

July 2018

inspired by the exhibit

*Fly me to the  
Moon*



# Inspiration

National Quilt Museum gallery



When the Apollo astronauts went to the moon, the whole world watched. When the *Fly Me to the Moon* art quilt challenge went out, it went global. The book showcasing the curated results of that call for entries includes 179 art quilts by over 130 artists from 8 countries, expressing their interpretation of the space program and all things lunar. The exhibit at the National Quilt Museum displays 44 of these quilts.

On display through September 4, 2018, this exhibit invites you to walk down memory lane or discover the story of the missions for the first time, but most importantly, enjoy a trip to the moon and beyond without the time and rigors of space training. As you travel into space, meet the astronauts, hum the tunes, and read how the artists tell you about their pieces. Find endless inspiration and discover what the moon is really made of: cotton, thread, crystals, paint, ink, tulle, and crocheted lace.

**Learn More** [quiltmuseum.org/moon](http://quiltmuseum.org/moon)



## Guest Designer: Annabel Wrigley

Annabel Wrigley



Annabel Wrigley is a designer, author, and kids sewing teacher. She owns Little Pincushion Studio, a kids sewing and crafting studio in Warrenton, Virginia.

Annabel has written four children's sewing books with C&T publishing and has designed two fabric collections with Windham fabrics. Annabel can also be found on Creativebug.com where she has a large selection of sewing and crafting videos for both adults and children.

**Visit** [littlepincushionstudio.com](http://littlepincushionstudio.com)

Circle template for moon opening: page 5, step 2

### **Modern Moonscape block by Annabel Wrigley**

I have been working with curves a lot lately so the *Fly Me to the Moon* exhibit really is the perfect inspiration! As a modern quilter, I tend towards more improvisational work and am a little stubborn when it comes to following a pattern. This block design is the best of both worlds for me, there is some fun improv mixed with a more traditional-ish technique. I have learned many ways to sew a set in circle but the way outlined in this pattern is what works best for me and my non-rule-following ways.



# Pattern: Sample Block

Sample block



*sample by Annabel Wrigley*

- Size 10.5" x 10.5" (finishes 10" x 10")
- Skills: curved piecing
- **Supply list:** tweezers, fine tip basting glue, spray starch  
11.5"x 8" piece of fabric for background, strips of fabric for bottom  
2 7"x7" pieces of fabric for moon sections



# Pattern: Preparing the background

Photo 1

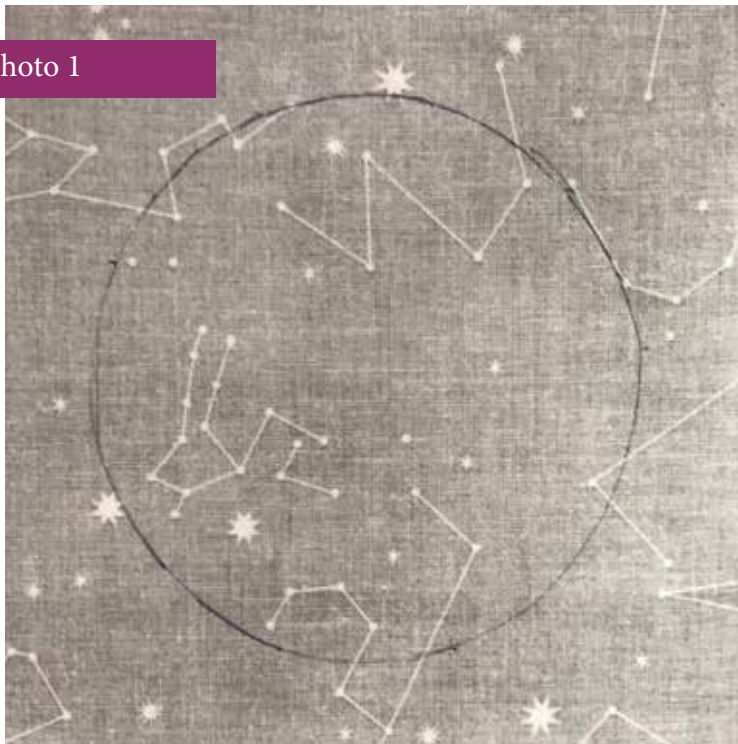


Photo 2



## Background:

1. Cut your background fabric to measure 11.5" x 8"
2. Print out the template and trace the circle onto the back of the main background fabric. Be sure not to position the circle too close to the edges of the block. *(photo 1) (template on page 3)*
3. Set your machine to a long basting stitch and decrease the machine tension to help prevent puckering.
4. Sew on the marked line around the circle—don't secure the stitches at the beginning and end, we will take them out later. *(green stitching, photo 2)*
5. Liberally spray starch the fabric
6. Cut the middle out of the fabric making sure to leave around ½" between the cut area and the stitch line. *(photo 2)*



# Pattern: Preparing the background

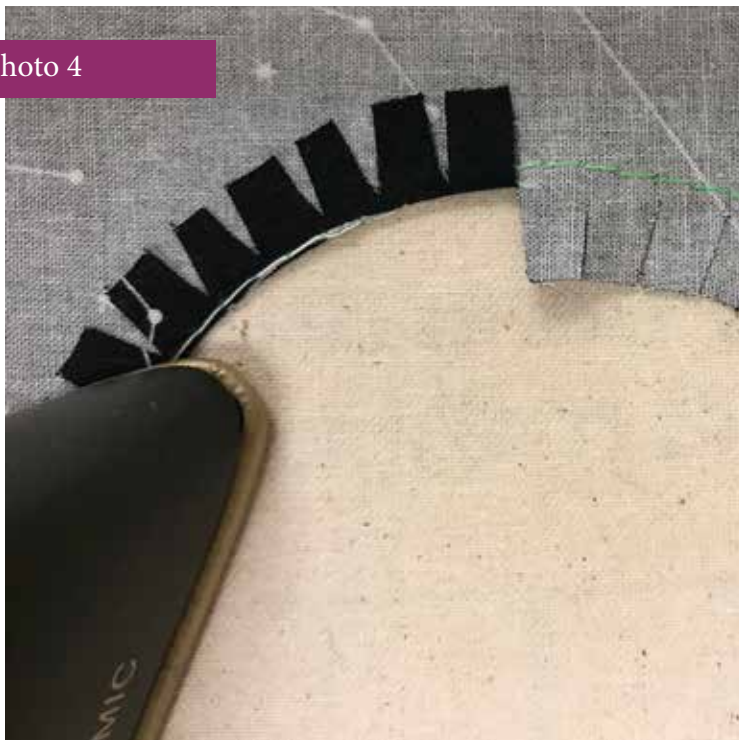
Photo 3



## Background:

7. Carefully clip the curves, being careful not to cut the stitching. *(photo 3)*
8. Using the basted line as a guide, start folding and ironing the clipped areas back. *(photo 4)*
9. Flip it over and give the piece another shot of spray starch.
10. Carefully remove the basted stitch line—I use a seam ripper and tweezers to keep the strain on the fabric to a minimum.

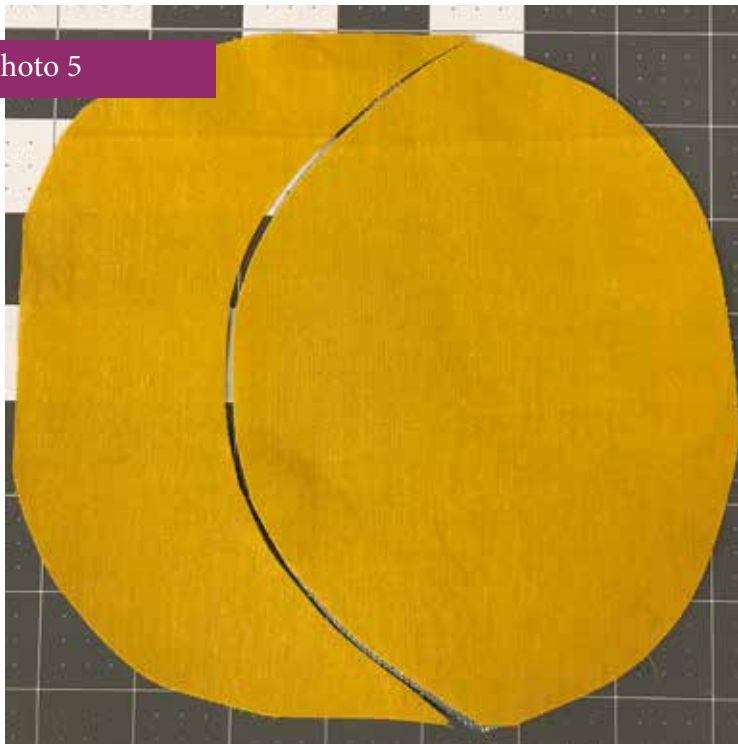
Photo 4





# Pattern: Improv moon

Photo 5



1. Cut the 2 pieces of moon fabric (7"x7" squares) into a rough circle (approximately 6.5" diameter).
2. Lay them right side up on top of each other and rotary cut in a moonish shape. *(photo 5)*
3. Sew 2 of the moon fabrics together. **You will have 2 pieces left over.** *(photo 6)*

Here is a great curved piecing tutorial  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR\\_ywxilZe0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR_ywxilZe0)

Photo 6



4. Give this improv piece a good press.



# Pattern: Assembly

Photo 7



Photo 8



## Assembly:

1. Apply a tiny drop of glue to each clipped section on the back of the main circle piece. Make sure every segment has a drop. (*photo 7*)
2. Place wrong side down on the improv moon, be sure of how you would like the placement to look before you place it there.



3. Give it a good press to dry the glue.
4. Using a zipper foot or with the needle positioned to the far left with a regular foot, lift up the backing fabric and stitch carefully in the crease around the circle. (*photo 8*)
5. Trim the seam allowance to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
6. Iron the seam allowance inwards to give the appearance of an appliqué moon.





# Improv Atmosphere

Improv stripes



1. The stripes at the bottom of the block are ruler free rotary cut and when pieced together need to measure 3.5".
2. Attach the pieced stripes to the bottom of the block.
3. Trim block to 10.5" square.

## Finished? Fabulous!

When you finish your block, we encourage you to upload a picture to the Facebook group to share ideas and inspiration with other members. If you're struggling with the block, please reach out to the BOTM community.



# National Quilt Museum Updates

## Workshops



Artist Kris Vierra has been sewing or quilting for over 20 years. She has won numerous national and international quilting awards. Her quilt “Tiger, Tiger” is in the museum’s collection, as is her 2018 AQS Paducah winning quilt in the category of movable machine workmanship “Star of India.” Join Kris in the museum’s classrooms August 16–18 for her workshop “Easy Machine Methods.”

- **Learn More** [quiltmuseum.org/vierra](http://quiltmuseum.org/vierra)

## Instagram



The museum’s Instagram channel shows current news about visitors, educational programs, exhibits, and more. The photo to the right is from the Beginner Quilt Camp in June, with the kids showing off their quilts finished in just four days!

- **Learn More** [instagram.com/nationalquiltmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/nationalquiltmuseum)

## Email News

Sign Up

Get new exhibits and special events. Approximately one email per week.

Email \*

First Name

The museum sends approximately one email per week covering news, exhibits, workshops, special events, contests, and information about our mission to strengthen and grow the quilting community. The sign-up form is on the museum’s homepage in the left sidebar.

- **Sign Up** [quiltmuseum.org](http://quiltmuseum.org)  
(form below ‘Calendar of Events’ and ‘Current Exhibits’ in left sidebar)

## Get Involved



The National Quilt Museum supports the quilting community by bringing the work of today’s quilters to new audiences worldwide. The museum is a 501c3 nonprofit organization primarily funded through the generosity of people and companies passionate about quilting. You can help! Follow us on social media, spread the word, visit the galleries, take a class, shop, become a member, make a donation, or volunteer!

- **Learn More** [quiltmuseum.org/getinvolved](http://quiltmuseum.org/getinvolved)