

MONTH ONE – GETTING STARTED**FABRIC REQUIREMENTS**

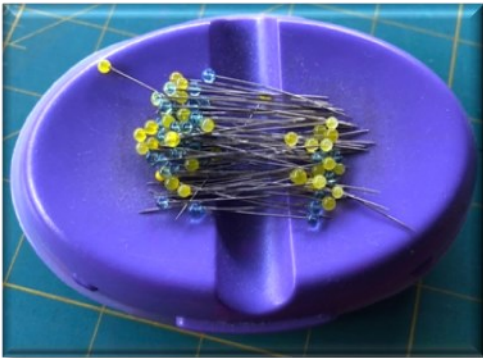
How long is a piece of string...I'm a bit of a "more is always better than less" sort of girl, when it comes to fabric. It works for ice-cream doesn't it? So, I chose 27 fat 1/8th of my favourite fabrics and a background. My fabrics were mostly Alison Glass prints and plains, with Tula Pink small spots and the background is Tula Pink. I didn't use the background in all the blocks so if you choose to do that you will need to have more. Your fabric requirements will be different if you choose not to put borders on, or make different borders to my sample.



- Background fabric, I purchased 3.50 metres and did not have much left over. This included using the background fabric for the first and third borders and the binding.
- 27 fat 1/8ths of your choice of fabric. I had some left over. Small prints are more suitable as some of the pieces are quite small. You can choose light, mediums and darks for your contrast but I just used different colours for my contrast.
- Border fabric – Border 1 - 40cm, border 2 (not checker board like mine) - 40cm, border 3 - 55cm.
- Binding – I needed 60cm for the binding.
- Backing and wadding – you will of course need these but that will depend on the size of your quilt.

ALSO

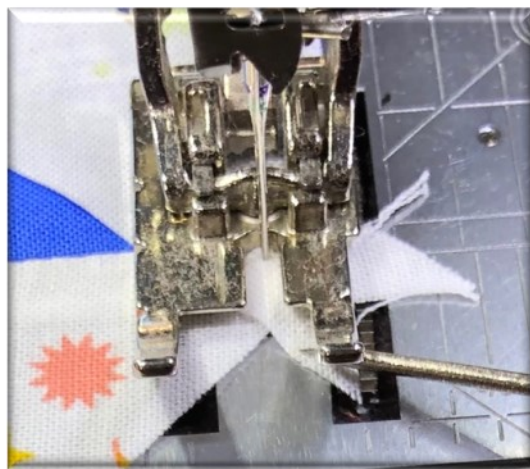
- You might find a rotating cutting mat useful; I used my 7"x7" Fiskars rotating mat.
- I always pin my work and find Clover fine pins Code No 2507 (opaque yellow and blue heads) the best, very sharp and very fine, see below.
- I use an awl to tame the ends of triangles to behave at the end of a seam as you are stitching, as in the photo below. You could use a pin or "purple thang".
- There are lots of seams which need to be butted in this quilt and you might find Clover Fork Pins Code No 240 handy. They allow you to keep your seams butted in place, by pinning one pin either side of the seam. These are the only pins I sew over and I do that by turning the fly wheel on the machine by hand, so I can stop and adjust if the needle is about to come down on the pin.
- You may find that with handling, the ends of the seams come apart, using a smaller stitch length than normal will help – I used 2.00 length throughout
- You might also find a 6½" square ruler useful.
- I have given you the names of the blocks but don't forget blocks sometimes have more than one name so you might know the blocks by a different name.



Clover fine pins



Fork pins



Using the awl

CONSTANTS THROUGHOUT THE CONSTRUCTION

- Seam allowance is always $\frac{1}{4}$ " and is included in the cutting instructions
- I press all my seams open as I go so that my block is as flat as is possible, some are quite bulky so it just made sense to spread the bulk
- There are lots of half square triangles included in these blocks. There are several ways to make half square triangles so I will detail my method of choice in a separate file called "Getting started - making half square triangles". You will of course do what works for you. Also, for the quarter square triangles and the flying geese, choose your own favourite method if you prefer not to use the instructions included.
- Trim off the "ears" which appear as you construct the blocks
- Colours referred to in the patterns are the colours I chose for my blocks
- Finished size means when the blocks are sewn together

OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

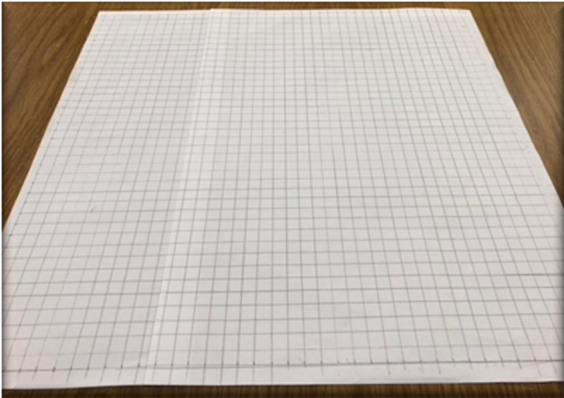


Photo 8

- I drew up a grid to work out the placement of my fabrics throughout the quilt. Join 4 pages of copy paper together with sticky tape so that you can draw up a grid 40cm x 40cm (then 1cm = 1") - see photo 8

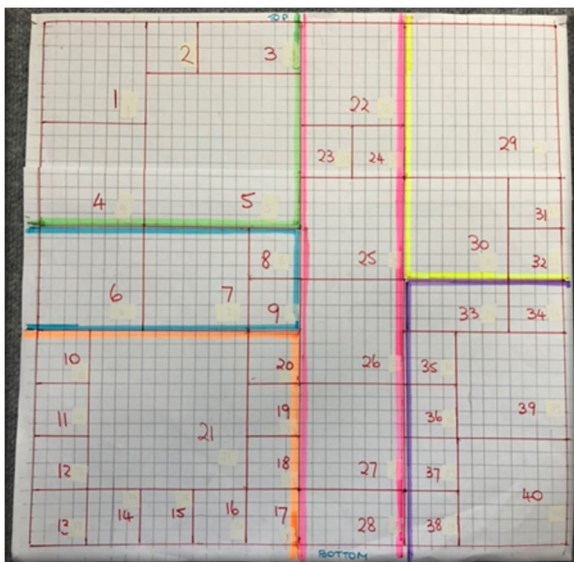


Photo 9

- Mark the top and bottom of the page, which will be the top and bottom of the quilt. Draw the grid for the placement of the blocks using the red lines, number the blocks 1 to 40 - see photo 9.



Photo 10

- Don't worry about the coloured lines we will use those in month 11 when we put the blocks together.
- I then used the grid to stick samples of the fabrics I chose to use in each block - see photo 10. This meant I didn't make blocks with the same fabric next to one another and I could spread the colours throughout the quilt. You may not wish to do this but will be happy to let the chips fall where they may, as you make the quilt.

Good luck and on to block 1