

LARGE SCALE PAPER PIECING

NICOLE NEBLETT



Paper piecing, or foundation piecing, is great for achieving accurate piecing. Most paper piecing patterns, however, are small in scale. What do you do if you want to piece a quilt or block on a larger scale? That's when freezer paper comes in handy!

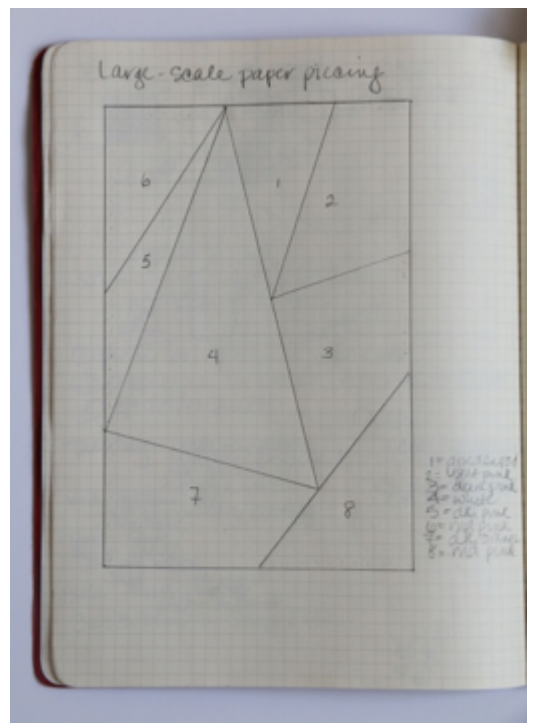
Using freezer paper to sew together large pieces can allow for accurate sewing and endless design possibilities. While you don't need freezer paper to sew large squares or rectangles, freezer paper can help with sewing large triangles or irregular shaped pieces that may otherwise present a challenge.

You'll need:

- A roll of freezer paper (sold in the paper product aisle of most grocery stores)
- Regular paper for sketching your design (I recommend graph paper)
- An iron
- Pencil
- Scissors for cutting paper
- Fabric (quantities depend on the size of your design)
- Rotary cutter, cutting mat, and acrylic ruler (a 6" x 24" ruler comes in handy when cutting large pieces)
- Regular sewing supplies

Instructions:

1. Sketch the design of your quilt or block on paper. I like to use graph paper so that I can use the squares of the grid for scaling (e.g., 1 square = 1" x 1"). Keep in mind that when sewn, your design will be the mirror-image of your sketch.
2. Notice how the lines of your design create sections. Number each section in order of how you think you will sew the pieces together.
3. Create a section of freezer paper that is the size of your quilt or design. Do this by overlapping pieces of freezer paper by about 1/2" and fusing the pieces together with a warm, dry iron (do not use steam).
4. Draw your design on the freezer paper. Be sure to maintain the scale of your original design.
5. Cut on the lines of your design to create templates.
6. Working on the wrong side of the fabric, fuse the templates to the fabric by placing the templates shiny side down on the fabric. Use a warm, dry iron to temporarily fuse the template to the fabric. You can reuse these templates several times before they will lose their stickiness.

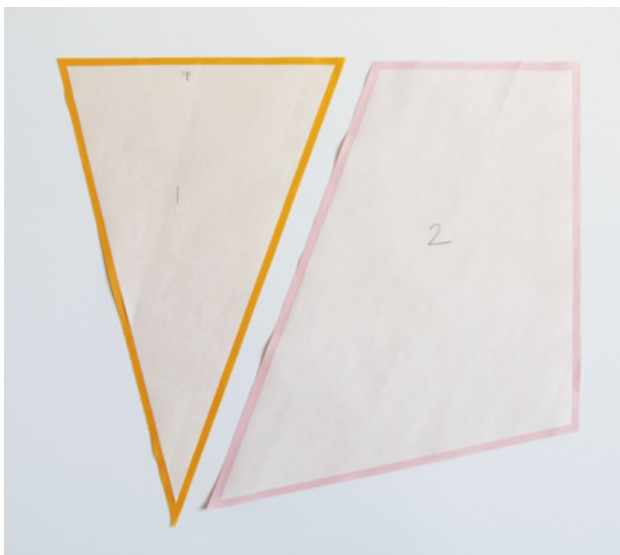


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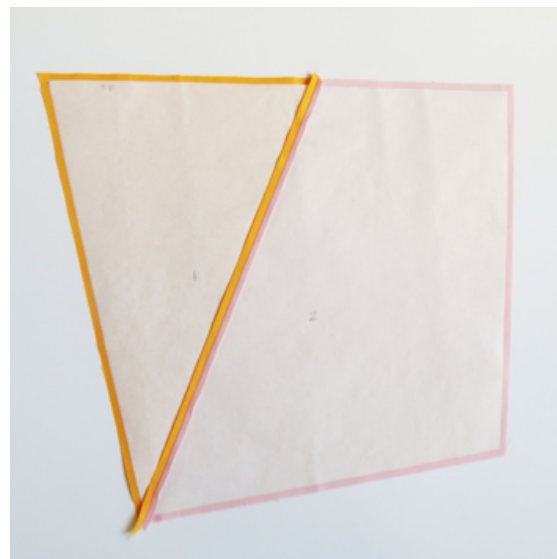
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7. Cut out the fabric, adding $\frac{1}{4}$ " on all sides for the seam allowance.



8. Sew the pieces together in numbered order. Keep the freezer paper on the fabric until all the pieces are sewn together to provide the fabric with stability.



9. Enjoy your large scale paper pieced top!

ABOUT NICOLE NEBLETT

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