

Protostar

Inspired by Star Quilts in the NQM Collection

Sample by: Becky Glasby



Featured Artist: Becky Glasby

Becky Glasby



Becky Glasby is a self-taught quilter who turned her love of quilting from a personal hobby into a professional career when she moved to Paducah to start working at the National Quilt Museum as the Director of Education.

At the museum Becky works to inspire the next generation of quilters and promote the art of quilting through: youth & adult tours, hands-on programs, off-site visits, community collaborations, the Block of the Month Club program, and coordinating the annual School Block Challenge for students across the country.

Becky enjoys sharing her love of quilting with everyone she meets, and loves encouraging creativity in other quilters.

Becky's Website:

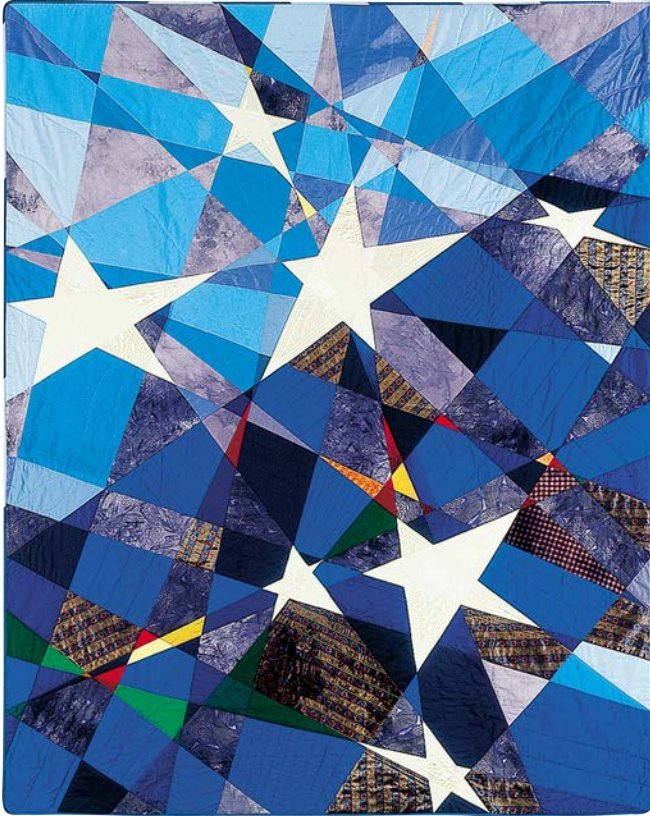
<https://bumblebzs.blogspot.com>

Becky's Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/bumblybzs>



Inspiration:



Quilt: *Reach for the Stars*
by Jan Lanahan

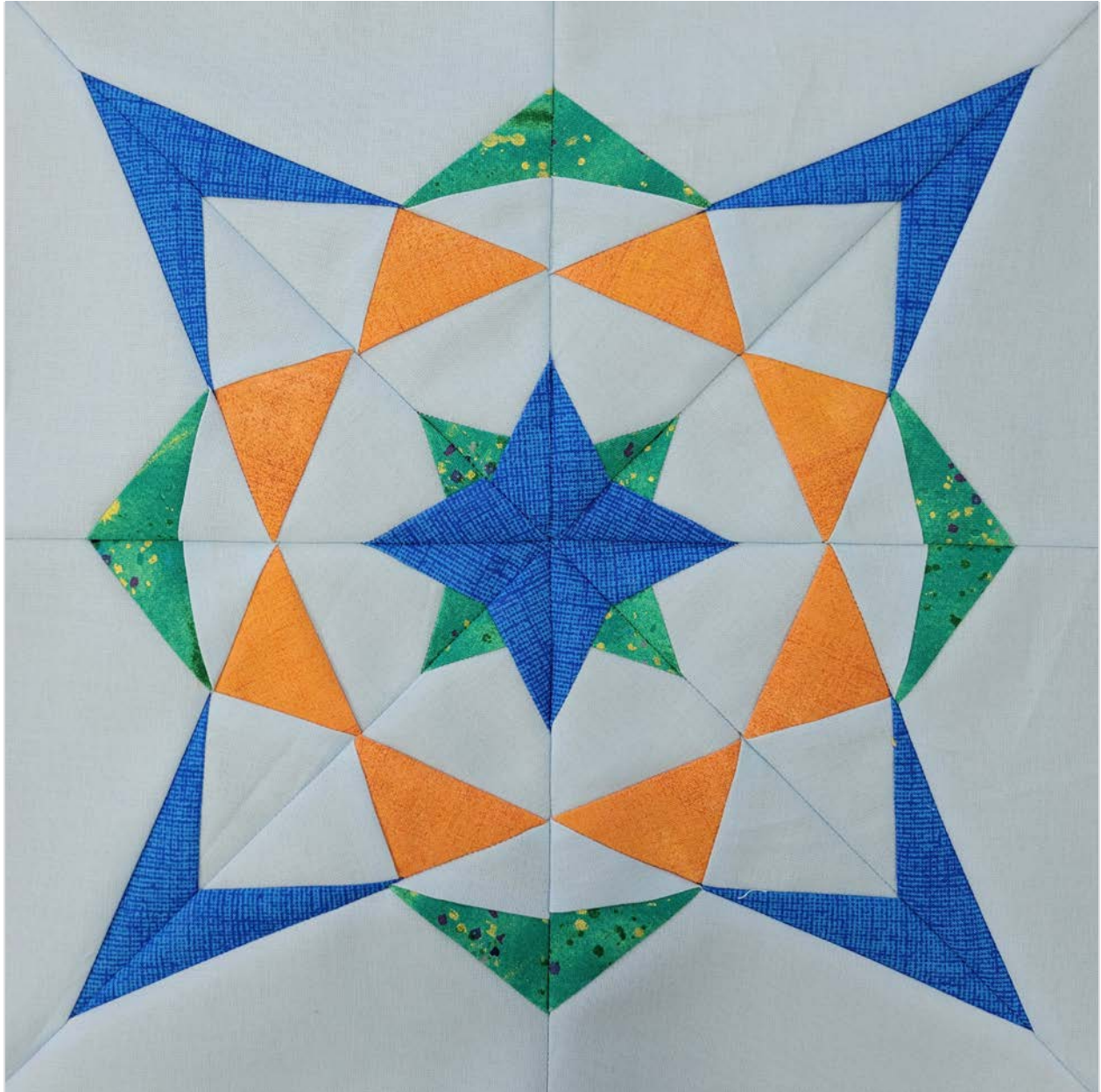


Quilt: *New Directions*
by Judy Mathieson

We recently had several star-themed quilts from the NQM Collection on exhibit. An ever-popular design for quilt blocks, stars can offer variety in how many points they have, if they are wonky or symmetrical, and of course their size or method of construction. I designed this block to combine two of my favorite things in quilting - stars and paper piecing!



Sample Block



Sample by: Becky Glasby



Materials:

Supplies:

- Add-A-Quarter ruler or regular quilting ruler
- Postcard or similar thickness paper
- 4" x WOF* strip - Fabric 2 (Green)
- 2 ½" x WOF strip - Fabric 3 (Orange)

Fabric

- ½ yard - Background fabric (Light Blue solid)
- ¼ yard - Fabric 1 (Blue)

*Note that WOF stands for Width of Fabric and in this pattern assumes ~40" selvedge to selvedge

About Foundation Paper Piecing:

Foundation Paper Piecing helps create more accurate or intricate designs, especially with sharp points or angles that are not easily stitched with regular piecing methods. Paper Pieced patterns have numbered sections that you follow in order. The numbered side of the paper is the Right side of the pattern. You stitch through the paper and fabric together, following the solid lines of the pattern, adding fabric in numerical order. Use a shortened stitch length as this perforates the paper and makes it easier to remove the paper from the back of the block when it is complete. When constructing the block, remember these main steps: FOLD-TRIM-STITCH-PRESS.

Cutting:

Background fabric

Cut 2 strips 3" x WOF and 2 strips 3 ½" x WOF

From the 3" strips: cut

16 - 3" x 3" squares

From the 3 ½" strips cut:

8 rectangles 3 ½" x 8" and

8 squares 3 ½" x 3"

Fabric 1 (Blue):

Cut 2 strips at 4" x WOF

Cut 8 rectangles 4" x 6 ½"

Then trim the remaining strip down to 3 ½" and cut 8 rectangles 3 ½" x 3"

Fabric 2 (Green):

Cut 2 strips 2" x WOF

Cut 8 rectangles 2" x 3 ½"

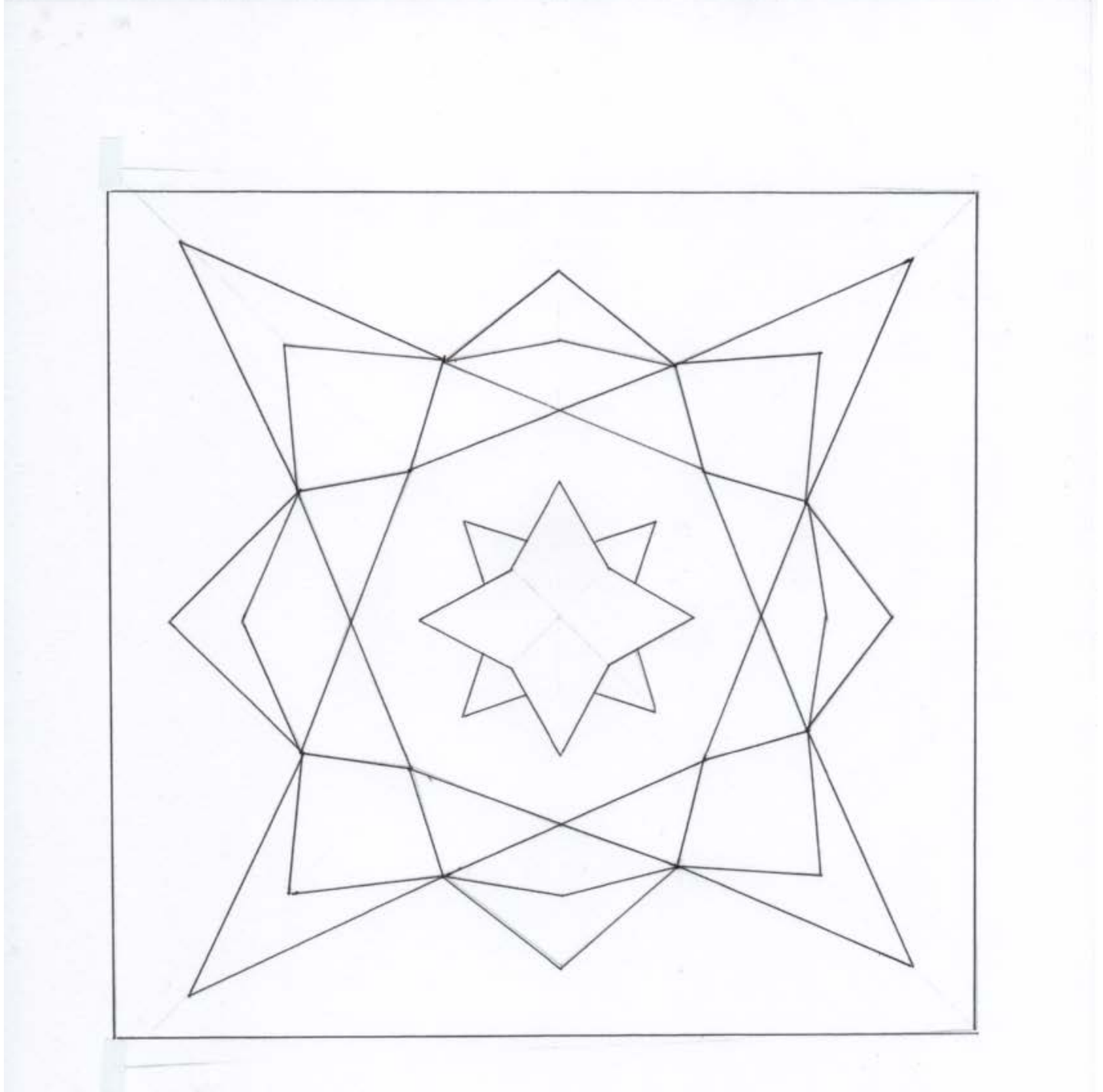
Cut 8 squares 2" x 2"

Fabric 3 (Orange):

Cut 8 rectangles 2 ½" x 4"



Coloring Diagram





Instructions

Photo 1

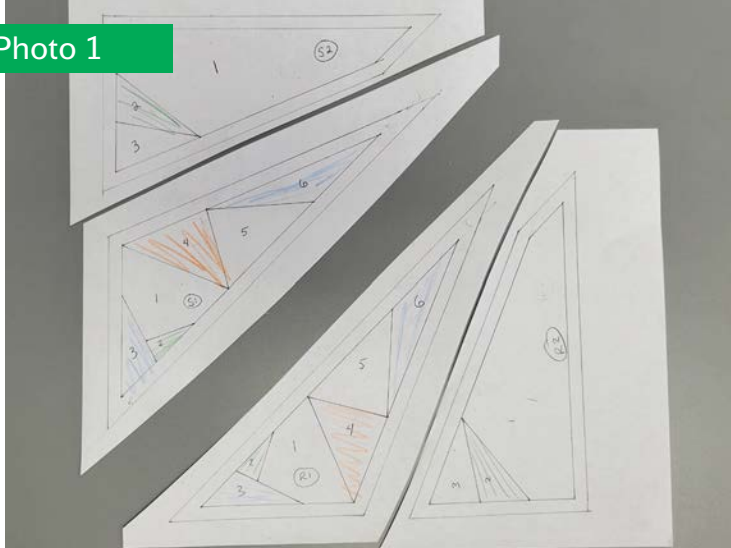


Photo 2

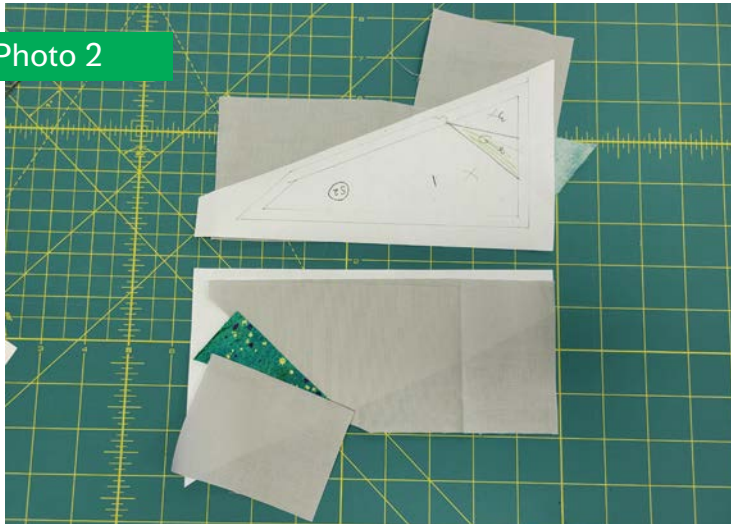
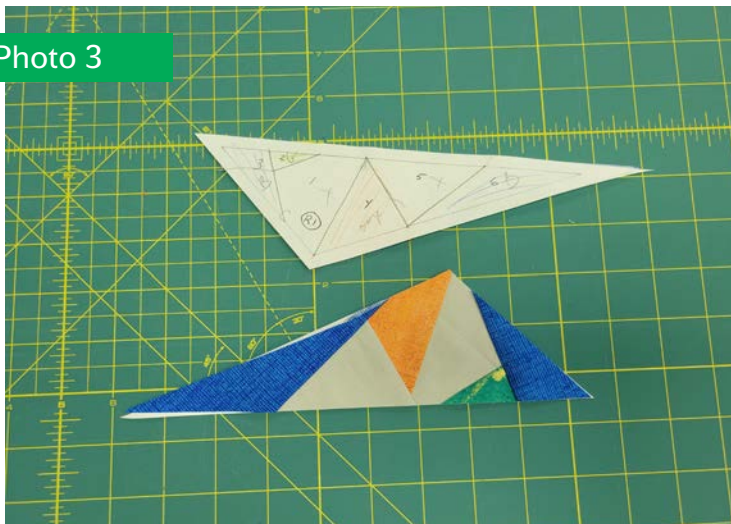


Photo 3



1. Print out the templates on pages 10-11, make sure to check that they print out at 100%. You'll need 4 each of R1, R2, S1, and S2.
2. Roughly cut out each section staying outside of the dashed lines.
3. Label each numbered section with the fabric you'll be using, for example I used colored pencils to fill in the parts where Fabrics 1-3 will go (Photo 1). This helps eliminate confusion later on.
4. Lower/shorten your stitch length to 1.5-1.8. A shorter stitch length allows the paper to tear away easily.

Note: If you need a refresher on this technique, check out our tutorial video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/dAdFvHnbyQw>. While the tutorial block may be a different design, the method is the same!

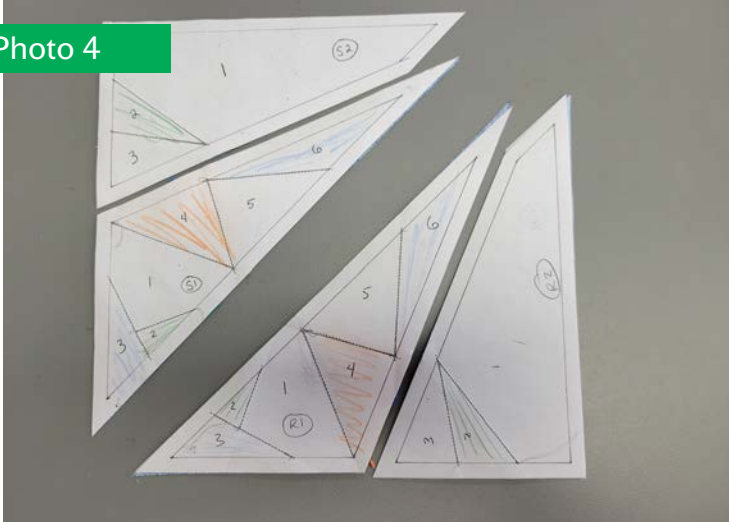
Remember to **FOLD - TRIM - STITCH - PRESS**

5. Start with section R2 and paper piece it in numerical order. Repeat for all 4 R2 sections.
6. Piece all 4 S2 sections (Photo 2).
7. Continue paper piecing in numerical order for all R1 sections. Be sure to press well after adding each piece to maintain clean edges. This can be with an iron, or with a seam roller.
8. Piece all 4 S1 sections (Photo 3).



Instructions

Photo 4



9. Once all the sections are pieced, they can be trimmed down to the dashed line (Photo 4).
10. With a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance piece section R1 to R2 and press.
11. Piece section S1 to S2 and press (Photo 5).
12. Now piece together section R1-2 to section S1-2 to make one quadrant of the block (Photo 6).

Photo 5

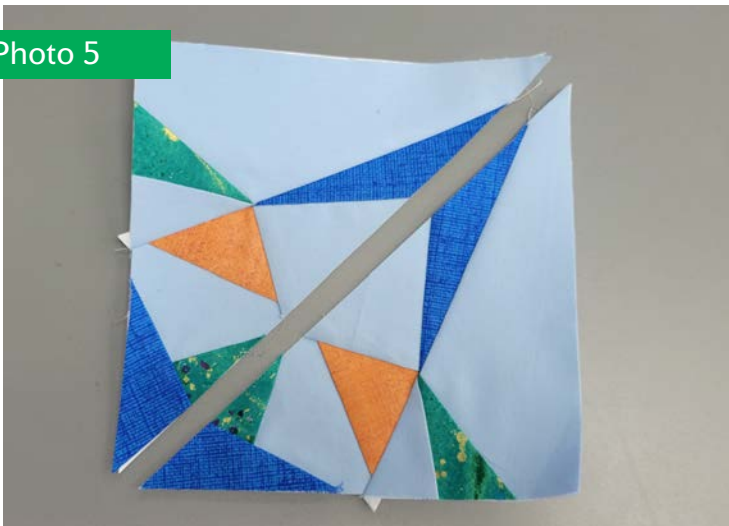


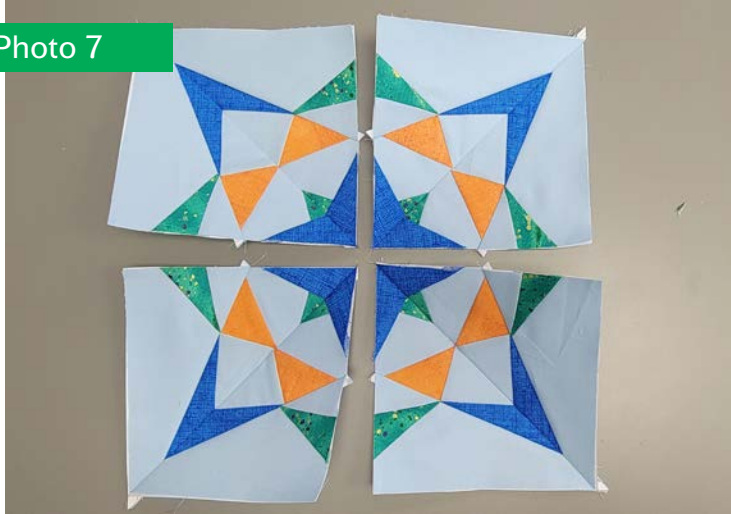
Photo 6





Instructions

Photo 7



13. Repeat steps 10-12 to make remaining quadrants and press (Photo 7).

14. Join two quadrants together to make half a block, and repeat for the remaining half and press (Photo 8).

15. Then join both halves together to make the full block and press.

16. Carefully tear away the papers from the back, then give the block a final press (Photo 9).

Photo 8

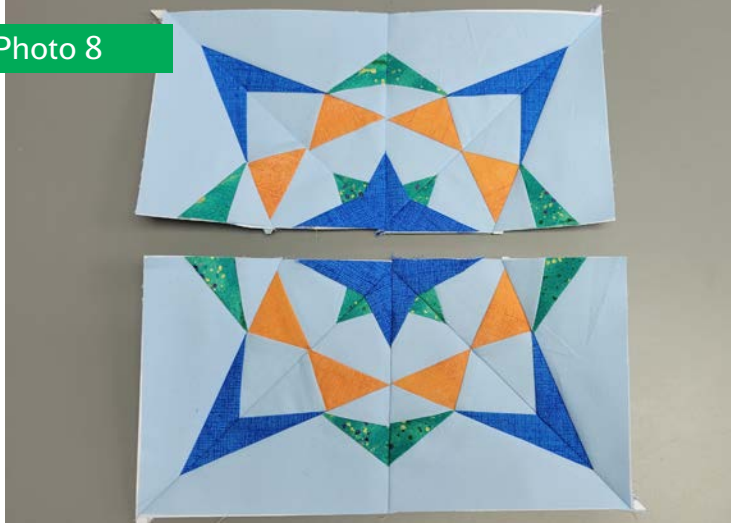


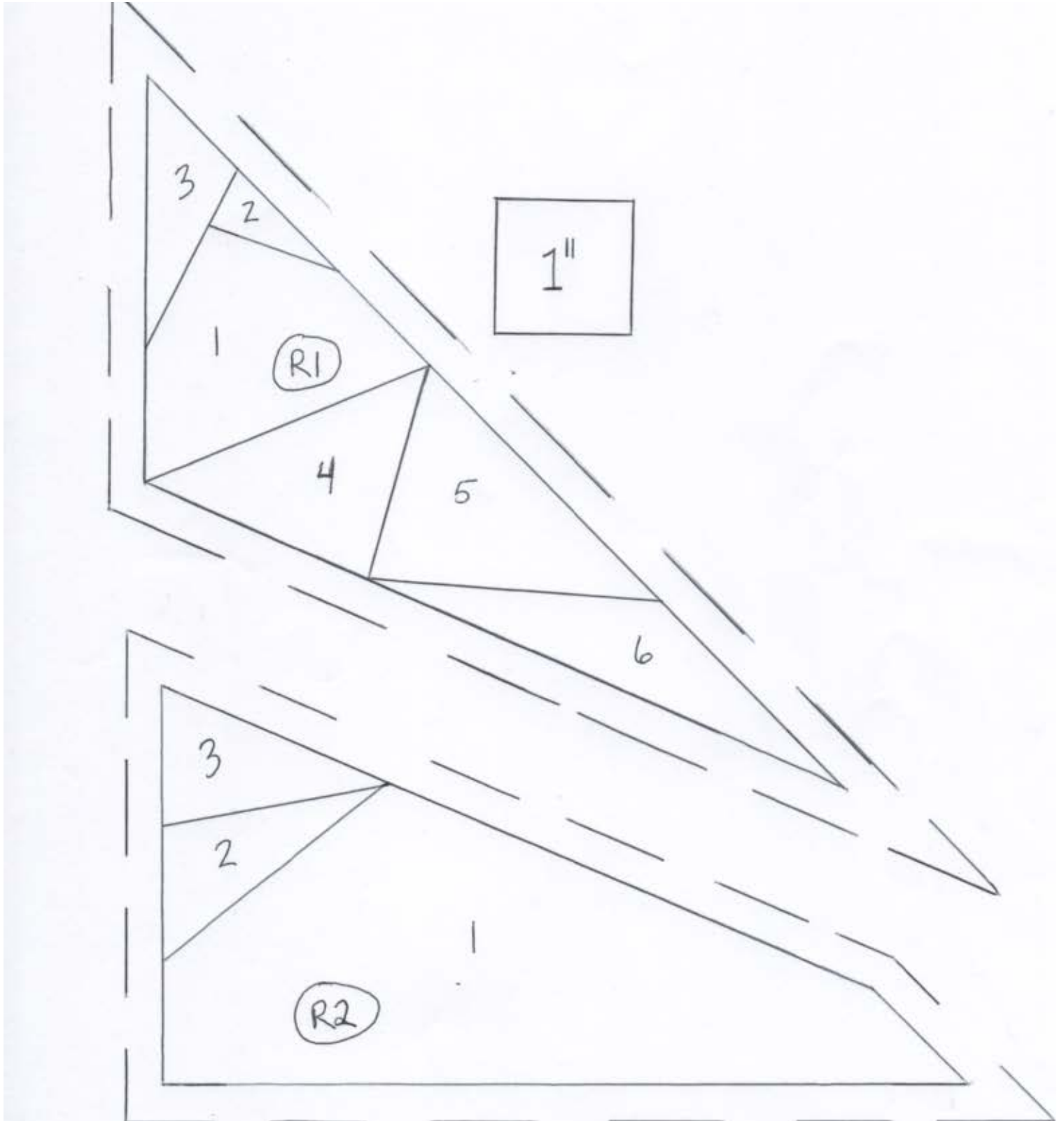
Photo 9



Finished?
Fantastic!



Diagram





Diagram

