

## Hexagon Tutorial “Add On” If You have Never done English Paper Piecing Before

### Preparing the Papers-

Adding a hole to the center of the paper makes removal easier.

If this isn't done you can still remove the papers.

### Preparing the Fabric-

\*The hexagon fabric in the kit is cut with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. This requires a quilt binding clip to hold the seam allowance back for basting.

\*Another option is to cut the seam allowance using a template that has a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. This is a bit easier on the fingers as it allows for a bit more fabric to hold back and baste.

\*I have also seen a square of fabric used. This leaves a large amount of extra fabric on the back but can be pressed flat when the basting is done.

Finger pressing is suggested on all sides before you start basting.

Pressing the shapes with an iron after the shapes are basted also helps when it is time to attach the hexagons together.

Basting the hexagons -

(Use red perlee thread and show the TACKING stitch for the basting)

Fabric can be tacked down using glue to hold it. I use a “kiss” in the center of the paper before placing it on the fabric. This allows for easy removal. (You will find that some EPPers glue down the seam allowance.)

Magnets can also be used to hold the paper and fabric together while basting.

I like to use the quilter’s binding clip to hold down each side as I baste. I also finger press the sides down prior to starting the basting process.

After each hexagon is basted, press it well before attaching them together.

Stitching the hexagons together-

It is the desire of most EPPers to have hidden stitches on the front. Since you are attaching two different colored fabrics together it is impossible to match the thread.

Ladder Stitch

Whip Stitch

10-16 stitches per inch

When the shape is complete, press it well to set the seam allowance.

Removing the papers-

Once a hexagon is surrounded on all sides, you can remove the paper.

If you have punched a hole in the paper you can remove it with a crochet hook or the end of a needle.

If there isn't a hole, you can slip your finger or a crochet hook under the seam allowance and bend the paper back to pull it out.