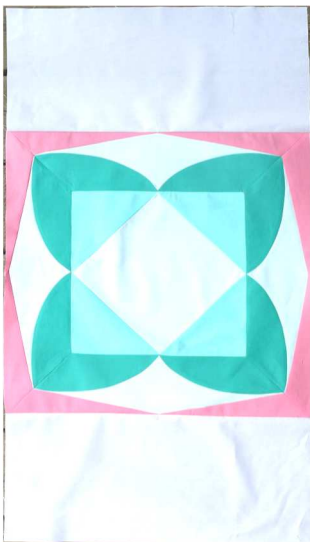
**Background colour:**

- 4 rectangles -  $18\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{2}''$



**Directions:**

1. Sew one  $18\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{2}''$  rectangle on either side of the centre block
2. Add one side block to each short side of the other 2 rectangles
3. Sew one section to each side of the centre section, carefully matching seams



## Adding Corner Star Units

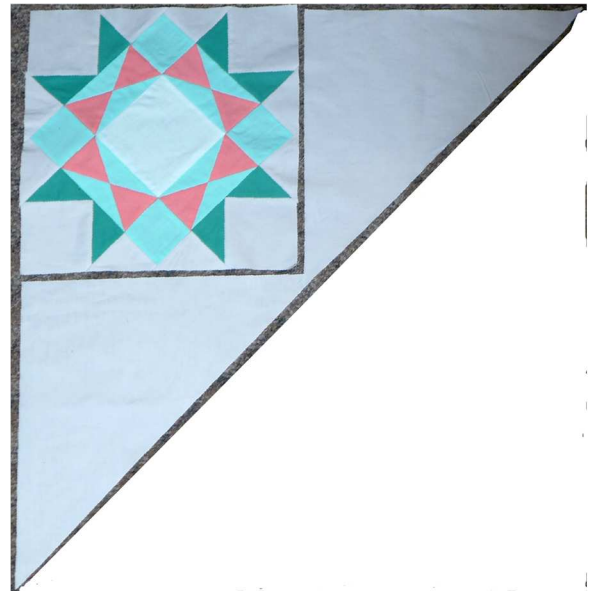
### Cutting:

#### Background colour:

- 4 squares - 13" x 13", cut each in half once diagonally (if you are very confident, you can cut these squares 12½" x 12½")

#### Directions:

1. Add one triangle to each side of a corner star unit
2. Sew each corner section to the centre unit (mark the centre points of each and pin those first before pinning the rest of the section to the centre unit)



**Adding Final Borders** (totally optional and the widths/ styles are the quilter's choice)

### Cutting:

#### Background colour:

- 2 rectangles - 3½" x 48½"
- 2 rectangles - 3½" x 54½"

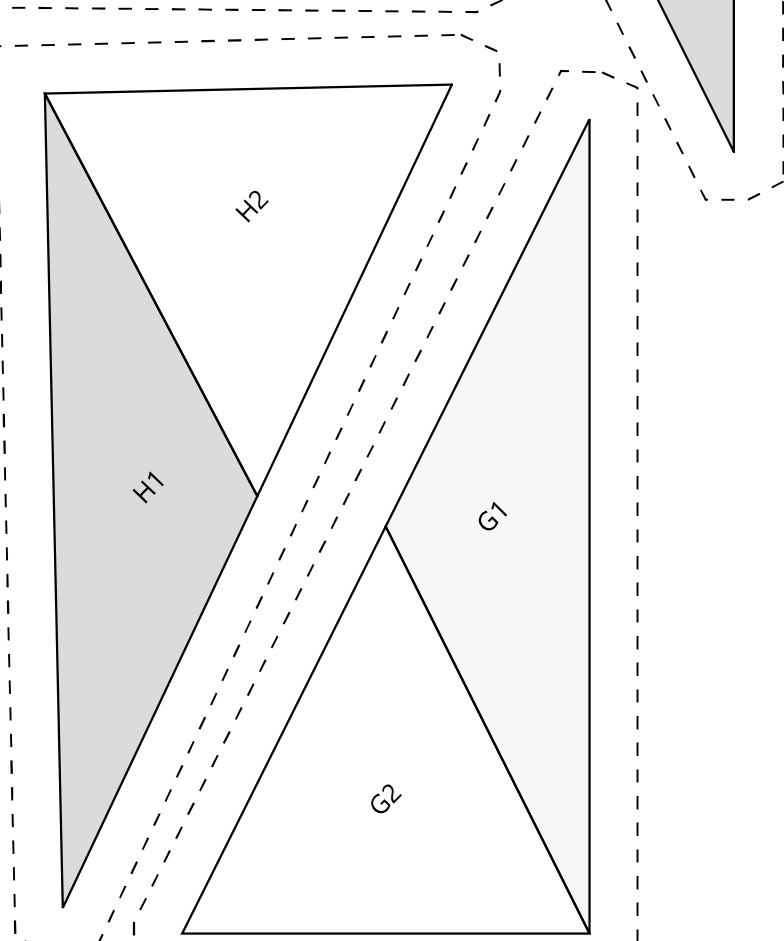
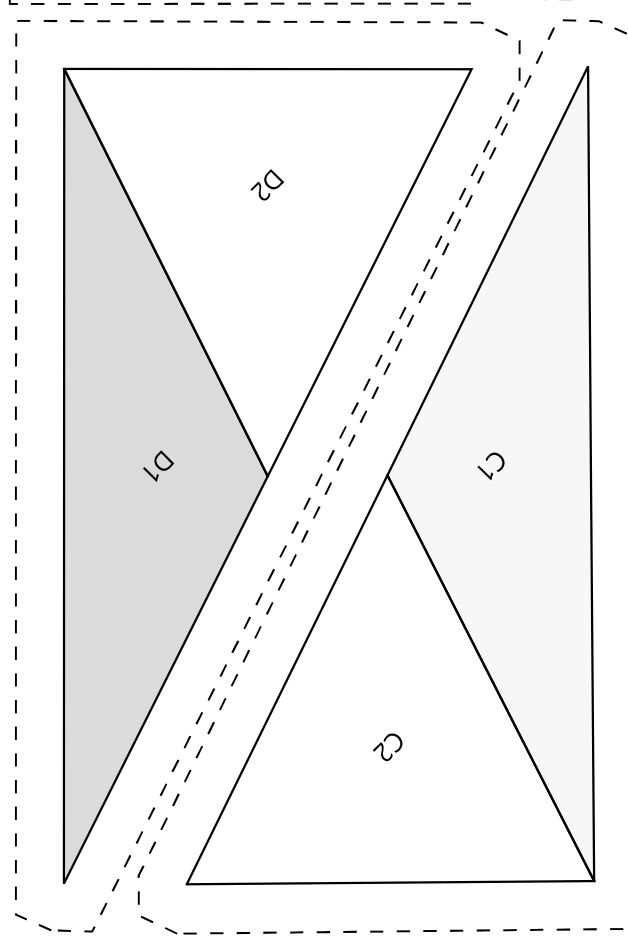
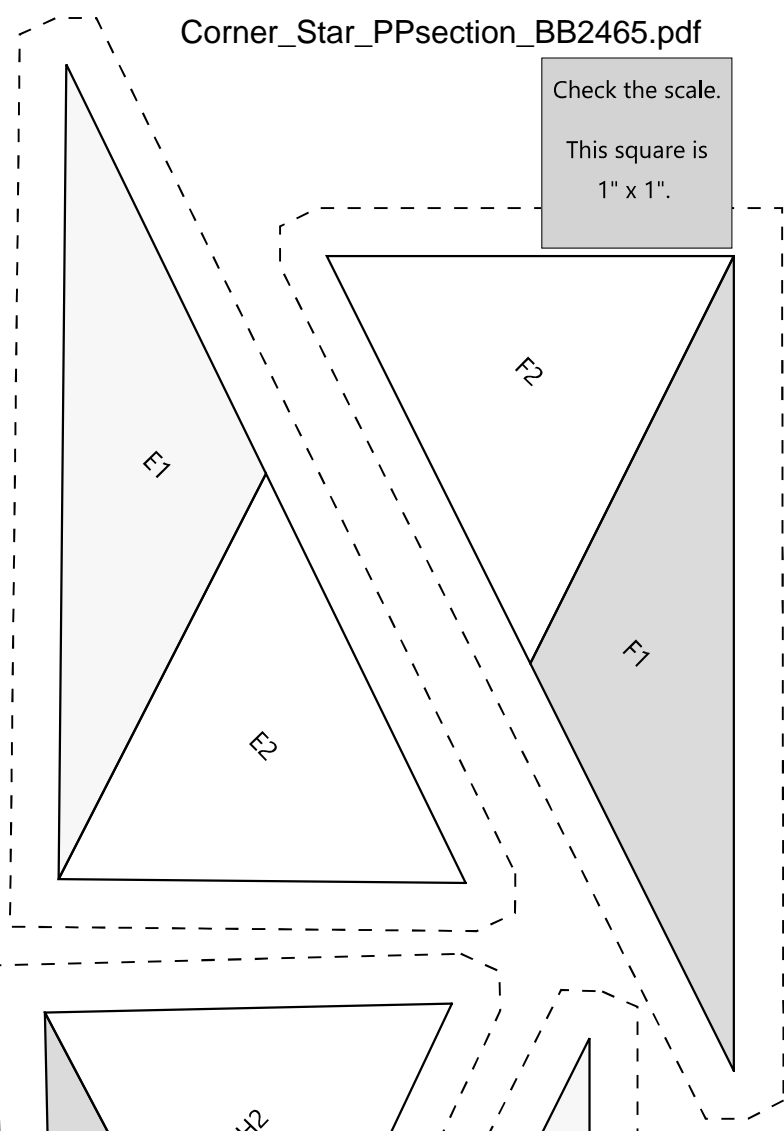
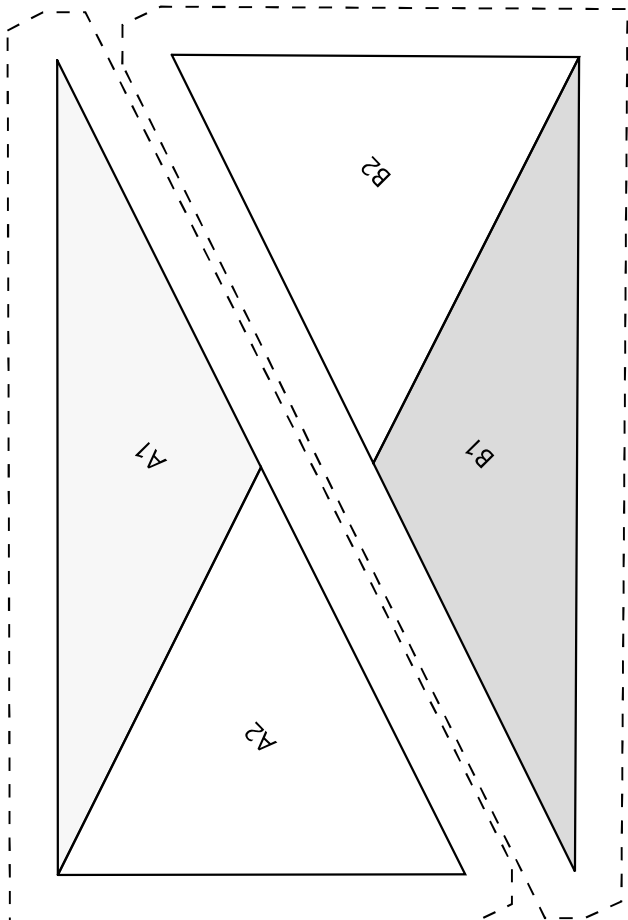
#### Directions:

1. Add the two 3½" x 48½" rectangles to opposite sides of the quilt.
2. Add the two 3½" x 54½" rectangles to the other sides of the quilt.



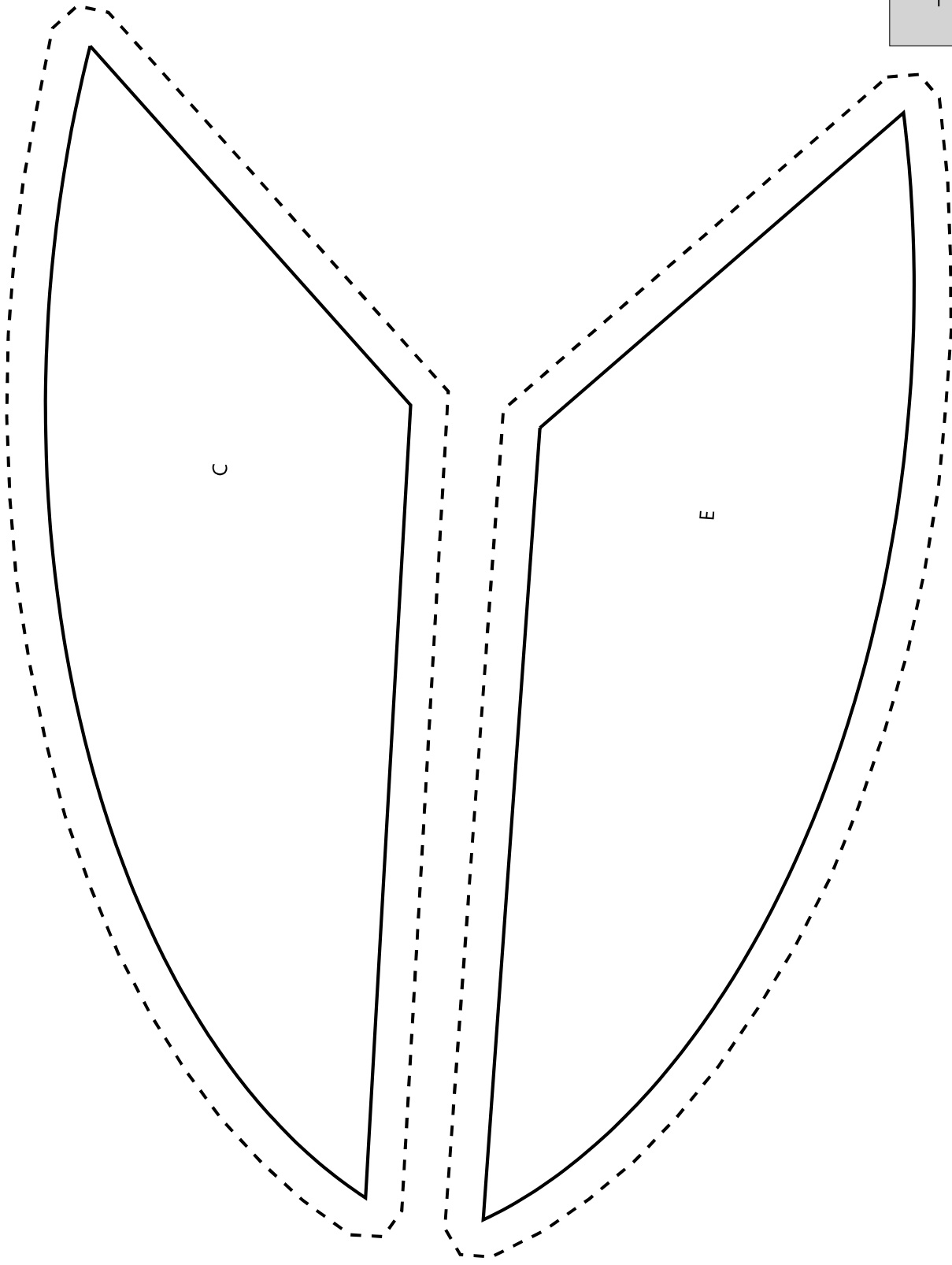
Check the scale.

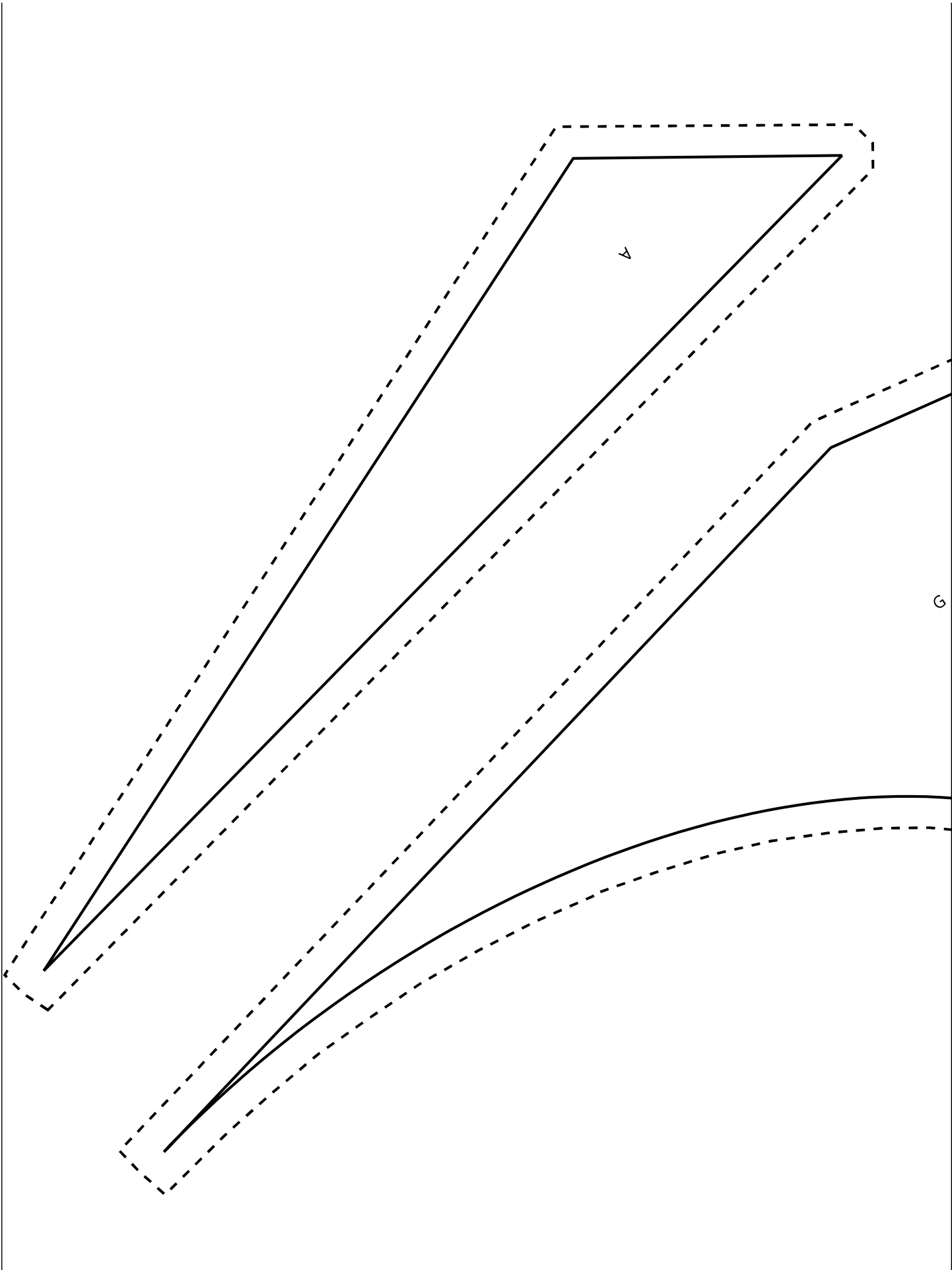
This square is  
1" x 1".

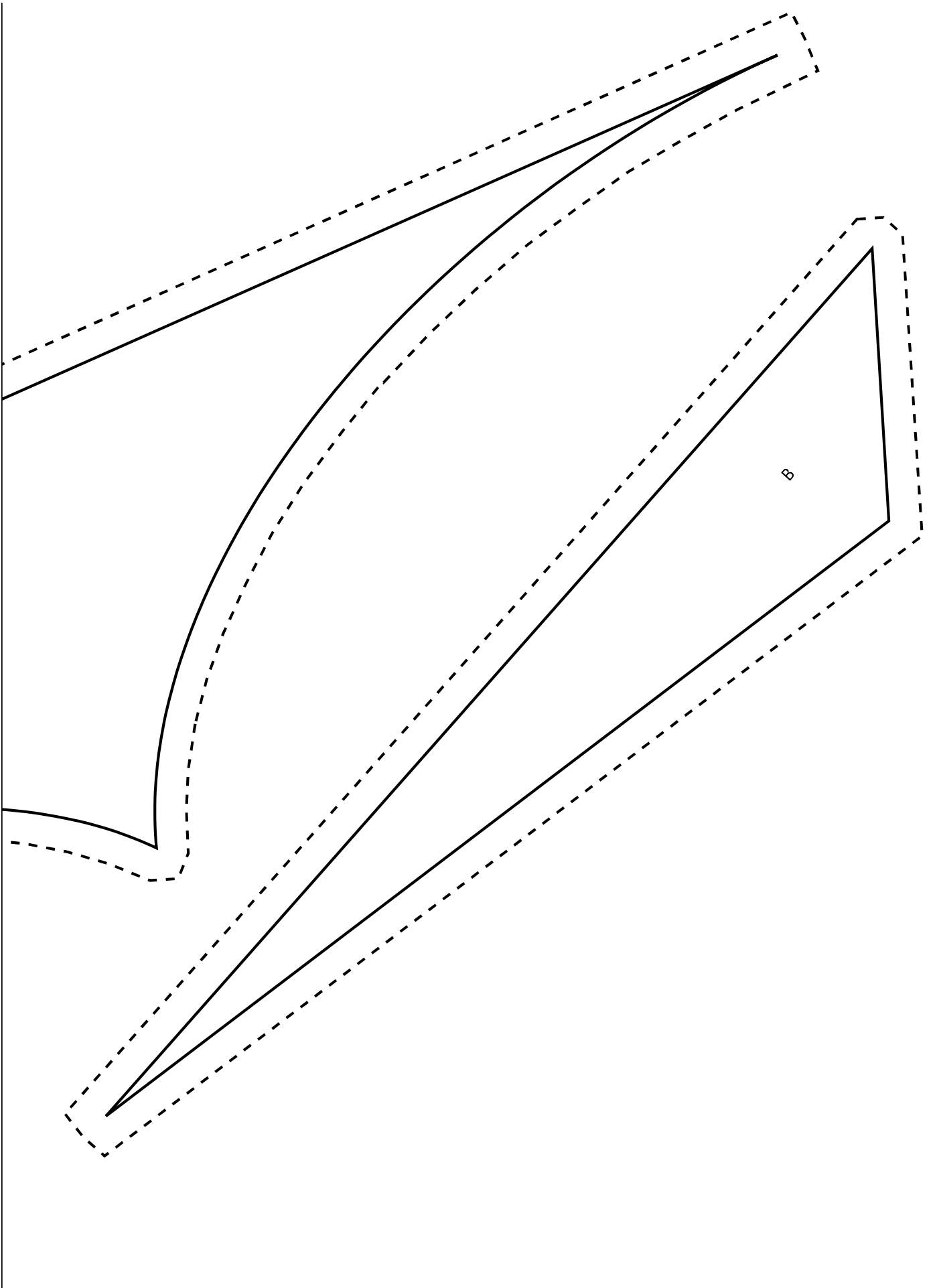


No key for finished block

Check the scale.  
This square is  
1" x 1".







When you have completed the construction of your quilt, please share on the CQA/ACC website in the New Member Wheelhouse Quilt Gallery.

Simply, take a picture of your quilt and fill out the form on the website here: <https://canadianquilter.com/new-member-gallery-wheelhouse-quilt-series-entry-form/>

Attach your photo and submit.

It will appear in the gallery within 10 business days from the submission.