

larger sheet of paper with internal cut lines that are not cut until AFTER they are laid on top of your fabric stack. Your rotary cutter is used to slice through the paper and fabric at the same time, allowing several layers of fabric to be cut at once. A **template layout sheet** works best when using several fabrics to complete a series of repetitious blocks. Below are (7) very good reasons for using layout sheets to pre-cut your fabric pieces.

1. *Fabric pieces can be stacked and cut at one time.*
2. *Stacking techniques and chain piecing techniques can be used when sewing the foundation papers.*
3. *Templates can be designed to utilize grain line.*
4. *Using templates will eliminate most fabric waste.*
5. *Cutting fabrics with oversized templates allows you the freedom to cut your pieces without having to worry about accuracy.*
6. *They require very little math when figuring yardage.*
7. *They are FAST!*

Cutting Out the Foundation Papers, Templates, and Template Layout Sheets

The foundation papers, templates and template layout sheets are divided between the (9) different bags.

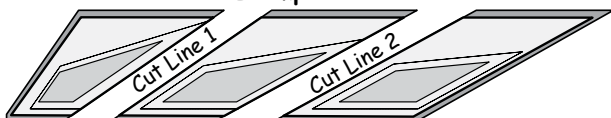
Using the guides in the figures on pages 4, 5, and 6, remove the foundation papers and cut them out of the newsprint sheets. This is done by trimming the excess paper away, approximately 1/8" beyond the outside cutting line. Place them into the correct bags and with the correct Round and corresponding fabrics. The bag numbers do NOT necessarily match the Round numbers. The fabrics for both bags in each round are also currently in the same strips. You will cut and separate them according to the correct bag in Booklet 2. Pay close attention to your sorting.

The templates and template layout sheets are cut out next for each unit. The templates and template layout sheets are cut out on the **dark solid line** that forms a box around each group. Place these into the correct bags and with the correct Round and corresponding fabrics as well.

Some things you should know about your template layout sheets that will help you throughout your pattern include:

1. The **shaded sections** on the template layout sheets helps you identify which layout sheets are used with the accent fabrics. Template layout sheets without the hatching denotes a background fabric.
2. **Instructions** are printed on each template layout sheet that you need to read before you begin cutting your fabrics.
3. There are **Cut Lines** on each template layout sheet referred to as **Cut Lines 1, 2, 3, and etc.** When you have your fabrics stacked beneath the template layout sheets, you will cut on **ONLY** these lines. If you cut on any other lines, you will ruin your fabric pieces. The excess fabric around each template is not cut off until after the fabric pieces are sewn to the foundation papers.

Example!



General Piecing Instructions

Tension, Stitch Length, and Needle Size: The tension and stitch length on your machine should be adjusted according to the weight of the paper on which you are sewing. Sew a couple practice seams through a few scraps of paper and fabric. Check the tension for even, tight stitches. If the paper is hard to pull away from the fabric, tighten the stitch a bit. If the paper falls apart during the sewing process, loosen the stitch a bit. Each time you begin to sew, remember to always check your stitch length.

Thread Size: Size 50 and 60 weight threads are the most commonly used thread for foundation paper piecing on news print. Your thread must be strong enough to hold up to the stress of removing the paper. Breaking stitches when removing the paper is not a good thing. If you are unsure of the thread you are using then make a couple test samples. If you are happy with the results then continue sewing.

Needles for Lightweight Paper: I use size 70 Microtex Sharp needles when I sew through the news print because the lighter weight threads require a smaller stitch length and needle.

Pressing: Most ink used for printing is not permanent if it gets pressed into your fabric, but it can cause a big mess. The ink will wash out of most fabrics but try to avoid this problem by following these guidelines.

1. *Always press on the backside of the paper, avoiding the black lines. This will keep the ink off the bottom of the iron. Protect your ironing board by placing a strip of muslin over your board while working on foundation paper.*
2. *Don't stack the foundation papers on top of each other when pressing the seams. If you do, you may press ink marks into the fabric directly under the piece you are pressing. The best way to avoid this is to press one piece, set it to the side, and then press the next piece. Steam may cause the ink to come off easily and may also shrink the paper a little, so don't use too much steam. A little steam is okay. Just be careful! If the paper curls in the pressing process, turn the temperature down on the iron just a bit and adjust the steam.*

Round 1: NP201, TP99, & TP100 Unit A, Bag #3

Place (8) each of Unit A and (1) each of the Unit A Templates into Bag #3.

Unit A
Place (8) papers
in Bag #3

Unit A, Sec. 4 Border Star Template (A-4),
Place (1) in Bag #3

Unit A, Sec. 3 Border Star Template (A-3),
Place (1) in Bag #3

Unit A, Sec. 2, Center Star Template (A-2), Place (1) in Bag #3

Unit A, Sec. 1, Center Star Template (A-1), Place (1) in Bag #3

Unit A, Sec. 2, Center Star Template (A-2), Place (1) in Bag #3