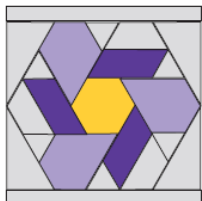


DESIGN N STITCH

with Quilters Select



Dwarf Iris Block

12" square, finished size
Kelly Ashton / Kellyquilter Designs

SUPPLIES:

Fabric: 100% cotton, quilt shop quality fabric; no flannels, please. Yardage requirements assume 40" of usable fabric width.

COLOR IN ILLUSTRATED BLOCK	YOUR COLOR	SHAPES	FABRIC QUANTITY
Dark Purple		LQ (leaning quadrangle)	1/8 yard
Light Purple		P (petal)	1/4 yard
Golden Yellow		H (hexagon)	1/8 yard OR remnant at least 4 1/2 x 5 1/2"
Grey Background / Negative Space		FHH (flat half-hexagon), ET (equilateral triangle), HET (half equilateral triangle), and rectangles	3/8 yard

Tools:

- Thread: piecing weight, neutral color
- Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
- Mechanical pencils: white chalk and "lead"
- Notions: pins, seam ripper, thread snips, any other favorite notions

To prepare fabric before cutting:

- MAGIC Premium Quilting & Crafting Spray OR Mary Ellen's Best Press

To make templates:

- Heavy Duty Template Plastic, translucent;
- One 12" x 18" sheet or two 8 1/2" x 11" sheets
- Ultra Fine Tip Sharpie pen
- Ruler, 12"
- Utility scissors
- Fabric Grips by Collins OR Nifty Notions
- Fabric Grips Sandpaper Dots

TEMPLATE-MAKING SUPPLIES



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Fabric Preparation:

Each of the 60-degree patchwork shapes have at least one bias edge. Preparing the fabric *before* cutting the width-of-fabric strips to add "body"/gentle stiffness helps to stabilize the fabric, minimizing the possibility of distorting the bias edges while working with the patchwork pieces.

Fabric Prep Procedure:

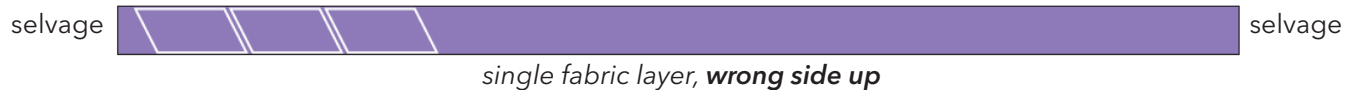
Prepare the fabrics by generously spritzing (quite damp; not dripping wet) them on both sides with MAGIC Premium Quilting / Crafting Spray (or Mary Ellen's Best Press), then iron the fabrics on both sides with a dry iron on cotton setting until dry. (Alternately, you can spritz the fabrics, iron them briefly, then hang them to dry.) Once dry, press out the wrinkles using a steam iron on cotton setting.

Templates (LQ, P, H, FHH, ET, HET):

Using the template-making supplies, trace each template onto the template plastic and carefully cut out the shapes by hand using the utility scissors. Mark the shape name and number on its corresponding shape. All the shapes are symmetrical except the LQ and HET, so make sure the LQ and HET templates are oriented as shown on the template sheet. On the underside of each template, place one sandpaper dot near every corner of each template.

Cutting:

With the fabric folded wrong sides together, selvage to opposite selvage, cut the following: From the dark purple fabric, cut one 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x WOF strip. Open the strip to a single layer. Place the strip wrong side up. Using the LQ template oriented as it is on the template sheet and placed as shown below, trace the LQ using the mechanical pencil that will show up on the fabric. Place the template aside. Using the rotary cutter, mat, and ruler, following the drawn lines, cut the three LQ patchwork pieces.



From the light purple fabric, cut one 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x WOF strip. Open the strip to a single layer with **either** the right or wrong side up. Using the **P** template placed as shown below, trace around the P template. Set the template aside and, using the rotary cutter, mat, and ruler, cut the three P pieces.



From the golden yellow fabric, trace around the **H** template. Place the template aside and, using the rotary cutter, mat, and ruler, cut one H piece.



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From the background / negative space fabric, cut one strip, $5\frac{3}{4}$ " x WOF and one strip, $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x WOF.

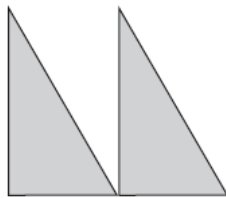
Open the $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x WOF background strip to a single layer with *right side up*. FHH and ET templates as shown below, then cut the three FHH and six ET patchwork pieces.



Open the $5\frac{3}{4}$ " WOF strip to a single layer with *right side up*, trace around the HET template as shown below, then cut the **two** HET pieces. With the patchwork pieces right sides up, the HET pieces point to the right.

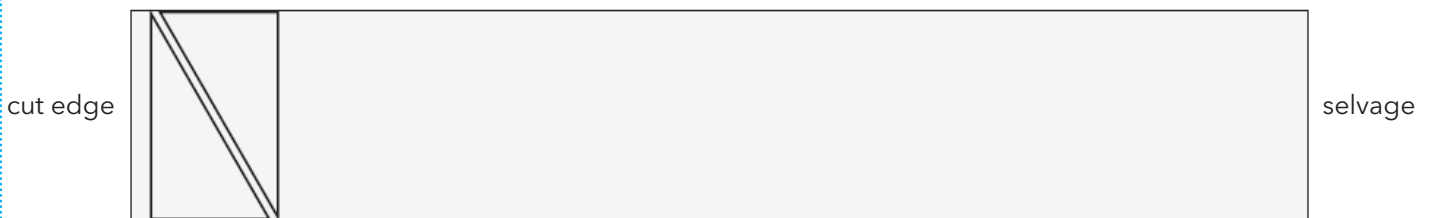


Cut the **first two** HETs with the fabric placed *right side up*

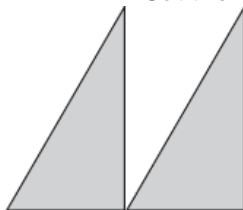


When positioned with their right sides up, both of these HET pieces will point to the right.

Now, flip the remainder of the $5\frac{3}{4}$ " wide fabric strip over so that the wrong side is up. Trace around the HET template as shown below, then cut the final two HET pieces. When the cut patchwork pieces are turned right side up, these two HET pieces point to the left.

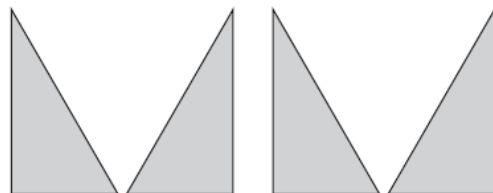


Cut the final two HETs with the fabric placed *wrong side up*



When positioned with their right sides up, both of these HET pieces will point to the left.

With the four HETs positioned with right sides up, there are two pairs of mirror-imaged HET pieces (see right). Set aside. These pieces will be used to turn the hexagonal block into a rectangle.



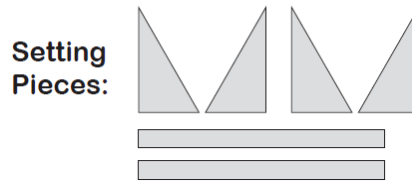
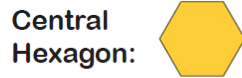
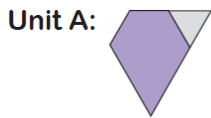
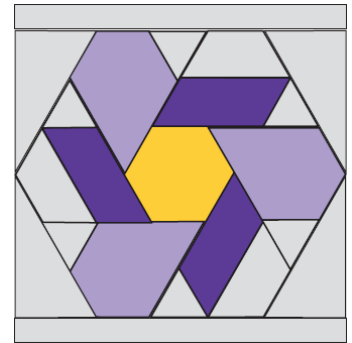
From the remainder of the $5\frac{3}{4}$ " wide strip, cut one $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x remaining WOF strip; cross-cut two $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles. Set aside. These pieces will be used later to turn the rectangular block into a square.

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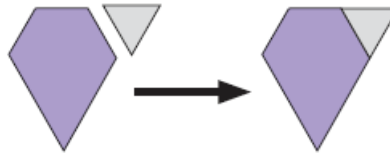
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Construction:

The Dwarf Iris block is comprised of three **Unit A** sections, three **Unit B** sections, and a **central hexagon**, plus **setting pieces** used to transform the pieced hexagonal block into a square block. Patchwork pieces are assembled using a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



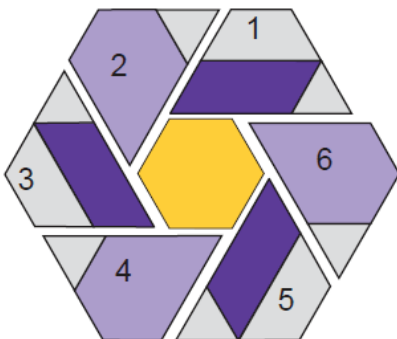
Unit A construction: Piece together one P and one ET, as shown below. Press the seam allowance toward the P. Make a total of three Unit A sections. Set aside.



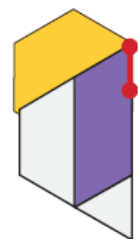
Unit B construction: Piece together one FHH and one LQ, as shown below. Press the seam allowance toward the FHH. Sew the ET to the FHH + LQ segment as shown. Press the seam allowance toward the ET. Make a total of three Unit B sections. Set aside.



Block construction: Position the Unit A and B sections around the central hexagon as shown. The units are numbered in the order in which they will be attached to the central hexagon.



With right sides together (RST), position the raw edges of the #1 Unit B section and the central hexagon, as shown below. Sew a partial seam ($\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the side length of the hexagon edge), shown in red below; backstitch 1-2 stitches. Finger press the seam allowance of the partial seam toward the LQ.

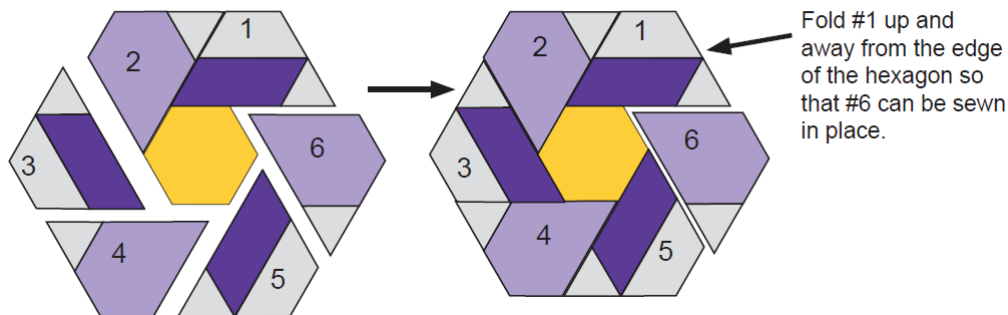


DESIGN N STITCH

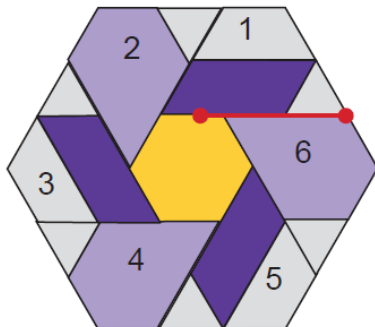
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With RST, sew the #2 Unit A in place by sewing the full seam. Continue adding the A & B units in the numbered sequence shown, finger-pressing the seam allowances away from the central hexagon between the addition of each Unit.

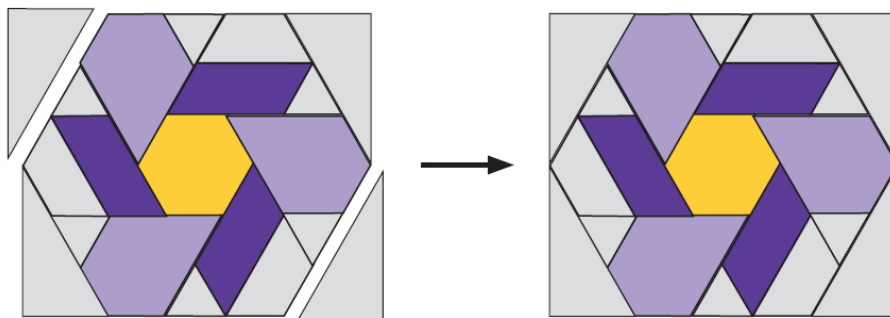
Once the A and B Units #2-5 have been sewn in place, fold the free portion of Unit #1 up and away from the edge of the central hexagon and sew the #6 Unit A in place, finger-pressing the seam allowance away from the central hexagon.



The final seam of the hexagonal block is the completion of the initial partial seam. With RST, align the raw edges between Unit #1 and Unit #6 and sew the remaining portion of the seam, shown below in red. Finger-press the seam allowance away from the central hexagon. Now that the hexagonal block is constructed, press the block with a hot iron on cotton setting, with or without steam.



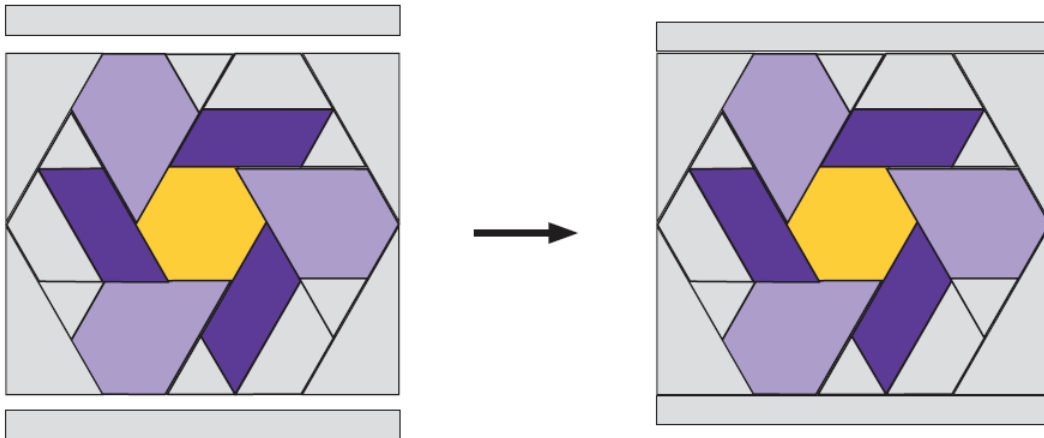
Sew the four HET pieces to the hexagonal block as shown below. Press seam allowances toward the HET.



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Matching raw edges, sew one rectangle strip to the top of the block and one to the bottom of the block as shown below, creating a square-shaped block. Press seam allowances toward the rectangle strip.



Congratulations:

You've completed your Dwarf Iris block! Here are photos of a couple of mine:

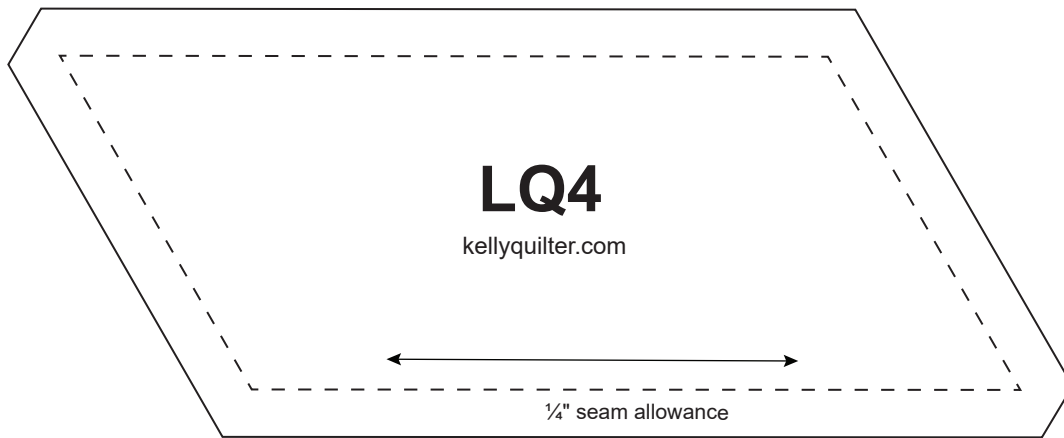
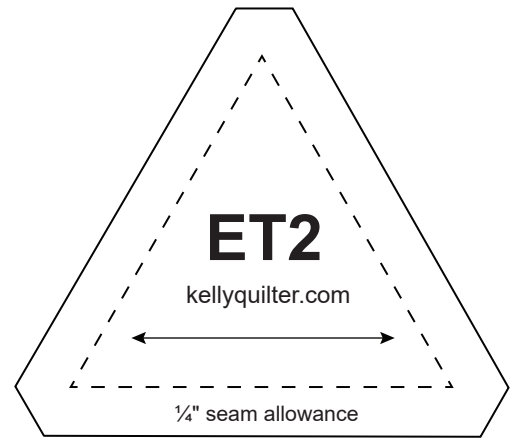
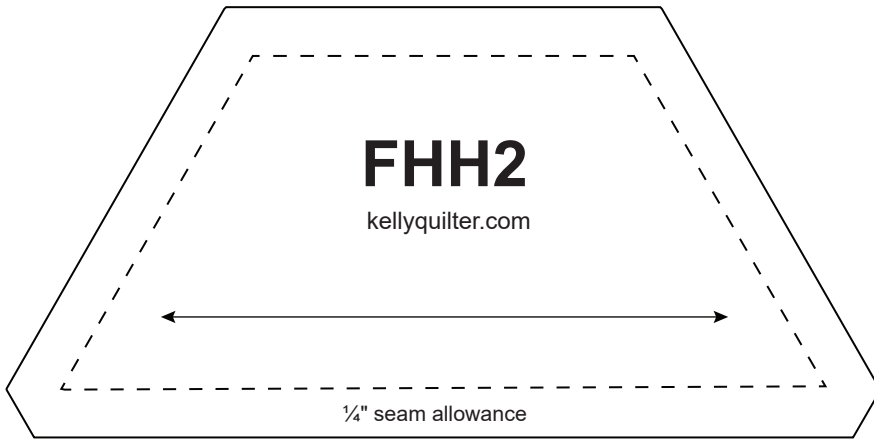


Here, my Dwarf Iris block (12" square, finished size) is made with Moda Grunge fabrics (fabric designer: Basic Grey) using coloration similar to my block illustrations.

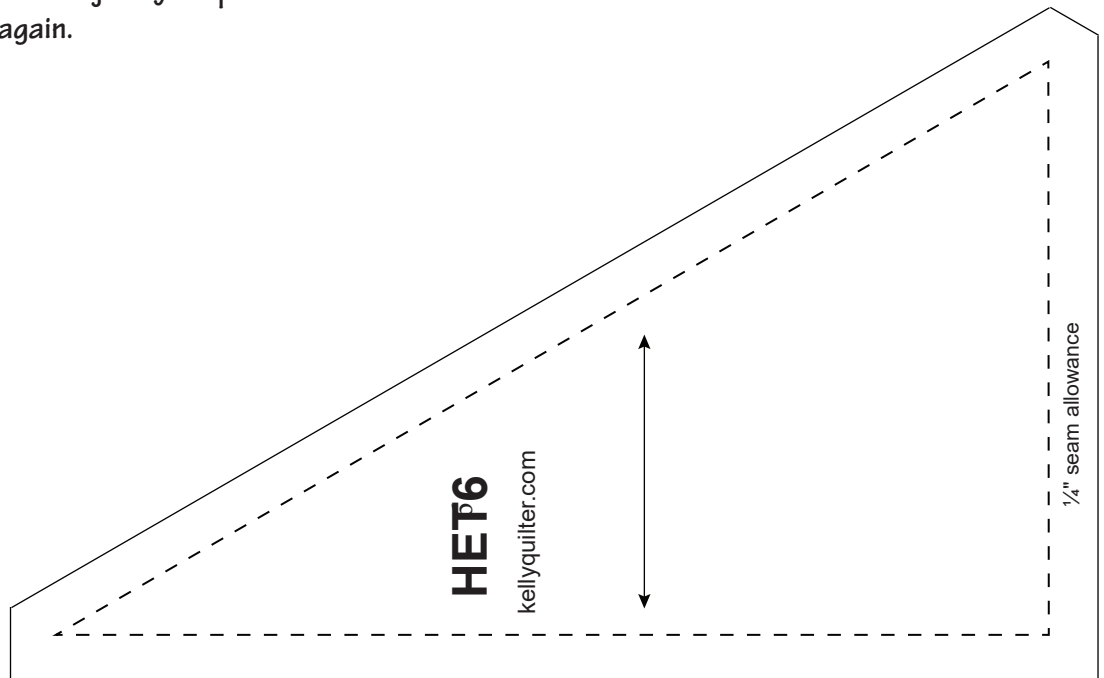
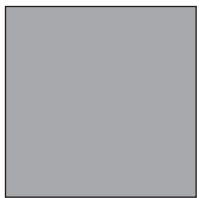


I've made this Dwarf Iris block from Free Spirit's Everglow fabrics (fabric designer: Tula Pink). I love to fussy-cut fabric to add extra "zing" to quilt blocks! As of this writing, I'm still deciding whether to use the dot fabric or an entirely different fabric for the HETs and rectangles. Decisions, decisions

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Print all templates "actual size". Once printed, this square should measure exactly 1" x 1". If it doesn't, please adjust your printer settings and print again.



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