

PROJECT: Tiny Steps Coaster

Piece small units into a standout coaster.

INSPIRED BY: *One Step at a Time* from designer Krisanne Watkins (quailvalleyquilts.com)

QUILT TESTER: Diane Tomlinson



FABRICS are from the Nature Study collection by Whistler Studios for Windham Fabrics (windhamfabrics.net).

FINISHED COASTER: 7½" square**MATERIALS FOR ONE COASTER**

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

- ☐ 10" square *each* white print, yellow print, green print, pink print, and blue print
- ☐ 9×21" piece (fat eighth) gray print
- ☐ 9" square backing fabric
- ☐ 9" square batting

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

The Block Center Pattern is on *page 4*. To make a template of the pattern, see *Make Templates and Use Templates, page 5*.

From white print, cut:

- ☐ 11–1⅞" squares

From yellow print, cut:

- ☐ 2–2½" squares
- ☐ 2–1⅞" squares

From green print, cut:

- ☐ 4–1⅞" squares

From pink print, cut:

- ☐ 5–1⅞" squares

From gray print, cut:

- ☐ 2–2½×21" binding strips
- ☐ 6–1⅞" squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 12 triangles

From blue print, cut:

- ☐ 1 Block Center Pattern

ASSEMBLE COASTER TOP

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 Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each white print 1⅞" square.

2 Layer a marked white print square atop a yellow print 1⅞" square. Sew together with two seams, stitching ¼" on each side of marked line (**Diagram 1**). Cut apart on marked line. Press open to make two yellow triangle-squares. Each triangle-square should be 1½" square including seam allowances. Repeat to make four yellow triangle-squares total.

3 Repeat Step 2 using green print 1⅞" squares instead of yellow print to make eight green triangle-squares.

4 Repeat Step 2 using pink print 1⅞" squares instead of yellow print to make 10 pink triangle-squares.

5 Referring to **Diagram 2**, lay out one yellow triangle-square, two green triangle-squares, two pink triangle-squares, and two gray print triangles in two vertical rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows. Referring to **Diagram 3**, add a yellow print 2½" square to joined rows to make Unit 1. Repeat to make a second Unit 1.

6 Referring to **Diagram 4**, lay out one yellow triangle-square, two green triangle-squares, three pink triangle-squares, and four gray print triangles in four vertical rows. Sew together pieces in rows. Join rows to make Unit 2. Repeat to make a second Unit 2.

7 Sew together one each of units 1 and 2 to make Unit 3 (**Diagram 5**). Repeat to make a second Unit 3.

8 Referring to **Diagram 6**, sew together a Unit 3, blue print block center piece, and remaining Unit 3 to complete coaster top. The coaster top should be 7½" square including seam allowances.

FINISH COASTER

1 Layer coaster top with batting and backing 9" squares; baste. Quilt as desired. Trim batting and backing even with the coaster top.

2 Bind with gray print binding strips.

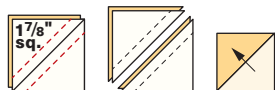


Diagram 1

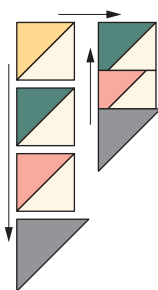
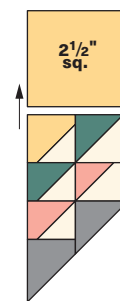
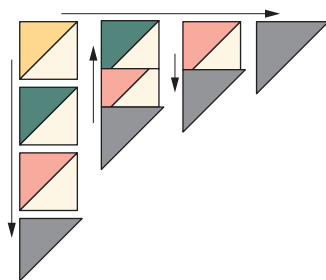


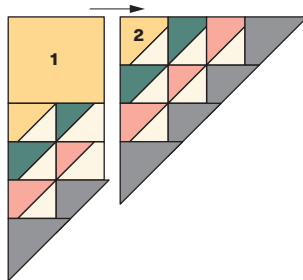
Diagram 2



Unit 1
Diagram 3



Unit 2
Diagram 4



Unit 3
Diagram 5

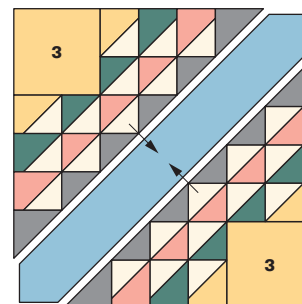
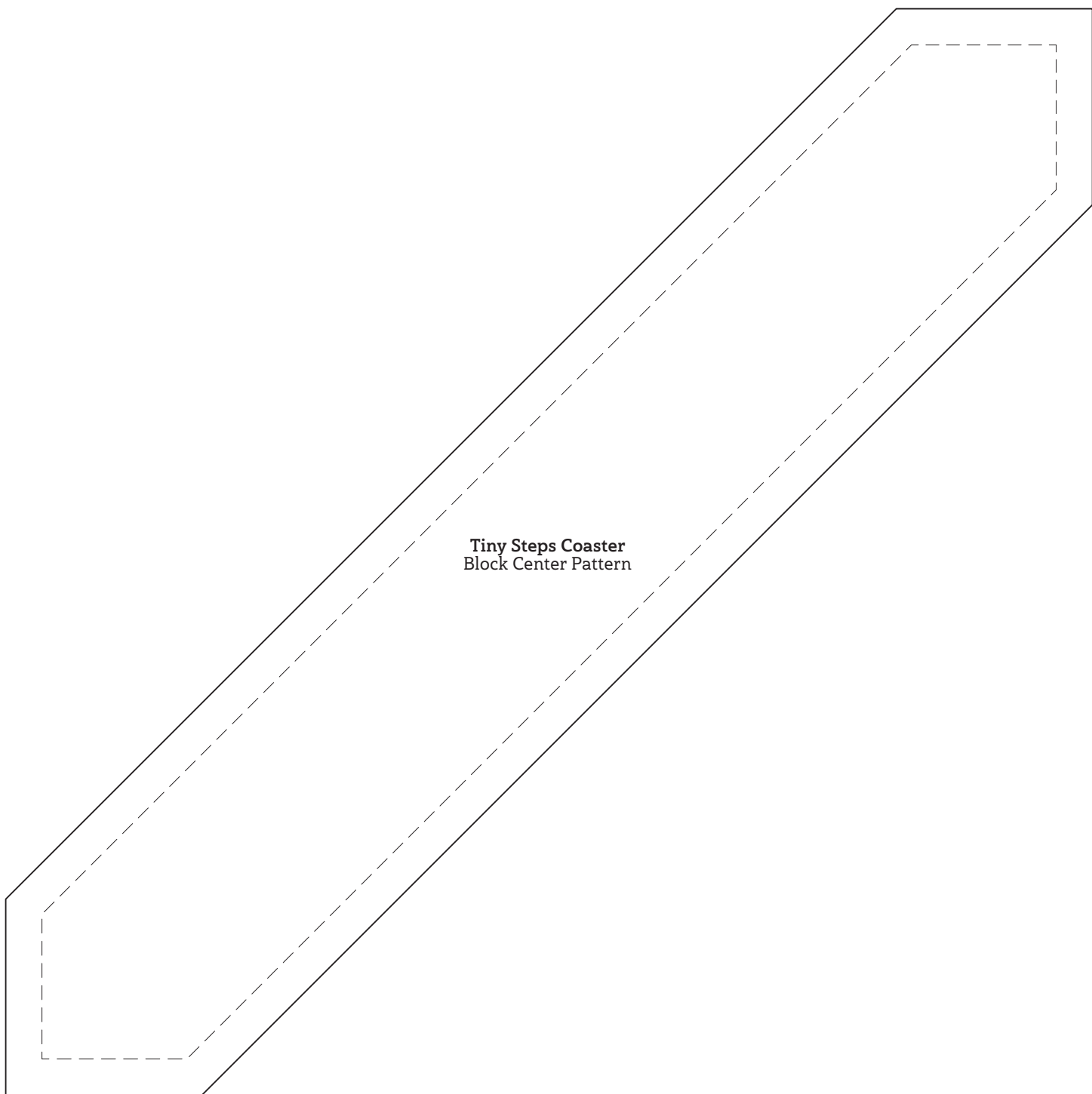


Diagram 6



**Tiny Steps Coaster
Block Center Pattern**

This box should
measure 1".



*** 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.

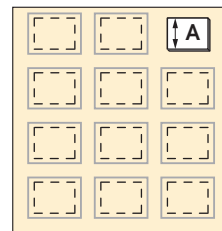


DIAGRAM 1

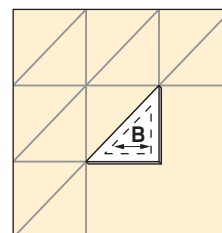


DIAGRAM 2