

Project: Diamond in the Rough

American Patchwork & Quilting

1 MILLION
PILLOWCASE CHALLENGE

Pattern 47



FABRICS are from the Tweet collection by Paintbrush Studio (fabri-quilt.com).

Project: Diamond in the Rough

Materials

For one pillowcase:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ yard total assorted prints (blocks)
- 1 yard bird print (pillowcase body, band)

Finished pillowcase: 30×20" (fits a standard-size bed pillow)

Finished block: 2½×5"

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances for piecing blocks and pillowcase construction. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Cut Fabrics

Patterns are on page 4.

From assorted prints, cut:

- 16 of Pattern A
- 32 of Pattern B
- 32 of Pattern B reversed

From bird print, cut:

- 1—25½×40½" rectangle
- 1—5½×40½" rectangle

Assemble Blocks

1. Gather one assorted print A diamond, two assorted print B triangles, and two assorted print B reversed triangles.
2. Referring to **Diagram 1**, sew assorted print B triangles to opposite corners of print A diamond. Press seams open.
3. Join assorted print B reversed triangles to remaining edges of A diamond (**Diagram 2**). Press seams open to make a diamond block. The block should be 3×5½" including seam allowances.

4. Repeat steps 1-3 to make 16 diamond blocks total.

Assemble Band

1. Sew together 16 diamond blocks in a row to make a 5½×40½" diamond strip.
2. Referring to **Band Assembly Diagram**, sew together diamond strip and bird print 5½×40½" strip.
3. Join short ends of Step 2 unit to make a loop. Press seam open. Fold loop in half with wrong side inside; press to make pillowcase band.

Assemble Pillowcase

1. Fold bird print 25½×40½" rectangle in half crosswise to form a 25½×20½" rectangle. Sew together long edges and one pair of short edges to make a pillowcase body. Turn right side out and press flat.
2. Referring to **Diagram 3**, slide pillowcase band over pillowcase body with diamond blocks facing pillowcase body; align raw edges and pin. Using ¼" seam allowance, sew together through all layers.
3. Press pillowcase band open, pressing seam allowances toward pillowcase body. Topstitch on pillowcase body ⅛" from band seam (**Diagram 4**) to secure seam allowances and complete pillowcase.

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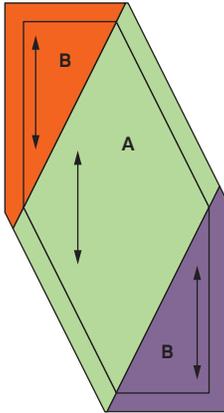


DIAGRAM 1

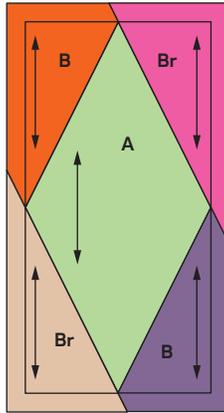
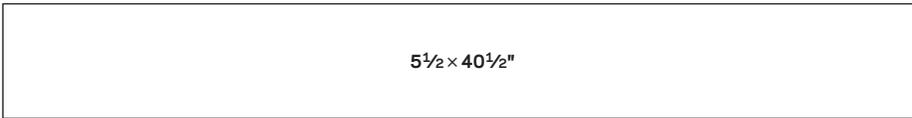
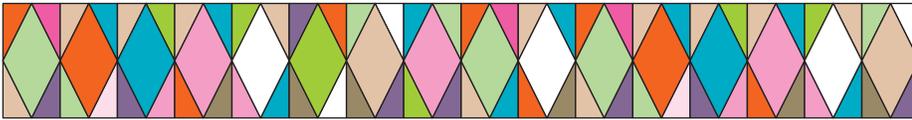


DIAGRAM 2



BAND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

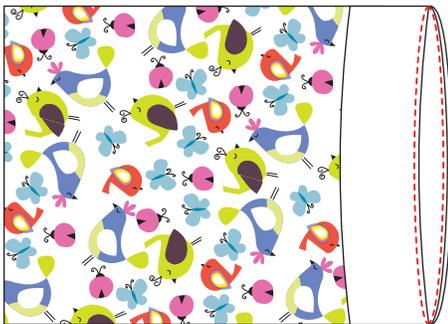


DIAGRAM 3

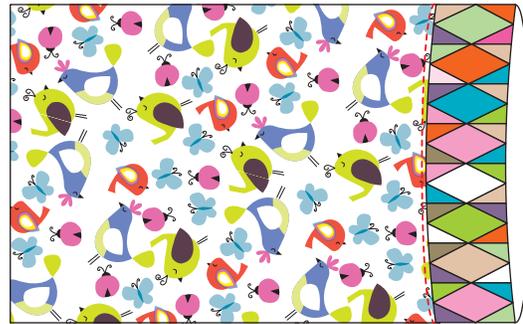
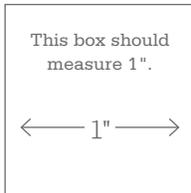
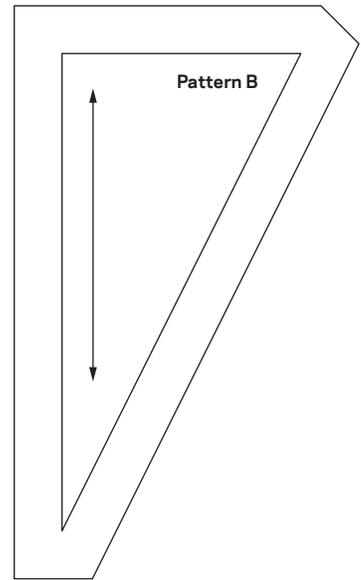
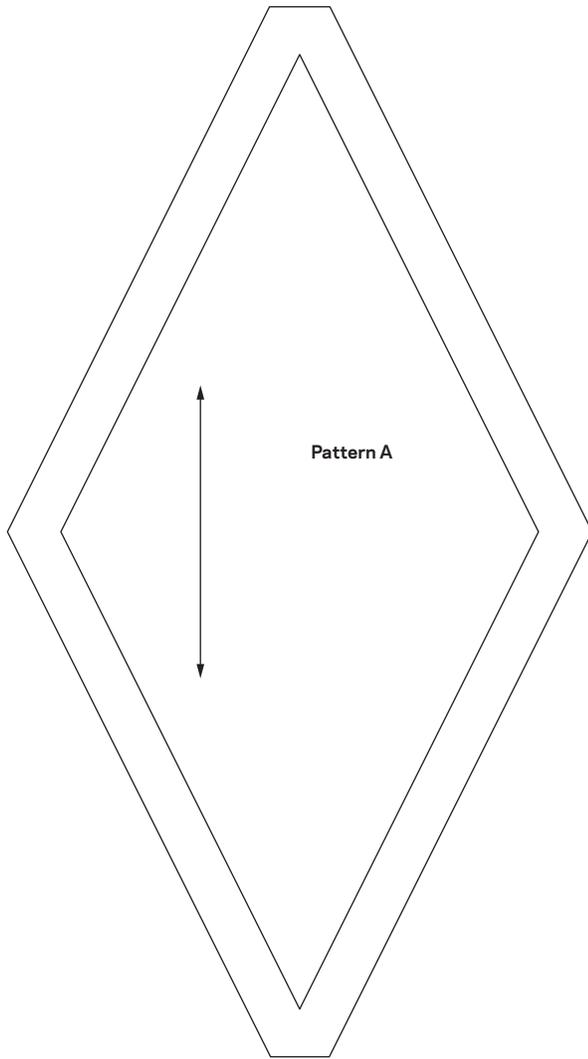


DIAGRAM 4

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*** NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

Make and Use Templates

Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

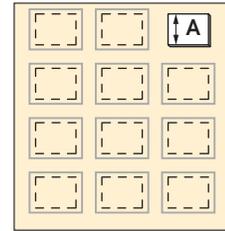


DIAGRAM 1

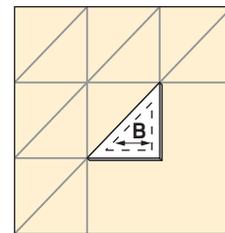


DIAGRAM 2