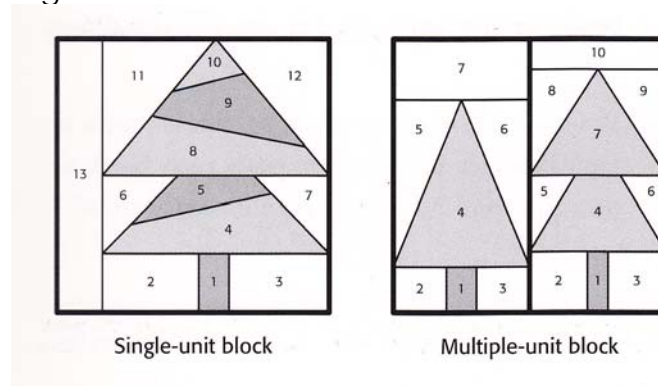


Paper Piecing

Paper piecing blocks are made up of either a single or multiple units. Single unit blocks have one dark line that goes around the pattern. Multiple unit blocks are designated by several sections and each has a dark, solid line that goes around it.

Each block pattern, whether it's made up of a single unit or multiple units is made up of several parts. The parts are numbered in the order they are to be pieced. To paper piece, follow these steps:

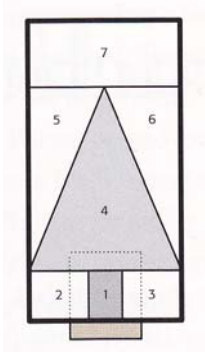
1. Transfer the number of block patterns needed for each project onto the desired foundation material. Cut out single unit block patterns along the dark solid line that runs around the pattern's outer edges. Cut multiple unit block patterns apart along each dark solid line.



Keep in mind the pattern is the finished size of the block. The fabric pieces along the outer edges will need to extend at least $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond the foundation to act as your seam allowance.

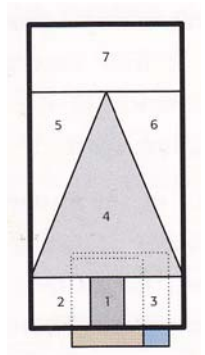
2. Set your sewing machine's stitch length for 15 to 18 stitches per inch. Insert a size 90/14 needle into the machine. If the foundation tears away as you sew, decrease the number of stitches per inch; if the stitches loosen up as you pull the foundation away, increase the number of stitches per inch. It isn't necessary to backstitch because the closeness of the stitches keeps the pieces from pulling apart.
3. Place each unit of the pattern in front of you with the marked side facing up. This will be referred to as the pattern right side. The unmarked side will be referred to as the wrong side.

4. For each unit, cut a piece of fabric for the part marked #1. Be sure it is *at least* ¼" larger all the way around than the size of the part it will cover. Do not attempt to cut the fabric to size. Just be sure the fabric amply covers the part; all the excess will be trimmed away later.

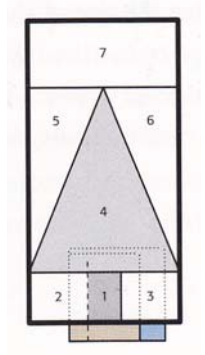


5. Hold the unit up to the light with the printed side facing you. Place the wrong side of the #1 fabric piece on the wrong side of the pattern so it covers part #1. Temporarily pin the piece in place. When you hold the block up to the light, part #1 should be entirely covered by the fabric.

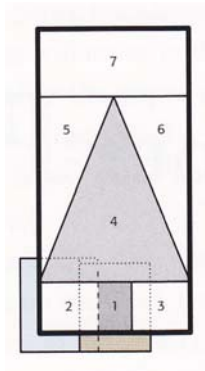
6. Cut a piece of fabric at least ½" larger all the way around than part #2.



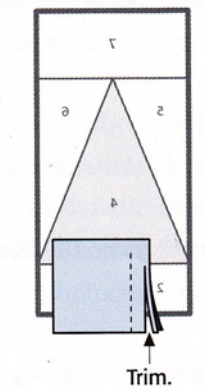
7. Hold the unit up to the light with the right side of the block facing you. Place fabric piece #2 over fabric piece #1, right sides together, with at least ¼" of fabric extending over the line that separates parts #1 and #2.



8. Working on the right side of the pattern, sew along the thin black line that separates parts #1 and #2.



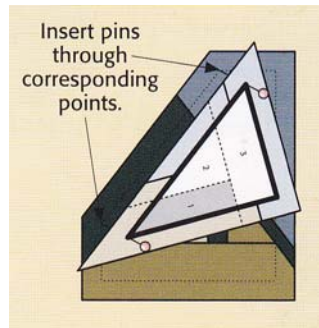
9. Fold back piece #2 along the seam line. Hold the unit up to the light. Be sure that parts #1 and #2 are covered and that the fabric piece for each part extends at least $\frac{1}{4}$ " on all sides.



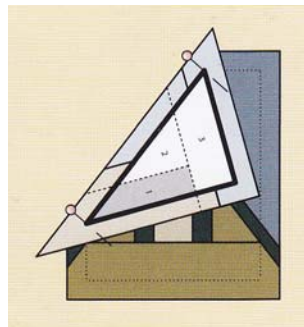
10. Working on the pattern wrong side, fold piece #2 back down so the fabric wrong side is facing up. Trim the seam allowance between parts #1 and #2 to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". If the excess fabric isn't trimmed away, it can eventually build up and make quilting more difficult later.

11. Fold piece #2 open. Finger press or use a wood pressing tool to press the seam allowance flat.
12. Continue adding fabric pieces, in numerical order, in the same manner for the remaining parts.
13. When you have added all of the fabric pieces to each block or unit, lightly press and trim the outer seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
14. If you are piecing a multiple unit block, stitch the units together so they are a mirror image of the block pattern. Remember the finished block is a mirror image of the pattern. Lightly press the block.
15. Remove the foundation.

To piece two angled units, first place the right sides of the units together. Push a positioning pin through a point from the wrong side of piece 1. Insert the pin through the corresponding point of piece 2. Repeat with a second positioning pin for a second point.



Once both positioning pins have been inserted through both pieces and points, secure the pins by bringing them back up through piece 2 and piece 1.



Sew along the line. Open and press.