

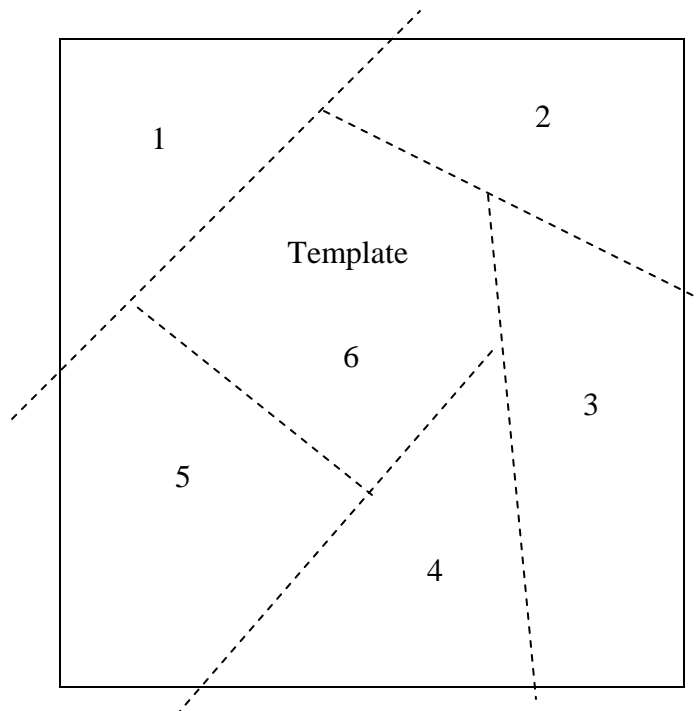
Southern Comforters Block of the Month
July 2006
Crazy Pieced Block
Due July 26, 2006

Choose 7 fabrics and cut one 9 1/2" square from each.
Stack the fabrics right side up.

Cut out the template. Randomly place on the top of your stack of squares. There is no particular way to place the template, but your blocks will be more interesting (and easier to sew) if the edges of the template are not parallel to any block edge.

Step 1:

Align your rotary ruler with any edge of the template and cut one side. You are cutting along your ruler from one side of the stack to another side. Pull that first stack out away from the original stack but keep in the same position. Mark that as stack #1. Working in a clockwise order, reposition your ruler and make a second cut. Pull that stack out away from the original and mark it as stack #2. Repeat this process until all edges of the template have been trimmed and you have 6 marked stacks. Stack #6 is the same size and shape as your template.



Step 2:

Starting with stack #1, remove the top fabric and place it on the bottom of that stack. Now go to stack #2 and take the top 2 fabrics and place them on the bottom of that stack. For stack #3, take the top 3 fabrics off and place them on the bottom of that stack. Repeat the process until each stack has a different fabric showing on the top.

Step 3:

You are now going to sew the pieces in reverse order from how you cut and numbered them. Begin with the center and the #5 piece. Stitch the common side using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Keep the units in order as you sew and press. Seams should be pressed in a consistent direction and towards the darker fabric, when possible. You will most likely have uneven edges as you stitch. You may trim as little as possible to get a straight edge for stitching, but shouldn't be worried with the size, the angle or if each of the units is identical.

Step 4:

Working counterclockwise (and in reverse numerical order) add each piece to the appropriate side of the center unit. Continue this process until all the pieces have been added. Make four blocks, each will have 6 different fabrics with no repeats within a block. Your outside edges are very uneven at this point.

Step 5:

Using a square ruler, square the four blocks to measure $7\frac{1}{2}$ " each. Sew two sets of two blocks together. You can turn the squares into any direction to achieve a pleasing effect or to keep two of the same fabrics away from each other. Press seams and then sew the two strips together like a 4-patch to make one $14\frac{1}{2}$ " block. Press seams.

Step 6:

Again, using a square ruler, cut one $12\frac{1}{2}$ " block. You may line your ruler up on the center seams, or move it right, left, up or down or even slightly skew the ruler to cut out a more interesting and more "crazy" block.

Note: You have cut enough fabric to make 3 more $7\frac{1}{2}' \times 7\frac{1}{2}'$ blocks. If you start with 8 fabrics stacked, you will have enough to make a second $12\frac{1}{2}' \times 12\frac{1}{2}'$ block to have a second entry!

