

Daisies & Dots

A Piece O' Cake Pattern by Becky Goldsmith and Linda Jenkins featuring our Daisies & Dots fabric collection from Robert Kaufman.

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Finished size: 52 1/2" x 52 1/2"

Materials

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A - Block Centers - 1/4 yard
String Pieced blocks: approximately 2 yards total of a variety of fabrics
Border Background: 1 5/8 yards
Sashing: 5/8 yard
Applique fabric: A wide variety of large scraps
Rickrack Vine in Border: 6 yards OR
Bias Stem for Vine in Border: 5/8 yard
Binding - 7/8 yard
Backing and Sleeve: 3 1/2 yards
Notions: Self-laminating sheets for templates, Quilter's Vinyl (or upholstery vinyl) for overlays, Quilter's Choice Basting Glue to use with rickrack

Cutting Instructions

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A - Block Centers:
Cut 4 squares 5 1/2" x 5 1/2"

String Pieced Blocks:
Refer to "Making the Blocks" before cutting this fabric

Border Background:
Cut from the lengthwise grain.
Cut 2 strips 10" x 40"
Cut 2 strips 10" x 55"

Sashing:
B - Cut 2 strips 3" x 15 1/2"

C - Cut 3 strips 3" x 33"

D - Cut 2 strips 3" x 38"

Binding: Make 2 1/2" wide continuous bias binding from a 26" x 26" square.

General Applique Instructions

NOTE: For complete applique instructions refer to our book, The New Applique Sampler, and/or to our DVD, Learn to Applique the Piece O' Cake Way!

Preparing Your Fabric

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Prewash your fabric before using it. Prewashing is a good way to test for colorfastness and shrinkage.

Different fabrics shrink at different rates. It's better if the fabric bleeds or shrinks before it is sewn into the quilt.

Prewashed fabric has a better hand and it smells better. But the best reason to prewash is that it makes the fabric easier to appliqué.

Prepare the Patterns

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This can be done in one step at a copy shop or you can enlarge different areas of the block and tape them together.

Making the Appliqué Templates

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1. Use a photocopier to make 1-2 copies of each enlarged block and of each border. You need a copy of each shape that requires a template. Shapes that are repeated (as are the

- tulips in the side borders) require only one template.
2. Cut out the appliqué shapes from these copies. Group them when you can – it saves on the laminate. Leave a little paper allowance around each shape or group. You need one paper shape for each piece that requires a template.
 3. Place a self-adhesive laminating sheet shiny side down on the table. Peel off the paper backing, leaving the sticky side of the sheet facing up.
 4. If you are doing hand appliqué, place the templates drawn side down on the self-laminating sheet. For fusible appliqué, place the blank side down. Use more laminating sheets as necessary.
 5. Cut out each shape. Try to split the drawn line with your scissors. Keep edges smooth and points sharp.

Make the Positioning Overlay

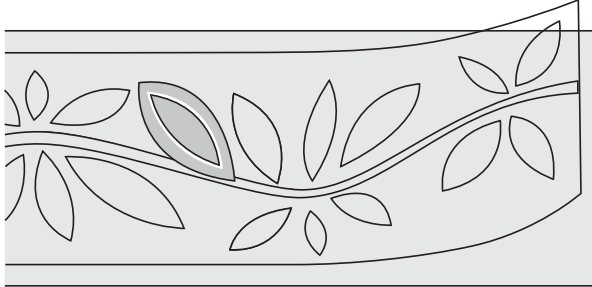
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 The positioning overlay is a piece of clear medium-weight vinyl that is used to position each appliqué piece accurately on the block. The overlay is easy to make and use, and can be used with just about any appliqué method.

1. Cut a piece of the vinyl, with its tissue paper lining, to finished size of each block. Set the tissue paper aside until you are ready to fold or store the overlay.
2. Tape the pattern onto a table.
3. Tape the upholstery vinyl over the pattern. Use a ruler and a Sharpie Ultra Fine Point Marker to draw the pattern's horizontal and vertical centerlines onto the vinyl.

4. Accurately trace the lines from the pattern onto the vinyl. The numbers on the pattern indicate stitching sequence - include these numbers on the overlay. They also tell you which side of the overlay is the right side.

Using the Positioning Overlay

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1. Press your background fabric in half in both directions. Place the background right side up on top of your sandpaper board. The sandpaper keeps the background from shifting as you position appliqué pieces on the block.
 2. Place the overlay right side up on top of the background.
 3. Line up the center grid in your background with the center grid of the overlay. Pin the overlay if necessary to keep it from shifting out of position.
 4. Place the rickrack vine in position. Glue it in place with Quilter's Choice Basting Glue, or use pins. Sew the rickrack to the background by machine or by hand.
 5. Before placing appliqué pieces on the block, finger-press the turn-under allowances. This is a very important step. As you finger-press, make sure that the drawn line is pressed to the back. You'll be amazed at how much easier this one step makes needle-turning the turn-under allowance.

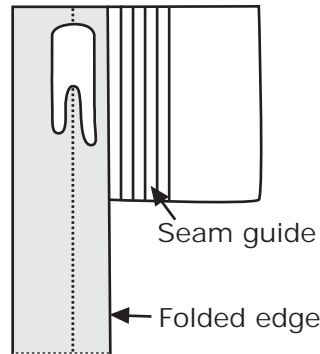


1. Place applique pieces under the overlay but on top of the background.
2. Fold the overlay back and pin the appliqué piece in place using 1/2" sequin pins. We usually position and stitch only a few pieces at a time. Remove the vinyl overlay before stitching.
3. Hand appliqué the pieces in place with an invisible stitch and matching thread.
4. When you are ready to put away the overlay, place the saved tissue paper over the drawn side before you fold it. The tissue paper keeps the lines from transferring from one part of the vinyl to another.

Bias Stem

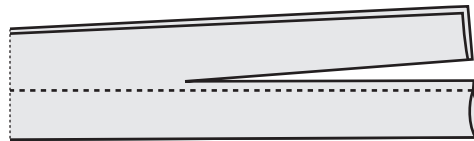
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 If you would rather use bias stem for the vines in the border, this is how you make it.

1. Make 1 1/2 " bias stem from a square 20 " x 20 ".
2. Lightly press the 1 1/2" continuous bias strip wrong sides together.
3. Place the folded edge of the bias strip against the seam guide of your sewing machine. Find the width of the stem you want to make. For example, if you are making 3/8 " bias stem place the folded edge on that mark.

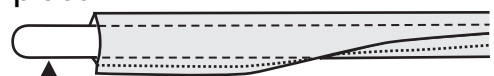


Tip: Before your sew too far, insert your bias bar into the tube to make sure it fits. You want a snug (but not tight) fit.

4. Sew down the length of the strip.
5. Trim away excess fabric, leaving a very scant seam allowance.



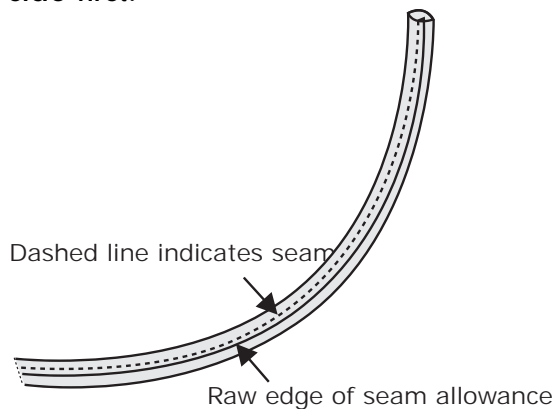
6. Insert the rounded end of the 1/4" bias bar into your sewn bias tube. Shift the seam and seam allowance to the back of the bar and press it in place.



↑ End of bias bar emerging from the far end of the bias tube.

7. Work the bar down the length of the bias tube. Remove the bias bar.
8. Hold up the finished bias stem. You'll notice that it wants to curve better in one direction than the other.
9. The side closest to the seam line makes the tighter curve. When possible, match this side of the bias

stem to the concave side of the stem on your pattern. Sew the concave side first.



Make the String Pieced Units

Please note that all of the measurements depend on the use of an accurate 1/4" seam allowance.

You have options when it comes to making the string pieced blocks.

Option 1: Use the foundation papers included in this pattern.

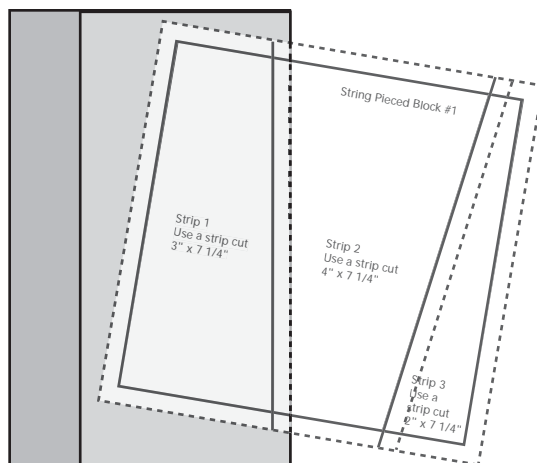
1. Copy String Pieced Blocks 1-6 onto vellum. Make 5 copies of each block. Choose one block and make 2 additional copies of it for a total of 32 copies.
2. Trim away the excess paper from each square, cutting carefully on the outer dashed lines.
3. Put a large (90/14) needle in your sewing machine. Use a strong, fine cotton thread and a shorter-than-normal stitch when foundation paper piecing—18-20 stitches per inch or 1-5-1.8.
4. It is easier to sew small strips cut closer to size to the foundation papers. You will need a variety of

strips in the sizes listed below. Our cutting instructions below include a few extra strips.

Strip sizes are also listed on the String Pieced Block patterns. Label your piles of strips so that you use strips of the correct size on each block.

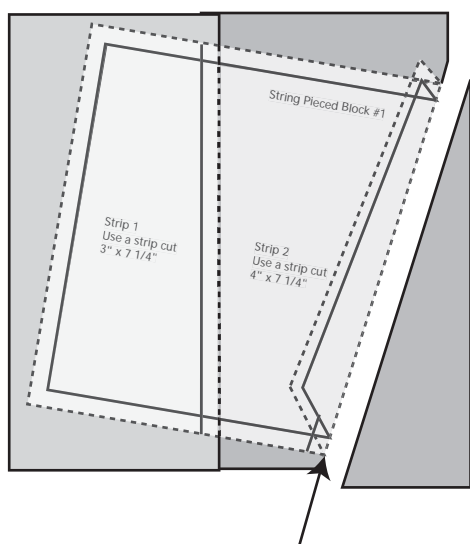
- Cut 12 strips 2" x 7 1/4"
- Cut 17 strips 2 1/2" x 7 1/4"
- Cut 22 strips 3" x 7 1/4"
- Cut 17 strips 3 1/2" x 7 1/4"
- Cut 7 strips 4 1/2" x 7 1/4"
- Cut 7 strips 4 1/2" x 7 1/4"

5. Start with String Pieced Block #1. Pick up a 3" x 6 1/2" strip (for Strip 1) and a 4" x 6 1/2" strip (for Strip 2). Place the 2 strips right sides together. The wrong side of Strip 1 should be on top, and will be next to the wrong side of the vellum.
6. Line up the dashed line that runs between Strip 1 and Strip 2 with the matched edges of the fabric strips. Be sure that fabric will extend beyond the edges of the paper after the strip is sewn and pressed.



7. Sew on the solid line, with the fabric next to the feed dogs and the paper facing you, right side up.
8. Place the square, vellum side down, on your ironing board. (It's a good idea to place it on a paper towel to protect the ironing surface.) Flip Strip 2 open, away from Strip 1. Press the seam.
9. Place the square, fabric side down on your cutting mat. Fold the paper back along the next long dashed line (the one between Strip 2 and Strip 3). Cut along this line. Be careful not to cut the paper. If you do, you can mend it with clear tape.

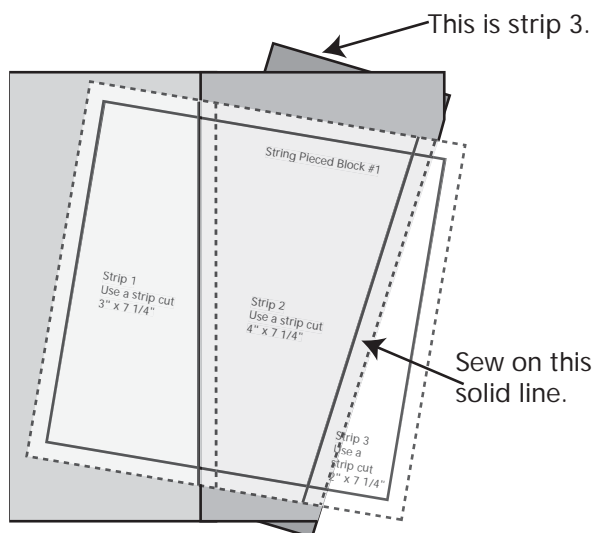
Fold the edge down, making the vellum flat again.



Fold, and cut, along this dashed line.

10. Pick up a 2" x 6 1/2" strip (for Strip 3). Line up one long edge of this strip with the newest cut on your square. Place the two fabrics right sides together on the wrong side of the vellum. Pin if you need to. Turn

the unit over and sew on the straight line.



11. Press Strip 3 open. Trim the edges of the block even with the edges of the paper. The block should be 5 1/2" x 5 1/2". Remove the paper.
12. Repeat in this manner to make 32 foundation paper pieced squares.

Option 2: Cut 32 squares 5 1/2" x 5 1/2" from vellum. Sew strips (strings) to the papers as described above but you won't have lines to follow. Sew strips to the paper randomly. You can use the strip measurements from Option 1 or you can use strips of other sizes. Remember to vary the angles of your seam lines.

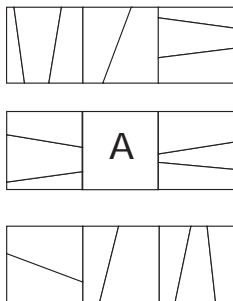
When you have constructed your squares be sure they measure 5 1/2" x 5 1/2". Remove the paper.

Option 3: Cut 6-7 fat quarters into strips that are 2-4" x 20" long. The strips can be sewn together with straight seams or with angled seams.

To cut the strips for angled seams, place one strip right side up on the mat. Place the second strip right side up on top of it. Align the top edges of the 2 pieces. Overlap one edge of each piece of fabric enough so that when you cut, you will cut through both pieces of fabric at once.

Whether you have straight or angled strips, sew the strips together, making 4 units that are each approximately 18" x 20". Press seams in one direction. Cut 32 squares 5 1/2" x 5 1/2" from your pieced fabric units and use them to construct the blocks.

Construct the Blocks



1. Sew 8 string pieced squares and 1 square A into rows, as shown above. Turn the string pieced squares so that the seam lines run in the direction shown in the illustration above.

Please note that you do not have to match the placement of the different foundation paper pieced squares to those in our illustrations. As long as the squares are turned correctly, any square can go in any location.

2. Press seams in alternate directions.

3. Sew the rows together. Press the seams away from the center.
4. The unfinished block size is 15 1/2" x 15 1/2".

Make the Borders

Refer to the General Applique Instructions.

You have options when it comes to making the borders.

Option 1: Applique the borders using the vine pattern included in this pattern.

1. Tape the border pattern sections together. The border pattern should measure 7 1/2" x 52 1/2". The side borders are shorter. The ends of the side borders are marked on the pattern.
2. Place the rickrack vine or bias stem in position. Pin it and then baste it in place. Sew the rickrack or bias stem to the background by machine or by hand.
3. Applique the leaves in the borders. Press the borders on the wrong side.
4. Trim the side borders to 8" x 38 1/2".
5. Trim the top and bottom borders to 8" x 53".

Option 2: Forget the leaves and instead place 2 lines of rickrack in each border. The lines can curve or be straight. If you choose this option, you will need 2 times as much rickrack as is listed in the materials section.

Option 3: Cut your border strips 9", rather than 8", wide. Cut several strips

1" x 10" from an accent fabric. Cut the border strips at irregular intervals. Sew in an accent strip at each cut. Press seam allowances to the border fabric.

Option 4: Let the fabric do the talking and leave the borders empty.

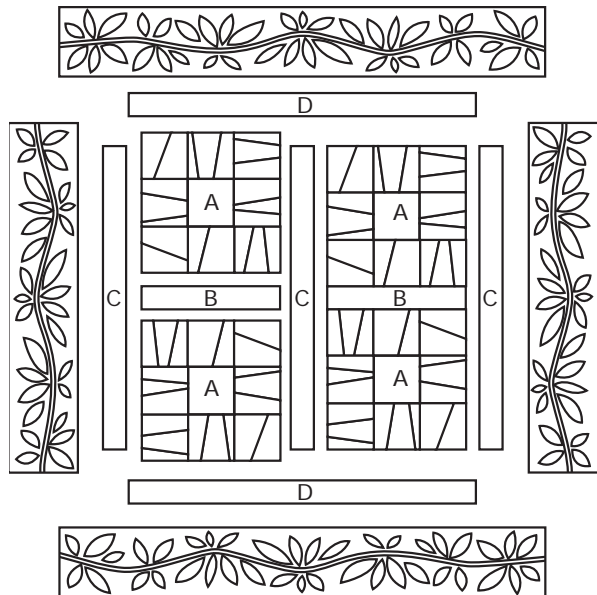
In all cases, the unfinished size of the borders are as stated in Option 1, steps 4 and 5.

Finishing the Quilt

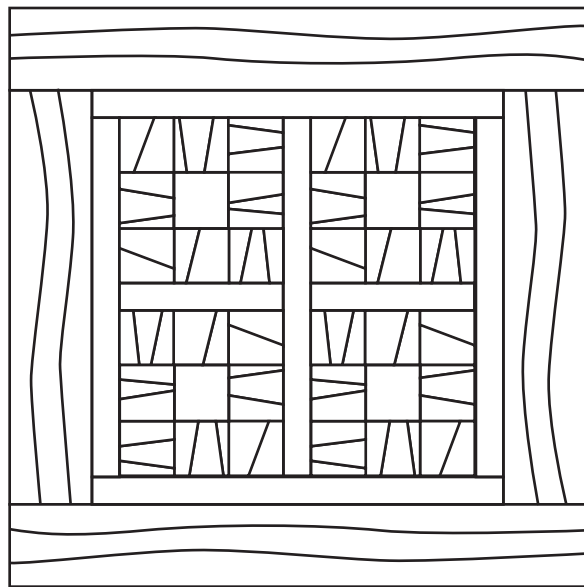
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Refer to the Quilt Assembly Diagram.

1. Sew the blocks and B sashing strips together into 2 rows. Press to the sashing.
2. Sew the rows together with the C sashing strips between them. Press to the sashing.
3. Sew the C sashing strips to the top and bottom of the quilt. Press to the sashing.
4. Sew the side borders to the quilt. Press to the sashing.
5. Sew the top and bottom borders to the quilt. Press to the sashing.
6. Place the backing right side down on a firm surface. Tape it down to keep it from moving around while you baste.
7. Place the batting over the backing and pat out any wrinkles.
8. Center the quilt right side up over the batting.
9. Baste the layers together.
10. Quilt by machine or by hand.
11. Trim the outer edges. Leave 1/4"–3/8" of backing and batting extending beyond the edge of the

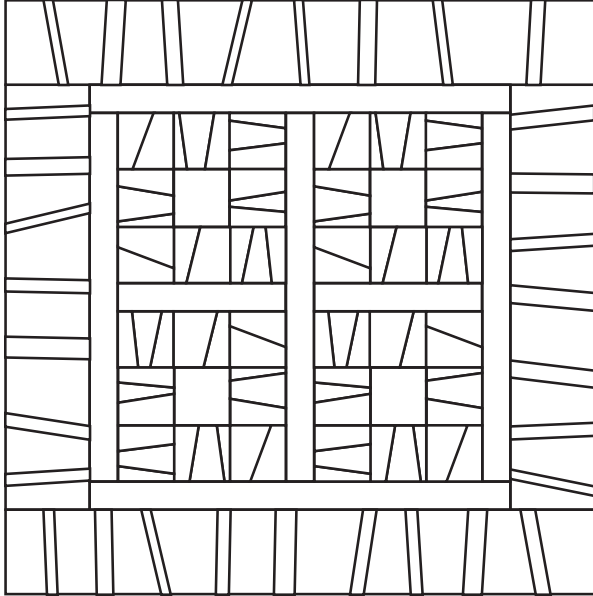
- quilt top. This extra fabric and batting will fill the binding nicely.
12. Finish the outer edges with continuous bias binding.
13. Make and attach a sleeve and documentation patch.



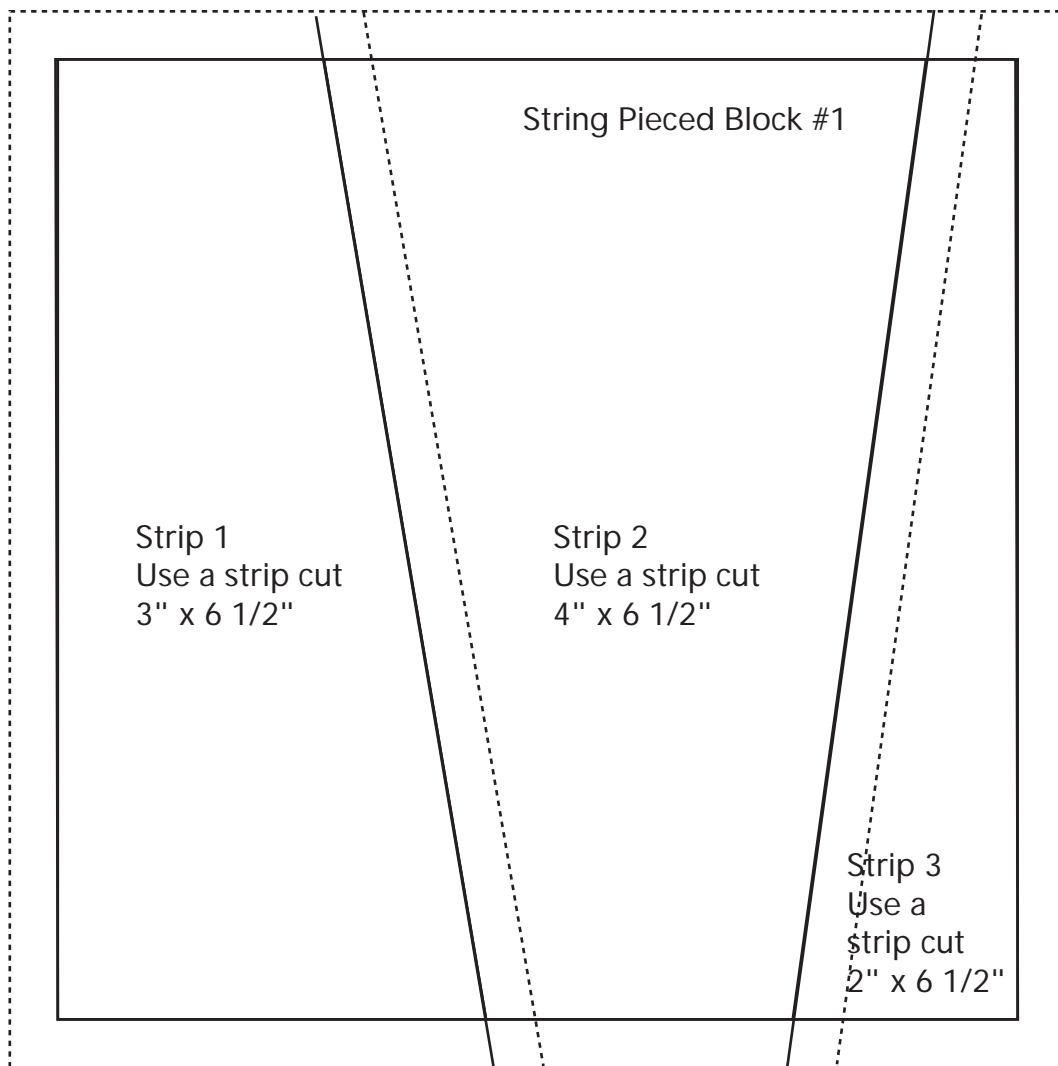
Quilt Assembly Diagram



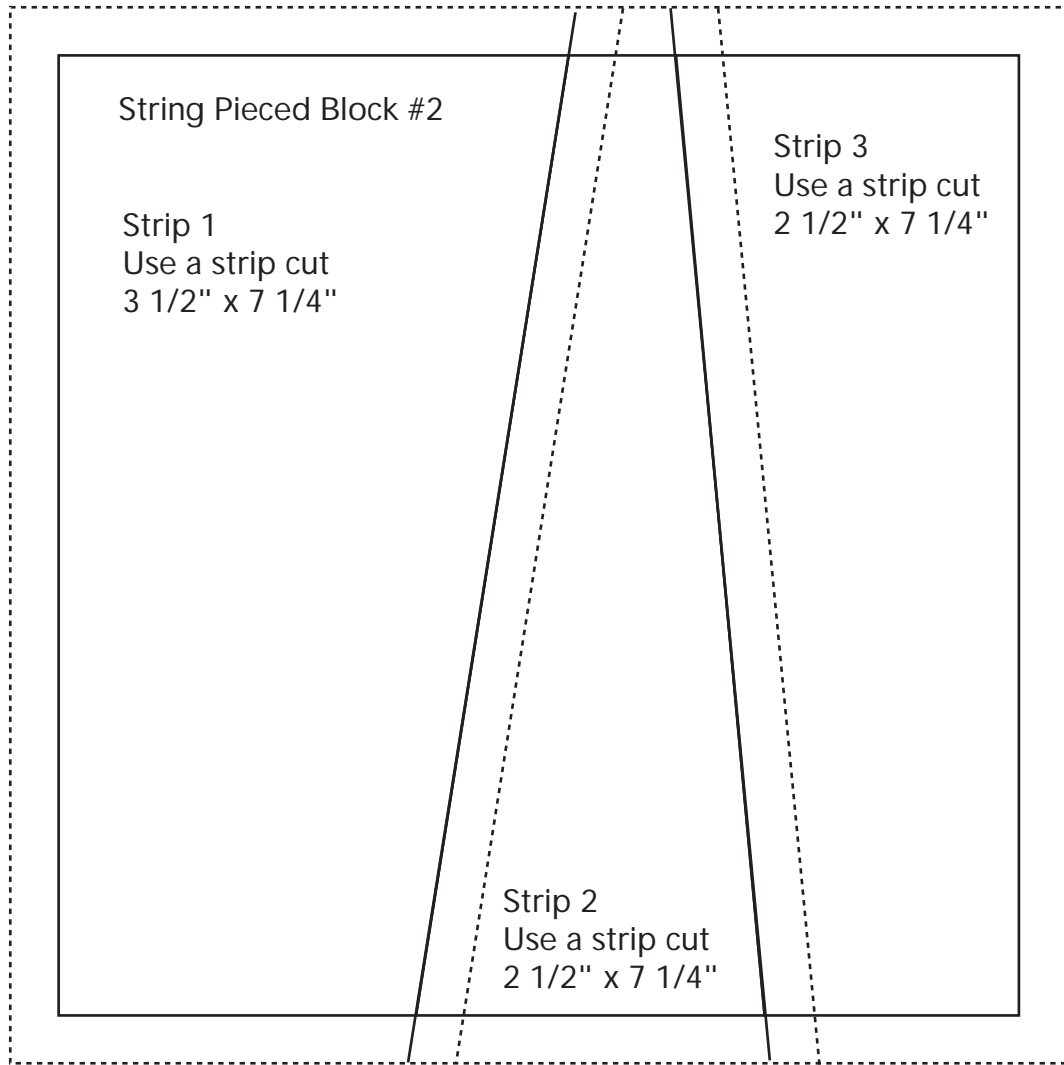
Option 2: rickrack in the borders



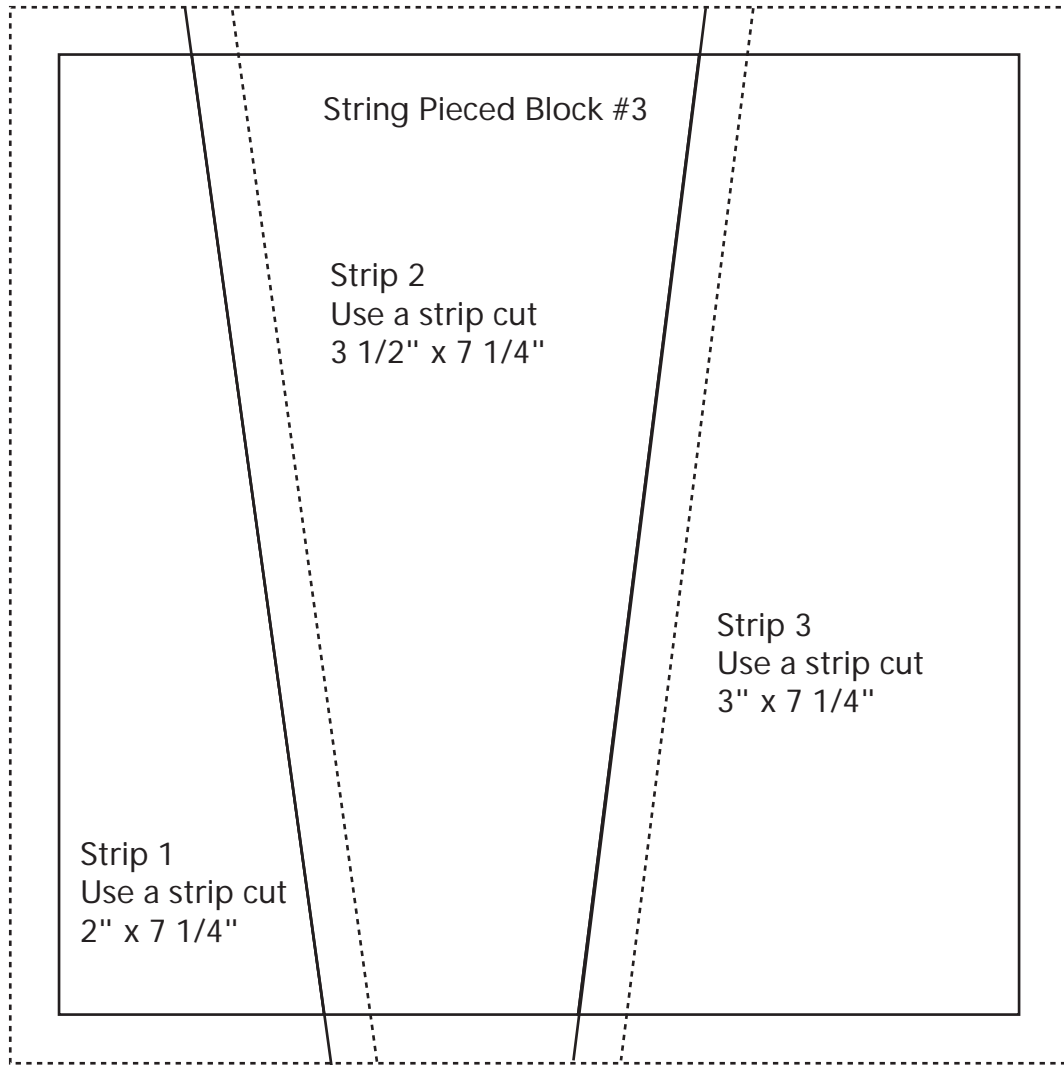
Option 3: strips inserted in the borders



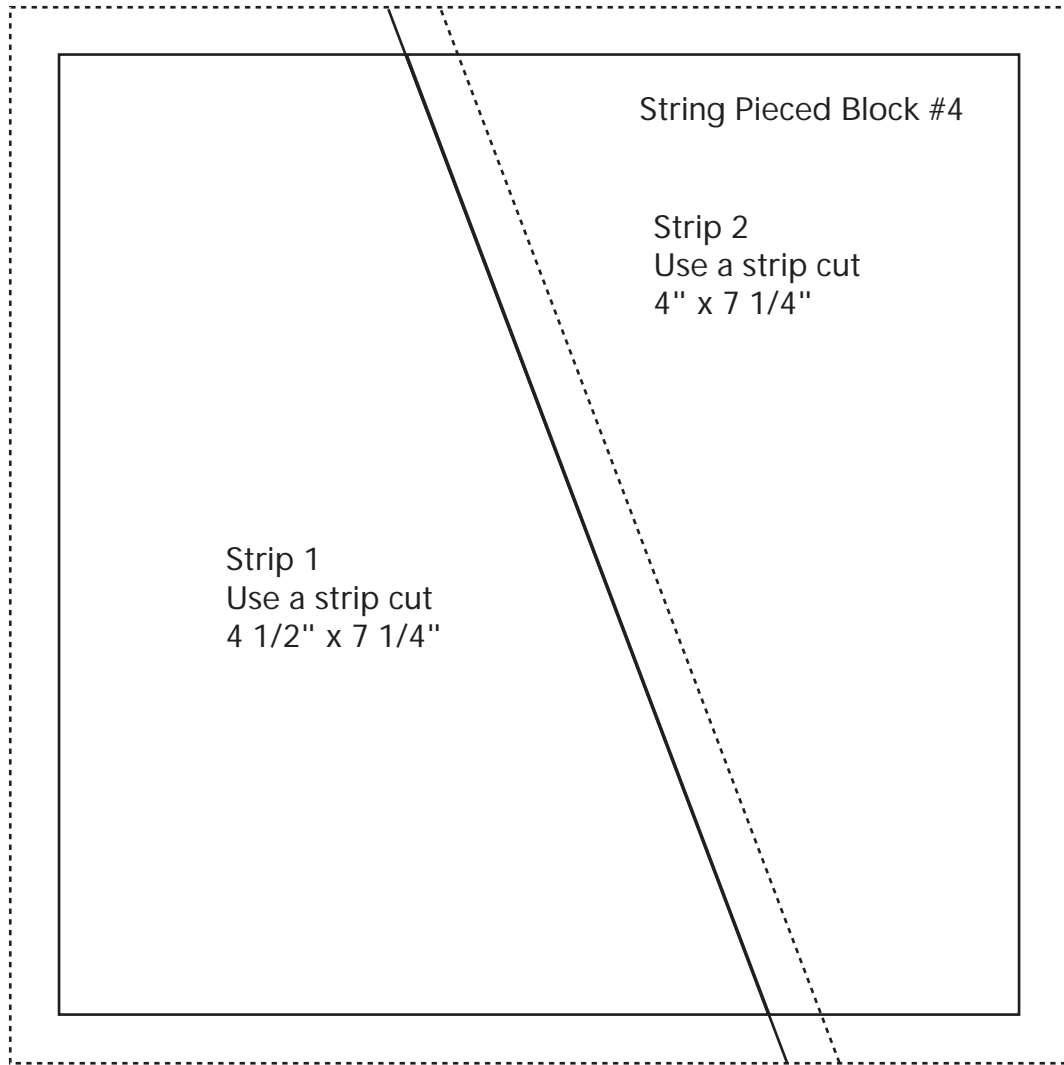
This square
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1" x 1"



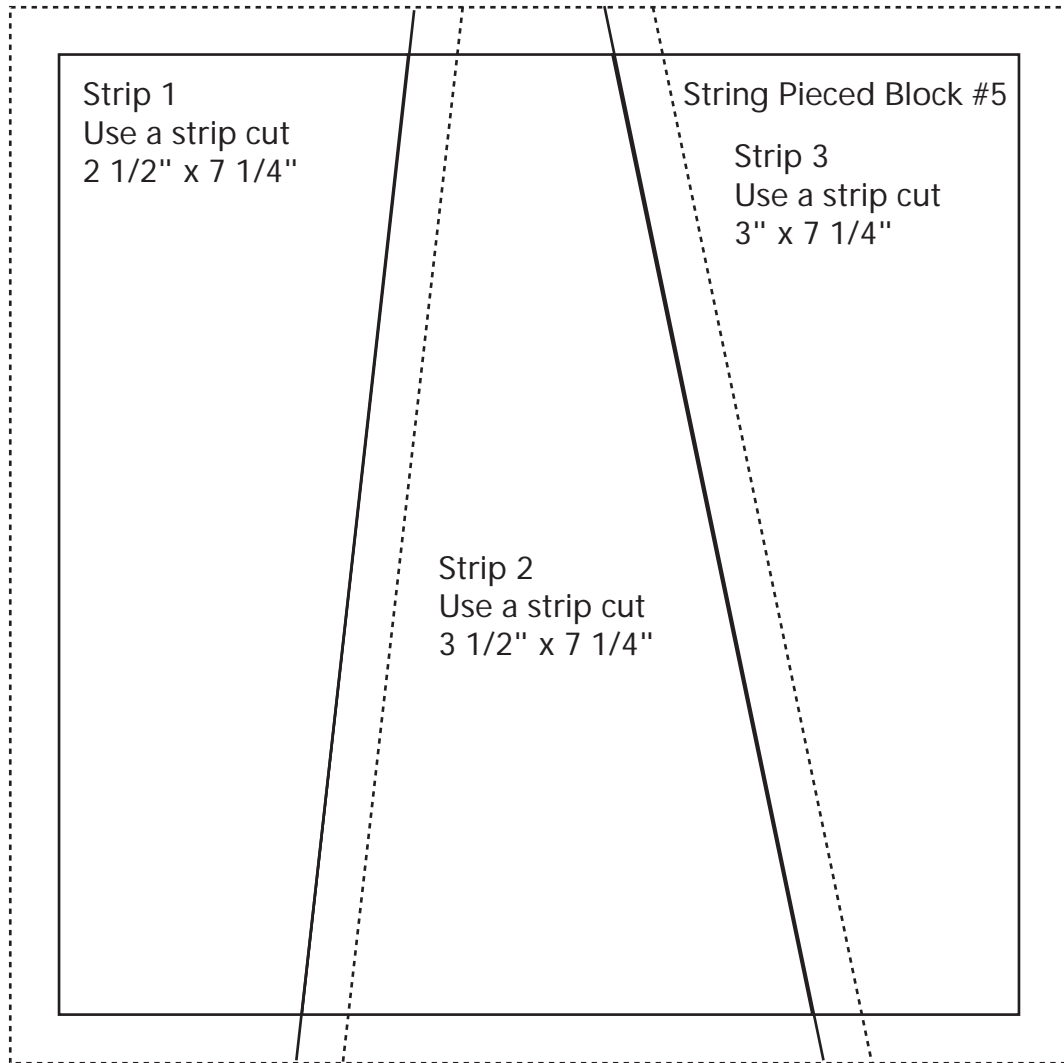
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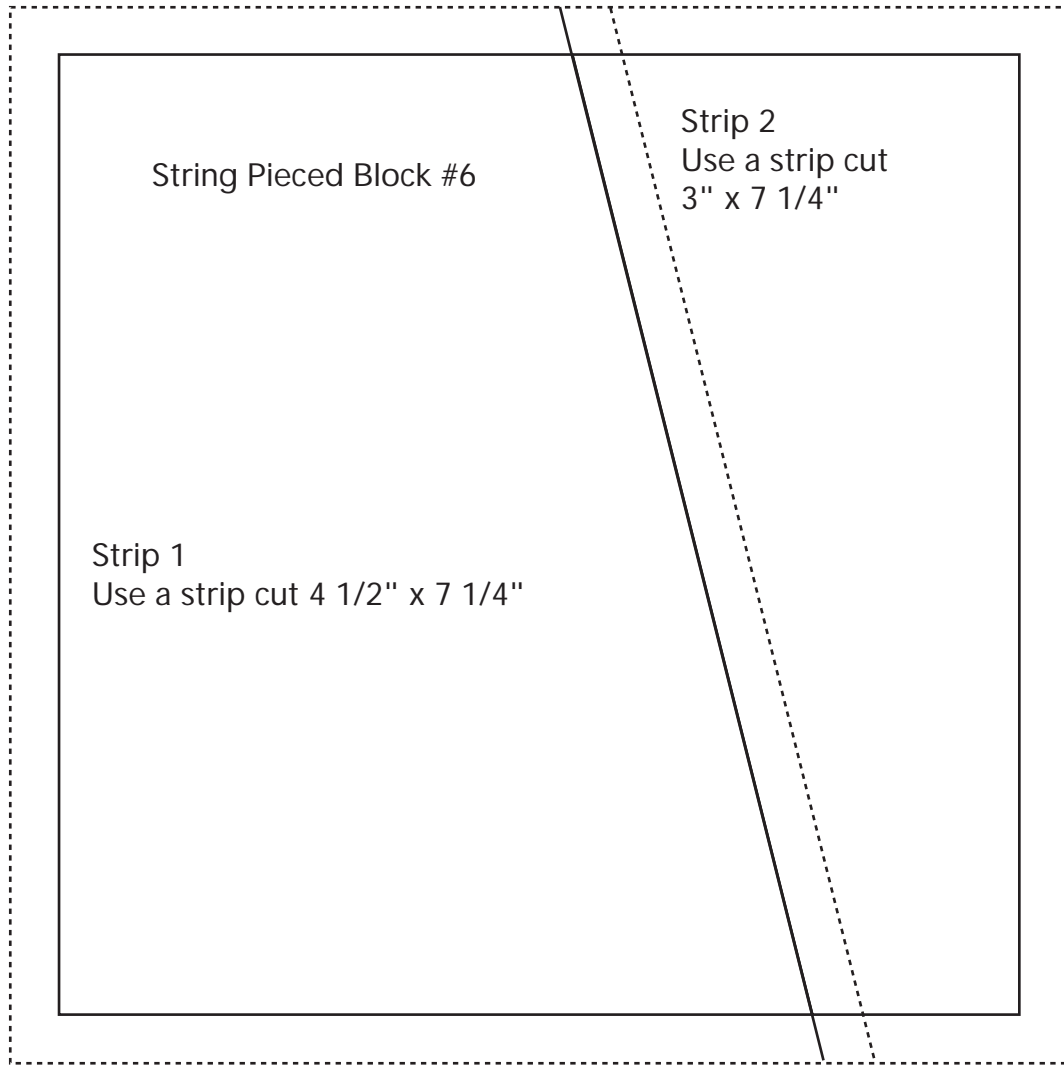
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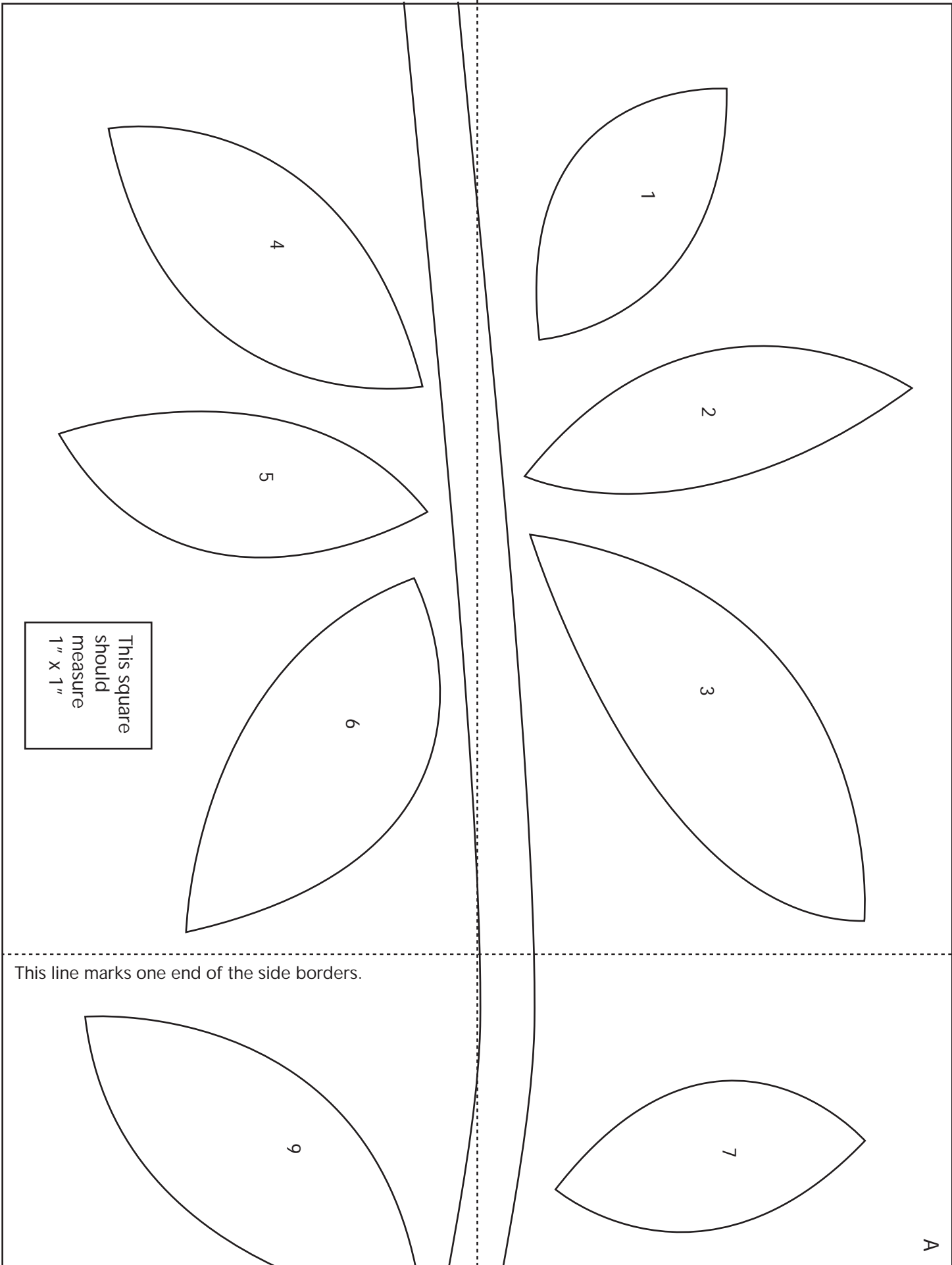
This square
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1" x 1"



This square
should
measure
1" x 1"



This square
should
measure
1" x 1"



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2

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4

5

6

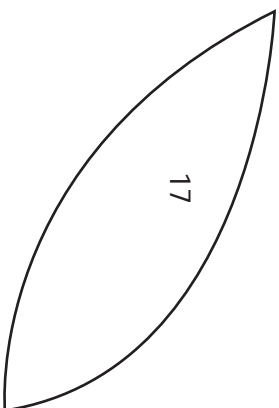
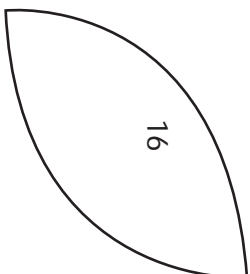
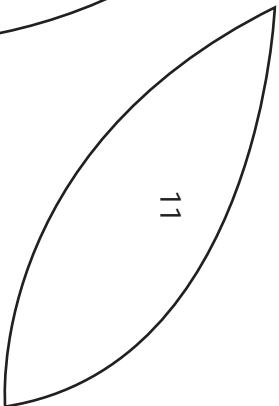
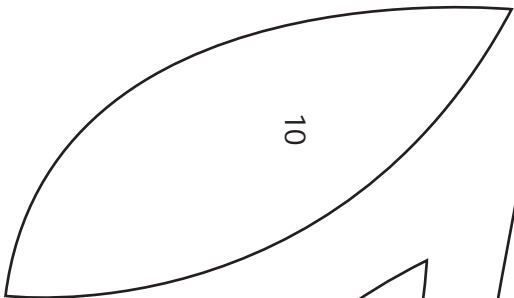
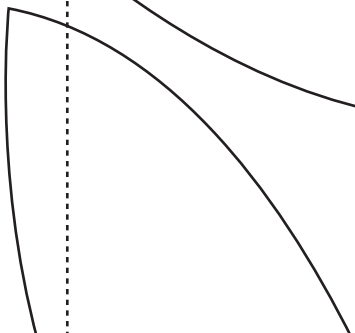
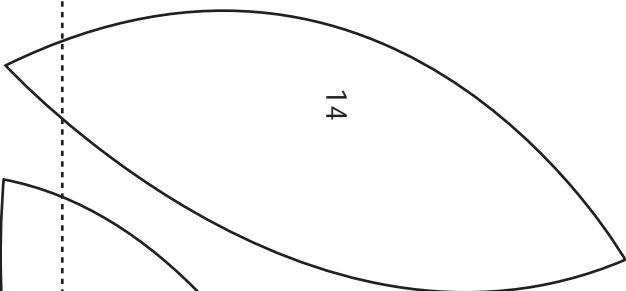
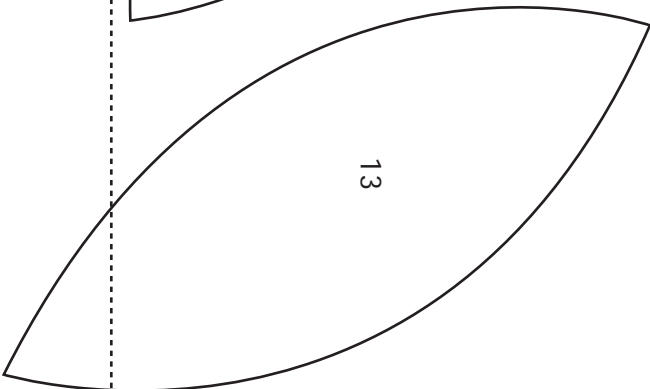
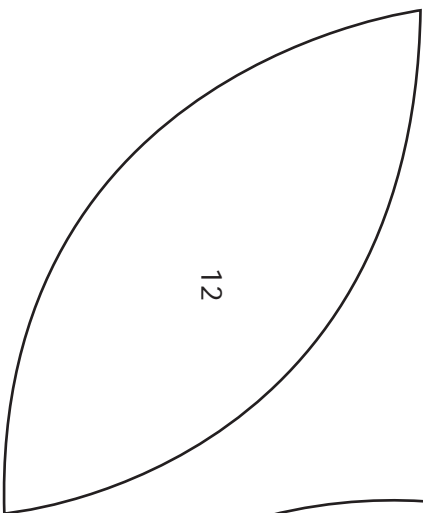
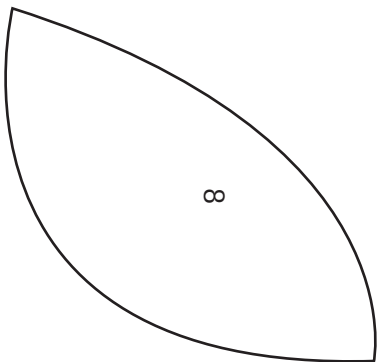
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9

This square
should
measure
1" X 1"

This line marks one end of the side borders.

A



B

This square
should
measure
1" X 1"

B

C

15

18

19

20

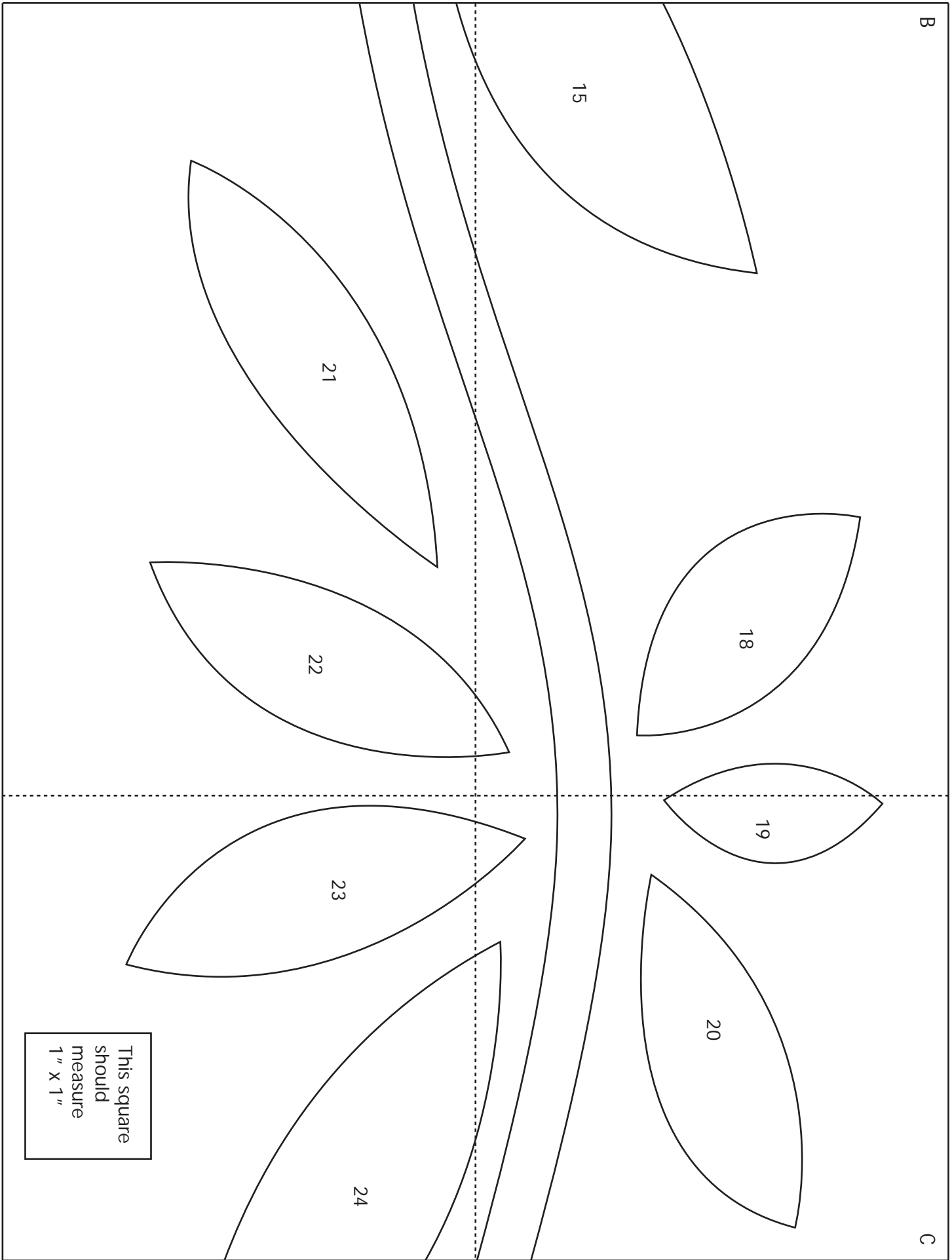
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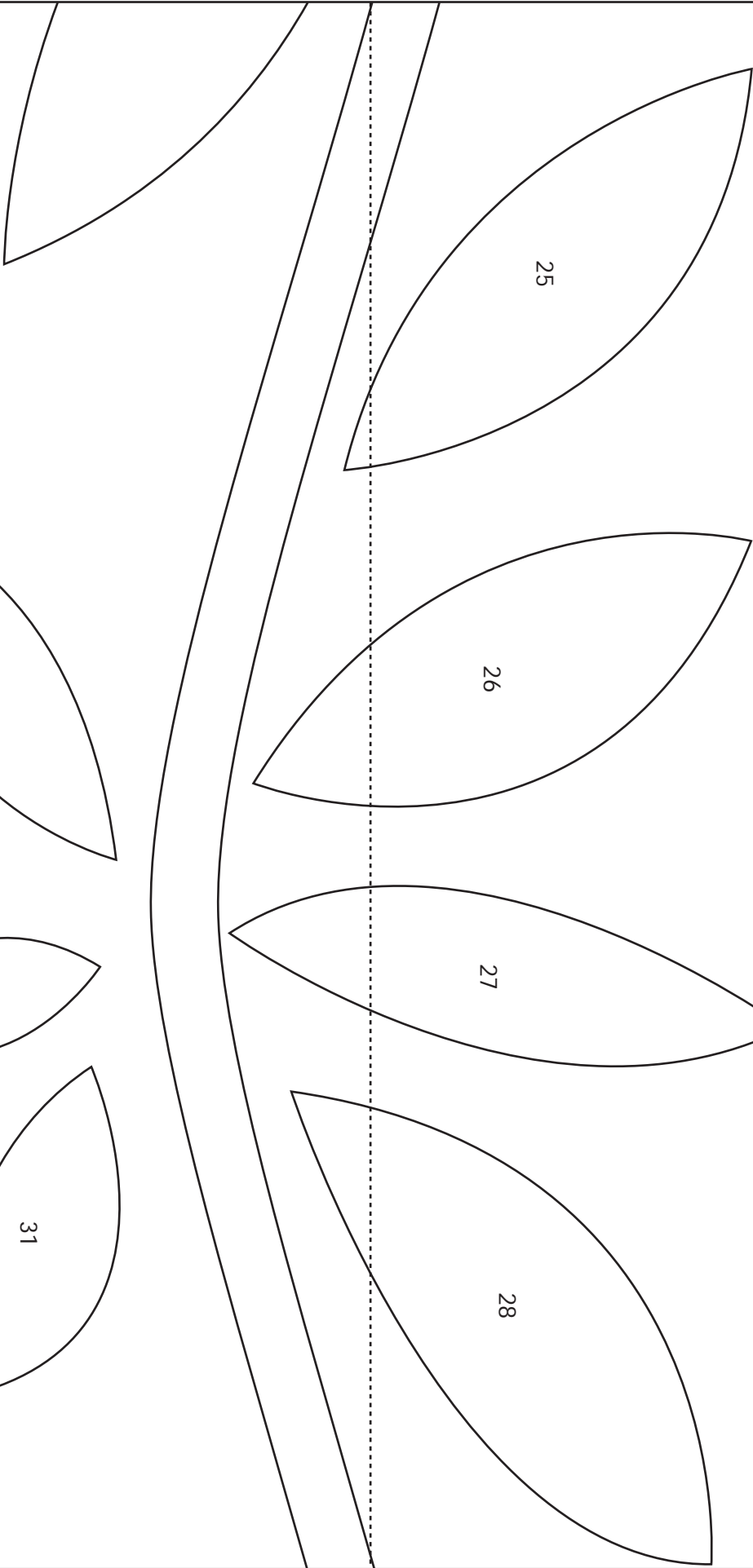
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This square
should
measure
1" X 1"

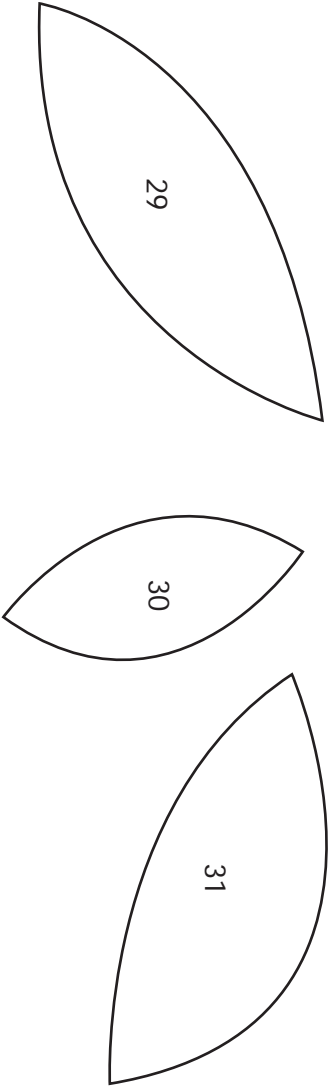


C

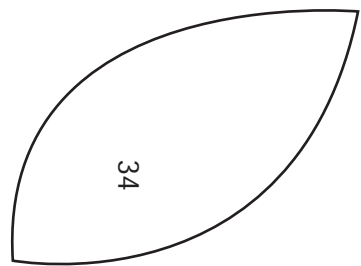
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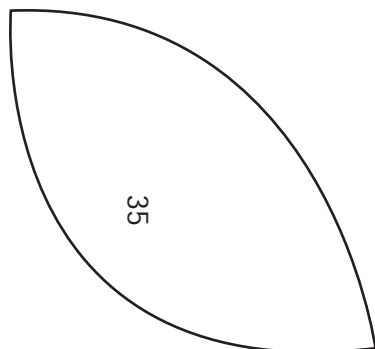
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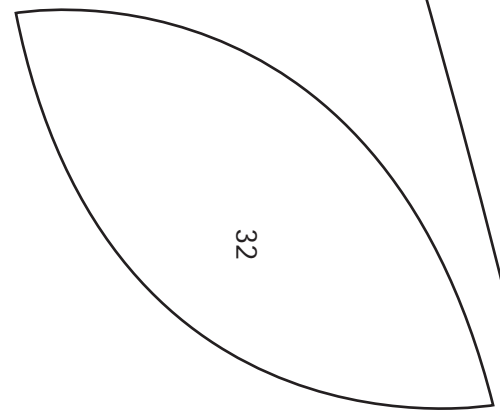
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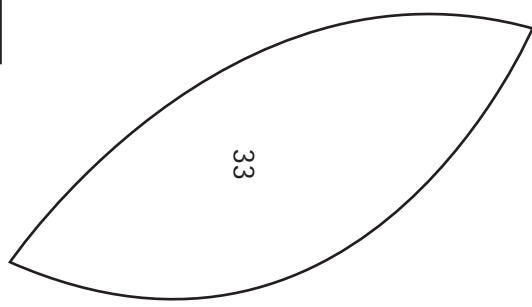
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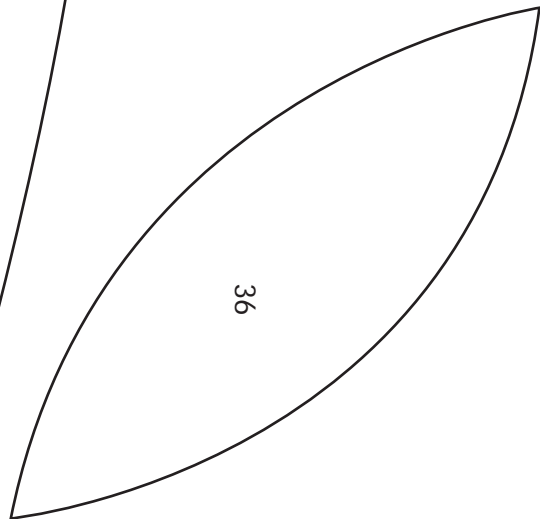
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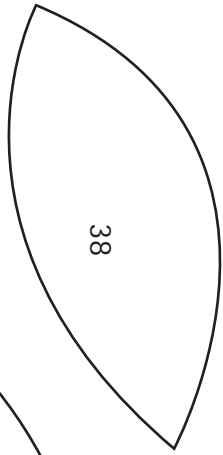
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This square should measure 1" x 1"

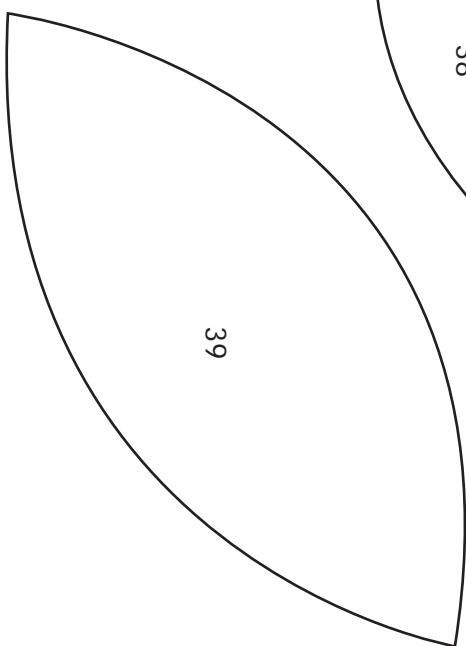
This line marks one end of the side borders.



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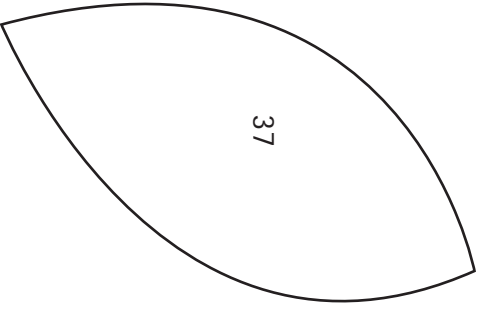


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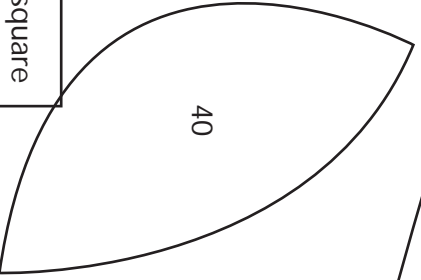


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E



37



40

This square
should
measure
1" X 1"