Diamond Fusion: $12^{\prime \prime}$ finished block by Alice samuel's Quilt co.




## REQUJREMENTS:

- Fabrics: 5 fat Quarters
- Rotary Cutter
- Ruler at least a $6 \times 24$ "
- Cardboard for template if necessary
- Cutting mat
- Spray Starch
- Pins
- Scissors


## CUTTJNG CHART:

Important Note: Due to the irregular shapes involved in this design and the softness of the fabric, I recommend diligently starching and ironing your fat quarters before cutting to keep the biased edges fairly stable for piecing. Do not tug while piecing and handle cut pieces with care.

Refer to the illustration below for how to cut the diamonds and parallelograms used in this block from strips using the $60^{\circ}$ angle of your ruler.


Note: $60^{\circ}$ angle aligns with the bottom of strip set as indicated by the extended black line such that your $60^{\circ}$ marking is angled as indicated by the curve in the diagram above. After trimming the excess continue moving your ruler so that the new cut edge of your fabric is X distance ( $\mathrm{X}=$ desired length of diamond e.g. 2.25 or 4 " as needed for this block) away from the vertical edge of your ruler with the $60^{\circ}$ angle still aligned with the bottom of the strip as shown above.
Fabric A: Cut (1) $2.5 \times 18^{\prime \prime}$ strip
Fabric B: Cut (2) 2.25 diamonds (refer to the illustration above to cut your diamond)

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\text { Cut (1) } 2.25 \times 18^{\prime \prime} \text { strip }
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Fabric C: Cut (2) $2.25 \times 18^{\prime \prime}$ strip
Fabric D: Cut, (2) $4^{\prime \prime}$ diamonds (use a 4" diamond template if you have one or just use the strip
method illustrated above)

Fabric E: Cut From fabric E, (2) $3.75 \times 6.5^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles, recut into 2 along the diagonal to make 4 right angle triangles.

Cut (2) $1.25 \times 12.5^{\prime \prime}$ strips (cut at $1.5^{\prime \prime}$ for error margin and trim block down after piecing)

## For further information on cutting irregular shapes visit these tutorials.

- I found this genius instruction on McCall's Quilting that can help in the cutting of the unusual shapes required to make this block -templates required.
http://www.mccallsquilting.com/mccallsquilting/articles/rotary cutting unusu al shapes
- http://imaginesque.blogspot.com.ng/p/quilt-diamonds-templates.html you can download free templates here
- http://quiltsbyjen.ca/how-to-easily-cut-diamonds-from-a-strip-of-fabric/ this tutorial is perfect for cutting without template


## Piecing set $\mathcal{A}$ :

Note - Sew all seams with an accurate 1/4" seam allowance. For more on piecing your quilt see: https://alicesamuelsquiltco.wordpress.com/2016/06/03/the-quilting-process-piecing-your-quilt-top/

Step 1: Sew your $2.25 \times 18$ " strips together staggering your strips by 2 " at least to minimize wastage and then sew your 2.5 " strip to your pieced set to complete your set A.


Step 2: Press both seam allowances away from the center

Step 3: Lay your ruler along the edge of your strip set, making sure the $60^{\circ}$ line of your ruler is aligned with the bottom edge of your strip and the end of the ruler is at the corner of the strip. Refer to the diagram below:

$60^{\circ}$ angle align with the bottom of strip set as indicated by the extended black line such that your $60^{\circ}$ marking is angled as indicated by the curve in the diagram above

Step 4: Cut off the excess fabric at the beginning of the strip then you are ready to make the first cut. For your first cut, rotate your ruler as indicated below to cut out your 6.5" triangle, continue rotating until you get to the end of your strip set, you will have left overs which can be used to make a different color way of this block or saved for a later project. What you need is the triangle with the sky fabric at the top represented by A and C as illustrated below.


## Piecing set $\mathcal{B}$ :

Step 1: Repeat steps 1 and 2 for piecing set A as stated above to sew together your 2.25" strips for set B

Step 2: Repeat step 3 as above

Step 3: (Refer to the previous instruction on cutting diamond from strip) See a modified version of the diamond cutting illustration. (Trim off the excess, move your ruler such that the vertical line of your ruler measures 2.25 " then make the first cut. You only need to cut 2 parallelograms facing this direction).


Step 4: To cut the parallelogram facing the other direction, flip over the remaining strip such that the seam allowance is now facing upward, then repeat step 3 and 4 as before to cut 2 more 2.25 " parallelogram. In all you need (4) $2.25 \times 4$ "sets for set B


You should end up with 4 pieces that look like this:


Step 5: sew one of the 2.25 diamond from fabric B to a 2.25 " parallelogram (make 2)


Note: Unlike your regular square piecing where you align the pieces edge to edge, for piecing diamonds, you want to align your $1 / 4$ " seam allowances - that means moving the edge of the top piece to $1 / 4$ " away from the edge of the bottom piece then sew together as illustrated below:


Step 6: Sew the remaining parallelogram to the 4" diamond from fabric D (make 2) sew one to side A and Side B as shown below with the Iris (darker fabric) facing inward:


Step 7: sew the sets from step 5 and 6 above together to make a bigger diamond (make 2)


## Piecing Block:

Step 1: At this point you should have (2) 6.5" equilateral triangles and (2) 6.5 " diamonds, sew the triangle and the diamond together into a half hexagon (make 2 ).


Step 2: sew the two half hexagons together to make one big hexagon. Piecing of the center block is now complete!!! The Hexagon finishes at $12.5 \times 11$ " at this point


Step 3: sew your corner triangles to the hexagon as shown below to transform your Hexagon into a $12.5 \times 11$ " Rectangle.


Step 4: Sew (1) $1.25 \times 12.5$ " strip to the top and bottom of the rectangle from step 3 to square your block.


Step 5: Square up your block by trimming off any excess, making sure your block ends up as a 12.5 " unfinished block for a 12 " finish.


Finally, Rotate block as preferred...Congratulations you have now completed this process!


coloring page for square block

coloring Page for Rectangle block (Horizontal)


## Coloring page for Rectangle block (Vertical)



Bonus: Cutting instruction for making block with only 2 or $\mathbf{3}$ fabrics.

- Cut From fabric A, (1) $2.5 \times 18$ " strip (round up to 3 " and trim afterwards to be on the safe side)
- Cut From fabric B, (2) 2.25 diamond (use a 2" diamond template if you have one making sure to leave $1 / 4$ " seam allowance around your diamond)
- Cut From fabric B, (1) $2.25 \times 18$ " strip
- Cut From fabric B, (1) $2.25 \times 18$ " strip
- Cut From fabric A, (1) $2.25 \times 18$ " strip
- Cut From fabric A, (2) 4 diamond (use a 4 " diamond template if you have one making sure to leave $1 / 4$ " seam allowance around your diamond)
- Cut From fabric A, (1) $2.25 \times 18$ " strip
- Cut From fabric C or A, (2) $3.75 \times 6.5$ " rectangle, recut into 2 along the diagonals to make 4 right angle triangles.

Here is a mock-up of what the block will look like in Black and White and I have used Black as background fabric to make the pattern stand out even more.


I hope you love this block as much as I do and will enjoy making it in various color ways. If you do make this block then I'd love to see what you make with it. If you are on
Instagram then tag me @alicesamuelsquiltco or use \#diamondfusionquiltblock in your post.

Cheers,
Sola :

