Applipiecing ® Simple Curves

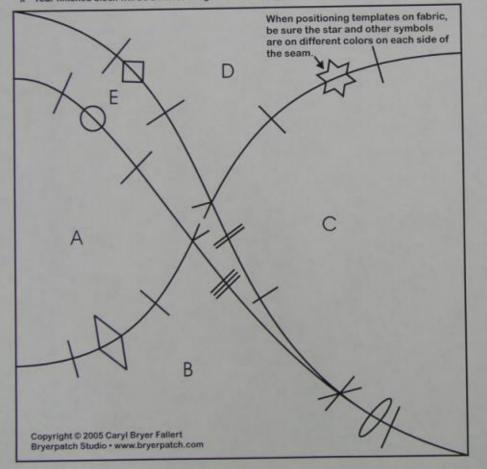
with Caryl Bryer Fallert

I Bryer Fallert / Bryerpatch Studio • www.bryerpatch.com

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Simple Curves Practice pattern for Applipiecing®

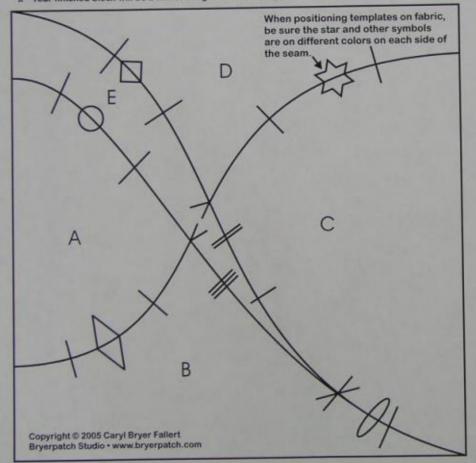
- * Trace these lines onto the dull side of freezer paper
- Cut pattern pieces apart on the black lines. ×
- x Iron shiny side of freezer paper to the wrong side of your fabric.
 x Cut fabric seam allowances ¼" beyond the edge of the freezer paper on all sides.
- ×
- To join templates, fold one seam allowance over the edge of the paper, and leave the other flat. On a light box, overlap seam allowances, and align the edges of the freezer paper and all × registration marks.
- Tape or glue seam allowances together.
 Stitch over the folded edge with invisible thread, using a 1mm x 1mm zig-zag stitch.
- Peel freezer paper off when all edges are stitched. 32
- Your finished block will be a mirror image of the drawing. 22



CLICK HERE to download this pattern and a written handout.

Simple Curves Practice pattern for Applipiecing*

- * Trace these lines onto the dull side of freezer paper
- Cut pattern pieces apart on the black lines. 80
- x Iron shiny side of freezer paper to the wrong side of your fabric.
- Cut fabric seam allowances 1/2" beyond the edge of the freezer paper on all sides. 30
- To join templates, fold one seam allowance over the edge of the paper, and leave the other flat. ×
- On a light box, overlap seam allowances, and align the edges of the freezer paper and all × registration marks.
- x Tape or glue seam allowances together.
- Stitch over the folded edge with invisible thread, using a 1mm x 1mm zig-zag stitch.
- Peel freezer paper off when all edges are stitched. se.
- Your finished block will be a mirror image of the drawing.



Your pattern is drawn on the dull, paper side of the freezer paper, and all of your fabric will go on the shiny side, so your block will be a mirror image of the line drawing you see here.

Cut out your block pattern on the outside black line. Do not add seam allowance to the paper pattern, it will just get in your way later. You will be adding seam allowance to the fabric as you cut each template.

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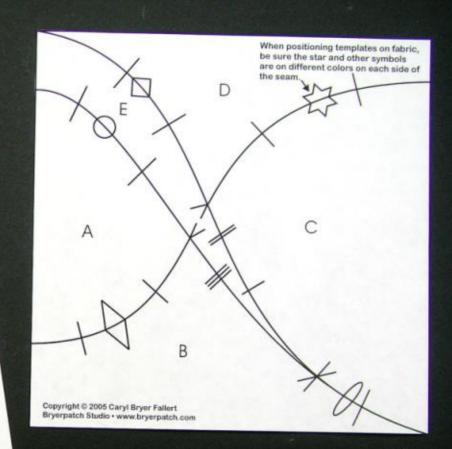
are on different colors on each side of

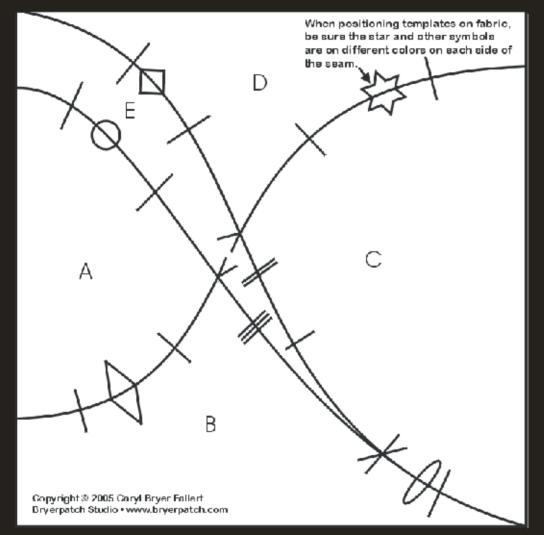
Simple Curves Practice pattern for Applipiecing

- Cut pattern pieces apart on the black lines. Iron shiny side of freezer paper to the wrong side of your fabric. Cut fabric seam allowances ½* beyond the edge of the freezer paper on all sides. To join templates, fold one seam allowances, and edge of the edge of the paper, and leave the other On a light box, overlap seam allowances, and align the edges of the freezer paper and all resistration marks.
- 12
- .

- registration marks. Tape or glue seam allowances together. Stitch over the folded edge with invisible thread, using a 1mm x 1mm zig-zag stitch. Peel freezer paper off when all edges are stitched. Your finished block will be a mirror image of the drawing.
- -
- -

This is what it will look like after it has been cut out.



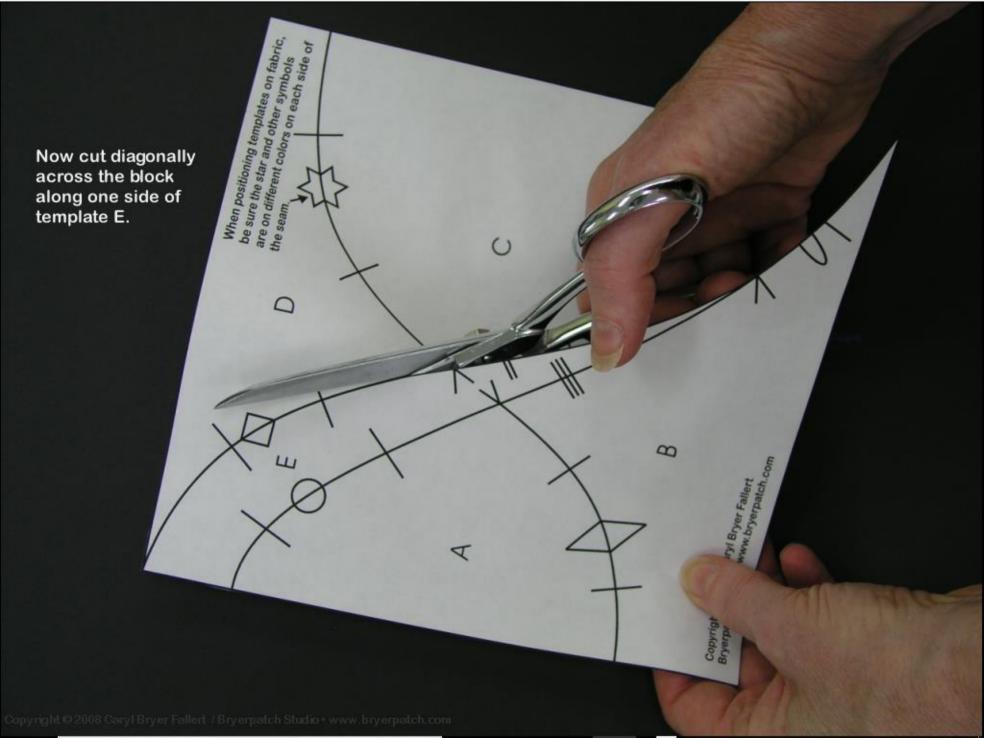


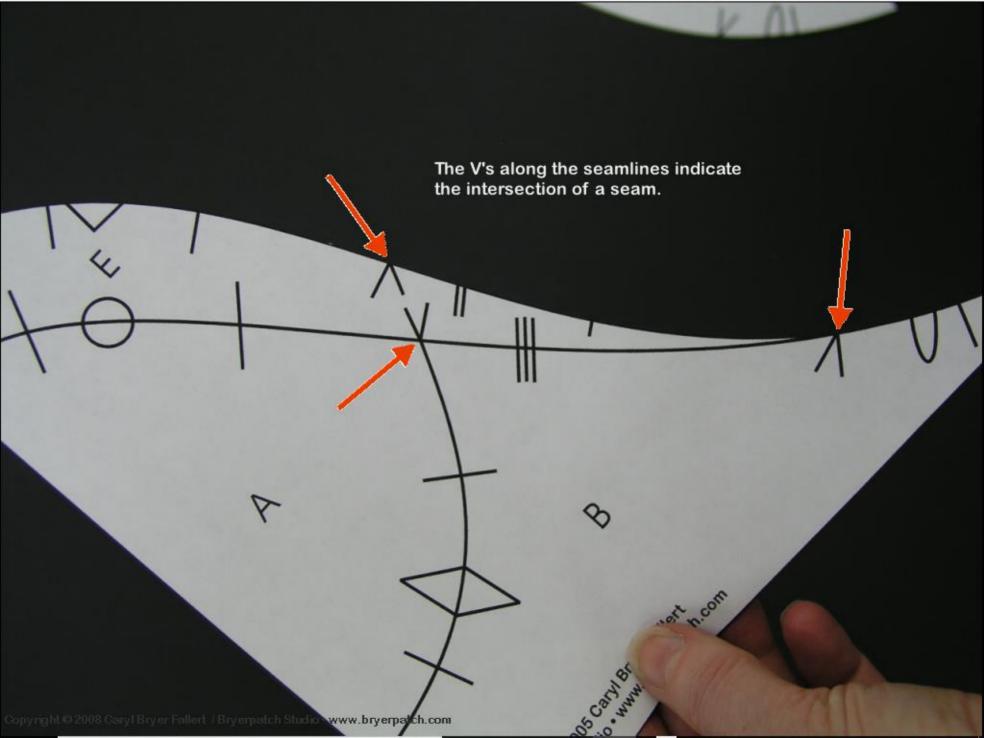
Notice that the templates are lettered A,B,C,D,& E.

Also notice the symbols and lines across the seam lines.

The straight lines are registration marks to help you align the edges of your templates after you have added fabric.

The symbols are there so you know which edges go together after your block is cut apart.





This V marks the intersection of the long, skinny, curving point of template E with the smooth curve of template B.

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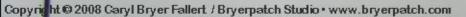
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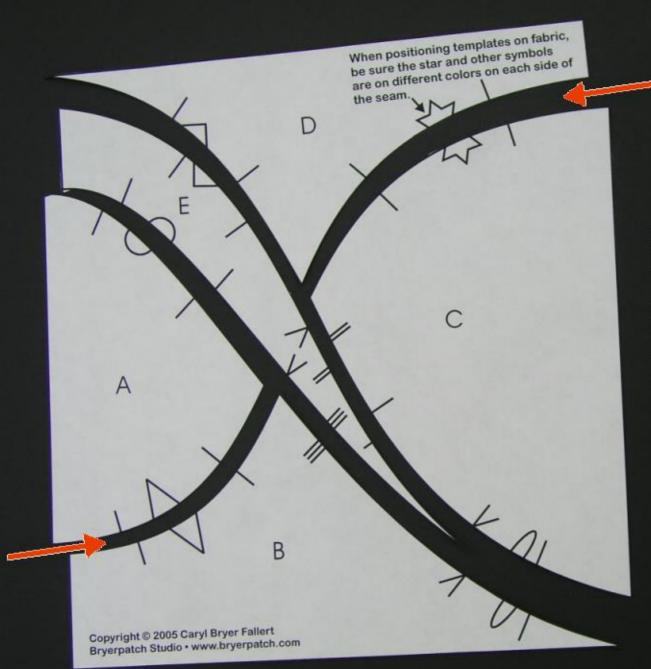
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V

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When you make your next cut, it is important to either start or end your cut exactly at the V.





Now cut along the lines between templates A-B and C-D.

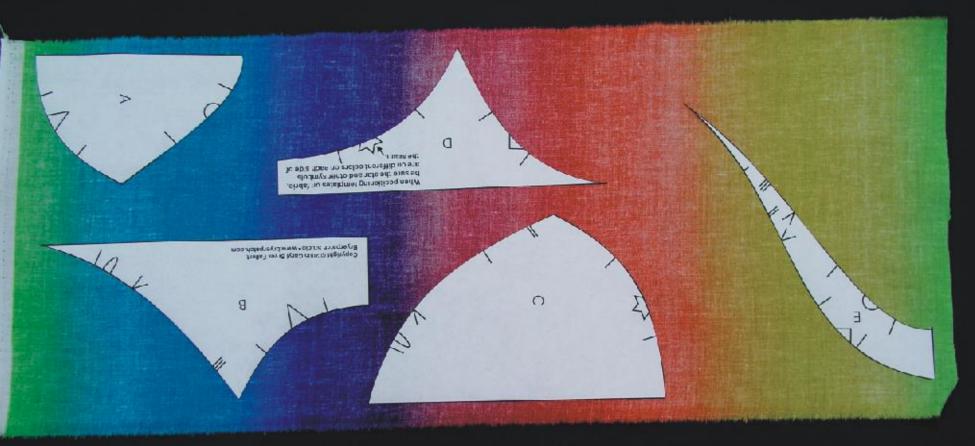
You will have five templates, and your block should look like this. In this lesson, we will be using this fabric for all five of our templates. Naturally you can use five different fabrics to make your block.

"Gradations" Collection by Caryl Bryer Fallert for Benartex. (Style #2046 / Color #11-Rainbow)

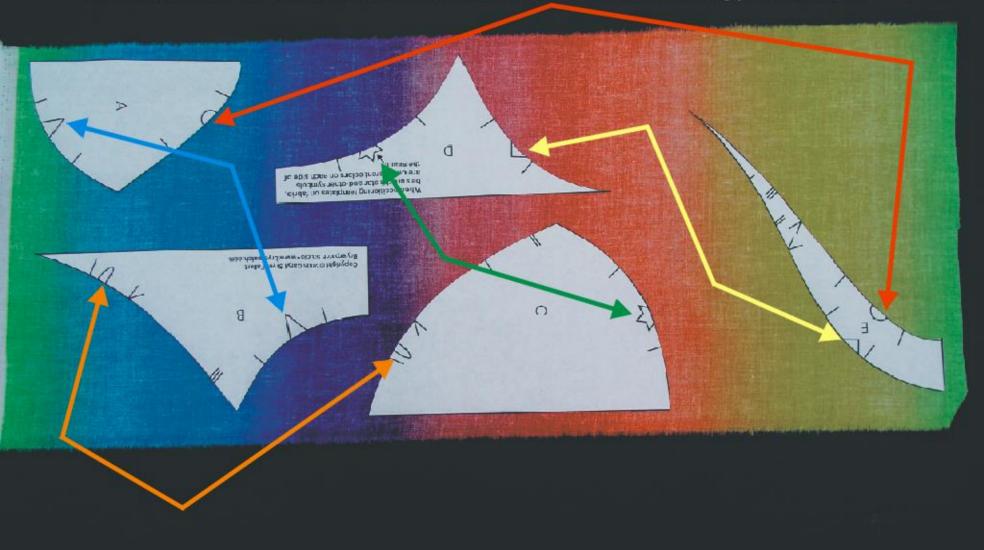
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You will be ironing the shiny side of your templates to the wrong side of the fabric, so you will need to turn the fabric wrong side up on your ironing board.

Arrange your templates (shiny side down) on the wrong side of your fabric.



Notice the symbols that lie along the adjoining edges of your templates. Be sure the symbols that match fall on different colors in the fabric. This will create contrast along your seamlines.



Iron over your templates until they cling to the fabric.

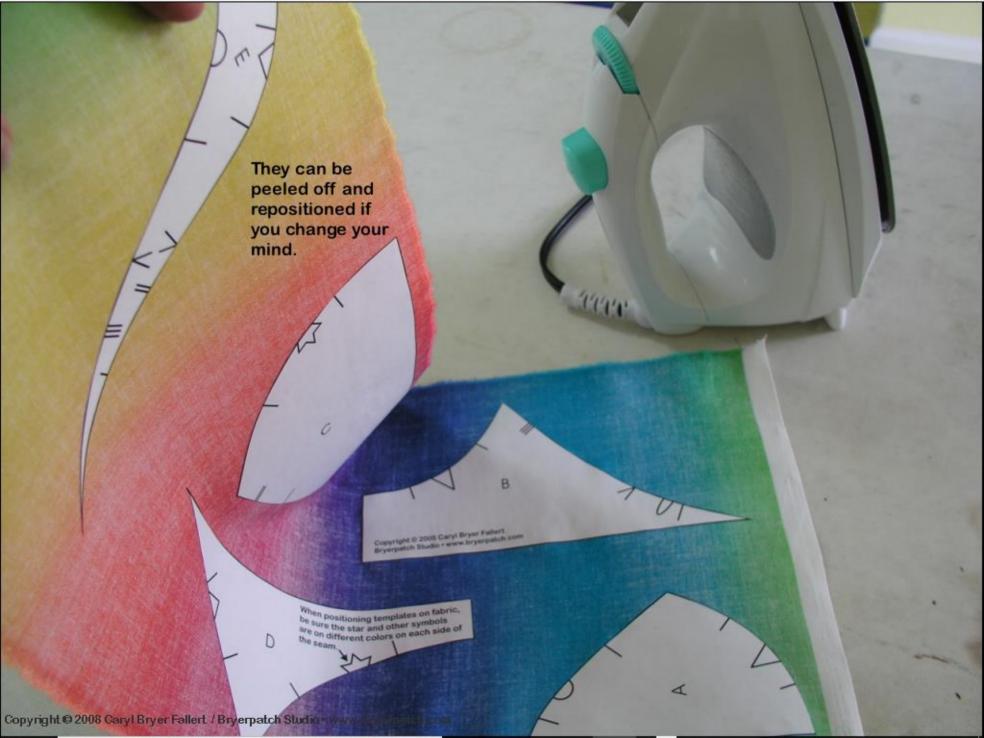
CAUTION: Be careful not to let the iron sit on the fabric so long that the plastic on the freezer paper melts into the fabric.

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B

When positioning templates on fabric, be sure the star and other symbols are on different colors on each side of the seam.

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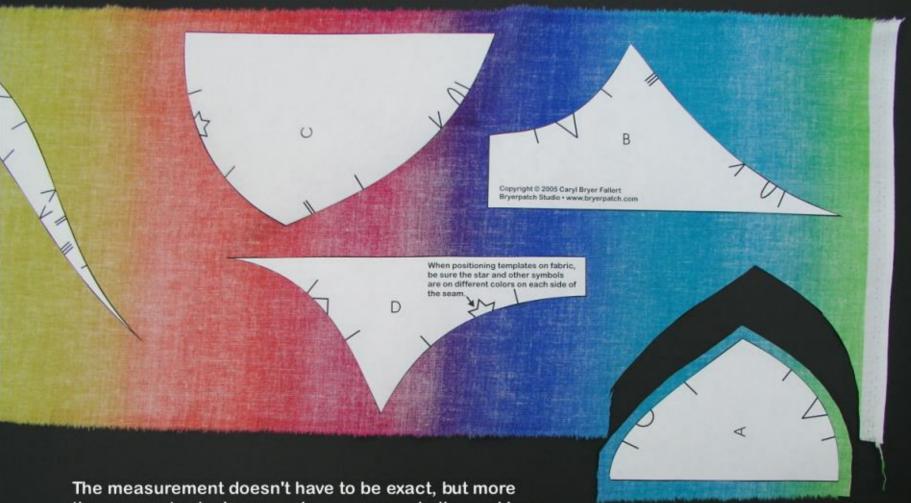
B

When positioning templates on fabric, be sure the star and other symbols are on different colors on each side of the seam.

Cut your fabric approximately a quarter inch (6mm) from the edge of the paper on all sides.

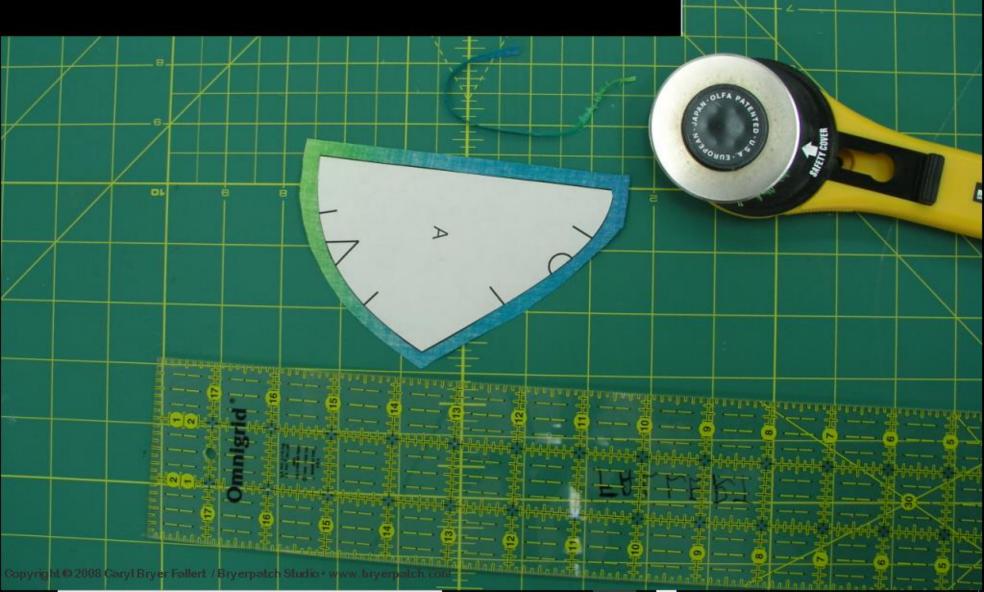
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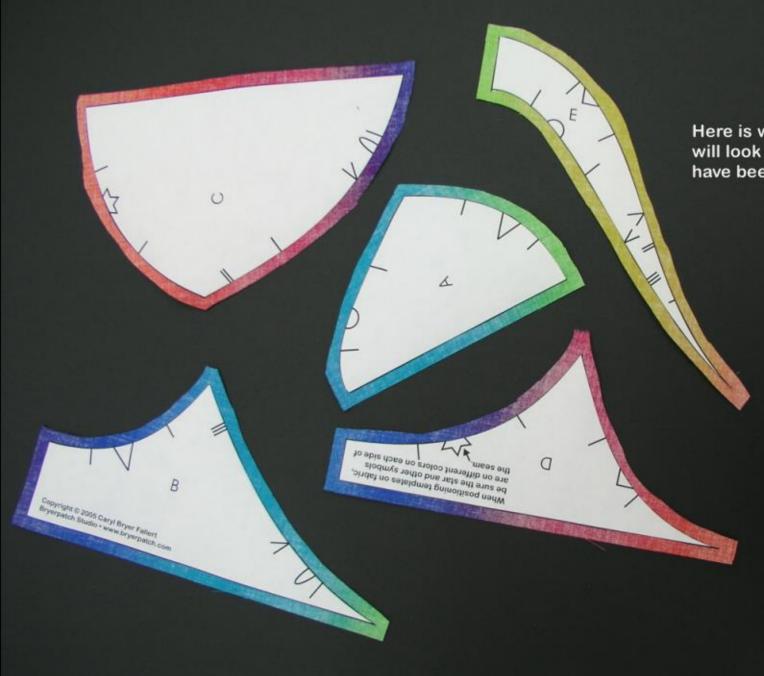
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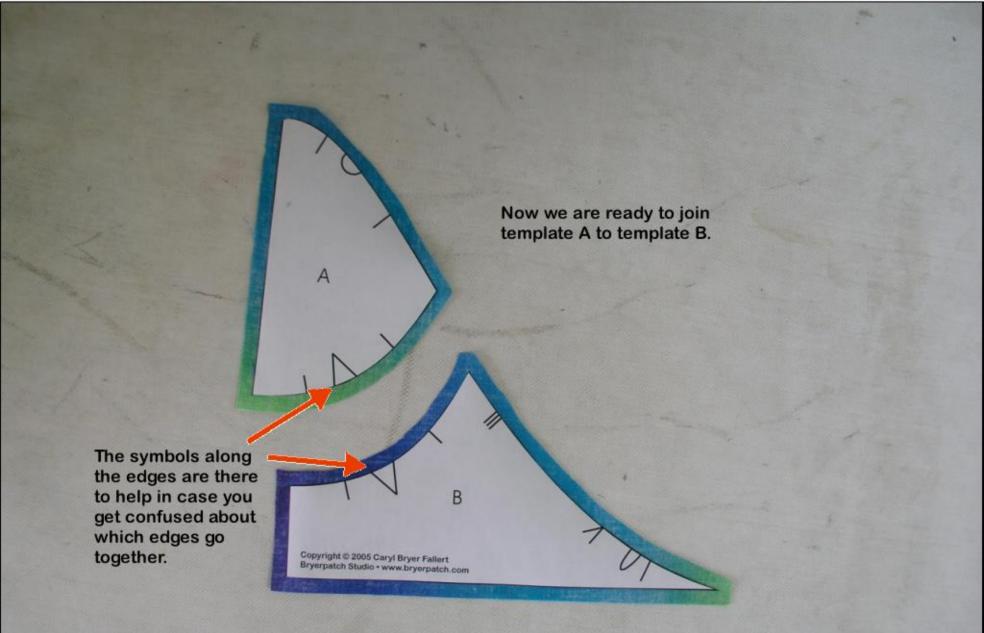
than a quarter inch can make your seam bulky, and less will make turning the edge over the paper more difficult. On the straight, outside edges of the templates, you may prefer to align the quarter inch mark on your rotary ruler with the edge of the paper ...

and cut off everything beyond a perfect quarter inch.





Here is what your pieces will look like after they have been cut out.



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Spray liquid starch into a small plastic or glass container. A 35mm film cartridge is ideal... state of the local division of the local div

STAR

ORIGINAL

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MARK

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because it will fit perfectly into the center of the starch can lid, and can be sealed up so the starch doesn't dry out when you're not working on a quilt.

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Dip a cotton swab or a small brush into the liquid starch...

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and moisten one of the two seam allowances.

You will be folding one of the two seam allowances over the edge of the paper. The other one will lie flat, so it does not need to be starched.

TIP:Only moisten the one edge that you will be sewing next. Trying to anticipate which edges need to be folded ahead of time often results in reverse ironing.

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В

The edge of the paper often gets soggy when you moisten the fabric, so run a dry iron along the edge of the paper until it is crisp and dry.

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B

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K

This will leave the seam allowance just slightly moist, which is perfect.

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B

A

Carefully iron the seam allowance over the edge of the paper, easing in the fullness as you go to avoid pleats and puckers along the edge. Be sure the fold is exactly at the edge of the paper. To protect your fingers as you turn the edge, set your iron to "dry."

Give your edge a final finishing touch with the iron on the right side just to make sure your curve is smooth and the fabric is completely dry. Now, turn the seam allowance on template C.

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QUESTION: How do I decide whether to turn the seam allowance on template C or **Template D?**

ANSWER: If there are no other issues to consider, always pick the easier one. In this case, template D has a delicate point, which will require extra care when folding, and a concave curve, which will need to be clipped before it is folded, so folding template C will be easier.

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When positioning templates on fabric, be sure the star and other symbols are on different colors on each side of the seam.

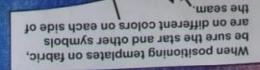
Starch the seam allowance...

C

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and iron over the edge of the paper, just as you did with template A.

()



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Check to be sure your fold is smooth and exactly at the edge of the paper, and you're ready for the next step.

()

When positioning templates on fabric, be sure the star and other symbols are on different colors on each side of the seam. 0

You are ready to join A to B and C to D. It is a good idea to lay out the whole block so you can see if you are satisfied with your color choices before you begin sewing. Run a line of glue along the folded-over seam allowance of template A.

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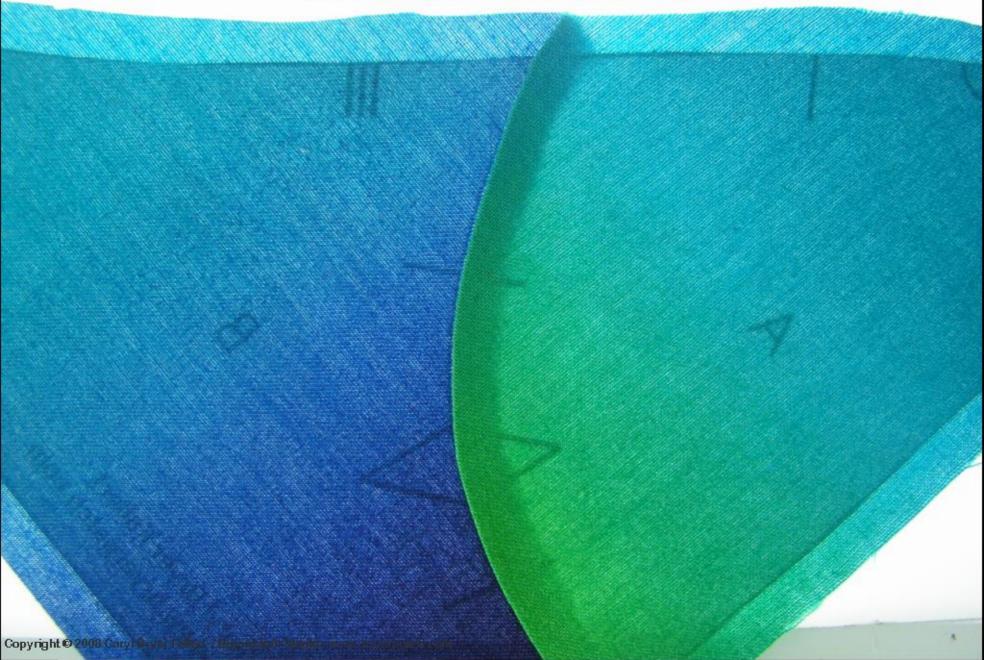


As soon as the light is turned on, you can clearly see the edges of the freezer paper templates and the black registration marks, which you will use to align the edges of the paper. The symbols tell you these two edges go together, and lining up the registration marks will result in the perfect alignment of your edges.

REGISTRATION MARKS

SYMBOLS

Slide the flat seam allowance of template B under the folded seam allowance of template A ... and make sure that the edges of the paper are abutted and all your registration marks are aligned.



You will usually see a tiny crack of light at the edge of the paper. If you don't see any light coming through, check to make sure the edges of your templates are not overlapped.



Run glue along the folded seam allowance of template C...

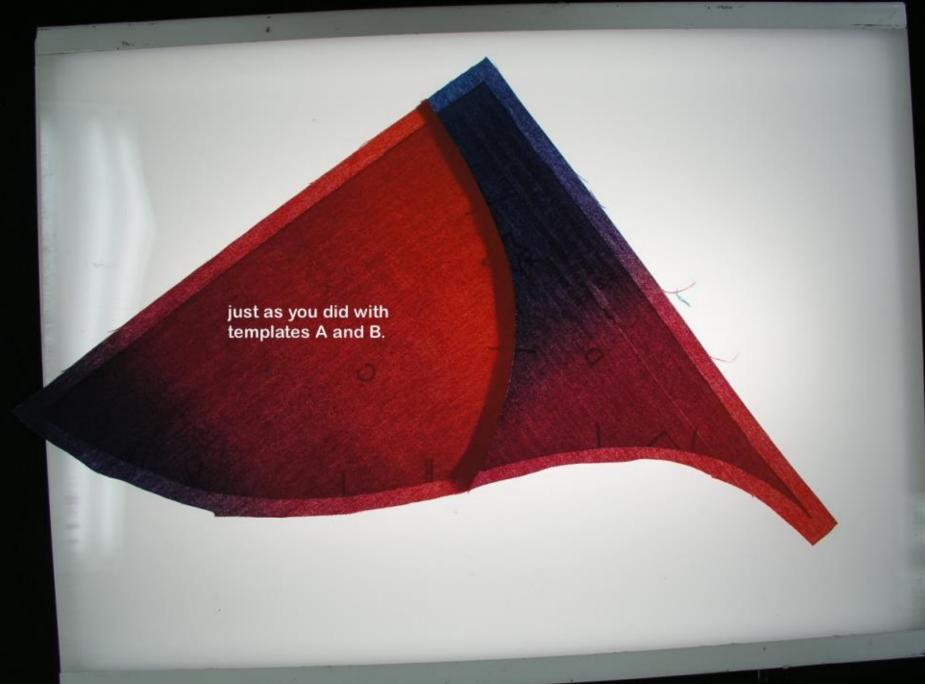
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14.

and use the light box to align it with template D...

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Make sure everything is perfectly aligned.

REGISTRATION

LIGHT

SYMBOLS

If you don't have a light box available, you can try using a window or holding your pieces up to a bright overhead light to check for alignment.

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If that doesn't work, lift the folded seam allowance and find a registration mark. Run a sharp pin into the fabric exactly at the edge of the paper next to the registration mark. With a second pin, find at least one other registration mark along the edge of the paper.

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В

A

Bring the pin through the flat seam allowance

next to the corresponding registration mark

at the edge of template B. Copyright © 2005 Caryl Bryer Fallert Studio - www.bryerpatch.com

Find your next registration mark with the second pin.

Be sure there is no space between the edge of the paper and the pin.

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9

J

Run some glue along the folded seam allowance, Copyright © 2005 Caryl Bryer Fallert Bryerpatch Studio • www.bryerpatch.com 9

Overlap the seam allowances and use the pins as a guide to align the edges of the paper templates.

Then press the glued seams together with your fingers.

This method is less accurate and takes more time than the lightbox method, so it is recommended only if a lightbox is not available.

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Give your templates a shot of steam to set the glue...

and now you're ready to sew.

Thread your machine with invisible thread. You can use nylon if that is all you have, but polyester is preferable.

Top Quality Sulkys Invisible Threa

1000

232-2001 2,400 yds.

Fine MA

TRANSPARENT NYLON

Clear ART: 232-0011

Blends perfectly with light fabrics. 440 yards (400 m) Ideal for Invisible Quilting & Applique

SULKY ® PREMIUM

INVISIBLE THREAD

Soft, Strong & Smooth ecty Fine .004 Monofilament deal for Sewing Machines.
 Sergers & Hand Work

135 YDS. 123 M.

Made in U.S.A

Mono	Poly
Polyester Mo	nofilament
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My favorite is MonoPoly from Superior Threads.

Polyester Mono.

Size

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Threads

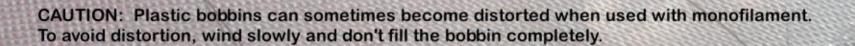
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Superior

I use clear about eighty percent of the time. Smoke tends to look dirty on medium to light fabrics and I only use it on very dark fabrics.

> When you're not sure whether to use smoke or clear monofilament, test a line of stitching on a scrap of fabric and use the color that shows the least.

You can put regular cotton thread in the bobbin and make changes in your tension but I prefer to leave my tension balanced and wind invisible thread on the bobbin.



Use the sharpest, finest needle you have. A Microtex Sharp size 60/8 is recommended. A small sharp needle works best but you can use a small quilting or universal needle if that is all you have.

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MICROTE SHARP NE 1301705

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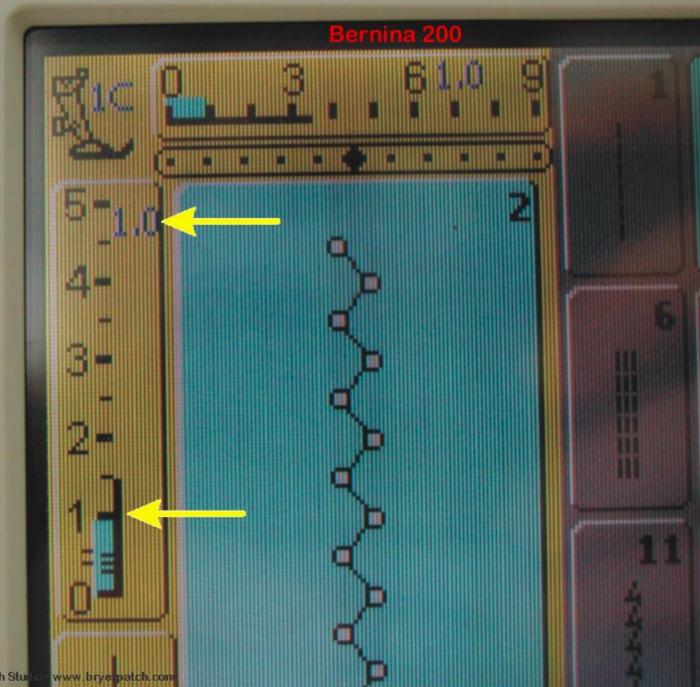
Select a simple zigzag stitch

Bernina 200



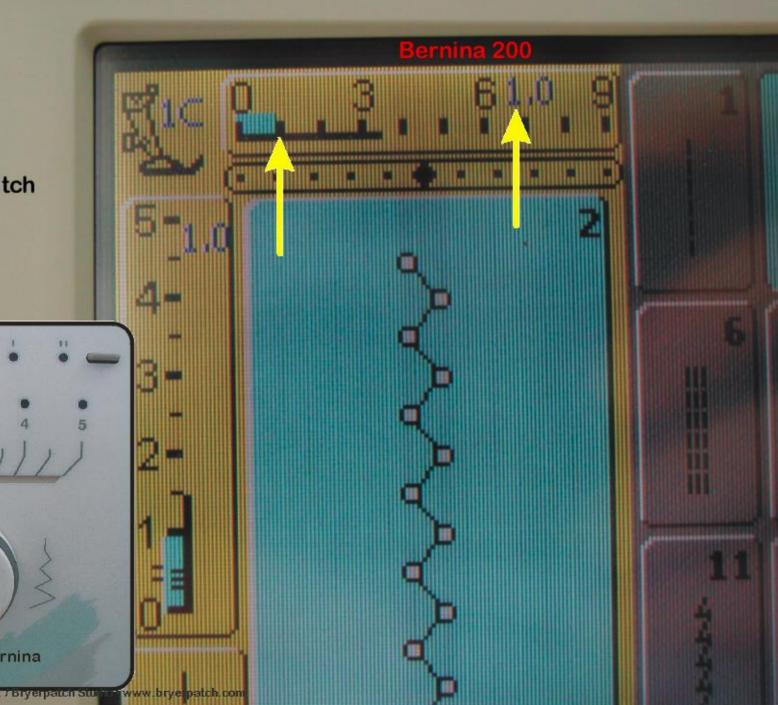
Set your stitch length for 1mm...

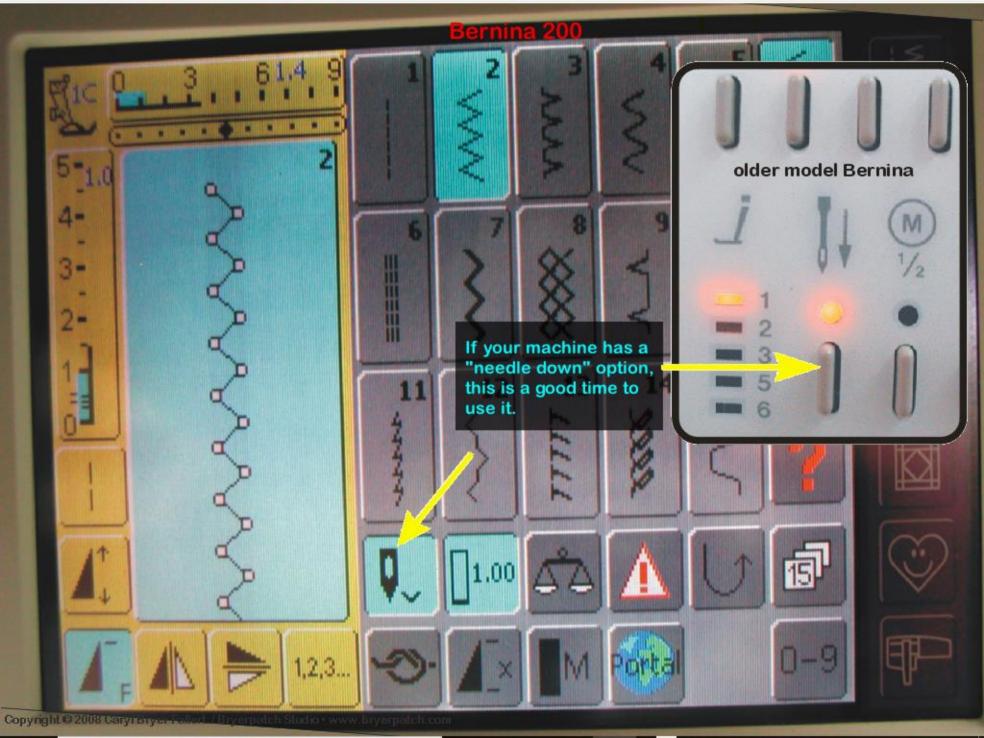




and your stitch width for 1mm.







You can use any zig-zag foot, but an open toed embroidery foot is preferable.

It allows you to see exactly where your needle will hit.

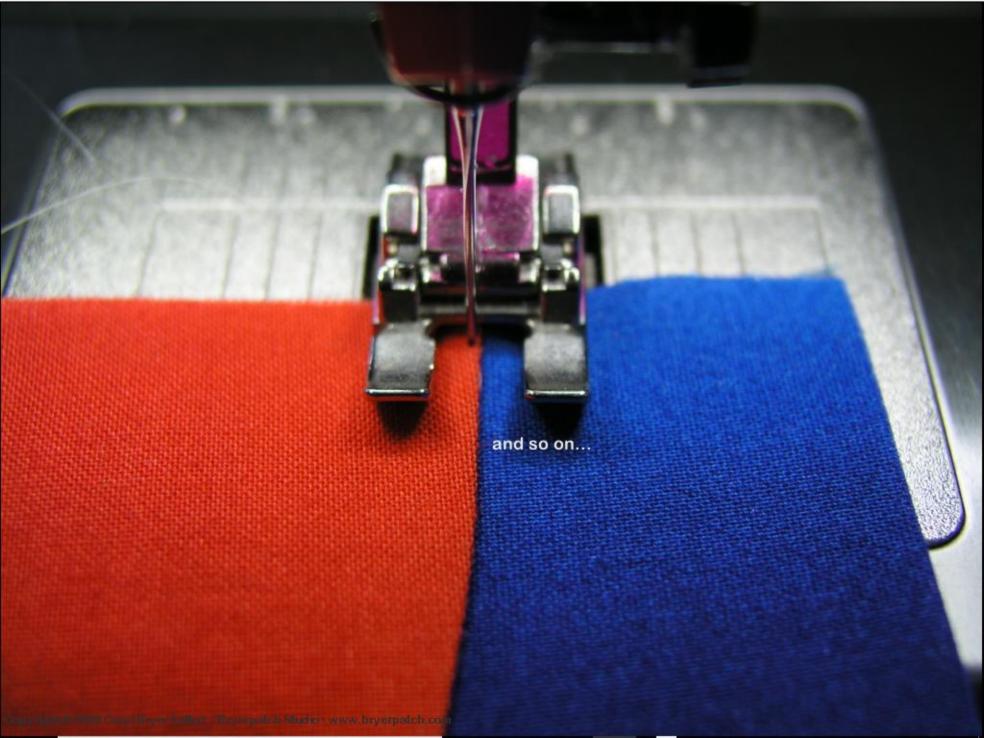
Position your open toed foot at the beginning of the seam and lower your needle, catching 1mm along the folded edge.

When the needle swings to the other side, it should clear the fold and pierce only the unfolded side.

You want the needle to be as close as possible to the folded edge without piercing it. 1mm on the fold...

Continue stitching along the edge, catching 1mm along the fold with every other stitch...

just clear of the fold on the blue (unfolded) side...



Avoid piercing the folded edge with both swings of the zig-zag stitch, as this will make your stitching more visible and may give your seam a messy look.



Here's an enlarged view of the 1mm stitching along the fold where every other swing of the needle clears the fold.

The ruler above is marked in mm's.

As you can see, it is virtually invisible, even at this magnification.



On the other hand, in areas where your needle pierced the folded edge with both swings, the stitching tends to show.

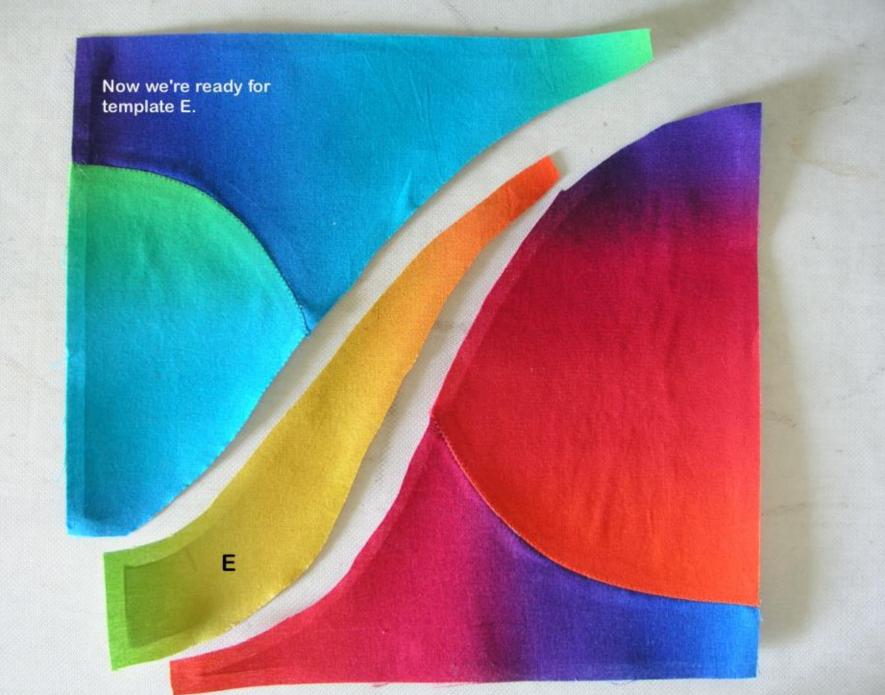
When you look at the back of your templates you can see that the stitching just barely catches the edge of the paper, so your templates will peel right off when you are ready to remove them.

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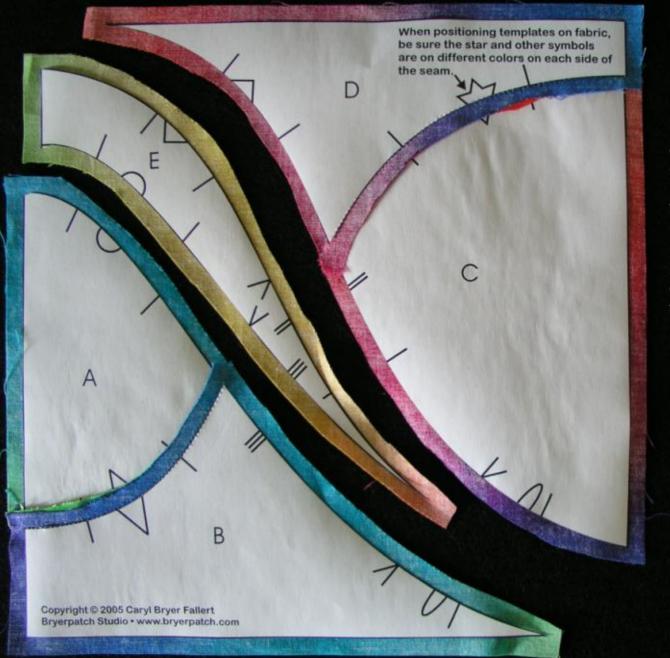
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Again, the symbols and registration marks on the paper will help you line everything up.

Now we have to decide which edge to fold first.

Anytime you have a template that tapers to a long thin point, you need to think about your options.

Notice that this point is narrower than the seam allowance for the last 2" (5cm).

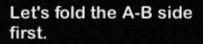
You can fold the bottom seam allowance...

the provide a second second

or you can fold the top seam allowance...

but you can't fold it both ways at the same time.

> The good news is that you may not have to fold it at all.



Remember that the V marks the end of template E.

A

-

We're only going to fold the part of the seam allowance that will be joined to template E...

When positioning templates on fabric, be sure the star and other symbols are on different colors on each side of the seam. 0

D

Bryerpatch Studio • www.bryerpatch.com Bryerpatch Studio • www.bryerpatch.com

A

В

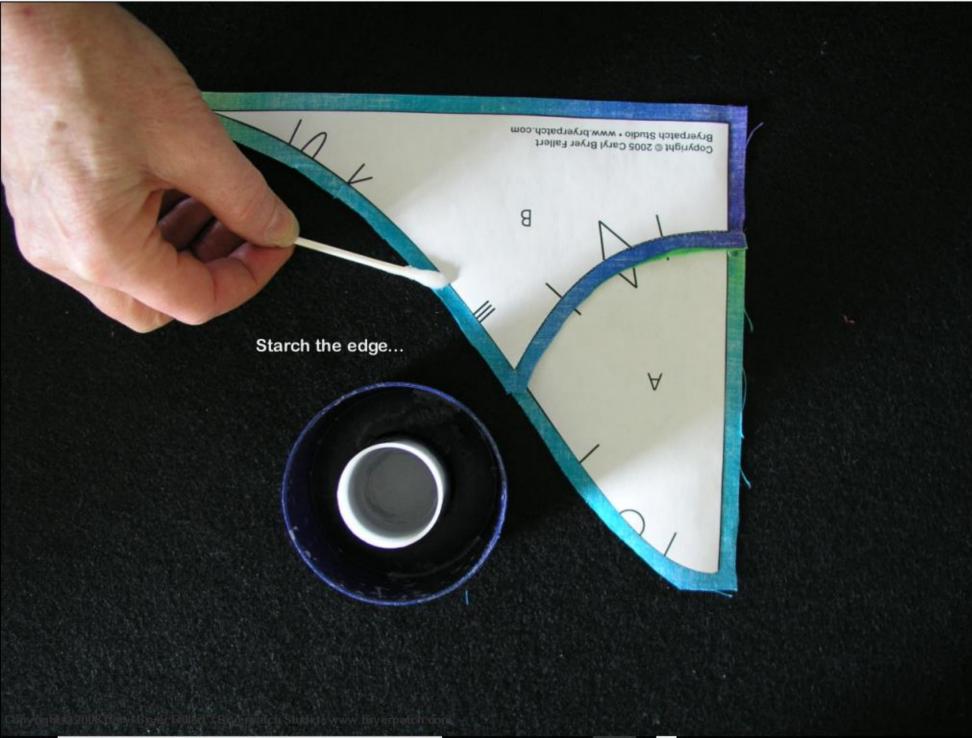
so make a clip in the seam allowance exactly at the V.

If you start at the V with a sharp pair of embroidery scissors and clip away from the edge of the paper, you will avoid any chance of accidentally cutting past the edge of the paper.

A

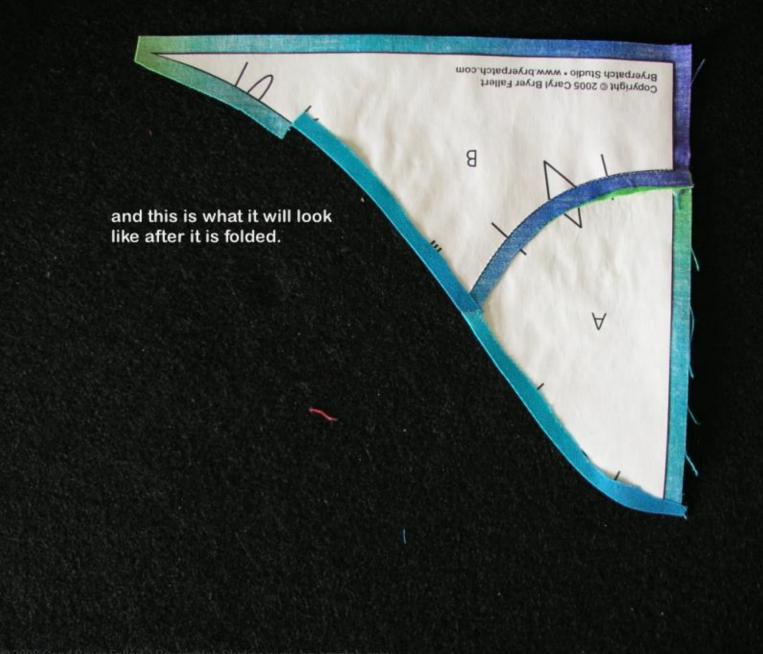
Now we're ready to fold this edge. The seam between A and B will fold easily along with the rest of the seam allowance.

A



yer Fallert w.bryerpatch.com

and iron...





Here are templates A-B and E on the fabric side.

Run a line of glue along the folded edge...

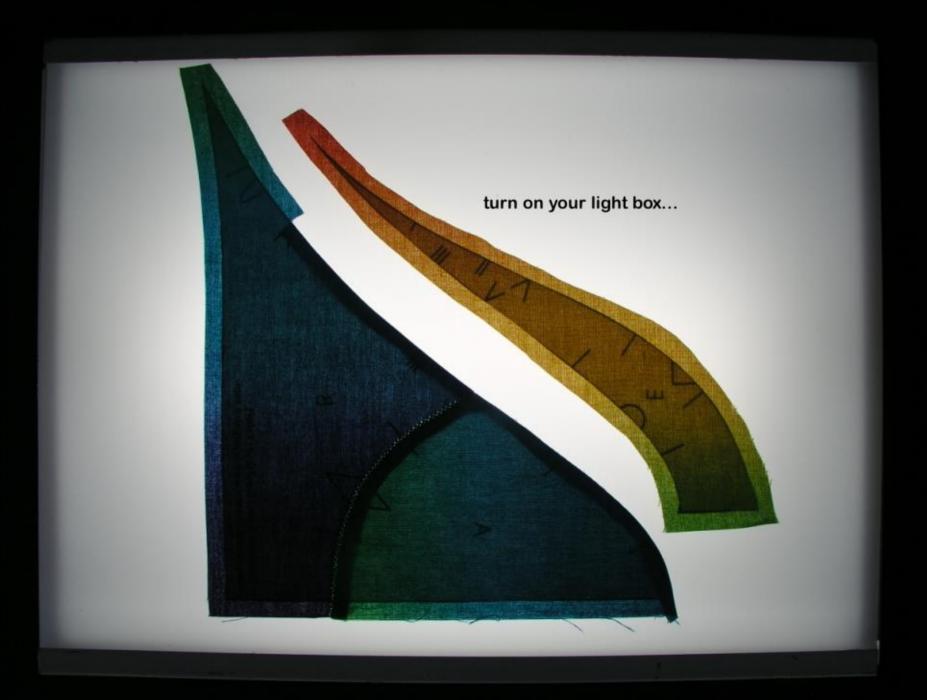
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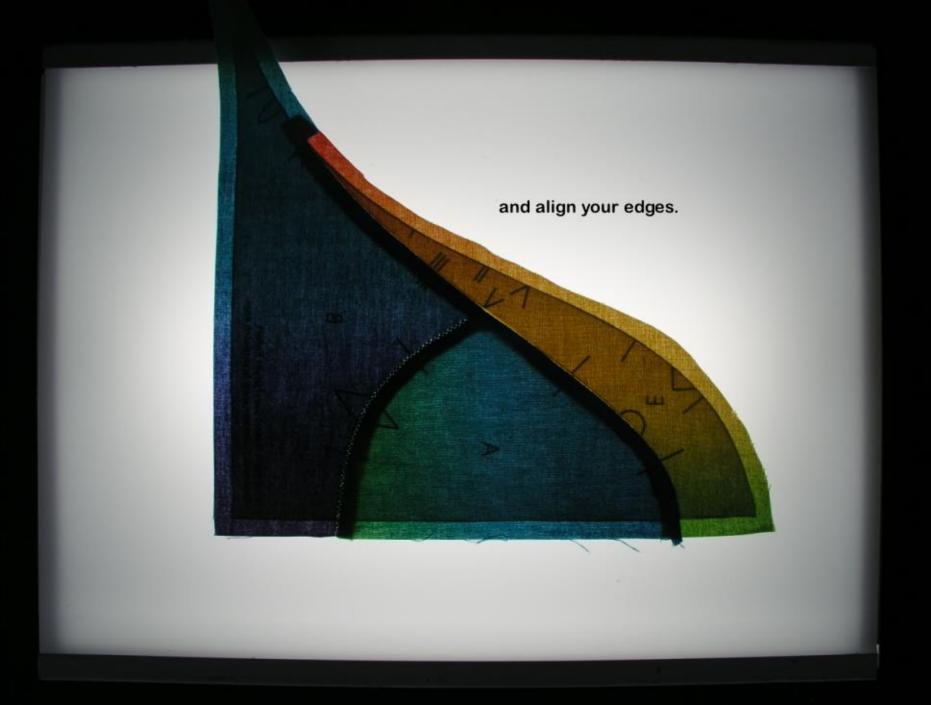
ulo:

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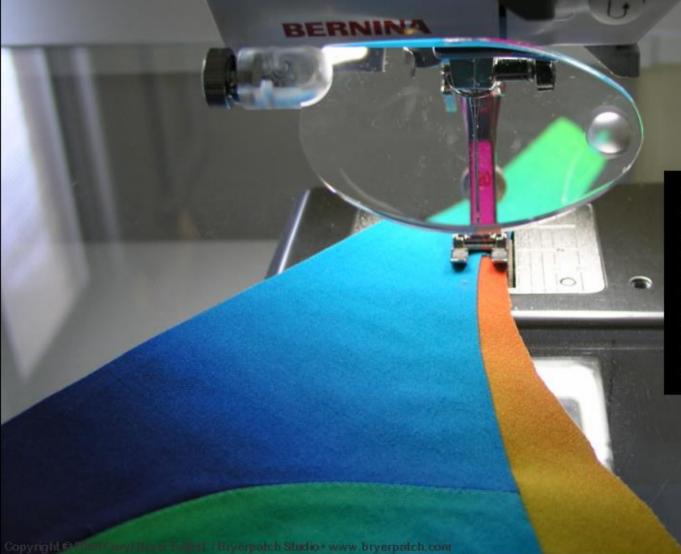
Check to be sure all your registration marks match...

verpatch.com

and your paper templates are not overlapped.

s studios www.bryerpetch.com

You can even check to be sure the point of template E comes exactly to the V.



Now you're ready to sew again.

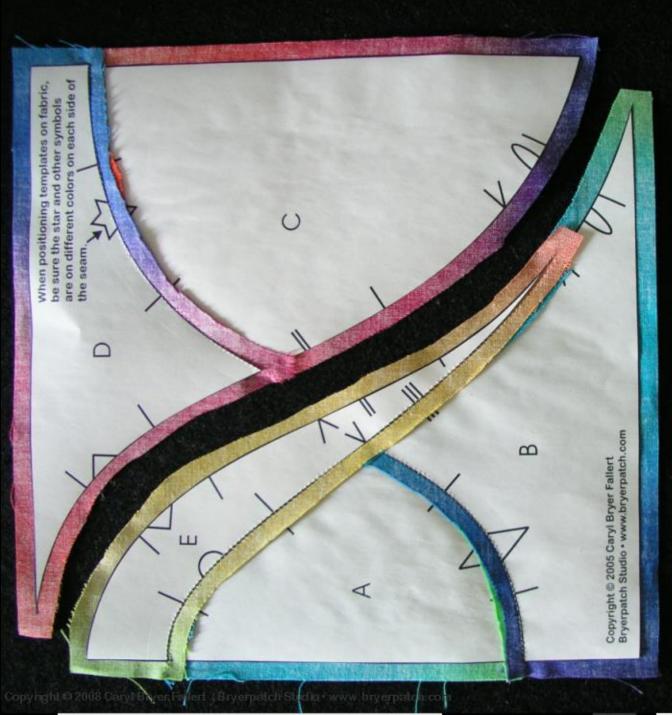
If you are having trouble seeing the 1mm stitch, you may want to try using the magnifying lenses available for some sewing machines, or use reading glasses with a higher magnification. You can begin sewing at the clip or at the outside edge.

Do not sew past the clip into the unfolded part of the seam allowance.

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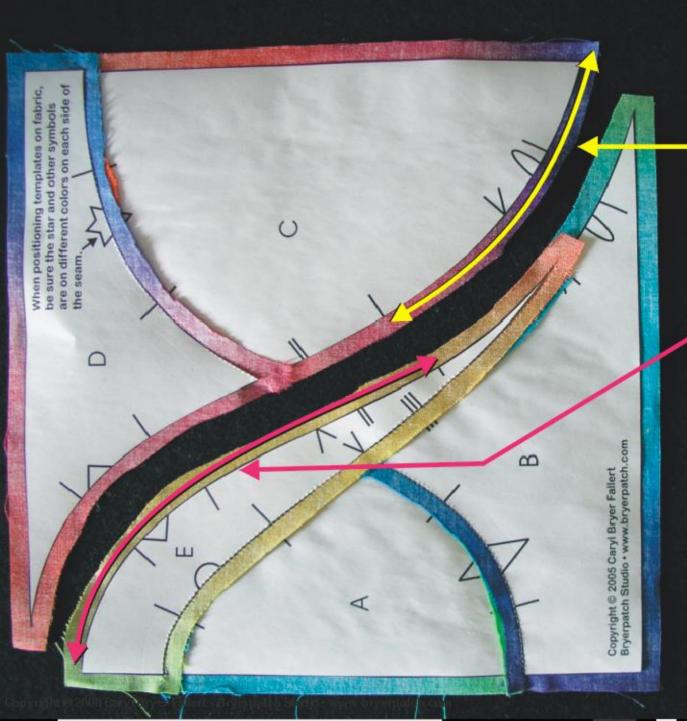
Now we are ready to sew the last seam in our block.



We could fold the entire C-D side,

or we could fold the E-B side,

but we can also choose to avoid folding seams and do a little folding on each side.

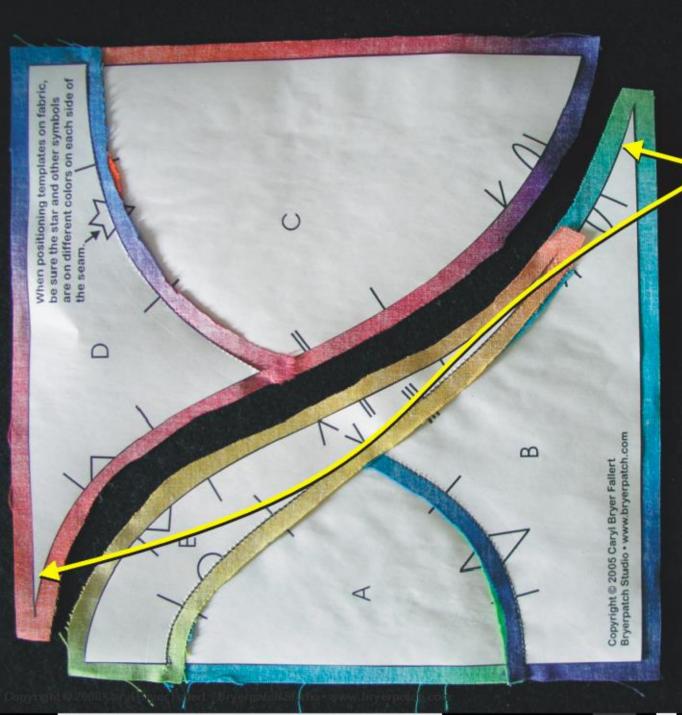


This part of this seam allowance

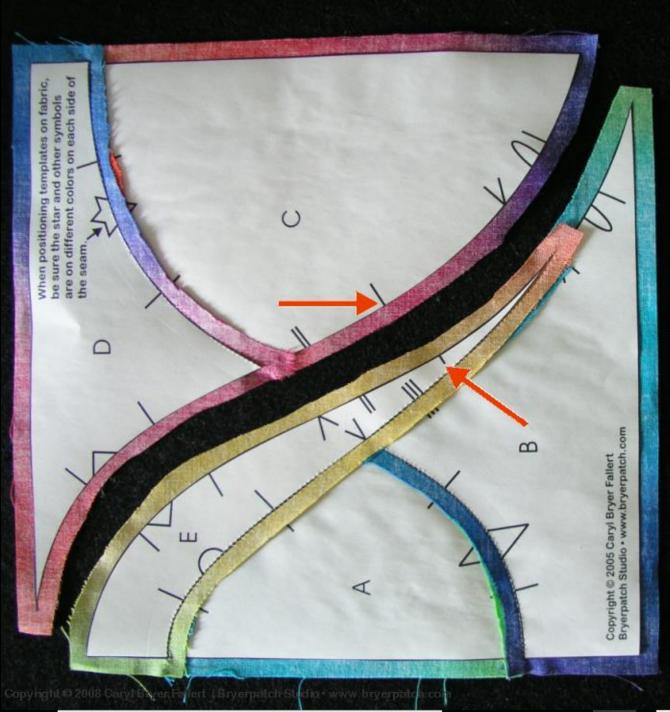
and

This part of this seam allowance

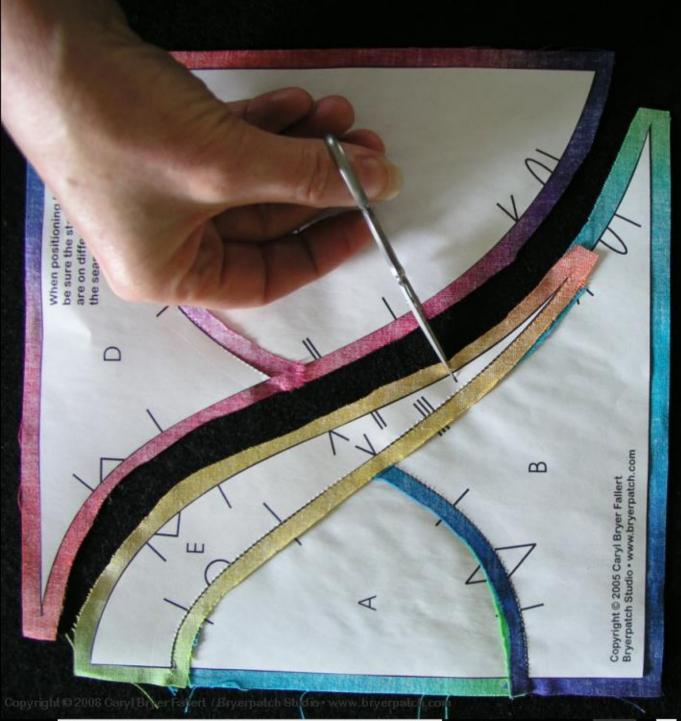
will be easy to fold.



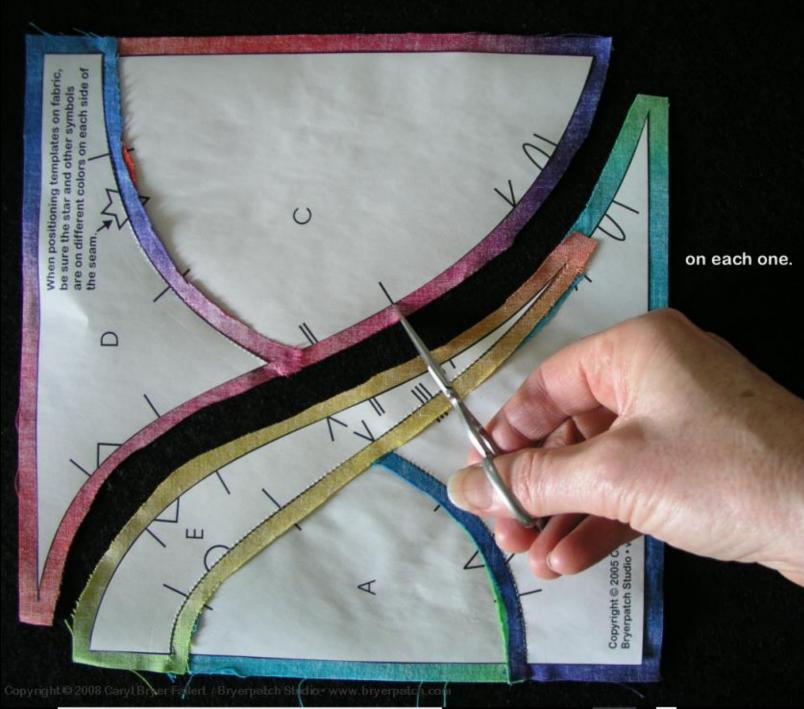
The delicate points on these two ends will made folding more difficult.



So let's pick a pair of registration marks that are between the seams and away from the delicate pointed ends...



and clip to the edge of the paper...

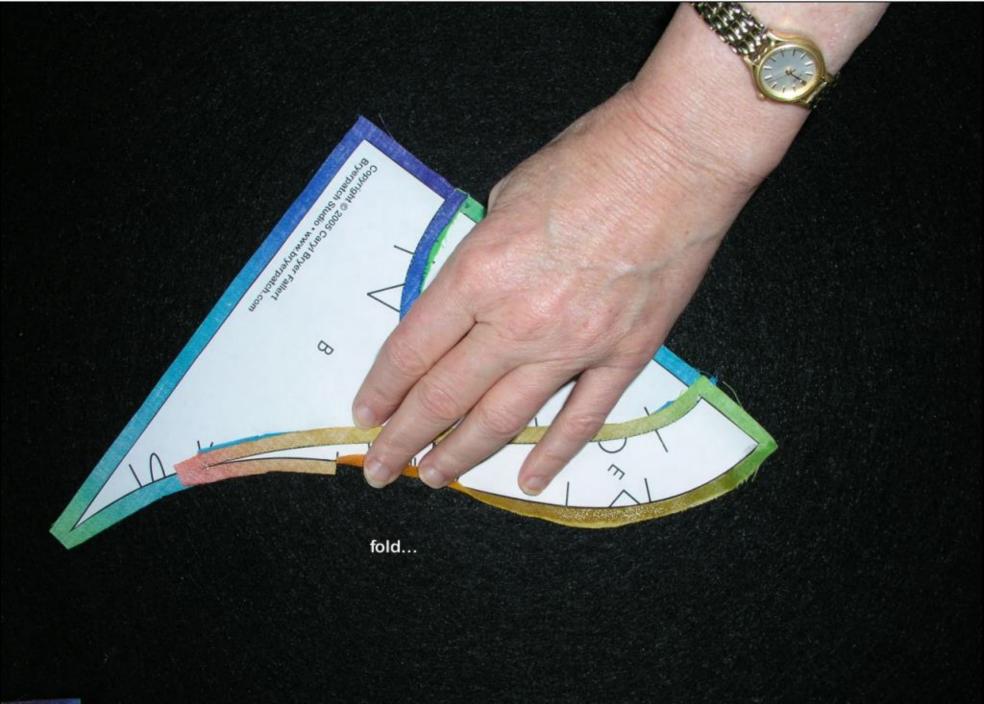


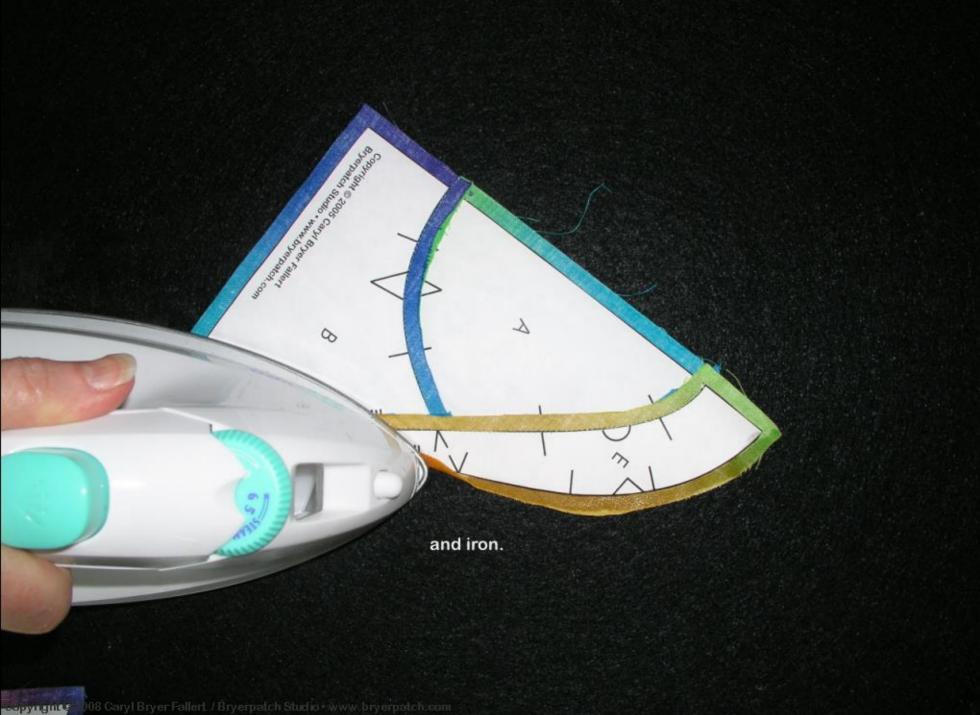
starch to the clip on this side...

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Here's the finished fold on the A-B-E side.

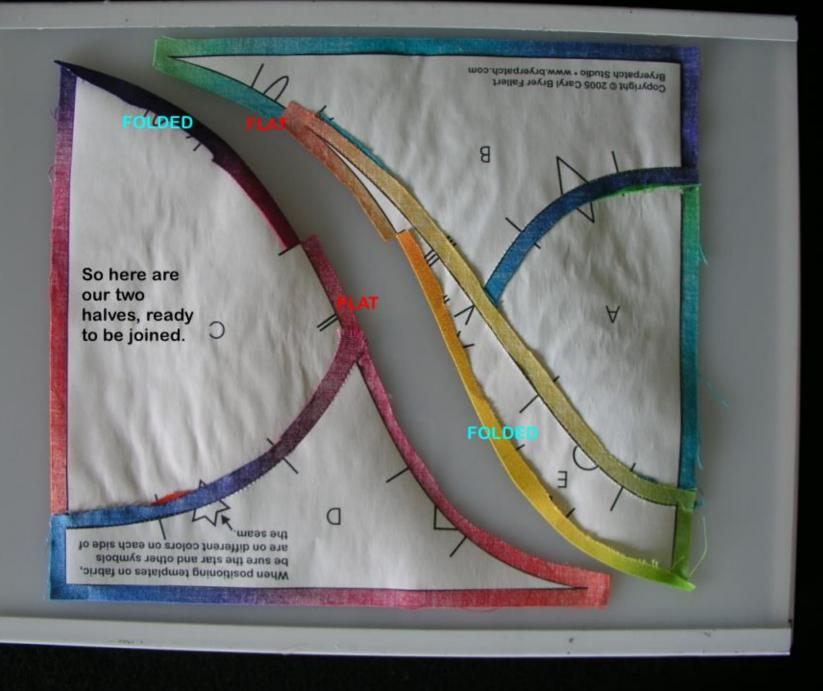
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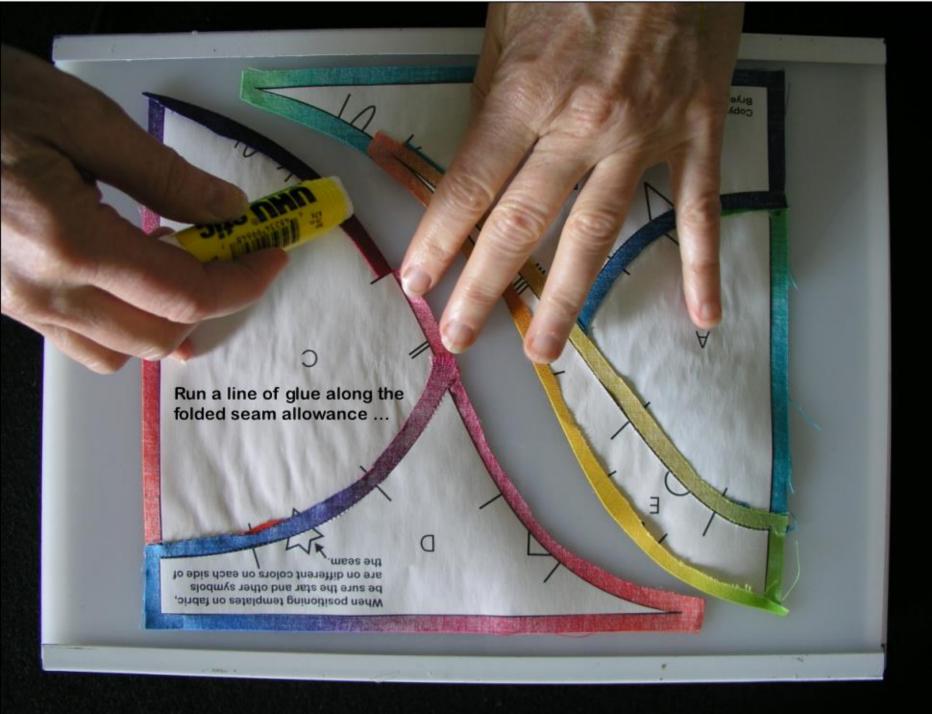
Now on the C-D side, starch to the clip, fold, and iron.

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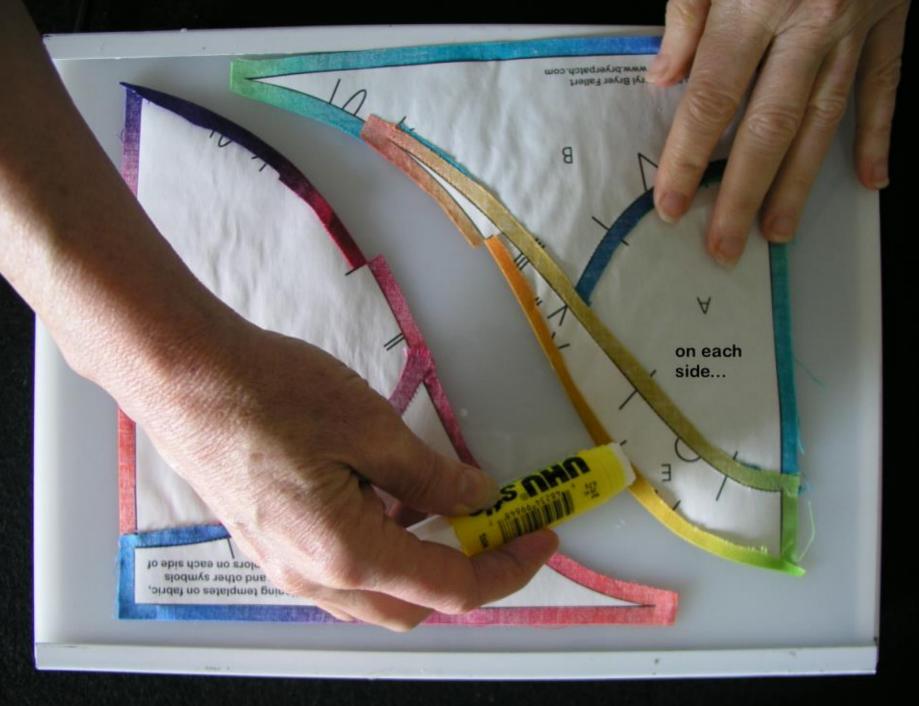
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and join the two halves by sliding the flat seam allowances under the folded sections...

FOLDED

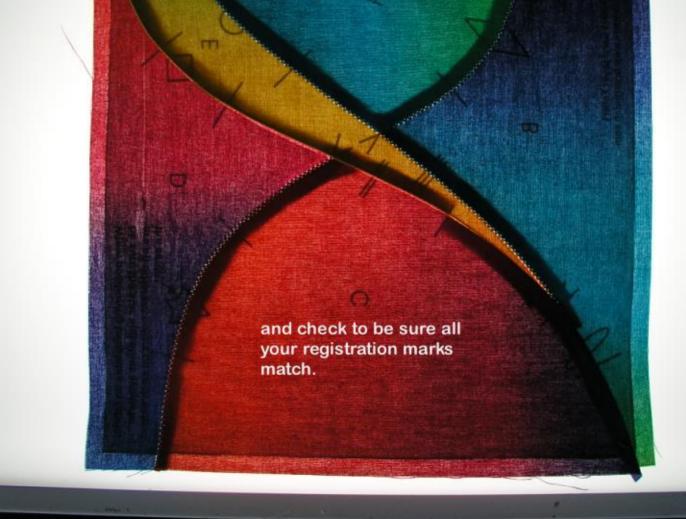
FLAT

FOLDED

and matching the clips.

Line up the edges of your paper templates...

just as you did on your other seams, ...



BERNINA

Start at one end and stitch along the fold...

FOLDED

FOLDED

FLAT

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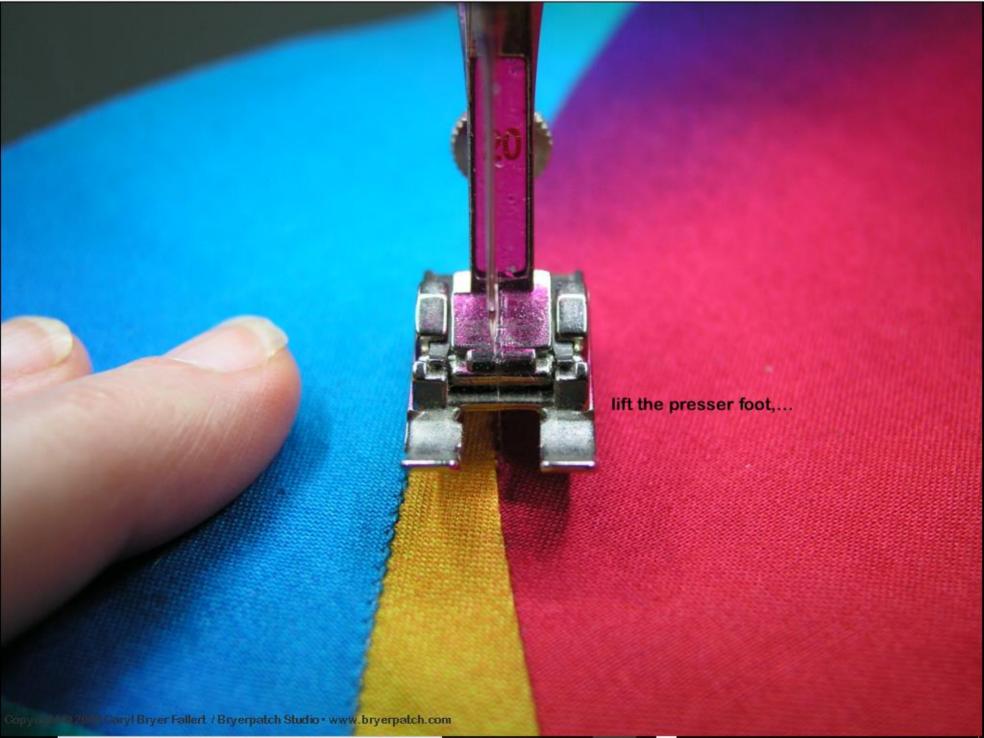
until you reach the point where the clips meet and the fold changes sides.

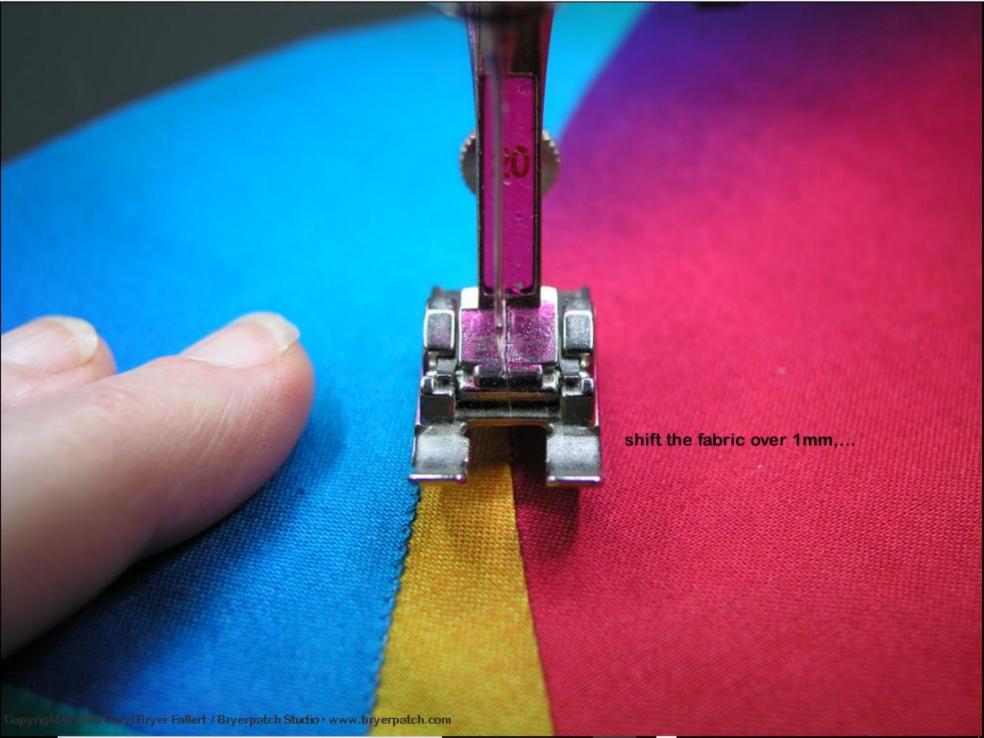
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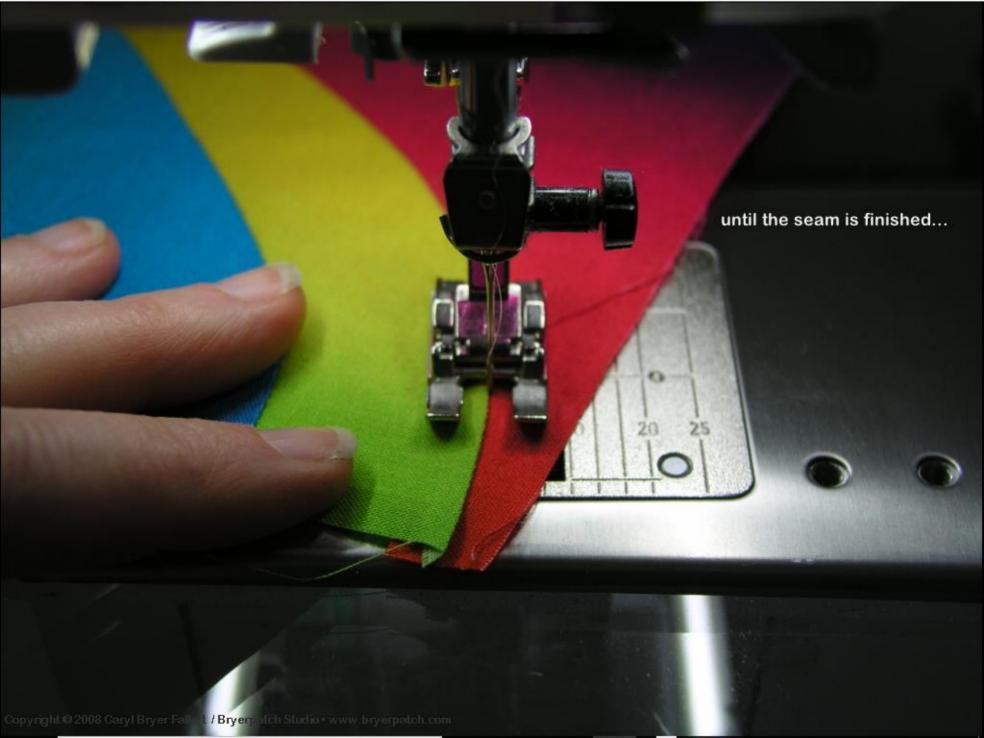




lower the presser foot,...

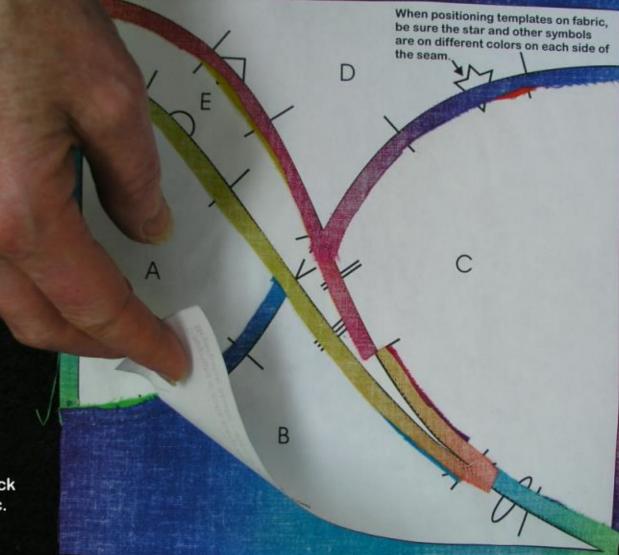


and continue sewing...

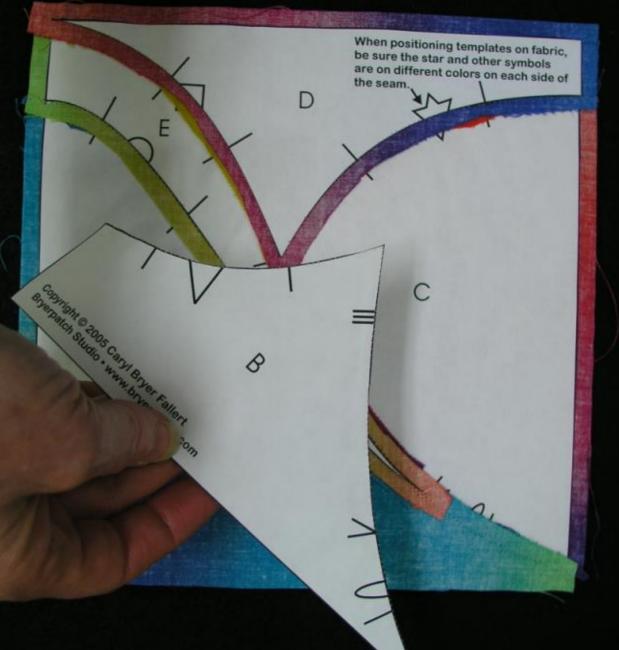




Here is a close-up of the area where the clips meet and the folds change sides. The transition is nearly invisible.



When it is time to remove the paper, just peel it away from the back of the fabric. Most of the pieces will come out whole.



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It is possible to melt the shiny side of the freezer paper into the fabric if you leave a hot iron on it for too long. If the paper is hard to remove try stretching the fabric on the bias. This usually pops the paper right out.

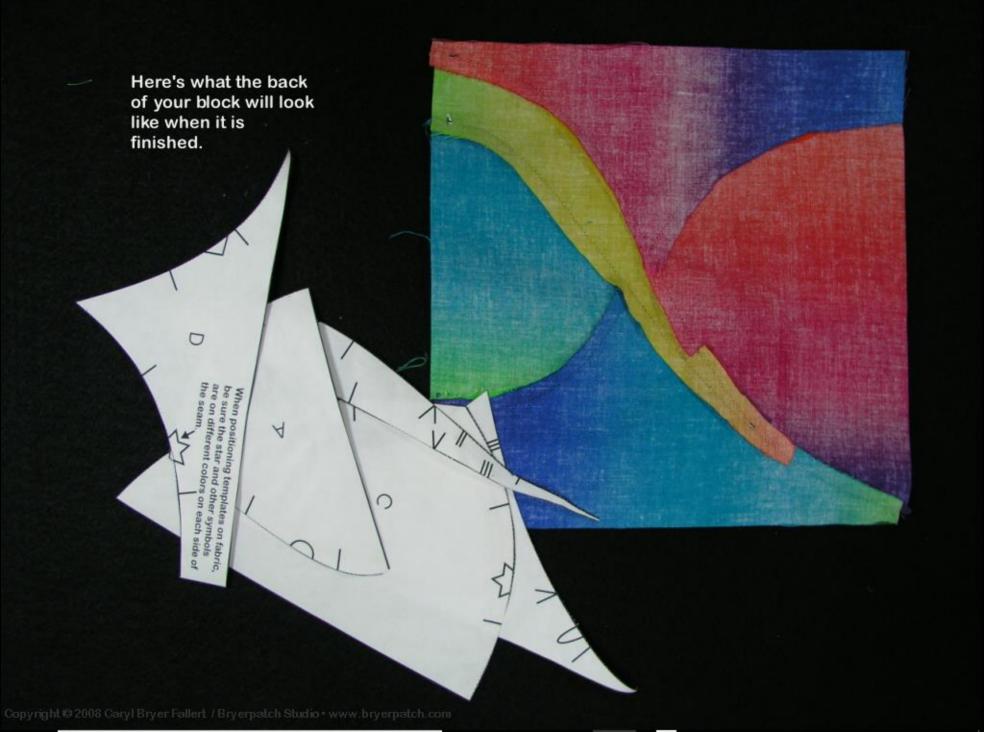
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Now that you have completed this simple block, you can apply Caryl Bryer Fallert's Applipiecing ® technique to more complex blocks and to many other freeform quilt designs.

Please visit the Articles page on our Bryerpatch Studio website for more patterns and digital workshops by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry.

www.bryerpatch.com



Thank You

for taking this creative journey with me. I hope you have enjoyed your Applipiecing ® workshop.

More about the author

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