

DESIGN BASICS  
101  
By Patricia Simons

6-Arm  
Pinwheel



Quilter's Rule™

The 6-Arm Pinwheel Design tool is not nested. The four sizes are made from  $\frac{1}{8}$ " clear acrylic (pictured on left in Illustration 1). The Small 6-Arm Pinwheel Machine Quilting tool (pictured on right in Illustration 1) is not nested and is made of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " clear acrylic. A Mini size is not available.

**Tip:** Use painter's tape as a guide for aligning the template.



Illustration 1

## ***SIMPLE BLOCK DESIGN***

Create a simple block design using the 6-Arm Pinwheel Design Tool and the Whole Cloth Grid. The technique is "Twist".

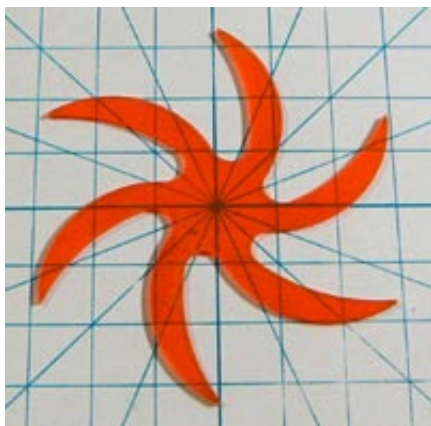


Illustration 2

Center the 6-Arm Pinwheel in the center of the whole cloth grid. Twist the template until the tips of two arms are touching the vertical  $90^\circ$  line.

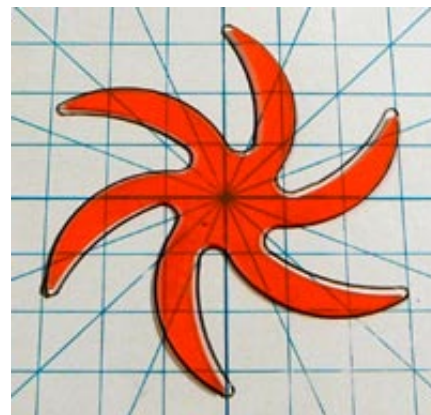


Illustration 3

Draw completely around the template.

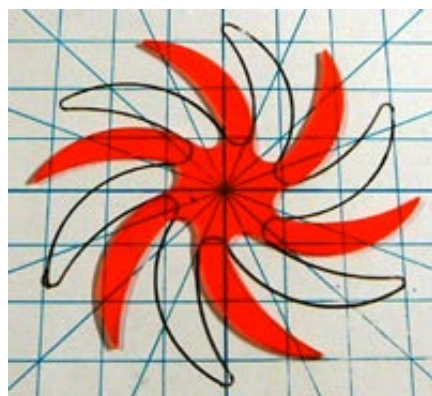


Illustration 4

Twist the template until the tips of two arms are touching the horizontal  $90^\circ$  line while keeping the template centered on the whole cloth grid as shown in Illustration 4. Draw completely around the template. The completed design is shown in Illustration 5.

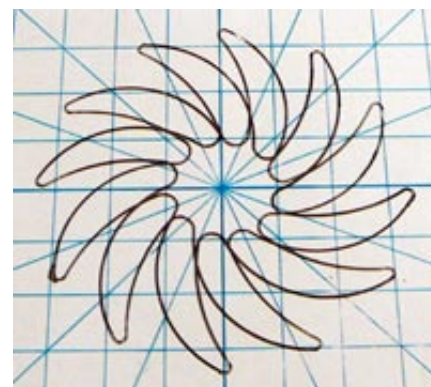


Illustration 5

### **Transfer the design to any project by:**

1. Tracing design directly onto project.
2. Print or copy design onto Foundation Paper, Stitch-Away-Paper and/or Wash Away paper or film.

## ***SIMPLE BLOCK DESIGN 2***

The technique is a combination of “Twist” and “Flip”.



Illustration 6

Center the 6-Arm Pinwheel in the center of the whole cloth grid. Twist the template until the tips of two arms are touching the vertical 90° line. Draw completely around the template.

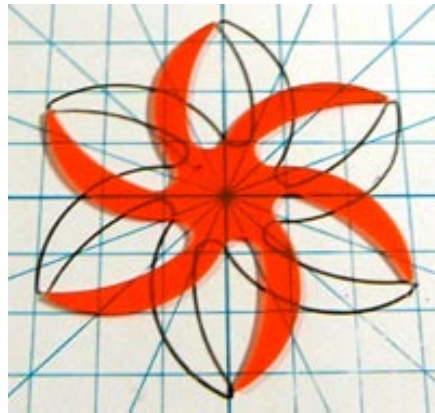


Illustration 7

Flip the template, center it on the whole cloth grid, and twist the template until the tips of two arms are touching the vertical 90° line.

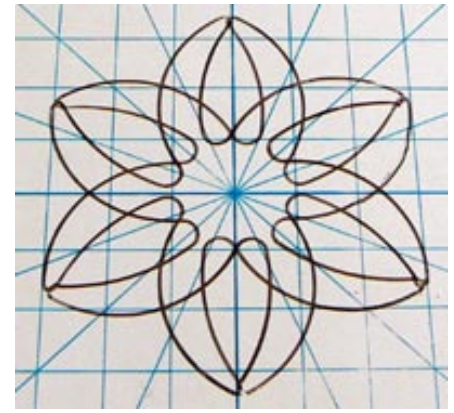


Illustration 8

Draw completely around the template.

## ***SIMPLE BLOCK DESIGN 2 VARIATIONS***

Try using a Q-Tip to remove the center lines as shown in Illustration 9 for a different look. The completed design is shown in Illustration 10.

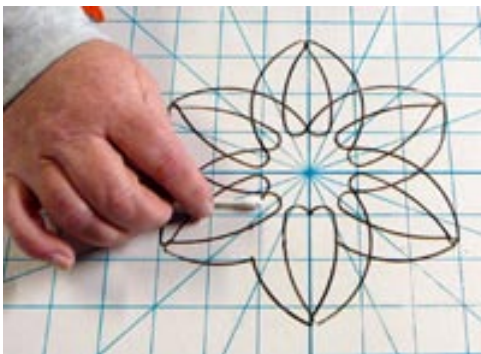


Illustration 9

**Note:** If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4” machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4” of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

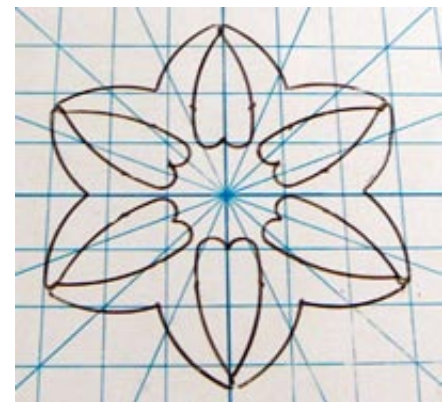


Illustration 10

This design is continuous line.

Transfer design using your favorite transfer method.

## SIMPLE BLOCK DESIGN 2 VARIATIONS

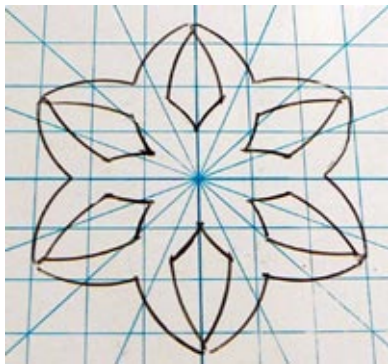


Illustration 11

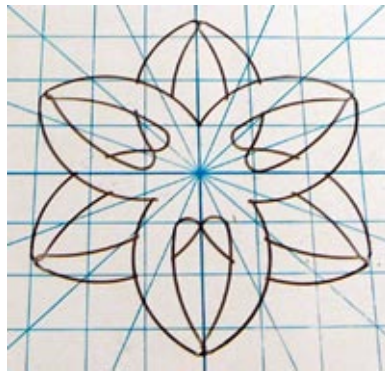


Illustration 12

Changing which lines you erase, will change the look of the design. Illustration 11 shows a design similar to Illustration 10 on the previous page. However it is more angular and less curvey and is still continuous line.

Illustration 12 creates spaces in which you can have a faux trapunto effect by doing heavy quilting in different areas. See Illustration 13.

Illustration 14 shows another option.

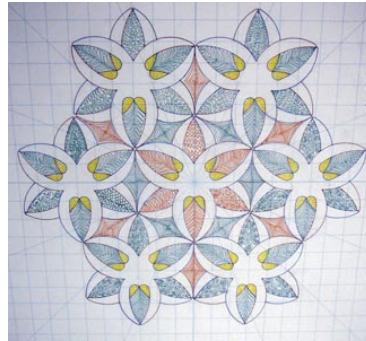


Illustration 13

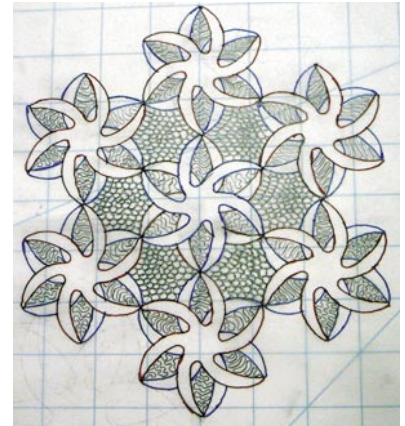


Illustration 14

## BORDER DESIGN

Create a simple border design using the 6-Arm Pinwheel Design Tool and the Border Grid. The technique is “Flip”.

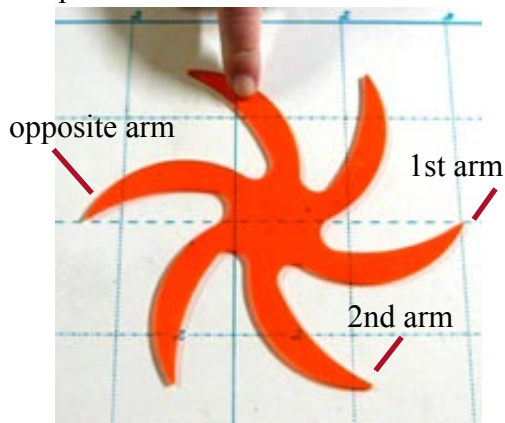


Illustration 15

Line the 6-Arm Pinwheel on your border with two opposite arms touching the horizontal center of your border. Position the template so two side-by-side arms are to the right of the vertical centerline of the border.

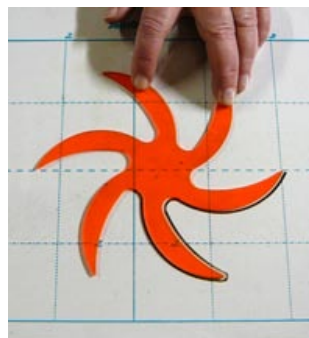


Illustration 16

Draw from the horizontal line along the bottom quadrant to the vertical centerline as shown above in Illustration 16.

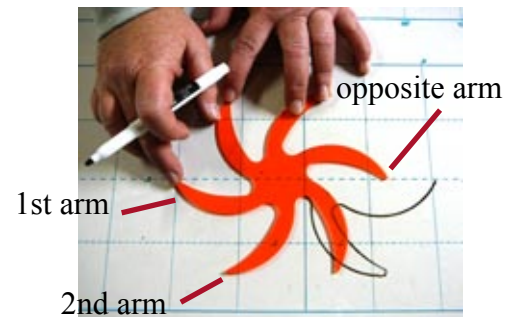


Illustration 17

Flip the template to the left lining up the same as before. Note the arms are facing the opposite direction. See Illustration 17.

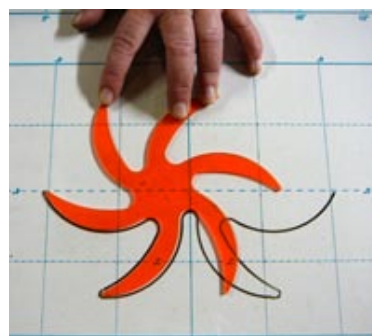


Illustration 18

Draw from the vertical centerline to the left side of the template going around the bottom quadrant, stopping at the horizontal line as shown in Illustration 18.

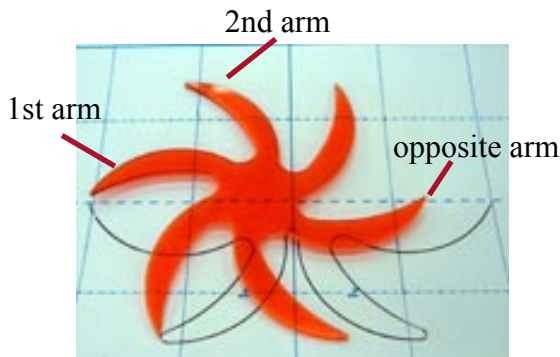


Illustration 19

Flip the template up lining up the same as before. Again the tips of the arms are in the opposite direction.

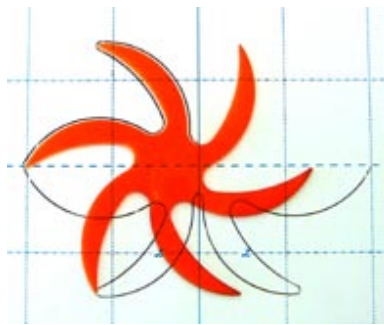


Illustration 20

Draw from the left side to the right side of the template going around the top quadrant.

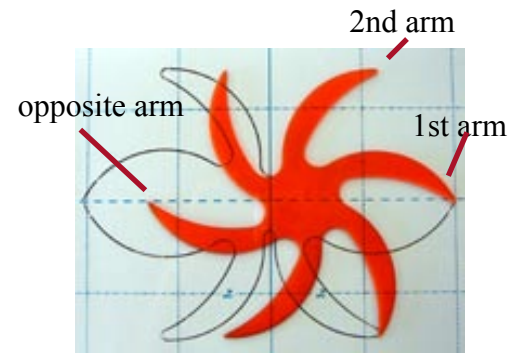


Illustration 21

Flip the template to the right lining up the same as before. Draw from the left side to the right side of the template going around the top quadrant only.

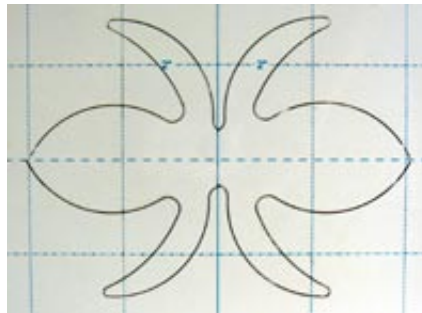
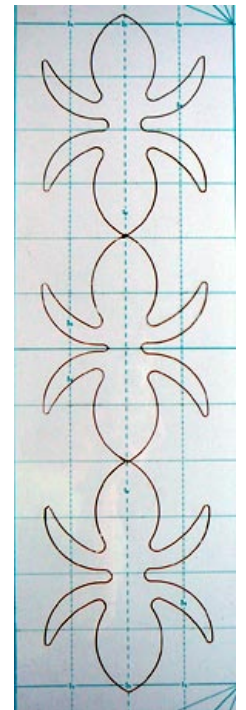


Illustration 22

Your completed design.

Here the design is used as the border pattern.



A suggested stitching path is shown in Illustration 23.

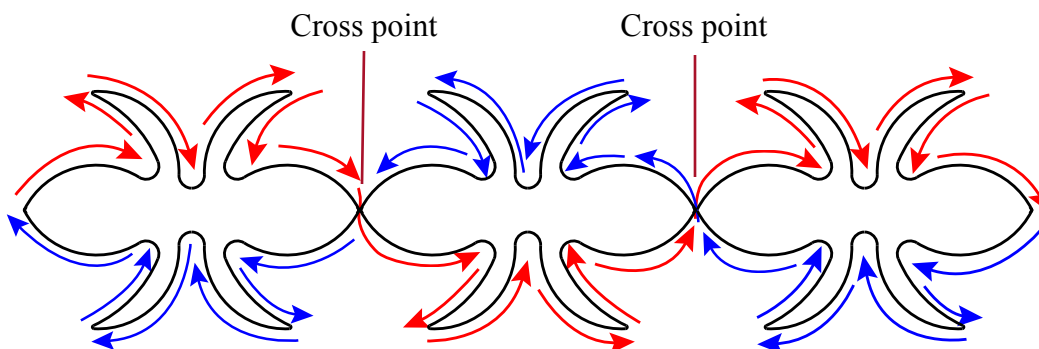


Illustration 23

**Note:** If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4" machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4" of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

Transfer design using your favorite transfer method.

**NOTE:** Please note the different effect created when drawing around the point of a template vs. stitching around the template. The template on the left uses a Tube Template Tester to simulate the effect of your foot on a mid- or long-arm machine on the stitching. Notice the more rounded effect achieved when compared to the right template's drawn line. Both templates are identical. The round foot of mid- and long-arm machines will "round" out any point.

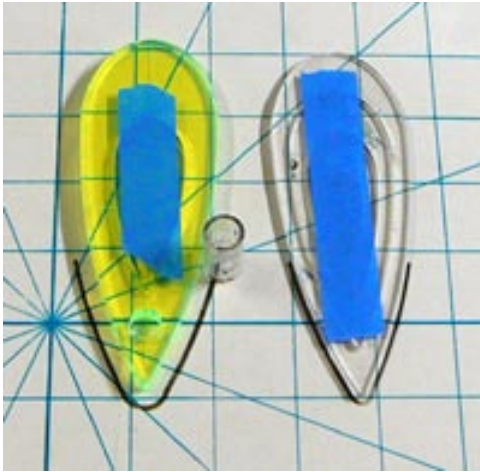


Illustration 23

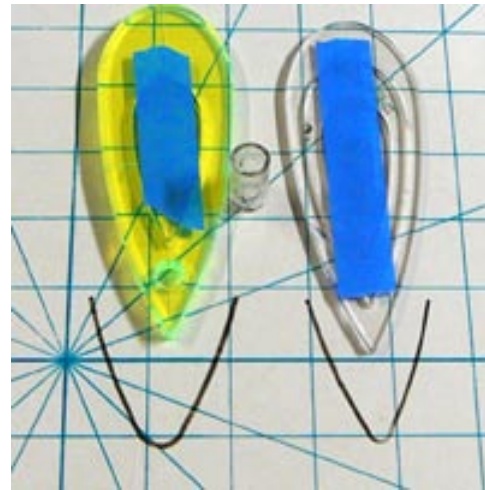


Illustration 24

## PRODUCTS USED FOR CREATING YOUR OWN DESIGNS

### 4-ARM PINWHEEL TEMPLATE

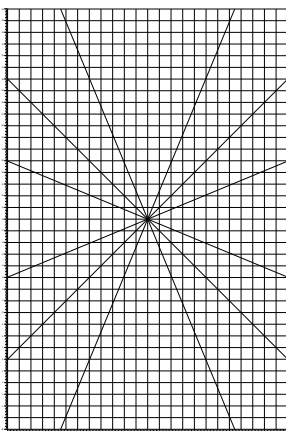
Dry or wet erase pens can be used on all of our printed vinyl templates to test your quilt designs. Once you complete your design simply transfer onto the Stitch-Away-Paper or use what ever transfer technique with which you are comfortable.



#### SF-DT08-B

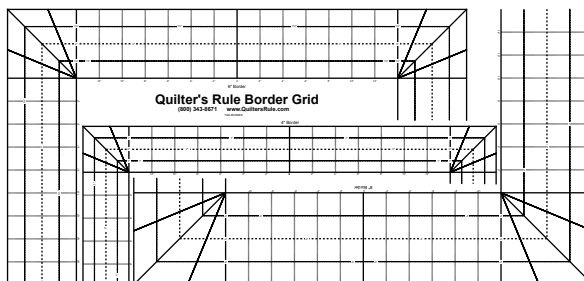
Set of 4 Templates  
1/8" thick acrylic  
Sizes: 1 1/2" x 1 1/2",  
3" x 3", 4" x 4", and 5 1/4" x 5 1/4"

### REUSABLE DESIGN GRIDS

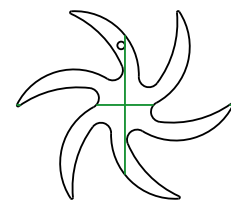


#### Whole Cloth Grid

Overall Size - 25" x 38"  
Grid Size - 24" x 36"  
Measurement - 1" grid with 1/8"  
increments on side  
Guide Line: 22 1/2°, 45°, & 90°



- 4", 6", and 8" wide border layouts with two corners
- Layouts are marked with a center line as well as two additional lines to center floating designs
- The center of each border layout is marked for working on center motifs
- Each corner has the 45° angle marked as well as two more angles for help in turning corners
- Overall template size is 25" x 52"



#### MQT-SM08

1/4" thick acrylic  
Perfect for quilting directly on your quilt.  
Sizes: MQT-SM08: 9 1/2" x 10 1/2"

#### STITCH-AWAY-PAPER

Stitch-Away-Paper can be used for tracing patterns/ designs onto your project or for foundation piecing.



Use alone or with the Whole Cloth and Block Grids.  
Available in two sizes: 25" x 36" and 8 1/2" x 11"