REVERSE PAPER PIECING

SIMPLE BLOCKS

Foundation Paper Piecing Made Easy

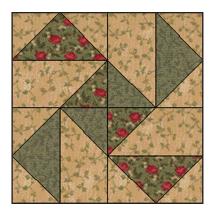
This new technique for paper piecing is made possible with the help of an Ultimate Seam Guide. All sewing is done by placing the fabric pieces on the printed side of the paper, which eliminates most pinning or the need to turn the paper over or hold it up to a light. Fabric pieces are cut the exact size needed for less fabric waste with the exception of the outside edges, resulting in less time trimming excess seam allowances.

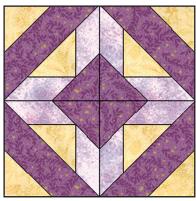
Great results every time!

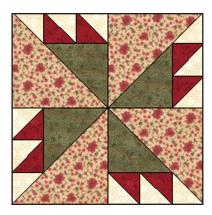
Perfect for miniature quilt blocks.

Full-size patterns and cutting instructions are given for more than 50 different 3" block units that can be combined to make an unlimited number of block patterns. Over 60 block illustrations included!

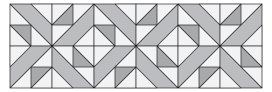


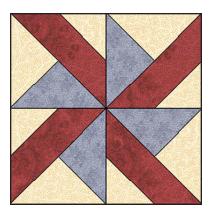


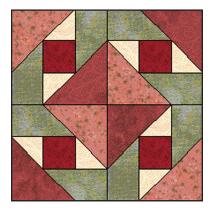


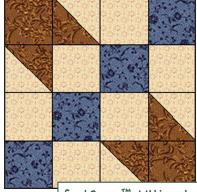




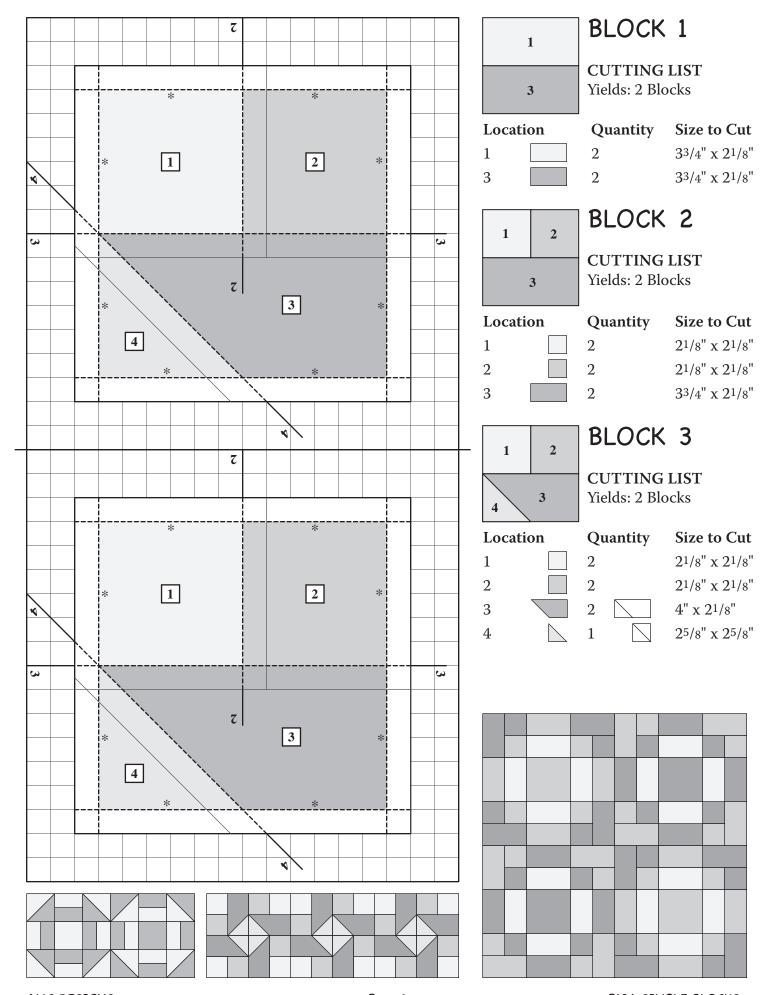


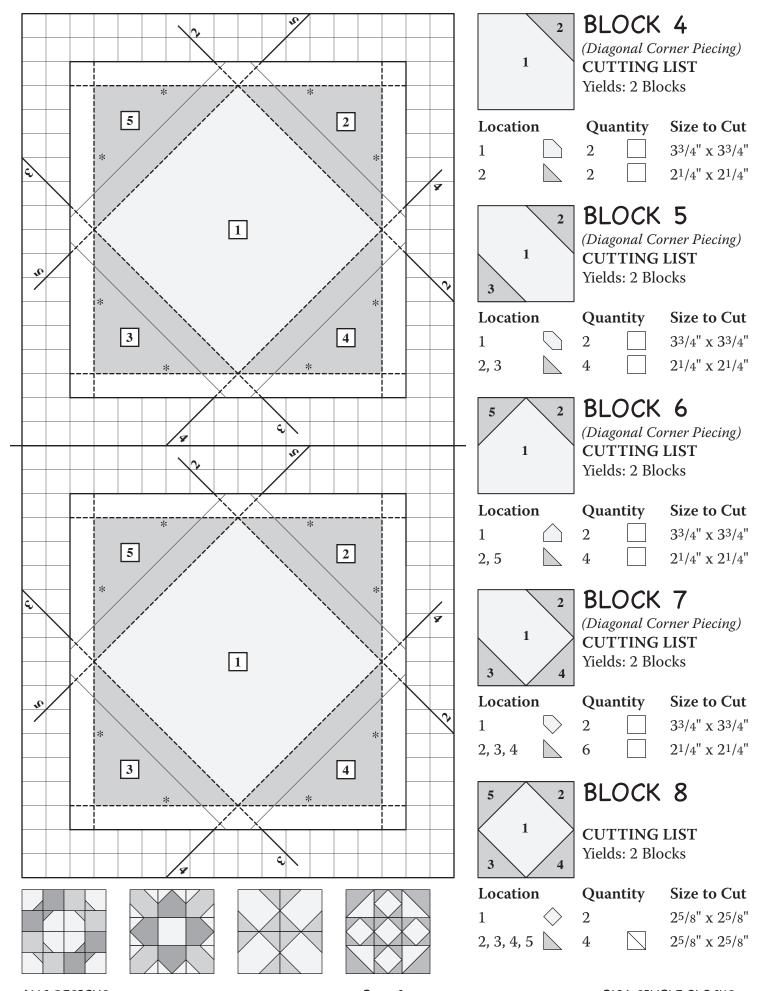


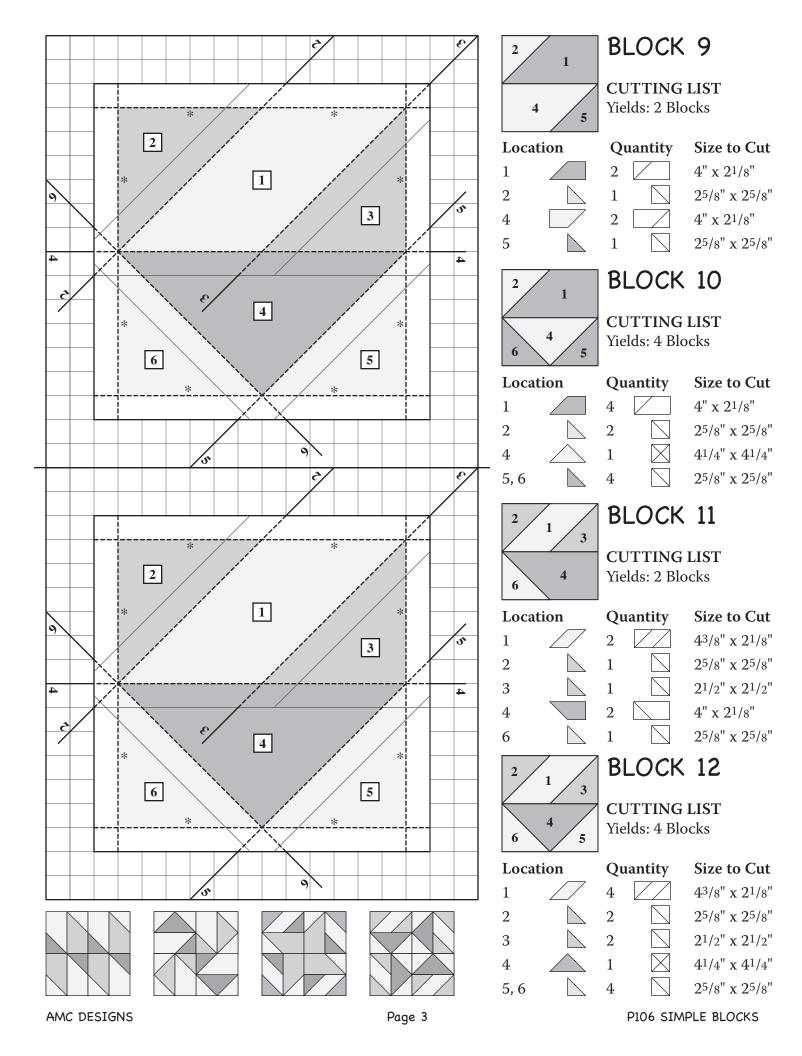


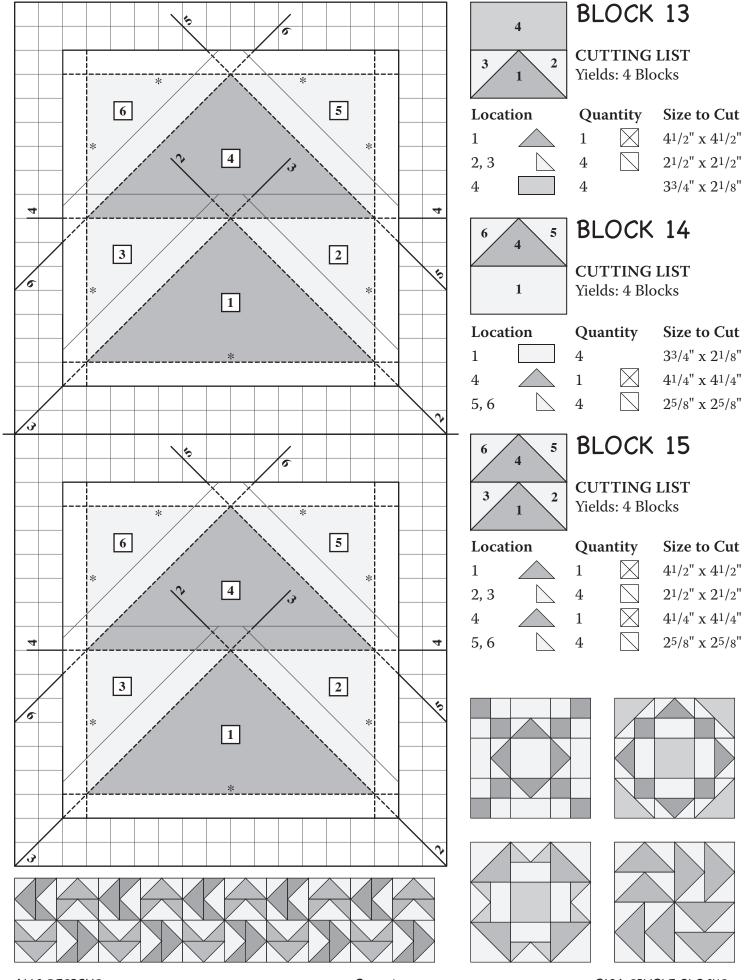


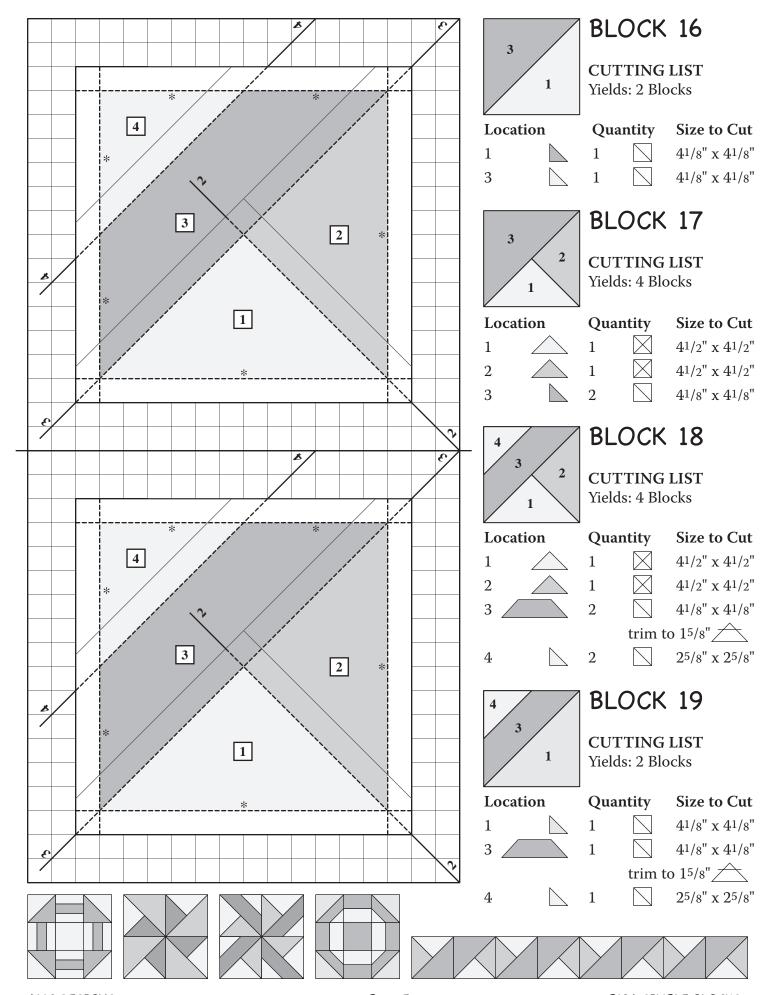


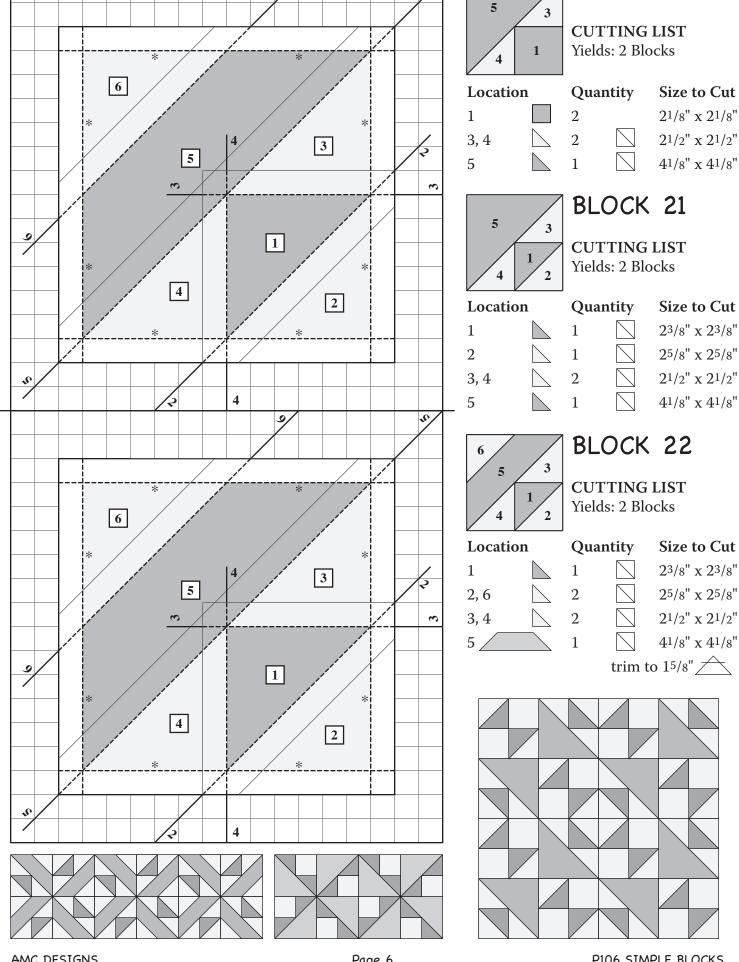




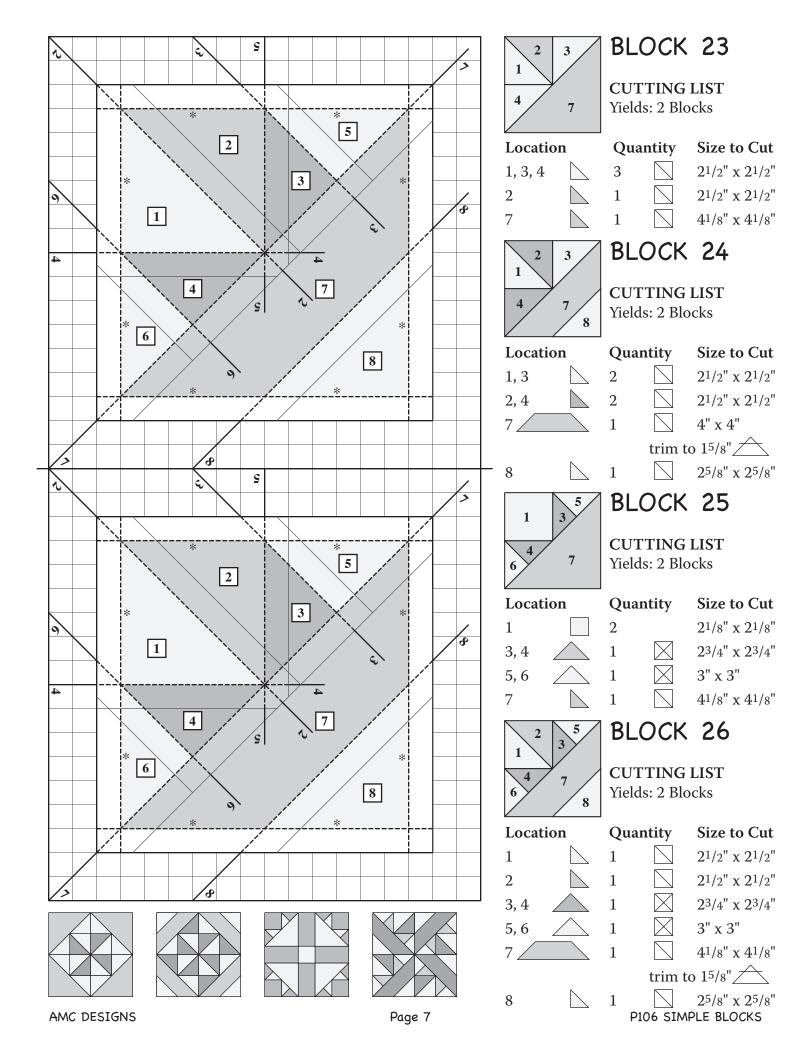


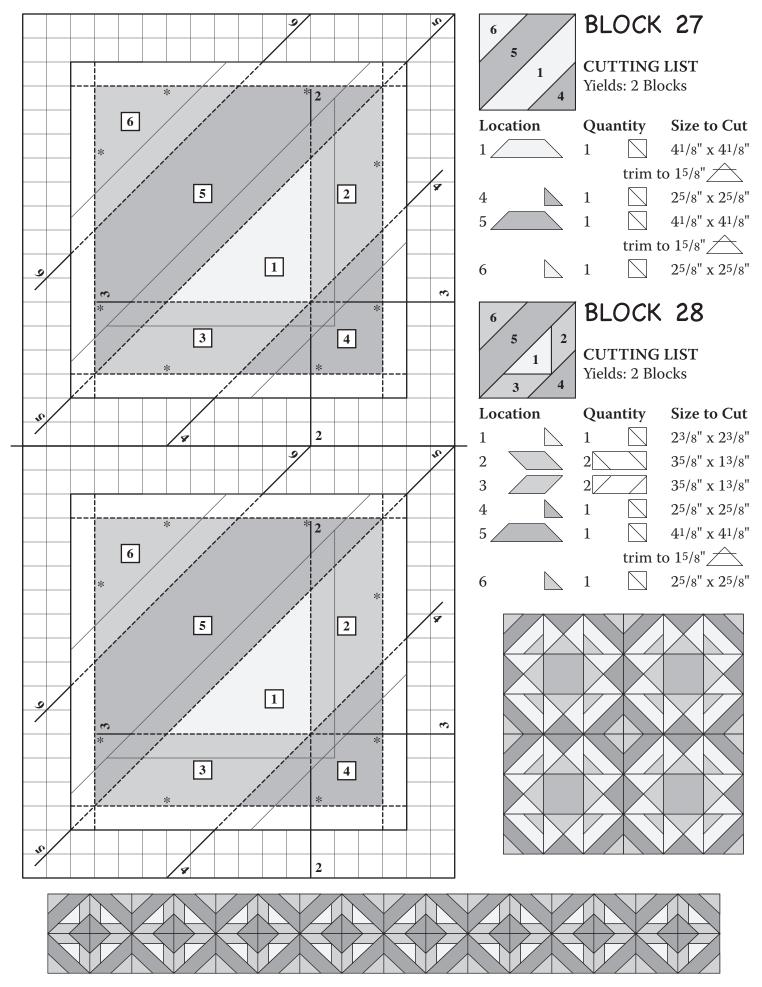


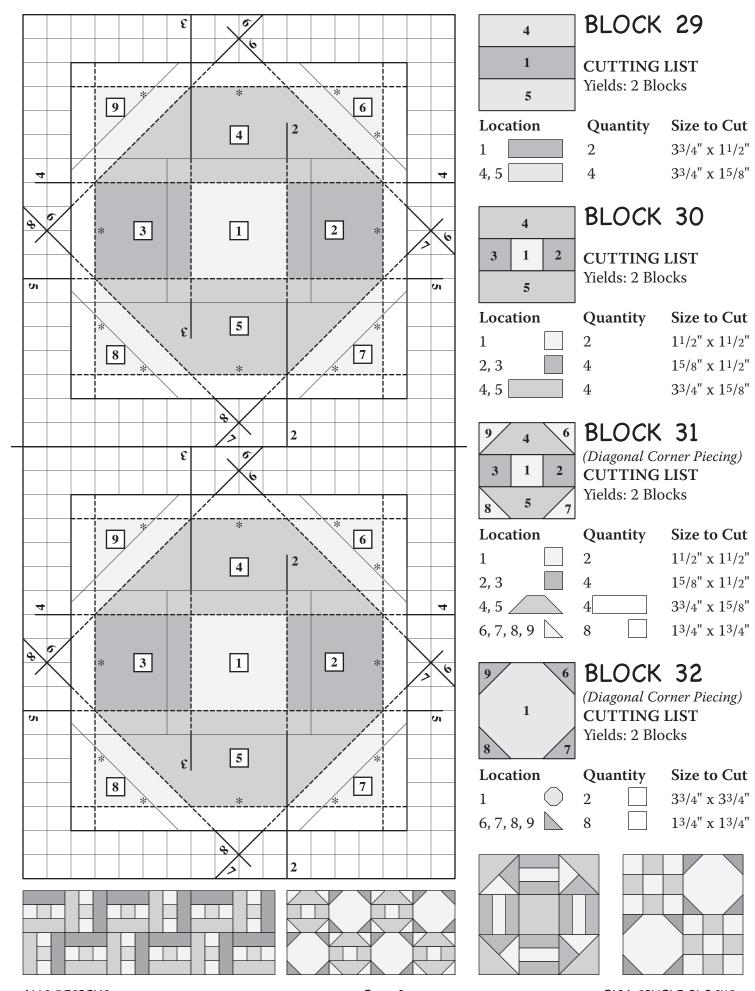


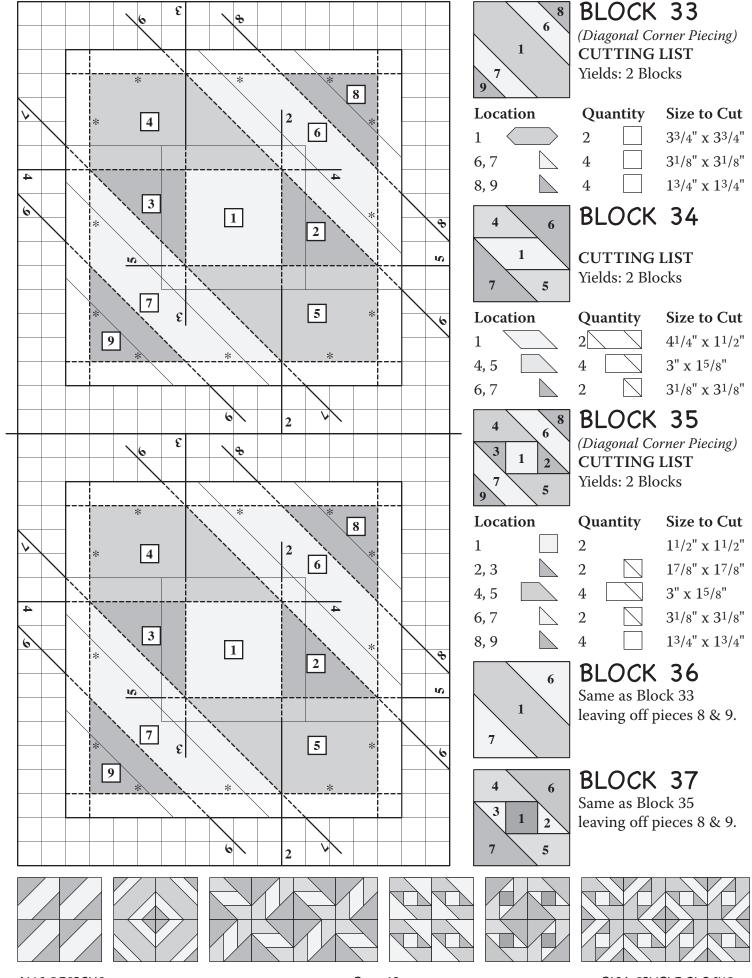


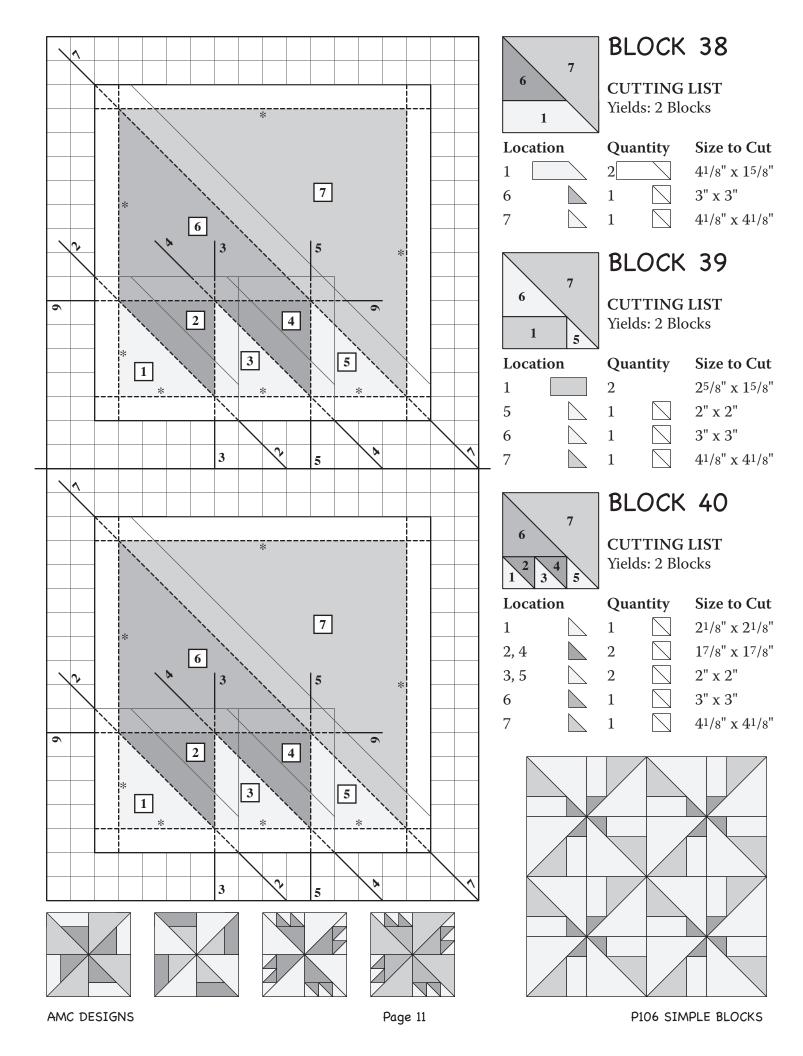
BLOCK 20

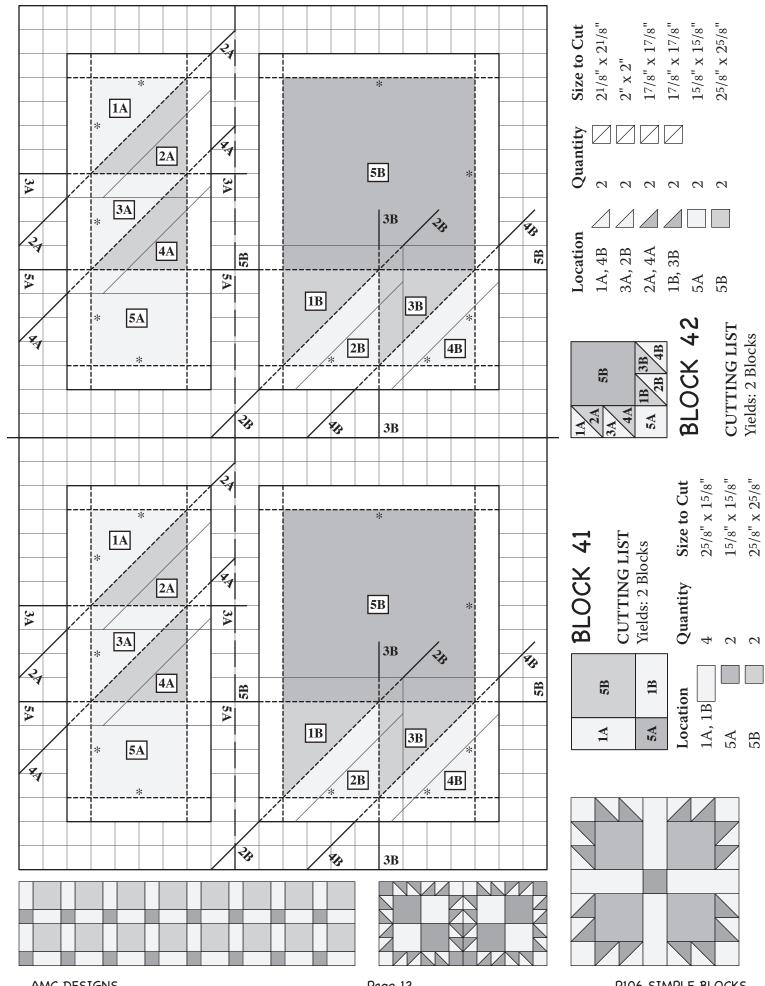


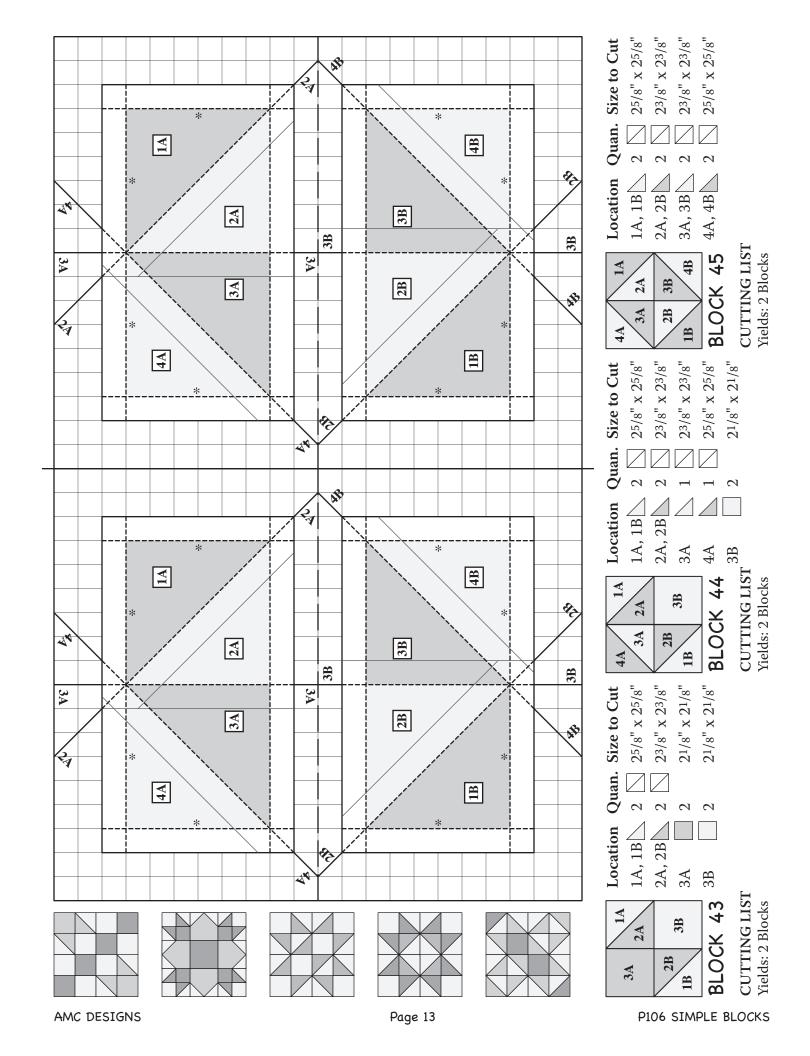


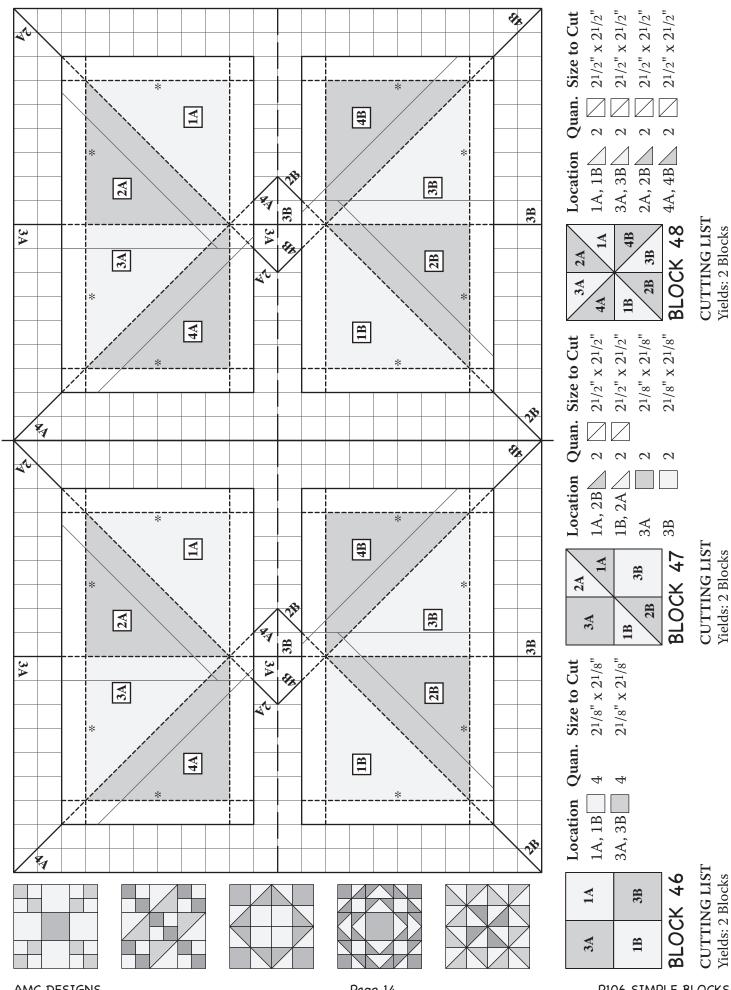


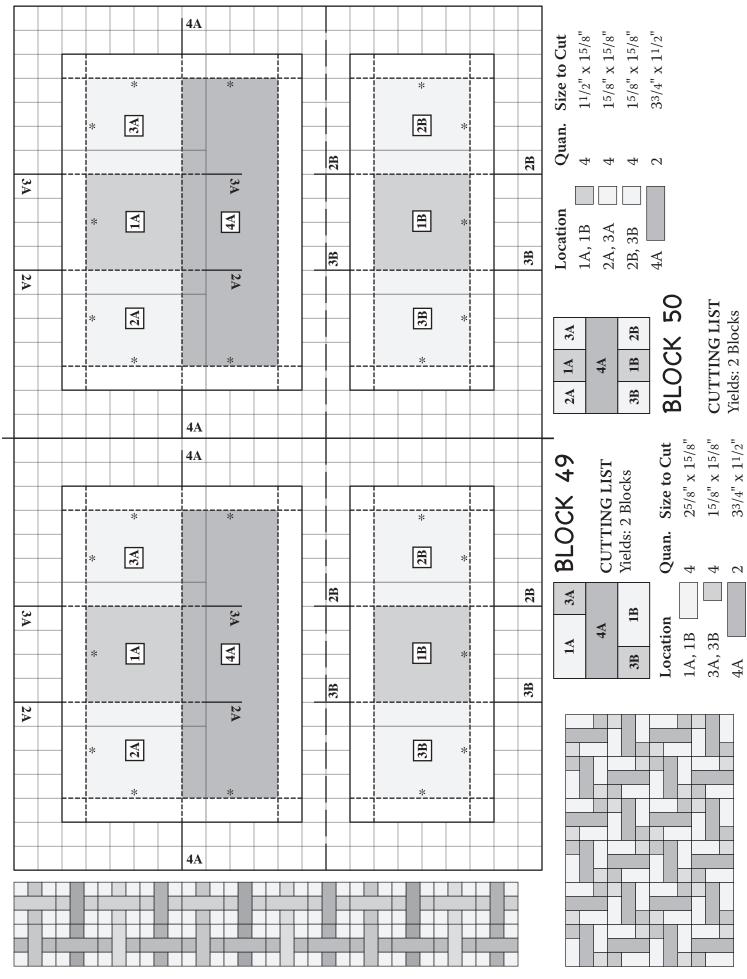


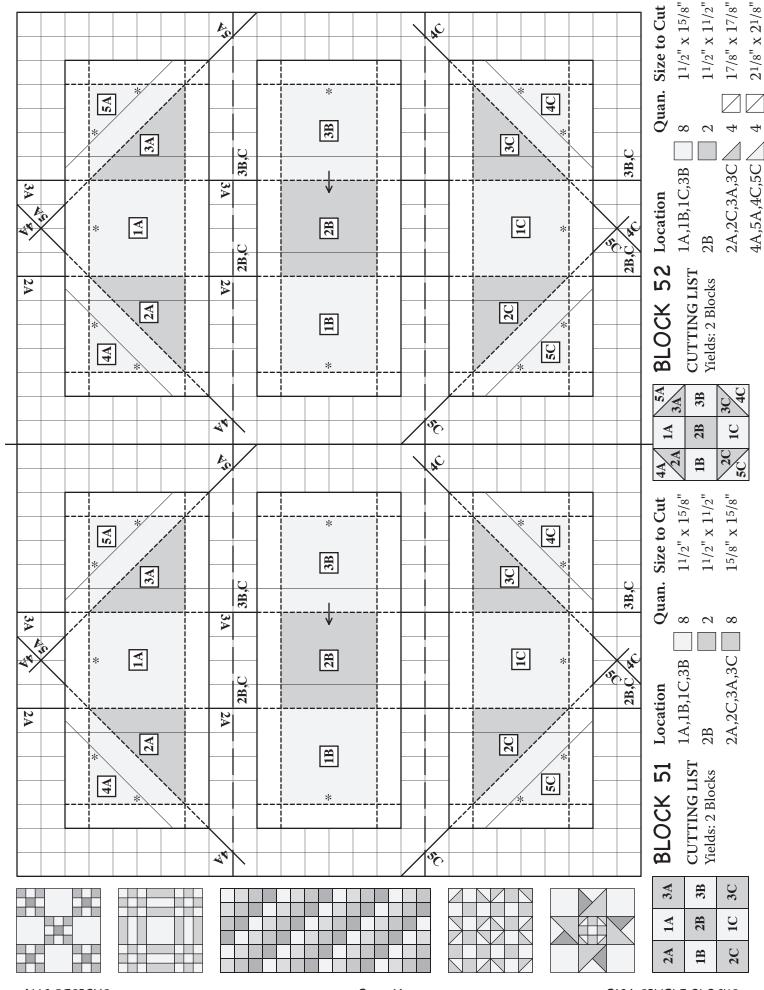


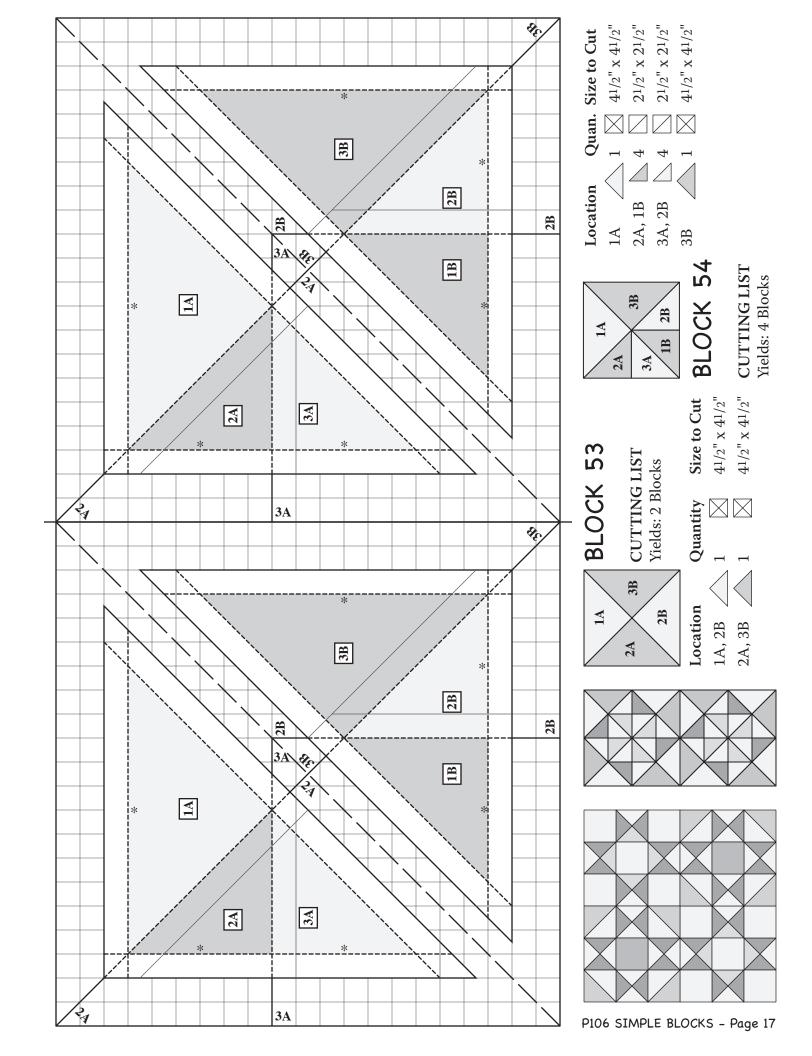












2	3	4	5	6	
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5 5	6	
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	

BONUS BLOCK

1	2	3	4	5	6
6	5	4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	5	6
6	5	4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	5	6
6	5	4	3	2	1

CUTTING LIST

Yields: 3 Block Units, 6" x 1" 1, 3, 5

Location

2, 4, 6

Quantity

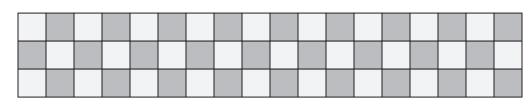
Size to Cut

9

 $1^{1/2}$ " x $1^{1/2}$ "

11/2" x 11/2"

Use this block to make a Postage Stamp quilt or Checkerboard border.



General Instructions

- If the foundation copy paper you are using shrinks during the pressing process, increase the pattern to 101% when making copies.
- Make all copies for the same project on the same copy machine using the original block pattern. Do not make a copy from a copy.
- If possible, use an inkjet all-in-one printer instead of a copy machine, and foundation paper made for inkjet printers that absorbs the ink for less ink transfer.
- Make a sample block first before cutting all of the pieces for multiple blocks.
- Do not place iron directly on printed side of paper when pressing seams.

MAKING FOUNDATION COPIES

- 1. Using a copy machine, make the number of copies needed for the desired block. Note: When using a copy machine, you may find the photocopied blocks measure a fraction of an inch different in length than width. This is usually not a problem as the difference can easily be eased in when sewing the blocks together.
- **2.** Use a rotary cutter and ruler to cut out the copies on the outside solid lines.

CHANGING THE BLOCK SIZE

These blocks are sized at 3" finished with 1/4" guide lines for seam allowances. For a different block size use the following chart. Keep in mind that the guide lines for seam allowances will also change, so if you want to continue using 1/4" seams you will need to disregard these lines and estimate a 1/4" seam allowance.

New Block Size	Percentage of Enlargement
	or Reduction
11/2"	50%
2"	67%
21/2"	83%
31/2"	117%
4"	133%
41/2"	150%
5"	167%

To make better use of the foundation paper, smaller block sizes should be scanned into the computer and laid out on a page for printing.

The bonus block on page 18 could be copied on the excess paper where the cutting list and sample blocks are located. If you are making multiple blocks you will soon have enough bonus blocks to make a Postage Stamp quilt or Checkerboard border.

PREPARING & CUTTING FABRIC

The cutting list for each block indicates the location for each piece, how many pieces to cut, and what size to cut them. For the best use of the fabric, instructions are given for cutting 2 to 4 blocks at a time.

The following symbols are used for cutting the pieces.

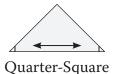
- = square(s) used for diagonal corner
 piecing
 = rectangle(s) used for diagonal corner
 piecing
 = cut square(s) once diagonally to make
 - half-square triangles
- = cut square(s) twice diagonally to make quarter-square triangles
- = cut 45° diagonal corner(s) from rectangles in the direction shown
- = trim corner from half-square triangles to make trapezoids
 - * = an extra 1/8" has been added to the pieces for all edges marked with a *
- 1. Prewash and iron fabric.
- 2. Rotary cut fabric strips across the width or length of the fabric. Cut strips into pieces the size needed for the desired block. Stack pieces in the order needed, with piece #1 on top. For multiple blocks from the same pattern, make an enlarged copy of the pattern and place stacks of the cut pieces in the correct position on the pattern. Label the top fabric in each stack if desired.

TRIMMING POINTS

Some triangle points may be trimmed ahead of time to make it easier to line up the triangles in the correct position for sewing, and to keep them from covering the extended lines on the pattern. The direction the points are trimmed depend on how the triangle is to be sewn to the next shape. Half-square triangles are usually trimmed perpendicular to the short side and quarter-square triangles perpendicular to the long side. The amount to trim is always 3/8" on 45° angles.





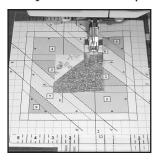


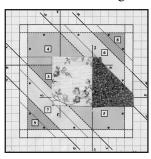
PREPARING TO SEW

- 1. Place the **Seam Guide** on the sewing machine. (Follow instructions to cut opening for needle and feed dogs.) Make sure the needle lines up with the red sewing line on the **Seam Guide** and tape in place. The Extension is no longer available, but you can easily make your own if the line in front of the needle is not long enough for all of the block units. Simply draw a red line down the center of a ruled index card. Laminate the card or cover it with clear packaging tape. Line it up with the red sewing line on the Seam Guide and tape in place.
- 2. Set sewing machine stitch length to 18-20 stitches per inch (1.5 on some sewing machines). Use an open toe walking foot for best results. If you are sewing with a Pfaff sewing machine with dual feed, use an open toe appliqué foot and engage the dual feed.
- 3. The dotted lines on the block patterns are the sewing lines. You will not be able to see these lines as you sew because the fabric will be covering them. The solid lines extending from the dotted lines will be used to line up the dotted lines with the needle and the red sewing line on the **Seam Guide**. The numbers beside these lines coincide with the same numbered fabric piece. The 1/4" space outside the shaded block area is the seam allowance for sewing the blocks together.

PIECING THE BLOCKS

1. Place the fabric for piece #1 right side up on the **printed** side of the paper. Place fabric piece #2 on top of piece #1, right sides together, along the joining seam line. Holding the fabrics in place, align the needle at the edge of the fabric on the short extended solid line #2. Align the long extended solid line with the sewing line on the **Seam Guide**. Sew seam, making sure the solid line stays on the sewing line of the **Seam Guide**. Repeat for each block without cutting the thread between them until pieces #1 and #2 are sewn on all blocks. Trim threads, open up piece #2 and press with a dry iron on cotton setting.





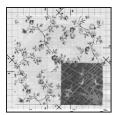
- 2. Rotate pattern as needed and place fabric piece #3 in position, making sure fabric stays within the seam allowance. Repeat **Step 1** using sewing line #3.
- 3. Repeat this process until all pieces are sewn, adding pieces in numerical order.
- 4. If there are loose corners on the pieced block, such as Block 4 or Block 16, sew a few stitches across the corners within the seam allowance to hold the fabric in place for trimming and block assembly.
- 5. Turn the block over and use a square ruler and rotary cutter to trim to the finished block size plus 1/2" for seam allowances. If you can't see the lines on the back side of the paper, hold the paper up to a light and mark the corners with a pencil before trimming. If you prefer, the blocks may be trimmed from the front by lining up the lines on the ruler with the seams. They may also be trimmed by lining up the 1/4" line of the ruler with the dotted seam line.

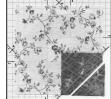
DIAGONAL CORNER PIECING

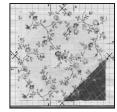
Use this technique to add small triangles to corners of squares or rectangles. Place the larger square or rectangle in position, place the smaller

square on one corner and sew from corner to corner. Fold the paper back on the seam line and trim seam to 1/4". Open corner piece and press seam.



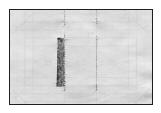


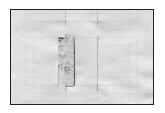




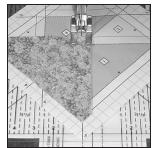
PRESSING

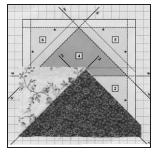
Seams are generally pressed in the same direction as the new piece that is being added. Occasionally you may need a seam to go in the opposite direction. (Unit 3B in Blocks 51 and 52). To achieve this, after sewing the seam, turn the block over and remove the paper around the seam allowance, push the seam through the opening and press toward the previously sewn unit (in the direction of the arrow on the pattern).





It is also possible to change the stitching sequence on some of the pieces in order to change the pressing direction. For instance, piece 2 or 3 could be placed in position first instead of piece 1.

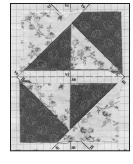




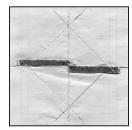
MULTI-UNIT BLOCKS

Some of the blocks are sewn together in separate units in order to make them possible to paperpiece. These units are separated by a long dashed line. **Do not cut on this line.** After sewing the pieces in the separate units, fold the paper along this line with the fabric to the inside and pin matching points to keep the units from shifting. (You may find it easier to pre-fold the paper before sewing any of the pieces or sewing on the line with no thread in the needle first to make it easier to fold.) Sew the units together on the dotted seam line, remove the paper from the seam allowance (use a rotary cutter to trim the folded edge for easier removal) and press in the direction that will give the least bulk. Occasionally seams may need to be pressed open. Four-patch blocks should be pressed in a circular direction and open at center where multiple

seams intersect.







ASSEMBLING THE BLOCKS

Note: If all edges are on the straight grain of the fabric, you may choose to remove the paper before sewing the blocks together for larger block sizes. I recommend leaving the paper on until the blocks are assembled for small to miniature block sizes.

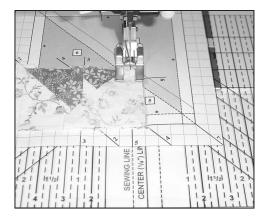
- 1. Arrange blocks as desired and sew into rows using a 1/4" foot. Or use an open toe foot to sew on the dotted seam line. Remove paper from seam allowances. Press seams in every other row in opposite directions.
- 2. Sew rows together. Remove paper from seam allowances and all inside blocks. Press seams in one direction.
- 3. Add borders. Press seams toward borders. Remove paper from remaining blocks. Carefully press all seams with a down-up motion. Do not slide iron across seams. Finish quilt as desired.

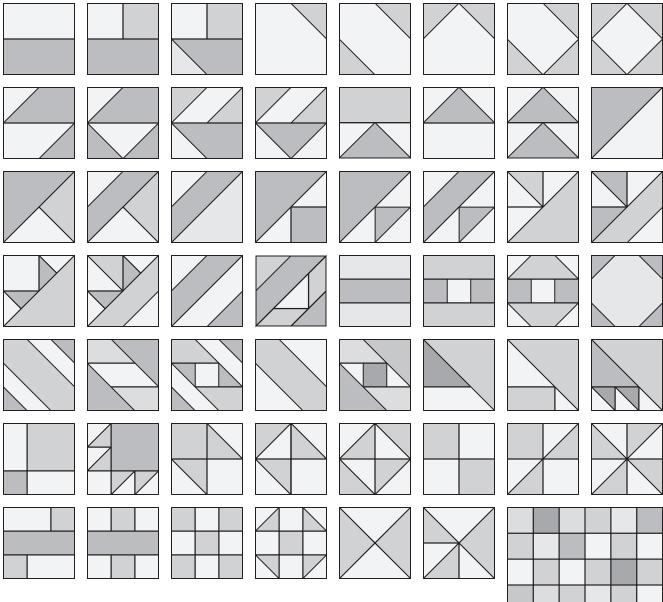
These instructions are presented in good faith, but no warranty is given, nor results guaranteed. AMC Designs disclaims any liability for unfavorable results.

P106 SIMPLE BLOCKS

SUPPLIES NEEDED

fast2sew™ Ultimate Seam Guide Foundation Copy Paper Open Toe Walking Foot Rotary Cutter, Mat & Rulers Fabric Thread





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Bonus Block