

PROJECT: Mary's Fan Table Topper

Rotate the orientation of four appliquéd blocks to make a dynamic table topper.

INSPIRED BY: *Spring Sunrise* from designer Shannon Arnstein

QUILT TESTER: Diane Tomlinson



FABRICS are from the Hopewell collection by Jo Morton for Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).

FINISHED TABLE TOPPER: 28½" square
FINISHED BLOCK: 12" square

MATERIALS

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42" of usable fabric width.

- 1 yard total assorted dark prints (blocks)
- ¾ yard total assorted tan prints (blocks)
- ¼ yard *each* red print and cream print (inner border, outer border)
- ⅓ yard brown print (binding)
- 1 yard backing fabric
- 32"-square batting
- Lightweight fusible web

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

Patterns are on *page 5*. To make a template of Pattern A, see *Make Templates and Use Templates, page 6*.

From assorted dark prints, cut:

- 20 of Pattern A
- 4 of Pattern B

From assorted tan prints, cut:

- 4–13" squares

From red print, cut:

- 2–1¼×26" inner border strips
- 2–1¼×24½" inner border strips

From cream print, cut:

- 2–1¾×28½" outer border strips
- 2–1¾×26" outer border strips

From brown print, cut:

- 3–2½×42" strips for binding

From fusible web, cut:

- 4–4" squares

ASSEMBLE BLOCKS

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Press seams in directions indicated by arrows on diagrams. If no direction is specified, press seam toward darker fabric.

1 Referring to **Diagram 1**, fold a dark print A piece in half with right side inside. Align long edges and finger-press fold. Stitch ¼" from wide edges. Clip corner, being careful not to cut stitching line.

2 Turn Step 1 unit right side out; use a stiletto or the eraser end of a pencil to push out point. Place unit right side down on pressing surface. Using crease to center the point, finger-press seam open. Press point flat to make a wedge (**Diagram 2**).

3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 to make 20 wedges total.

4 Referring to **Diagram 3**, align long edges of two wedges; sew together. Add three more wedges in the same manner to make a fan unit (**Diagram 4**). Repeat to make four fan units total.

5 Place a fusible-web 4" square paper side up on Pattern B; align lower left-hand corner edges. Use a pencil to trace Pattern B. Referring to **Diagram 5**, place marked fusible-web square paper side up on a dark print 4" square. Sew ¼" inside curved line. Cut on curved line. Carefully clip curved edge just up to seam line. Remove paper backing, turn right side out, and finger-press seam in one direction to make a quarter-circle appliqué. Repeat to make four quarter-circle appliqués total.

6 Referring to **Diagram 6**, position a fan unit in lower left-hand corner of a tan print 13" square; pin in place. Hand- or machine-appliqué pointed fan edge to square.

7 Referring to **Diagram 7**, place a quarter-circle appliqué in lower left-hand corner of Step 6 unit, overlapping

base of fan unit and aligning corner edges. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse quarter-circle appliqué in place. Hand- or machine-appliqué curved edge to fan unit. Trim top and right-hand edges of appliqué square to make a 12½"-square block (**Diagram 7**).

8 Repeat steps 6 and 7 to make four blocks total.

ASSEMBLE TABLE TOPPER CENTER

1 Referring to **Table Topper Assembly Diagram** for block orientation, sew together blocks in pairs. Press seams in one direction, alternating direction with each pair.

2 Join pairs to make table topper center. Press seams in one direction. The table topper center should be 24½" square including seam allowances.

ADD BORDERS

1 Referring to **Table Topper Assembly Diagram**, sew red print 1¼×24½" inner border strips to opposite edges of table topper center. Add red print 1¼×26" inner border strips to remaining edges. Press seams toward inner border.

2 Sew cream print 1¾×26" outer border strips to opposite edges of table topper center. Add cream print 1¾×28½" outer border strips to remaining edges to complete table topper top. Press seams toward outer border. The table topper top should be 28½" square including seam allowances.

FINISH TABLE TOPPER

1 Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste. Quilt as desired.

2 Bind with brown print binding strips.

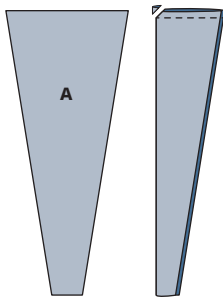


Diagram 1

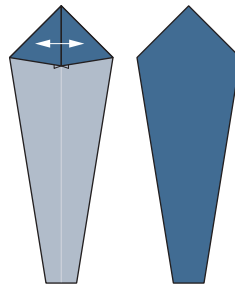


Diagram 2

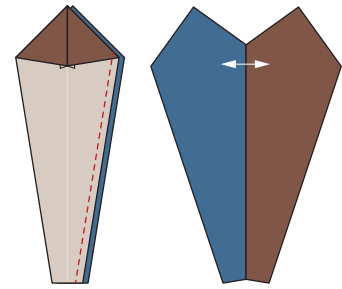


Diagram 3

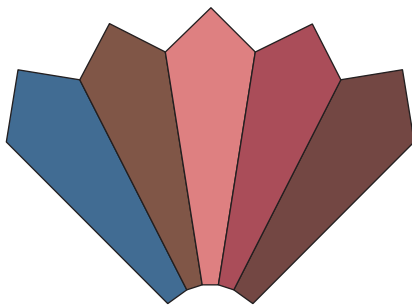


Diagram 4

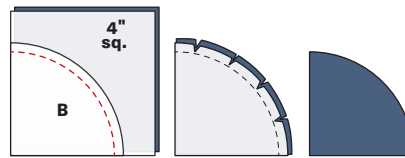


Diagram 5

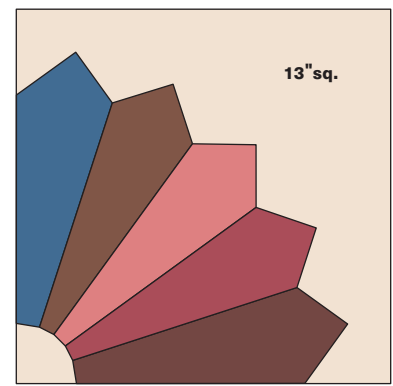


Diagram 6

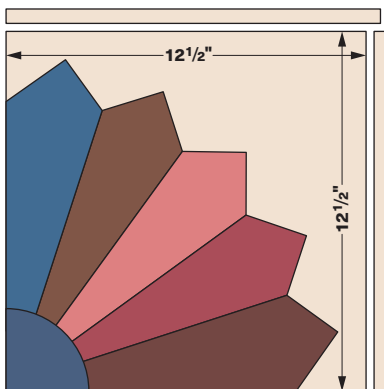


Diagram 7

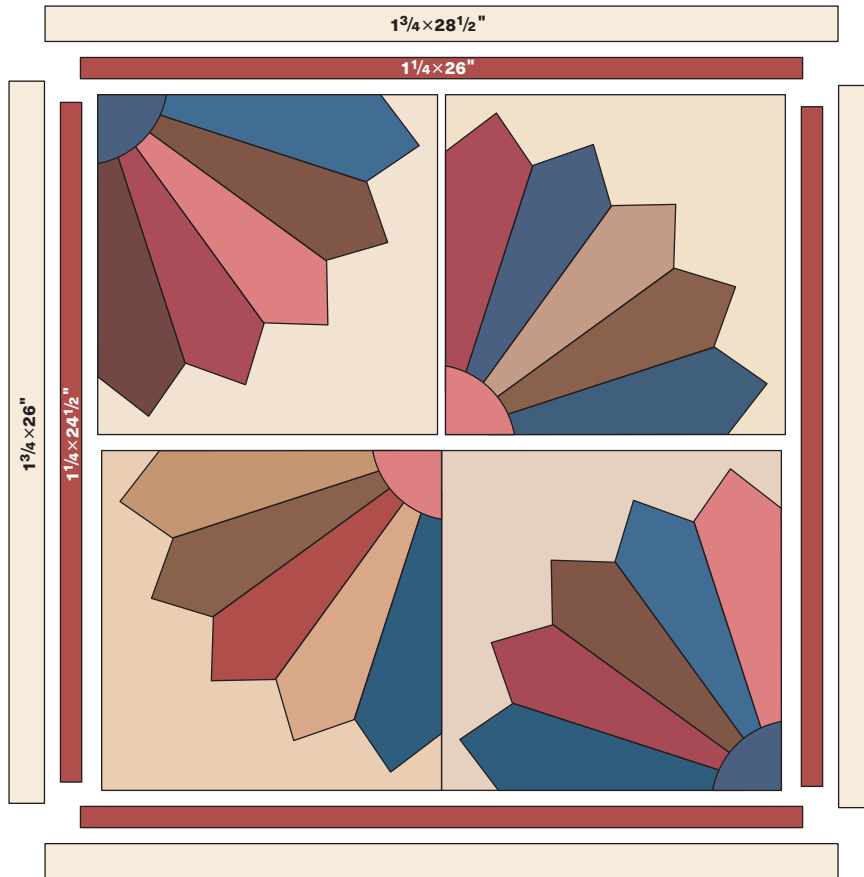
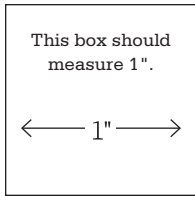
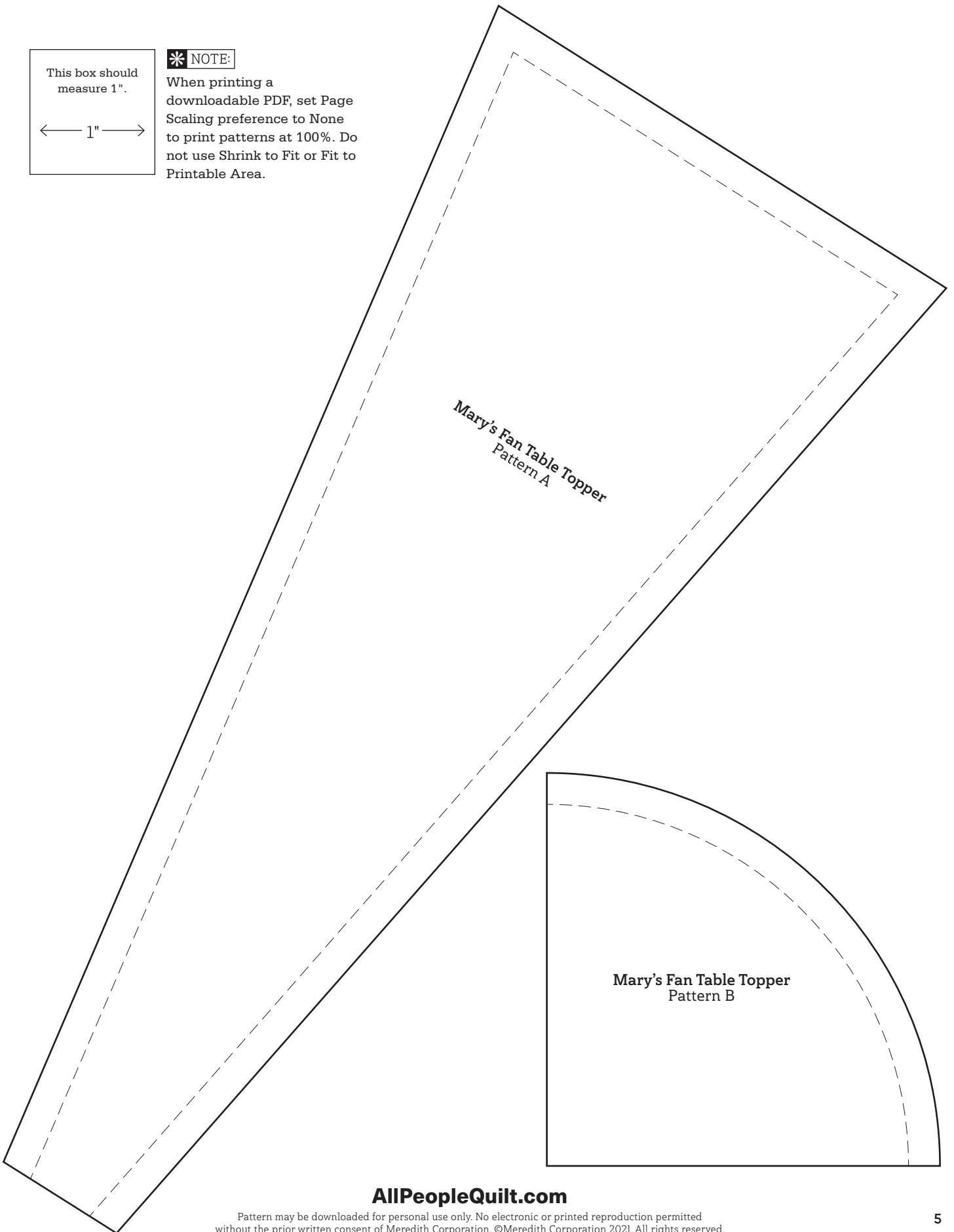


Table Topper Assembly Diagram



NOTE:

When printing a downloadable PDF, set Page Scaling preference to None to print patterns at 100%. Do not use Shrink to Fit or Fit to Printable Area.



MAKE TEMPLATES

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

USE TEMPLATES

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

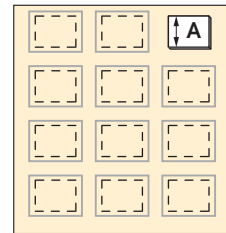


DIAGRAM 1

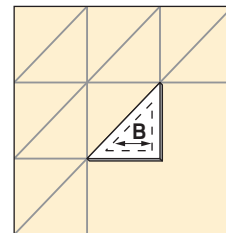


DIAGRAM 2