# **ENHANCING DESIGNS WITH FUSSY CUTTING**

SARA SHARP





Fussy-cut FPP? Easy as ABC...DE! And a way to look at prints (and their ability to accentuate design elements of your quilt) in a whole new light.

For the segment, I sketched a simple 5" striped triangle (template included here), but you can apply this design technique to just about any foundation paper pieced pattern.

#### A. Precut your printed fabric.

To "fussy cut" for an area within an FPP pattern, precut your print by holding your template up to a light source (a nearby lamp, a window, or a lightbox – whatever is handy).

Isolate the area of the print you want to highlight. (NOTE: The part of the print that shows up within the bounds of the area you're cutting out is what will show up in the final block; anything outside the area bounds will be hidden in the seam allowance). Just remember, keep the wrong (unprinted) side of the pattern to the wrong (back) side of the print.

#### B. Flip your fussy-cut fabric piece into place.

Use the flip method demonstrated in the segment to perfectly position your fussy-cut fabric for area 2 before joining it to the first area.

#### C. Sew down the area.

Sew along the line on your template separating areas 1 and 2.

#### D. Trim your seam allowance.

Trim 1/4" seam along the line you just sewed.

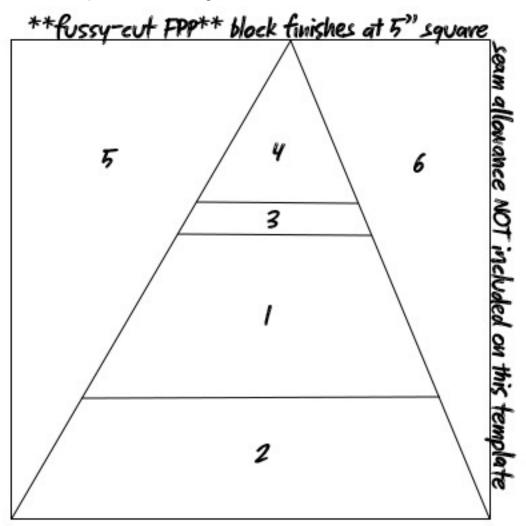
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E. Press, then repeat!

Press the new area into place, then start cutting the next area!



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