

# HOW TO FOUNDATION PIECE

## 5 STEPS FOR SUCCESSFUL PIECING

Begin by centering fabric #1 behind area #1 on the foundation, placing the wrong side of the fabric against the unprinted side of the foundation. Look through the foundation, and position it so there is approximately 1/4" of seam allowance extending beyond the line that separates area #1 from area #2. Continue with the steps listed below, until all areas of the foundation have been covered with fabric.

**CUT** - Cut a piece of fabric for each area, allowing for a **GENEROUS** 1/4" seam allowance on all sides. Cutting pieces larger than needed will make positioning easier.

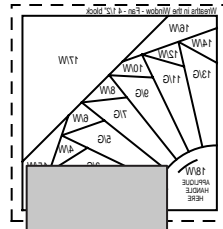
**PLACE** - As you add fabrics for each step, place them in the correct position on the **UNPRINTED SIDE** of the foundation. Position them where they are going to live after they have been sewn. Keeping the cut edges together along the seam line, flip the piece you're adding so that it is right sides together with the fabrics that are already there.

**SEW** - Sew all seams by stitching directly on the line on the **PRINTED SIDE** of the foundation. Stay on the lines, and you will have perfectly accurate points and corners. When sewing by machine, sew 1/4" before and beyond the ends of the line.

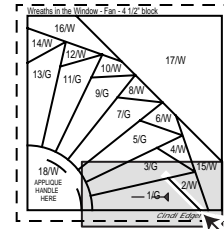
**PRESS** - Press each seam after it has been sewn. Use a **DRY, WARM** iron, making sure that each seam is pressed completely to the side. Any tucks or pleats you may create will affect the accuracy of the points and corners within your block. Press again on the back of the block to help keep the tissue foundation smooth and wrinkle free.

**TRIM** - Fold the foundation toward you, creasing it along the next seamline that will be sewn. If necessary, tear tissue away from extended seam lines to allow folding on the line. Trim off excess fabric, leaving approximately a 1/4" seam allowance.

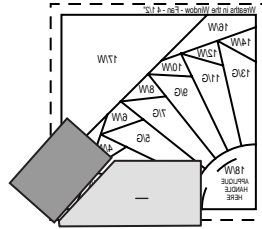
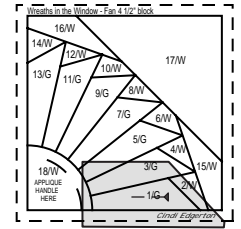
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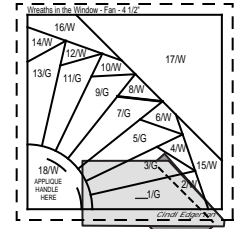
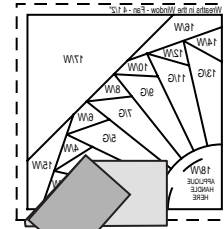
Place fabric #1 right side facing up.



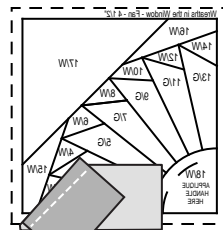
Fold on this line, use the line as a guide and trim, leaving a 1/4" seam allowance.



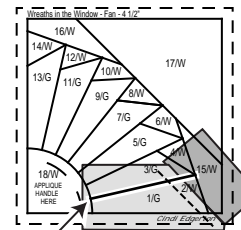
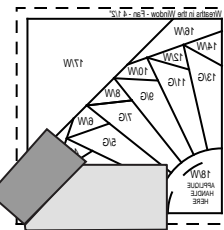
Position fabric #2 on the wrong side of the tissue. Flip fabric #2, placing it right sides together with fabric #1.



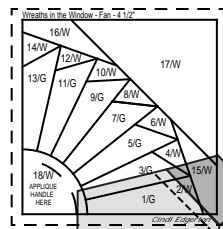
Turn the tissue to the right side, and stitch on the line between areas 1 & 2.



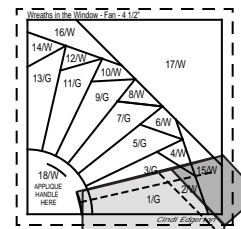
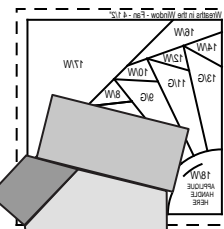
Press fabric #2 to the side.



Fold and trim along this line.



Position fabric #3 on the wrong side of the tissue. Flip fabric #3, placing it right sides together with fabrics 1 & 2. Turn the tissue to the right side, and stitch on the line. Continue adding fabric pieces using these steps.



Cut fabric pieces for each area, adding a generous seam allowance, and shaping the fabric piece to a similar size and shape as the area that needs to be covered with fabric (I find it is easiest if I pre-cut all my fabric pieces, and then stitch the block). Stack the pieces up in the order they will go onto the block.

Then just follow the five steps I've listed above. If you get confused, read through the steps to see what you just did, and that will help you know how to proceed. Enjoy!