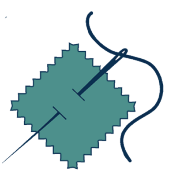


The Jane Stickle Quilt - Basic Instructions





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Introduction

The journey has begun. I spent several weeks in Electric Quilt painstakingly drawing each of the 169 center blocks, the 52 border blocks, and the 4 corner blocks. Phew!

Why you ask? The first reason, I work using an iMac and currently the *Dear Jane* software only works in Windows. What were they thinking? The second reason is I wanted the flexibility to play with color and fabric as I was designing each block. And, third, I wanted to use my interpretations of Jane Stickle's blocks, which differ somewhat from the drawings in Brenda Papadakis' *Dear Jane* book.

Cruising the internet I discovered quilters were creating their versions of Jane Stickle's quilt using various techniques such as hand piecing, English paper piecing, appliqué, foundation piecing, and traditional piecing. It's amazing how many different ways there are to create this quilt.

But one thing that struck me was how many quilters were actively seeking more instruction on how to complete each block with more detail than just a picture. So I got the wild idea to write instructions for each block as I went along. I will be using a combination of machine foundation piecing, appliqué, and traditional piecing to complete each block. But I am also including hand piecing templates for those who wish to use that method.

In addition, I've provided some cheats to some of the harder blocks. Sometimes just adding an additional seam here or there makes all the difference. For me, the choice was easy. I want to finish this quilt in my lifetime and understanding my limitations is part of that process. There is no right or wrong way to do any of these blocks. However, for me, there is the enjoyable way or the tearing out my hair way. Easy decision.

Jane Stickle was a creative marvel. It is incomprehensible to me that she hand pieced and quilted this masterpiece. It is truly one of a kind. There are blocks in this quilt I have never seen designed anywhere else.

And I must end with a huge thank you to Brenda Papadakis for introducing me to Jane Stickle. Because of Ms. Papadakis' passion, I have joined the thousands of quilters worldwide who are enjoying the challenge of making this phenomenal quilt. I have heard rumors Ms. Papadakis is planning a new edition for *Dear Jane*. I sure hope so! Quilters around the world are clamoring for a copy of the earlier editions, which are now out of print.

Linda Dufresne

Block Design Methodology

My goal was to get each block proportionally to look as much like Jane Stickle's blocks as possible while allowing me to machine piece each block. I want to stress that these designs are my interpretations of the blocks and may differ with other renditions including the *Dear Jane* book.

I am also making the quilt with 5" blocks the way the original quilt was done versus 4½" blocks with ½" sashing. If you decide you would rather go the sashing route, just eliminate the Unit A and Unit B steps for each block. You will then end up with a 5" unfinished block ready for sashing.

My process is design the block, write the pattern, test the pattern, make adjustments to the pattern, test the pattern again, finalize the pattern. So, yes, I'm making two quilts (insanity times two).

Each block pattern includes:

1. **Cutting instructions:** Traditional piecing includes the exact measurements necessary to complete the block. Foundation piecing and appliqué blocks include oversized units to ensure the pieces will fit the templates as the template is being built.
2. **Colorways:** I am making two different colorways as I complete these blocks. The Hobby Stash colorway uses a combination of four different foreground fabrics and one background fabric. The Jane Stickle colorway uses the traditional one foreground and one background fabric combination.
3. **Assembly instructions with illustrations:** The instructions are minimal. My goal was to keep each pattern to one page if possible with a separate page for the templates.
4. **Templates:** As needed, foundation piecing and/or appliqué templates are included.
5. **Hand piecing templates:** I am not hand piecing my quilts. However, I was surprised how many makers are doing just that. So they are included in the pattern as an option. The templates include a ¼" seam allowance.
6. **Illustrations:** Each pattern includes a rendition of Jane Stickle's block and illustrations of the Hobby Stash and Jane Stickle colorways I've made.

In the pages that follow, you'll find various suggested sewing techniques for creating each block. It made more sense to include some basic instructions here rather than repeat them each time they are used in a block. And, if you are like me, when written instructions seem clear as mud, seeing it in action really helps. I've included links to various YouTube tutorials with each described sewing technique.

Fabric:

At this point, it is not possible to determine how much fabric is required. According to Electric Quilt 8, background fabric necessary is 10 yards and foreground fabric necessary is 8 yards. Those amounts seems very high. Given the fact there are 225 blocks with over 5,000 pieces, it is understandable the program may have some calculation issues.

But, to be safe, here's what I've started with related to the two quilts I am making:

Grunge Quilt:

Background: Light blue (Moda Grunge 406) 6 yards

Foreground: Navy (Moda Grunge 352) 6 yards

Foreground: Green (Moda Grunge 485) 6 yards

Foreground: Gray (Moda Grunge 354) 3 yards

Foreground: Beige (Moda Grunge 278) 3 yards

Blueberry Park Quilt

Background: White (Moda Grunge 150) 6 yards

Foreground: 56 Assorted Blueberry Park fat quarters

Yes, I believe my amounts are also too high for a 90 x 90 quilt. But, I've never done a quilt with this many different blocks and pieces. And, in my case, I have no problem with extra grunge fabric for my stash and I already had the Blueberry Park fat quarter bundles. I will update as I get further along.

Recommended Supplies (in addition to normal quilting equipment):

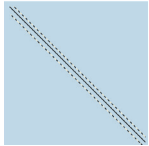
My instructions make extensive use of foundation piecing. I definitely recommend using either foundation paper or light weight newsprint paper. The templates can certainly be printed on regular printer paper. But the heavier weight of the paper will make it more difficult to remove and add stress to the seams in the process. Newsprint paper is a much cheaper alternative to foundation paper, but can have feed issues in some printers. So far, it's been working fine in my Epson printer. I bought 500 sheets through Amazon a couple of years ago for less than \$10. You might be able to find in your local office supply store.

I am also using fusible appliqué for many of the blocks. Since I am making two quilts at the same time, and the pieces are rather tiny and pointy, I decided to preserve my sanity by doing fusible appliqué with a blanket stitch versus needle-turn appliqué. I am using Steam a Seam and Heat N Bond Lite, paper backed fusible web.... awesome stuff.

For those who are hand piecing, another useful supply is ink jet freezer paper sheets for printing reusable templates. However a caution--this is not an option for laser printers, which use heat to transfer ink to paper.

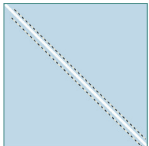
Printing Instructions

This one is pretty straight forward. Set printer to "Print Actual Size" when printing templates. I use Adobe Acrobat reader to print my templates and there is a setting on the print page that sends this information to the printer for me. Each template page has a 2" measuring line. If your printout does not reflect 2 inches when measured, you'll need to enlarge or reduce the size based on your printer's instructions.



Half Square Triangles (HST) two at a time:

1. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of background square.
2. Arrange background square on top of foreground square, right sides together. Sew a 1/4" seam on each side of the drawn line as shown.
3. Cut between the two seam lines on the drawn line as shown. Press half square triangle units open.

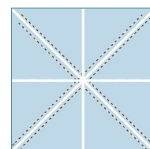
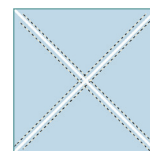
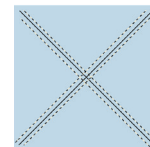


See it in Action:

[Half Square Triangles - Two at a Time](#)

Half Square Triangles (HST) eight at a time:

1. Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the wrong side of background square. Draw a second diagonal line from opposite corner to opposite corner as shown.
2. Arrange background square on top of foreground square, right sides together. Sew a 1/4" seam on each side of the drawn lines as shown.
3. Cut between the four seam lines on the drawn line as shown. Cut each of the four sections in half as shown.
4. Press half square triangle units open.



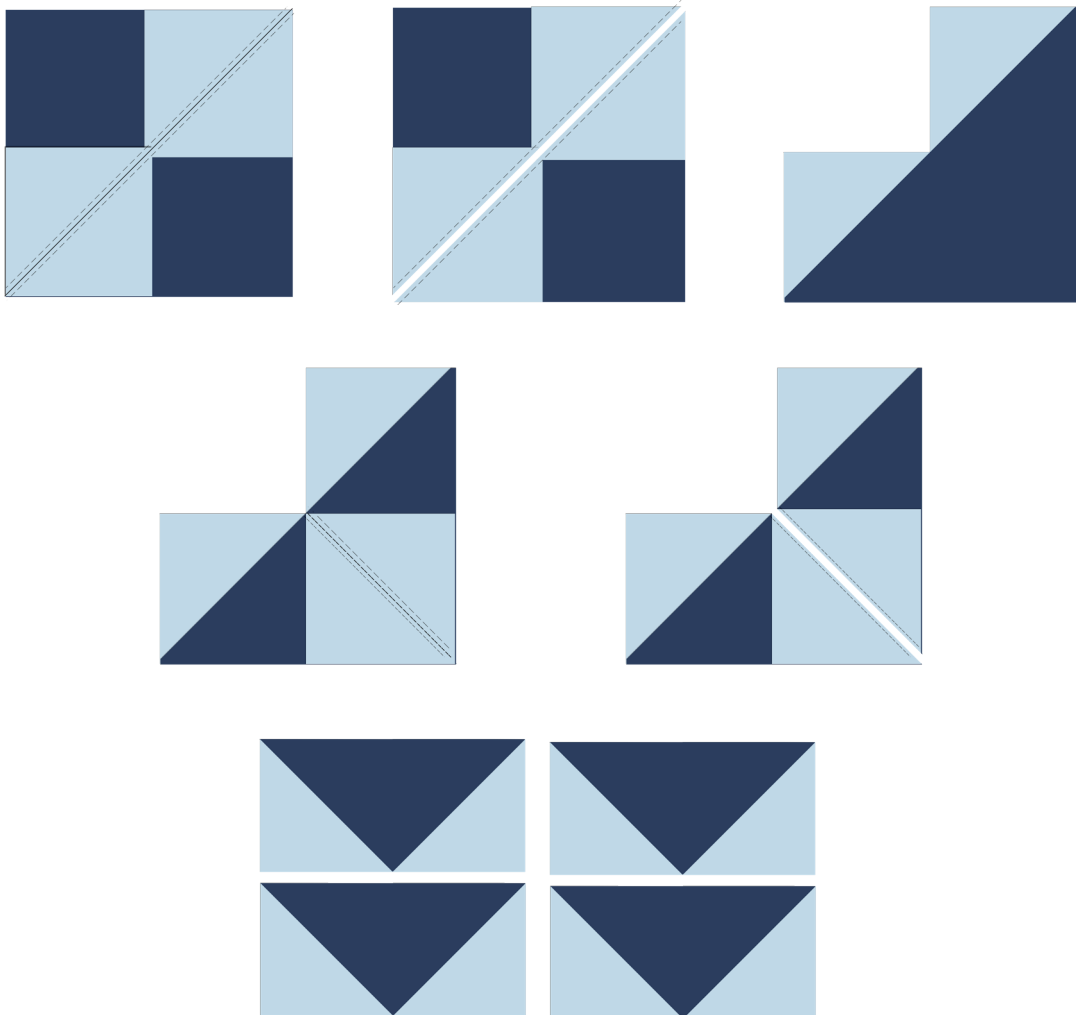
See it in Action:

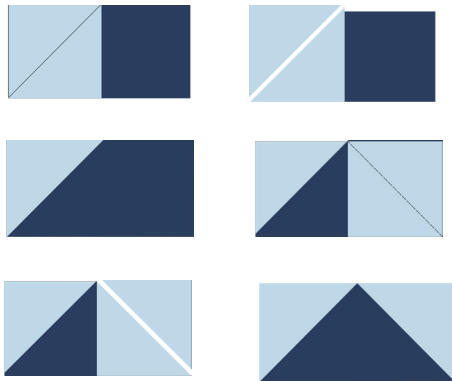
[Sew Easy: 8-at-a-Time Triangle Squares](#)

Flying Geese using "no waste" method: (makes 4)

1. On wrong side of small squares, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner. With right sides together place two small squares onto large square with drawn lines aligned as shown. The small squares will slightly overlap.
2. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ seam on both sides of drawn lines. Cut apart on drawn lines. Press seam away from large triangle.
3. Align remaining small square as illustrated and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on each side of drawn line as shown.
4. Cut apart along line. Press open. Four flying geese made.

See it in Action:
[Sew Easy: Quick-Pieced Flying Geese](#)





Flying Geese using stitch and flip method:

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of both small squares. Place first small square on rectangle as shown, right sides together. Sew together on drawn line. Leaving a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, trim off corner. Press open.
2. Place second small square on rectangle, right sides together. Sew on drawn line. Leaving a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, trim off corner. Press open.

See it in Action:

[National Quilter's Circle: Stitch and Flip](#)

Applique:

The appliqué templates include a $\frac{1}{4}$ " fold allowance for needle-turn appliqué. The templates are designed to be placed with the print side up on the wrong sides of the block units. As such, the templates are mirror images of the labeled block.

1. Needle-Turn Appliqué:

- a. Print or trace each pattern shape onto the matte side of a freezer paper. Cut the shapes out, on the outer seam allowance line. With its shiny side down iron the freezer paper onto the wrong side of the fabric. Cut out each appliqué. Pull the freezer paper away.
- b. Pin the appliqués on the background fabric. Stitch in place, using needle to turn under the seam allowance. On inward curves, clip the seam allowance almost to the marked seam line to make turning the edge easier.

See it in Action:

[Sew Easy: Needle-Turn Appliqué](#)

2. Fusible-Web Appliqué:

- a. Print each pattern shape onto regular printer paper. Place a sheet of fusible web on top of the pattern shape with the paper side up. Trace the shapes on the paper side of fusible web. Cut out each appliqué shape about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the trace line. Leaving the extra $\frac{1}{8}$ " in place will ensure the edge of the pattern adheres to the fabric. With a dry iron, press shape onto wrong side of fabric. Trim shape exactly along the inner line.
- b. Remove paper backing from fusible web. Place appliqué piece onto block and gently press with dry iron.
- c. With blanket stitch, sew around edge of appliqué piece.

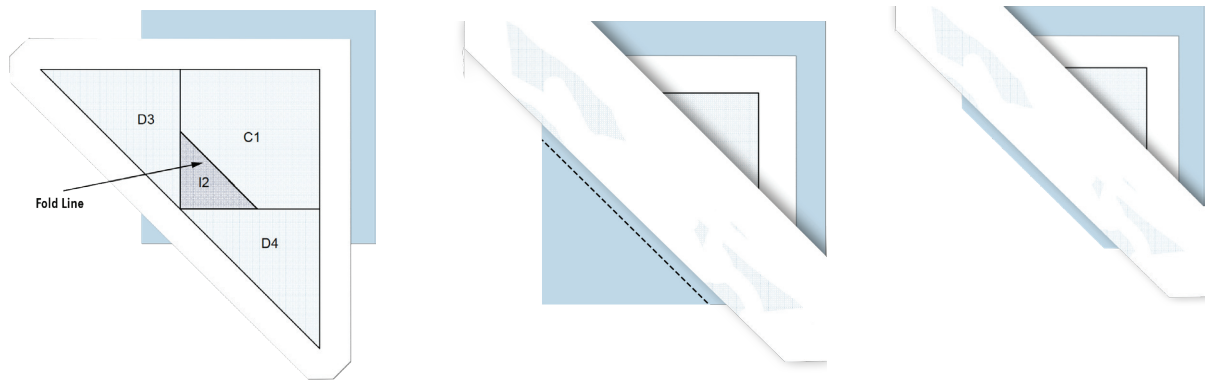
See it in Action:

[Sew Easy: Windowing Fusible Appliqué](#)

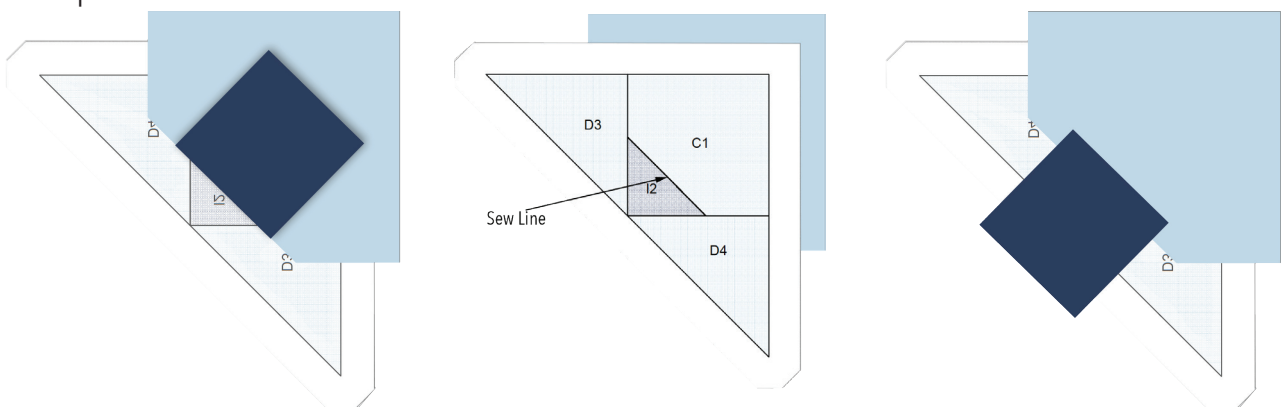
Foundation Piecing:

See it in Action:
[Sew Easy: Paper Foundation Piecing](#)

1. The foundation templates are designed to be placed with the print side up on the wrong sides of the block units. As such, the templates are mirror images of the labeled block.
2. The letters on the templates indicate the unit to be attached and match the labeled block illustration and the unit size chart. The numbers on the templates indicate the order each unit is to be sewn to the template.
3. The images below illustrate the basic procedure for attaching units.
 - a. Begin by placing the template on the wrong side of the first unit (C1 in the illustration). Fold the template back along the sew line and trim the C1 unit leaving a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



- b. Place the second fabric unit (I2) onto the first fabric unit (C1) right sides together matching the seam allowance. While holding in place, flip over, pin, and then sew along sew line. Flip over and press fabric open.

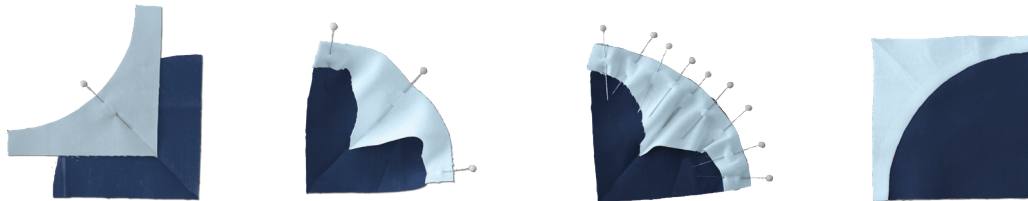


- c. Repeat the procedure of folding back template, trimming seam, placing fabric, and sewing for the remaining units of the template. When all the units have been attached. Trim the outer edges of the template, leaving the seam allowance in place. Sew together the template sections to create the block. Remove the paper.

Curved Seams:

See it in Action:
[Sew Easy-Piecing Curves](#)

1. Fold each unit in half to find center point. Pin together matching center points.
2. Pin each end. Continue to pin, easing in the fabric.
3. Slowly sew together. Adjusting fabric as necessary to maintain seam allowance.
4. Open and press. Seam should naturally fall towards the outer unit.



Inset Seams:

See it in Action:
[Sew Easy: Set-In Seams](#)

1. Sew intersection to intersection (versus edge to edge) one section at a time.
2. Swivel fabric as required to sew next section, intersection to intersection.

