

CURVES SURVIVAL GUIDE

JEN CARLTON-BAILLY



Does the idea of sewing a curve scare you and having you running for a half square triangle!?! Well don't let it! My name is Jen Carlton Bailly and I'm here with some great tips and tricks that will get you started and wanting to sew all the curves.

SEWING CURVES: TIPS AND TRICKS

- When gluing use short strokes so the fabric doesn't stretch
- When pressing the centers press concave backside together and convex right side together so that they nest when put together.
- To avoid fabric getting sucked in, start about ¼ of an inch in, backstitch and then finish sewing
- When sewing a curve, let the feed dogs do their job—don't push or pull, fingers are for guiding only.
- FRESH BLADE — allows for cutting multiple layers
- Always use a fresh needle
- 50 weight thread to reduce bulk
- Press towards the center—less stress on the fabric

THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR THE JOB:

- GLUE STICK

Any kind is fine, however [this one](#) is my favorite.

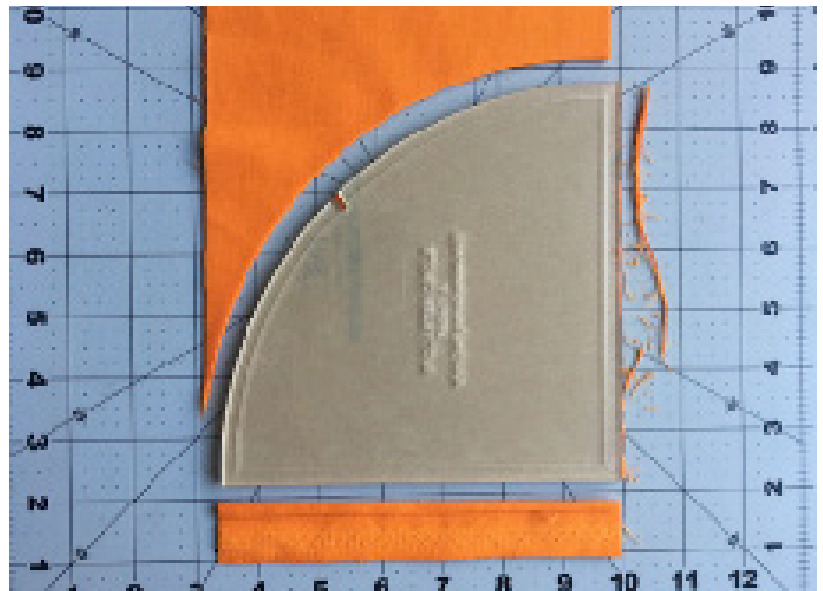
- CURVED TEMPLATE

[This is my ¼ circle template](#) that I created but you can find all kinds out there. I will say that some are better than others so if you have the opportunity to try them out do it! Many times local quilt stores will have demos already open that you can try.

- A [28 millimeter rotary cutter](#) with a NEW blade. It's important that you always have a sharp blade in your rotary cutter—especially for this project because we are going to be cutting through several layers.

DIRECTIONS

1. First we need to cut out our convex and concave pieces. This is where a new sharp blade is going to come in handy. We can layer four of these squares at a time.

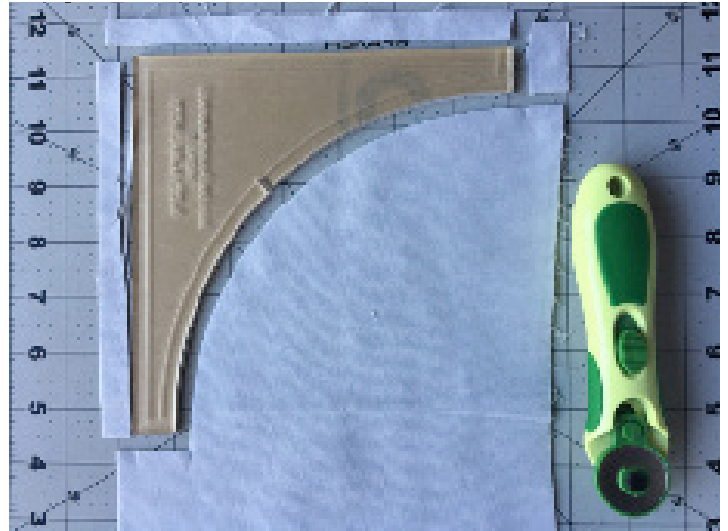


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2. Next is the concave part- an easy way to remember is you crawl into a cave! This one is a little tricky- just make sure to hold the template in place at the ends when cutting.



3. Lets mark our centers—you can do this any way you like. I prefer to do a quick press with iron. Making sure the concave is wrong sides together and the convex is right sides together. This way they can nest.
4. There are lots of ways to sew curves together- but today I'm going to show you my favorite. Glue basting. It's quick and easy.



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5. First put a dab on the center. Attach the two together. Next using short strokes so you don't stretch the fabric add glue along the edge to one side. Stick the edge down making sure they line up and then gently ease the concave part onto the convex. The more you do this the easier and faster you'll get! Alright, lets do the same thing on the other side.



6. Now it's time to sew! Whenever I sew, I use this great seam guide. If your machine didn't come with one, check my notes for places to order it.
7. Okay so I like to start about a 1/4 inch in.
8. Back stitch and now just let those feed dogs work for you and guide the fabric through making sure your fabric is butted up against the seam guide.
9. So easy!



10. I prefer to press towards the center I press from the back then flip it over, add a little spritz if you need to and press again.

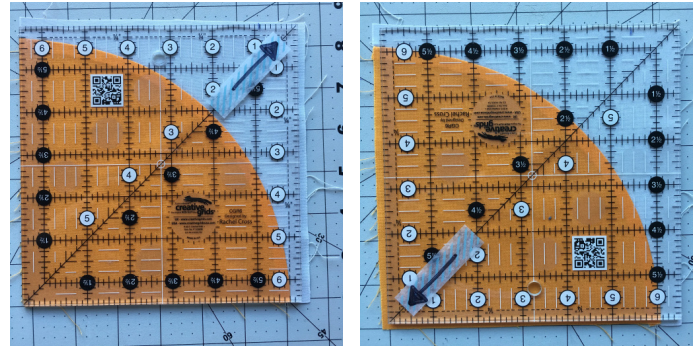


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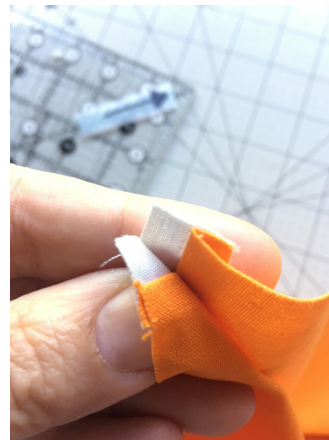
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11. Now it's time to square it up. Using your square ruler, place your quarter inch marking to line up with the edge of the convex shape. You'll notice that I have some washi tape here.... This helps me remember where I should place my ruler to square up.
12. Trim.



13. Okay now that we have our blocks I'm going to show you how to line them up for perfect edges.
14. Press seams open and celebrate!
15. Now you're done and are totally set up for success at sewing curves. I hope you feel inspired to test out curves. Remember it's only fabric so go create something awesome!



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MY FAVORITE TOOLS

Acrylic Templates: <http://www.bettycrockerass.com/shop/>

Quilt Designing: <https://www.quiltcanvas.com/>

Favorite Rotary Blade: https://www.amazon.com/Fiskars-28mm-Stick-Rotary-Cutter/dp/B004BP6HOS/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1479584079&sr=8-2&keywords=fiskars+rotary+28mm

Rotating Cutting Mat: https://www.amazon.com/OLFA-Rotating-Self-Healing-Rotary-Mat/dp/B000YZ7TSC/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1479584158&sr=8-1-fkmr0&keywords=olfa+cutting+mat+spinning

Glue Stick: https://www.amazon.com/Sewline-Riolis-Water-Soluble-Fabric-Refill-Blue/dp/B00REIQW08/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1479584278&sr=8-4&keywords=glue+stick+quilting

NORTHCOTT SOLIDS

900 Vapor

580 Carrot

59 Pumpkin

SUPPORTED BY:



BROTHER PQ1500SLPRW

HIGH SPEED STRAIGHT STITCH SEWING MACHINE



BROTHER PQ1500SLPRW

High Speed Straight Stitch Sewing Machine

The PQ1500SLPRW is a dream machine that belongs in the sewing room of every serious quilter and seamstress. It is a high-speed straight stitching machine, sewing up to 1,500 stitches per minute! The PQ1500SLPRW offers an adjustable pin feed mechanism, 4 feed dog settings for maximum fabric control, a knee lifter and bed extension table for quilting, full range foot pressure adjustment and an automatic thread cutter with F.A.S.T. needle threader - a time saving convenience.

- Up to 1500 stitches per minute
- 4 Feed Dog height adjustments
- Built-in knee lifter to easily raise and lower the presser foot, so your hands are free to re-position or remove your fabric
- Extra-large extension table
- Automatic thread cutter button
- Convenient thread tension dial
- Pin Feed Mechanism allows you to exchange the use of the feed dogs for a single pin that cleanly extends from beneath the machine, moving all layers of your quilt together or moves a delicate velvet without leaving feed dog marks in the nap
- Available at your local Brother dealer

