



**APRIL 2026**  
[quiltmuseum.org/botm](http://quiltmuseum.org/botm)

**Block of the  
Month Club**



*Time for Cake* by Becky Glasby

# April Designer



**Becky Glasby** is a self-taught quilter who turned her love of quilting from a personal hobby into a professional career at the National Quilt Museum.

At NQM Becky works to inspire the next generation of quilters and promote the art of quilting through: youth & adult tours, hands-on programs, community collaborations, Summer Quilt Camps for kids, the Block of the Month Club program, and coordinating the annual School Block Challenge.

Becky had a solo exhibition of her quilts at The National Quilt Museum, and has exhibited several quilts in shows across the country.

Follow Becky Online!

Instagram:  
[@bumblybzs](https://www.instagram.com/bumblybzs)

## *Time for Cake*



The National Quilt Museum opened on April 25, 1991 so we are celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NQM this month (and all year). This anniversary inspired our Round 8 theme of Celebration/Celebrate.

What could be more celebratory than a cake for an anniversary, birthday, or any occasion to be honest! This cake starts with a traditional pieced design and each successive tier adds excitement with printed designs or off-kilter angles until the cake is topped with a decorative fabric curl.

Think about what your cake will be celebrating - maybe it's the NQM anniversary, or quilting as a whole, or maybe the celebration is the cake! Then gather fabrics that could pass as decorated cake layers (prints, batiks, geometrics) and start stitching up this delicious centerpiece.

# Materials

Removeable marking pen/tool

## Tier 1

- 1 - 5.5" square - orange
- 4 - 3" squares - orange
- 1 - 5.5" square - purple
- 4 - 3" squares - purple
- 2 - 2.5" x 4.5" - background

## Tier 2

- 1 - 4.5" x 10.5" - print fabric
- 2 - 4.5" x 3.75" - background

## Tier 3

- 1 - 1.5" x 22" - color 1/purple
- 1 - 1.5" x 22" - color 2/pink
- 2 - 4.5" x 4.75" - background

## Tier 4

- 1 - 6.5" x 4" - print fabric
- 2 - 4" x 5.75" - background

## Topper Decoration

1 - 5" square - topper print

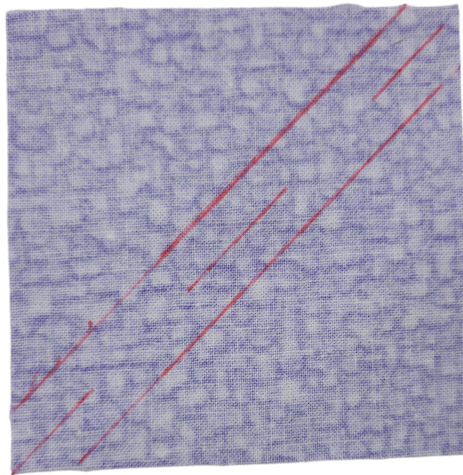
1 - 5" square fusible webbing

1 - 3.75" x 16.5" - background - **Measure & cut this piece when you reach Step 23**

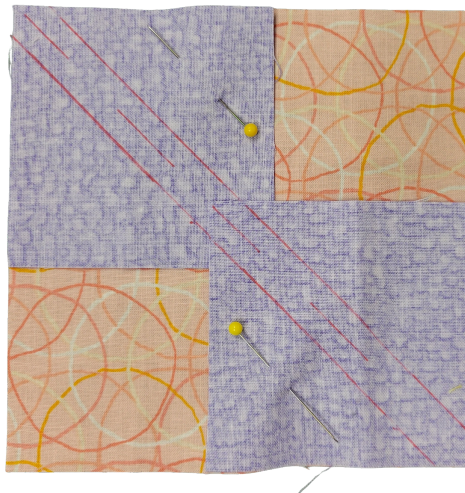
# Directions

## TIER 1 - Filled Cake Layer

1. We'll use the 4-in-1 method for Flying Geese to make the units. On the backs of each of the 3" squares, draw a diagonal line in one direction (shown as a dashed line). Next, draw a line 1/4" away on either side of the first line (these are the solid lines).

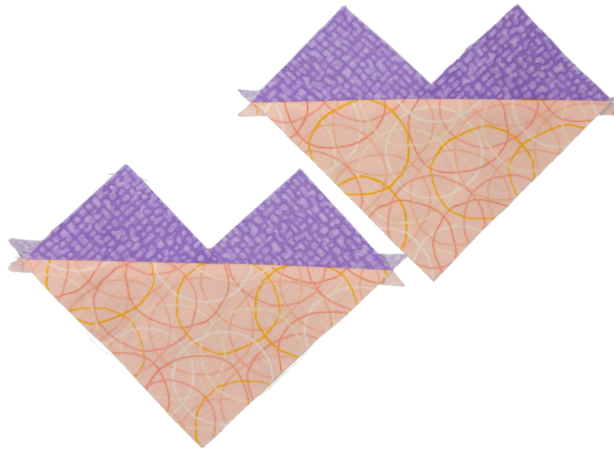


2. Start with the 5.5" orange square, right sides up. Take 2 of the purple 3" squares, and lay them diagonally on the orange square, right sides together. The drawn lines should match up where these squares overlap. Carefully pin in place. Stitch on the outer two lines, the solid lines.

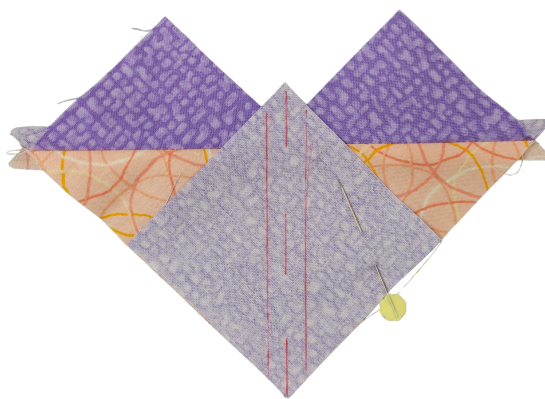


# Directions

3. Cut on the dashed, center line to create two pieces that look like the image below. Press these seams open for best accuracy.

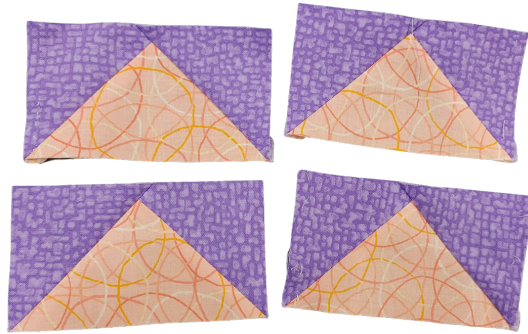


4. Place one of the 3" purple squares on the orange corner, so the diagonal lines point towards the purple triangles. Pin in place, and stitch on the two outermost lines. Repeat on the second unit.



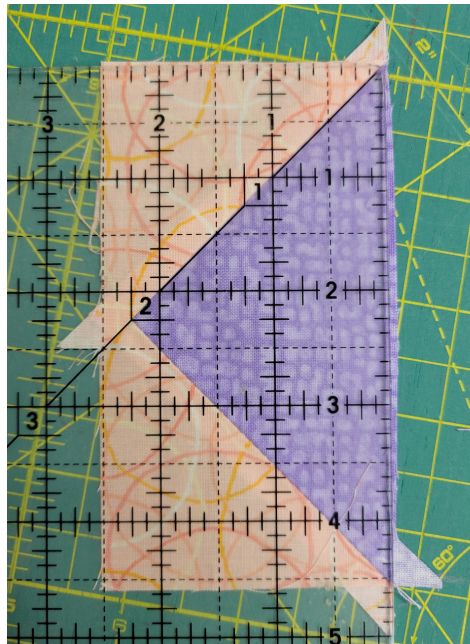
## Directions

5. Cut on the dashed, center line of each unit, so there are 4 total flying geese units. Press the final seams open as best as possible.



6. Trim each unit to measure 4.5" x 2.5" in size. As shown, I align my unit with the main triangle pointing left so that I can use the 45° line on my ruler to help line up the unit more accurately for trimming.

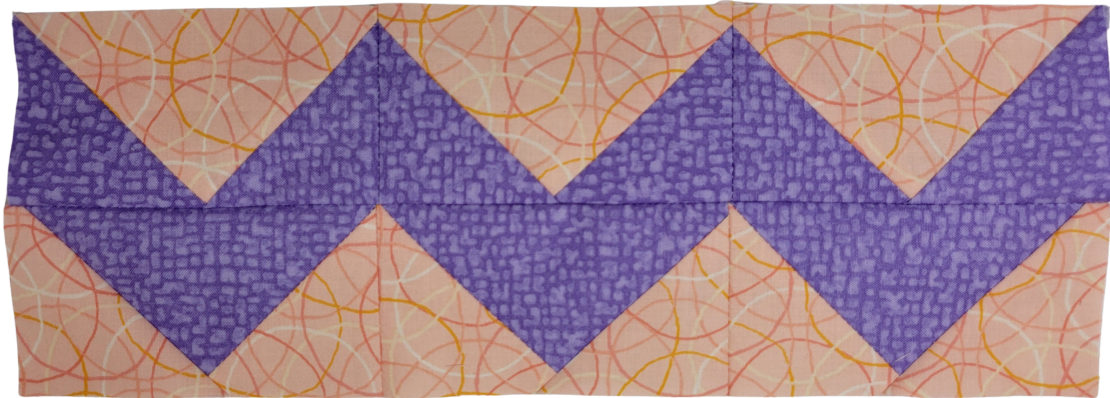
*TIP: Aim to have 1/4" between the point of the large triangle and the edge of the unit so you don't lose the point in the seam allowance.*



7. Repeat Steps 2 -6 with the 5.5" purple square and the 3" orange squares, so you have a total of 8 flying geese units.

## Directions

8. We will use 3 units of each color pairing (3 with the large orange triangles, and 3 with the large purple triangles). This will create the zig-zag look of a filled cake layer.



9. Attach the background fabric pieces to the left and right sides of this unit, press seams and set aside.

### TIER 2 - Printed Layer

I used a fun geometric print fabric for this layer, something that would look like decorated cake frosting, so experiment with your printed or geometric fabrics here!

Alternately, maybe you want to use a solid fabric here. You could add quilting or embroidery stitches here to look like cake frosting or piping.

10. Sew the background pieces to the left and right sides of the print fabric and press.



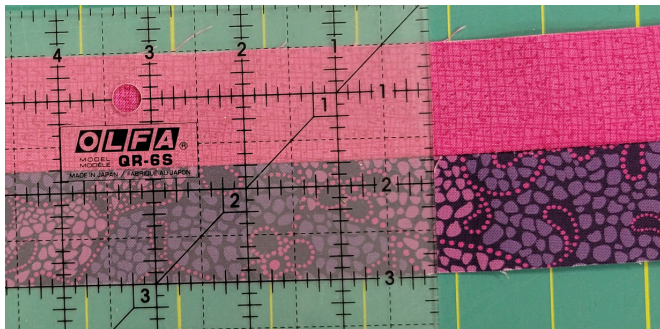
# Directions

## TIER 3 - Striped Cake

11. Take the two 1.5" x 22" strips and sew them together along the long edge. Press this seam open. The strip should measure 2.5" wide now.



12. From this two-color strip, cut 4 segments that are 4.5" in length.



13. Lay out the segments so the colors alternate, and stitch them together as shown with a 1/4" seam. Press seams open.



# Directions

14. Stitch the background pieces onto the left and right sides of the striped unit. Press seams open or towards the background.

## TIER 4 - Sprinkle Layer

Similar to Tier 2, I chose a printed fabric that looked like sprinkles. You could stick with a printed fabric, use the same fabric as Tier 2, or opt for a more solid fabric and use quilting, embroidery, or embellishments to create the sprinkles.

15. Stitch the background pieces onto the left and right sides of the printed fabric and press the seams. Now all four tiers are complete.



# Directions

## Cake Assembly

Time to stack these cake layers!

16. Starting with Tiers 2 & 3, we'll join them at an angle, so that the tiers are a little off-kilter in the middle of the cake.

Place Tier 2 on the cutting mat right sides up. I like to line the top edge with one of the mat lines to help keep the pieces even. Layer Tier 3 right sides up on top of the other piece, so that they overlap about 1"-1.5".



17. Place the ruler where the pieces overlap and set it at an angle, from upper left to lower right. Do not let the ruler go past where the pieces overlap. Cut a straight line through both layers of material. Discard the cut-off pieces.



# Directions

18. Place Tier 3 right sides together with Tier 2, lining up the cut edges and sew together. Press.



19. Now join Tier 1 to the bottom of Tier 2 with a straight 1/4" seam and press.



# Directions

20. We'll join Tier 4 to Tier 3 off-set in the opposite direction. Place the Tier 4 piece right side up on the cutting mat.

Place Tier 3 piece on top of Tier 4, overlapping the pieces about 1" -1.5".



21. Place the ruler so it is angled from upper right to lower left where the fabrics are overlapped. Do not let the ruler go past where the pieces overlap.



## Directions

22. Cut a straight line through both layers of material. Discard the cut-off pieces.

Place Tier 4 right sides together with Tier 3, lining up the cut edges and sew together. Press.



23. Now is a good time to measure the height of the block, before cutting this final piece of background fabric. If needed, cut the strip larger than the suggested 3.75" so the final block measures 16.5" in height. Stitch this strip to the top of the cake.



# Directions

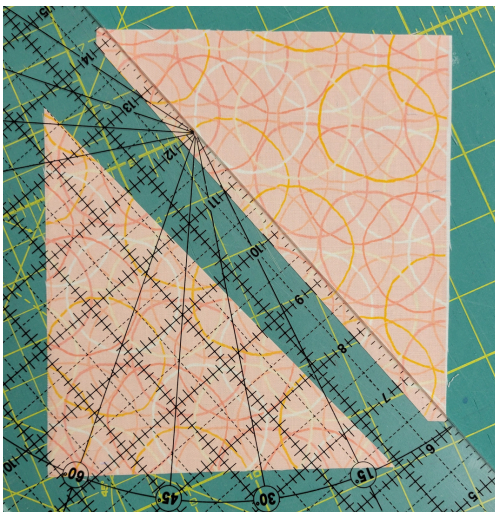
## CAKE TOPPER

This topper mimics a molded chocolate or sugar work curled design. Maybe your topper is a candle, or uses a different shape to accent your cake and celebration theme.

24. Add the fusible to the wrong side of the 5" square for the cake topper. Let cool completely before peeling off the backing paper.

25. Cut several 1/4" or skinnier strips along the diagonal of the square to create 2-3 bias strips. Cutting these on the bias will allow for the strips to be curved to create a cake topper curl.

*TIP: Cut an extra strip to use as a practice on a scrap of fabric. This allows for gentle curves, and as you carefully pull or curve the strip, use the tip of the iron to fuse the strip in place as you go.*



# Directions

26. Take one strip and use the tip of the iron to tack one end of the strip into place on the background fabric centered with Tier 4. Carefully stretch/curve the strip while using the tip of the iron to tack down the gentle curves. Trim away any un-fused piece of the strip. Take a second strip and repeat, curving the opposite direction to create the inner curl.



27. Trim the block to measure 16.5" x 16.5" in size.

