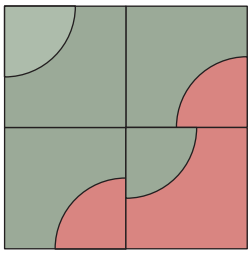
Project: Fool's Puzzle



Block Assembly Diagram

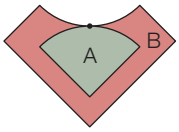


Diagram 1

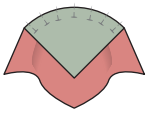


Diagram 2

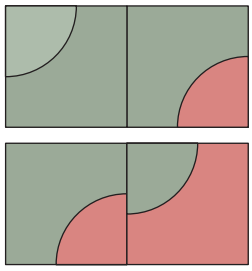


Diagram 3

Materials

- Light green print, dark green print, and red print scraps

Finished block: 9" square

Cut the Fabrics

The patterns are on *page 2*. To make templates of patterns, see Make and Use Templates, *page 3*.

From light green print, cut:
- 1 of Pattern A

From dark green print, cut:
- 1 of Pattern A
- 3 of Pattern B

From red print, cut:
- 2 of Pattern A
- 1 of Pattern B

Assemble the Block

1. When pinning curved seams, use slender pins and pick up only a few threads at each position. With the dark green print A piece on top and right sides together, match the center mark on the curved edge of the A piece with the center mark on one curved edge of the red print B piece **(Diagram 1)**. After pinning the center of the seam, pin each end; then pin generously in between **(Diagram 2)**.

2. Sew together the pieces, removing each pin just before the needle reaches it, to make a unit. Press the seam allowance toward the red print piece. Repeat to make two units with red print A pieces and dark green print B pieces and one unit with a light green print A piece and a dark green print B piece.

3. Sew together the units in pairs **(Diagram 3)**. Press the seam allowances in opposite directions. Then join the pairs to make a block **(Block Assembly Diagram)**. Press the seam allowance in one direction.

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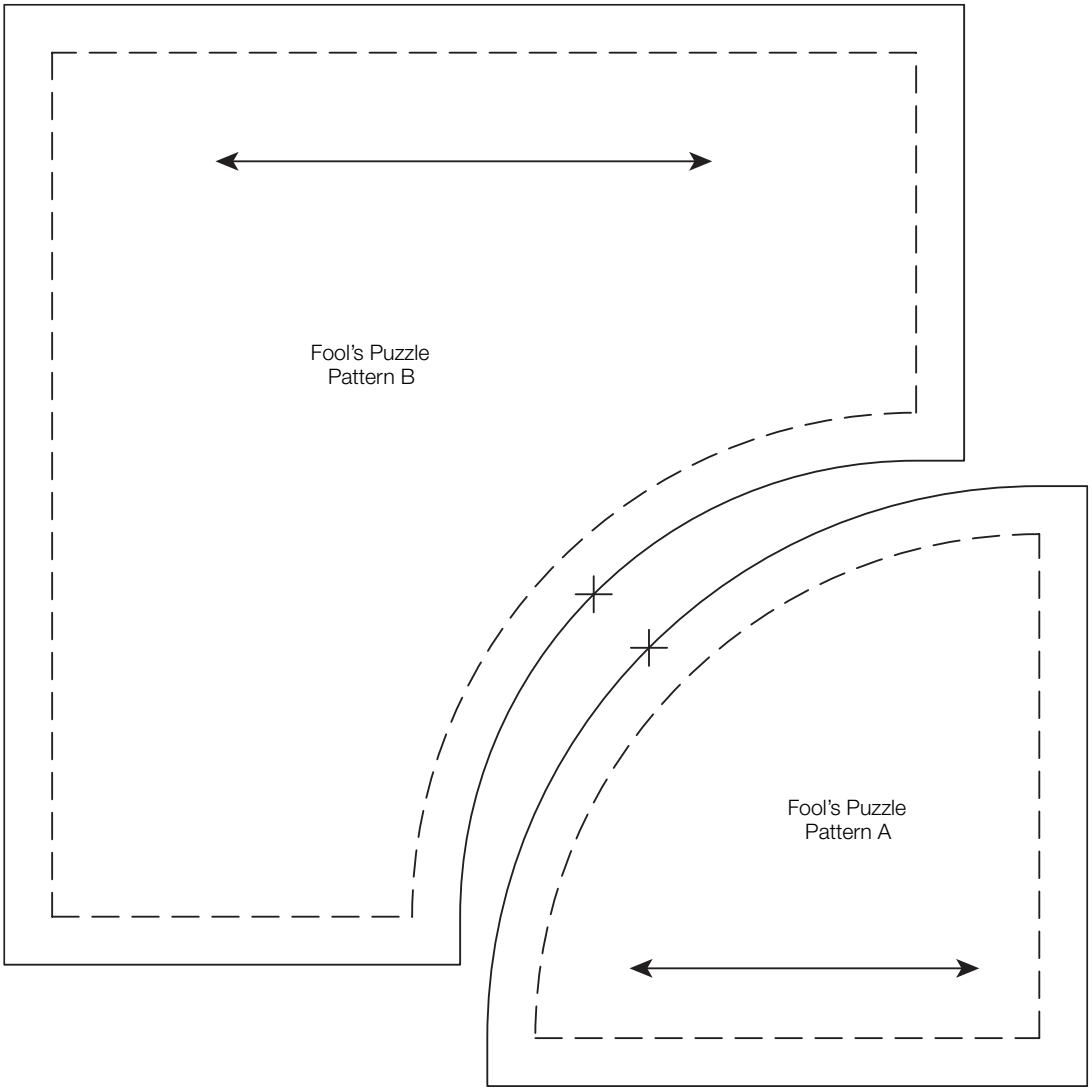

This box should measure 1".

1"

NOTE:
When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

Make and Use Templates

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 ½" away from the previous tracing **(Diagram 1)**, trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines ¼" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a ¼" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a 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.

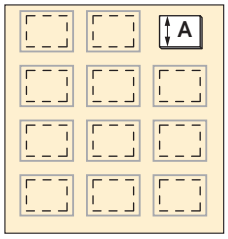

DIAGRAM 1

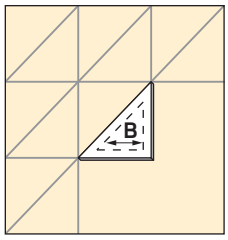

DIAGRAM 2