RINGING the CHANGES

A TRIPLE WEDDING RING QUILT by JUDITH WILSON

This quilt is based on an antique quilt from Jan Hassard's heritage collection that Jan showed at Judith's local Quilt Group in 2011. It is an advanced skill-level project.

Finished size: about 78" x 100"

MATERIALS

Fabrics used were from Moda's Pom de Paris range. You need:

1 jelly roll and 1 fat quarter or 2 x 2½" strips of the same jelly roll fabrics (I used 2 strips cut from my backing fabric);
or
42 x 2½" strips cut across the fabric width - these are for the inner stars and ring pieces;

2 m of a contrast fabric for the triple-diamond ring intersections, outer star and inner border;
5 m of background fabric, also for outer border;
½ m for binding;
5½ m backing fabric;
and a 90" x 108" (Queen size) wadding.

PREPARATION

All measurements include ¼" seam allowances, unless otherwise stated.
All materials lengths are based on 42" wide fabrics.

Cut cardboard templates from the patterns given, which include the seam allowances. Only half of Template **D** is given.

CUTTING

From 10 of the jelly roll strips cut 112 diamond shapes for the central stars using Template **A**. The other 32 strips are used to make the strip-pieced units for the rings.

From the contrast fabric cut 9 x 2½" strips across the width of the fabric, and using Template **A** sub-cut these into 112 diamonds for the ring intersections.

Cut 117 as per Template **B** in contrast fabric for the outer stars.

From background fabric cut 112 using Template **C** for the star backgrounds and 61 using Template **D** for the ring backgrounds.

For the inner border, cut six 1" strips across width of contrast fabric; join lengths with diagonal seams.

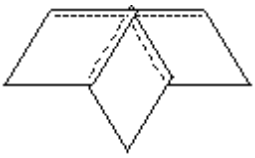
For the outer border cut six 5" strips across width of background fabric.

Binding was single fold made by cutting 1½" strips on the bias, because it will need to go round curves.

Hint: *I marked the C and D background pieces with my quilting design, using wash-away pen, before stitching them into the top.*

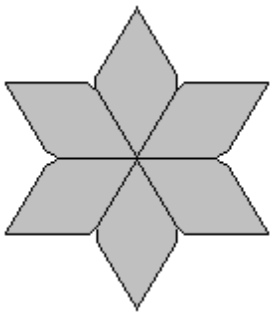
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PIECE THE INNER STARS



1. Sew two template A diamonds right-side to right-side leaving the outer ¼" unsewn. Open out and press to one side.

2. Add a third diamond, matching seam intersections, to make a half-star. Press.



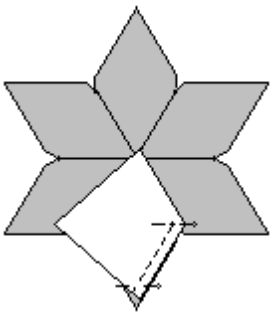
3. Repeat **1.** and **2.** to make 32 half-stars.

4. Join 2 half-stars together to make a complete inner star; again leave ¼" at each end unstitched. Press this central seam open to reduce bulk.

5. Repeat **4.** to make 12 complete inner stars; there will be 8 half-stars left.

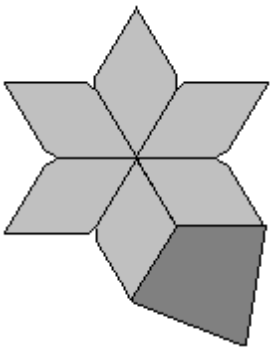
6. In a similar manner make 3 two-third-stars (four diamonds each), and 2 one-third-stars (two diamonds each); these go along the top and bottom of the quilt layout and are trimmed before adding the inner border.

Stitch set-in pieces into the stars:



7. Right sides together and the Template **B** piece to be set-in on top, pin the seam-intersection points for the star and the set-in piece together.

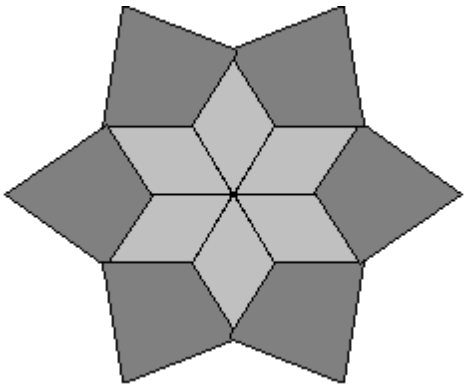
Place the inner pinned corner under the presser foot and lower the needle until it is just above the pinhole. Remove the pin carefully and lower the needle into the pinhole. Secure the stitches, then stitch outwards leaving the last ¼" open.



8. Turn the work so that the adjacent diamond is on top and the set-in piece is on the bottom, right sides together. Match and pin seam-intersection points and stitch in place as before.

9. Set 3 Template **B** pieces in contrast fabric into alternate V spaces of stars as in **7.** and **8.**, leaving the last ¼" open.

10. Set another 3 Template **B** pieces in the gaps in the same way to make the outer-star units.



11. Attach Template **C** pieces of background fabric to the outer-star units as above, but running the stitches all the way to the edge.

12. Make 12 complete star blocks with Template **C** backgrounds, and referring to the layout plan, make the 13 part-star blocks too.

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MAKING THE RINGS

13. Join 32 (jelly roll) strips in (eight) groups of 4 along their long edges, press, then cut 117 'curved' ring pieces using Template **E**.

Attaching the Template E strips:

> **Note that** these should be treated as having curved seams – right sides together, pinning matching points together, adjusting fullness evenly, and stitching with the Template **E** strips on top.

14. Attach Template **E** strips to alternate edges of the star blocks.

15. Sew diamonds in contrast fabric to each end of 3 Template **E** strips for the remaining three sides. Attach these strips to the remaining three sides of each star block.

16. Referring to the plan, attach Template **E** pieces as necessary to the part-star blocks, which will be trimmed later.

Attaching the Template D pieces:

17. Attach the 61 Template **D** pieces of background fabric using the layout plan as a guide and the curved piecing method above, so joining all the blocks together.

18. This will complete the top. Iron it well and trim straight edges where necessary.

ADD BORDERS

19. Measure the length of the quilt top down the centre. Cut two 1" border strips of the contrast fabric to that measurement and sew them to the sides of the quilt top.

20. Measure the width of the quilt top across the centre, including the side borders. Cut two 1" border strips of the contrast fabric to that measurement and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt top.

21. Cut 5" strips from background fabric, joining as necessary, for the outer border and attach as above.

22. Mark out the border curves, as described separately, below.

QUILTING AND FINISHING

23. Layer the quilt, and quilt as desired!

24. After quilting, cut away excess border before binding. For the binding use a 1½" strip cut on the cross. Attach and hand sew to complete the quilt. Finally, label it!

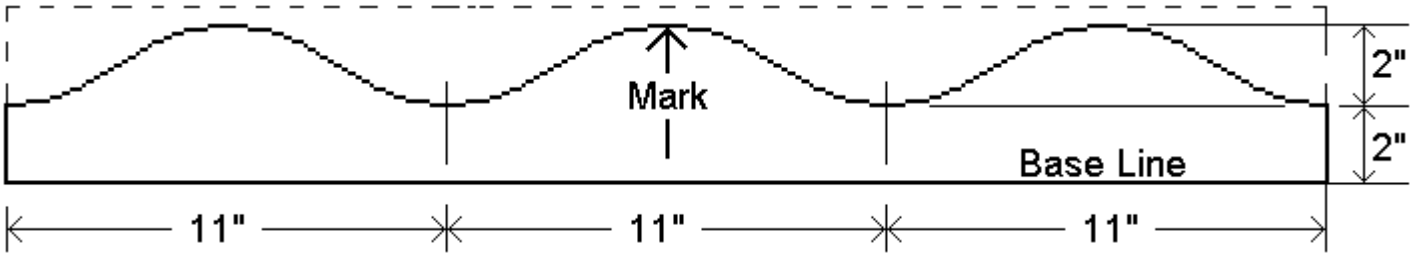
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MARKING THE BORDER CURVES

1. Ignoring seam allowances and after fitting the ½" borders the quilt-top will be about 68" x 90". With 4½" borders it would be 77" x 99" and fortuitously, both these lengths are multiples of 11" so I chose to have an 11" 'wavelength', or repeat, for the border curves, with 7 waves along the top and bottom, and 9 down the sides.

2. If you have decided to make this quilt a different shape, for example square, then the important thing is to have an odd number of waves along both width and height.

3. So, the curved border template has an 11" repeat; the template pattern here has a 'depth' of the wave of 2", placed 2" above the base line.

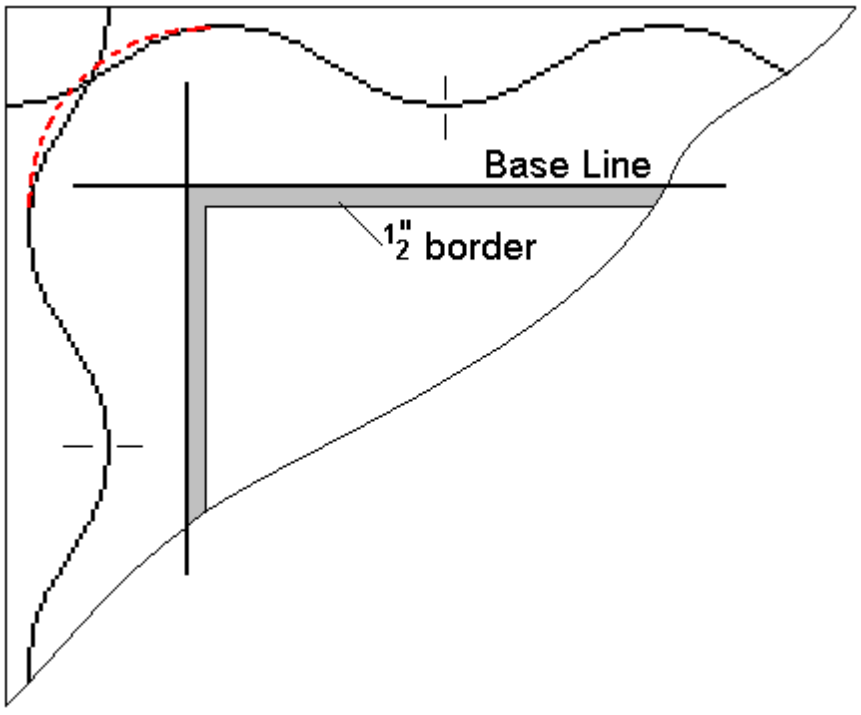


4. Don't worry if your quilt-top with the two borders would be a bit more or a bit less than 77" x 99"; the repeat figure is still 11", but the corners will be a little more or less sharp or asymmetric, see later.

5. Cut a 3-cycle wavy border template like this in card, and mark the central peak of the centre wave.

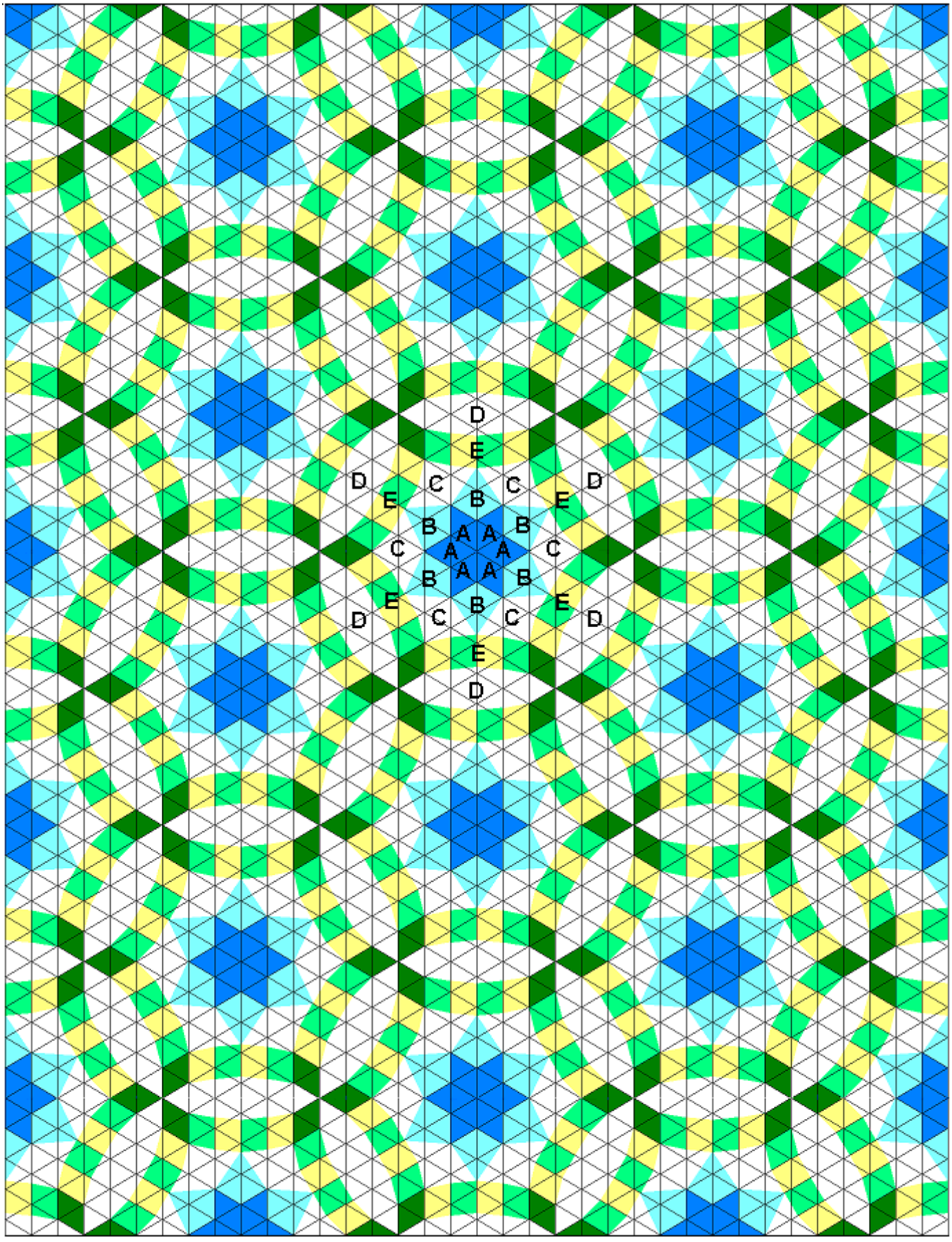
6. Mark the centre of the side, top or bottom borders to be drawn on the quilt top. Place the template with the marked central peak at this centre, with the base line against the ½" border. Use a washable or other marker to draw the wavy border, repeating the waves out to each edge or end.

7. The corners where the waves meet and cross will show 'cusps'. If not wanted, these can be smoothed out with a hand-drawn curve, as shown dotted. This smoothing will also deal with any asymmetry of the corners caused by the top not being exactly 77" x 99".



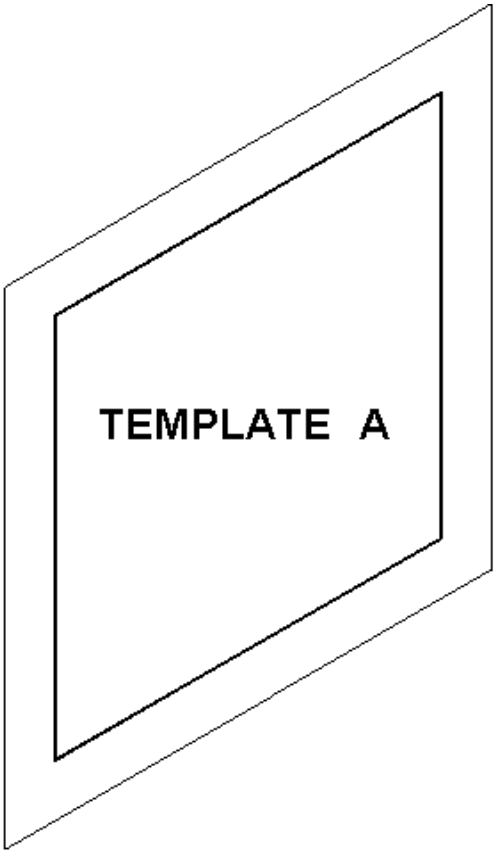
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LAYOUT PLAN

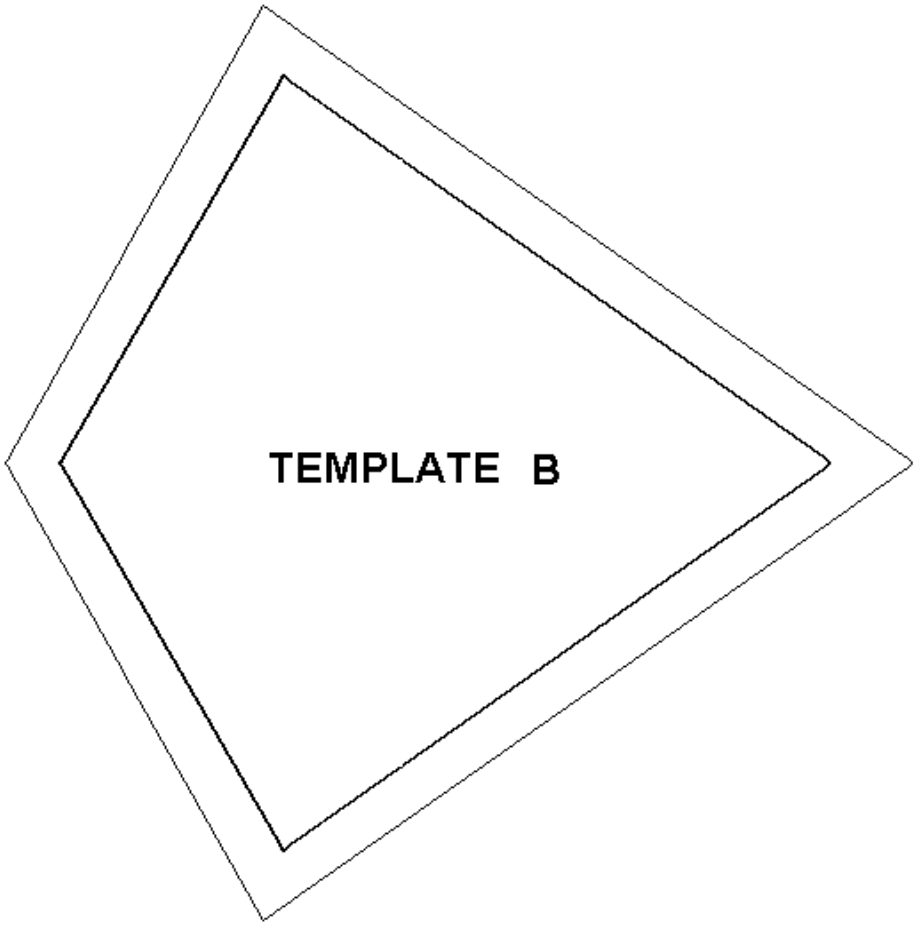


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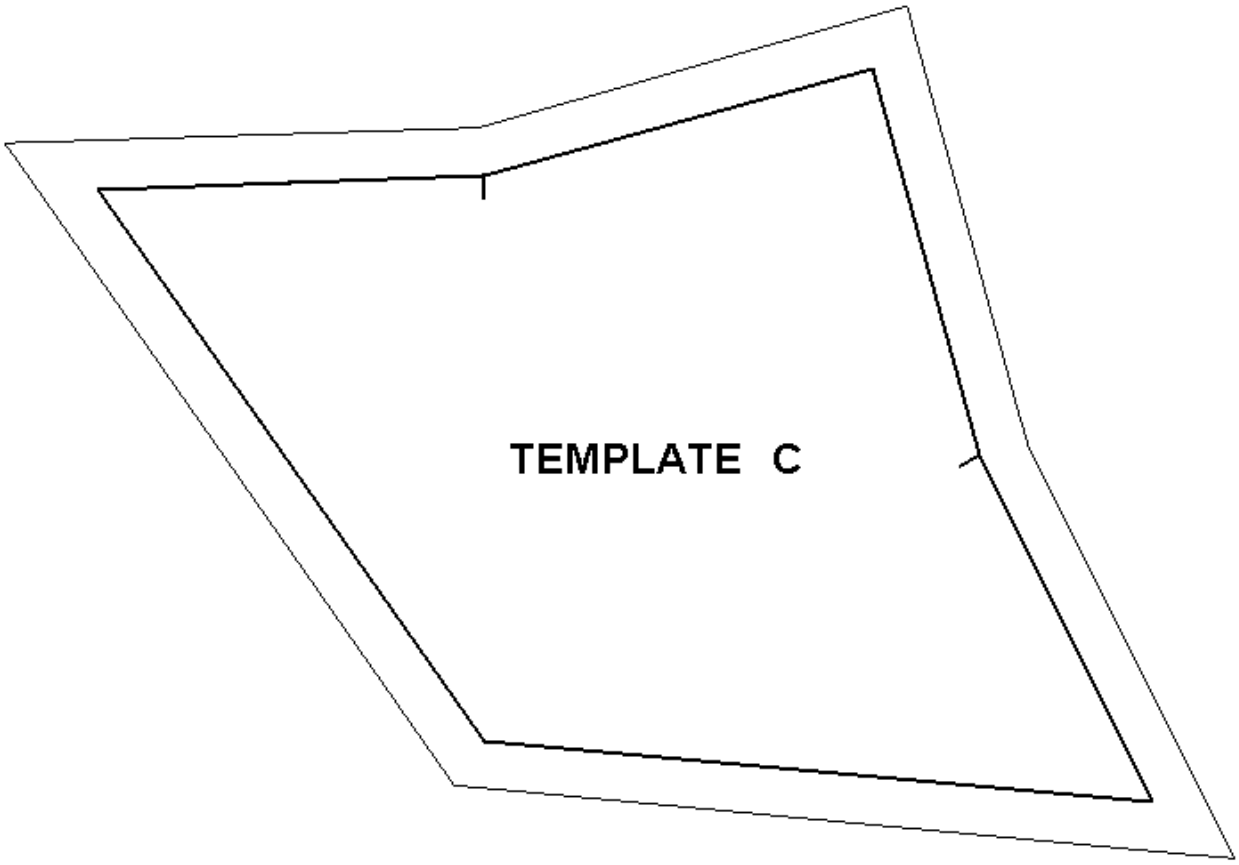
TEMPLATES - print full size (100%)

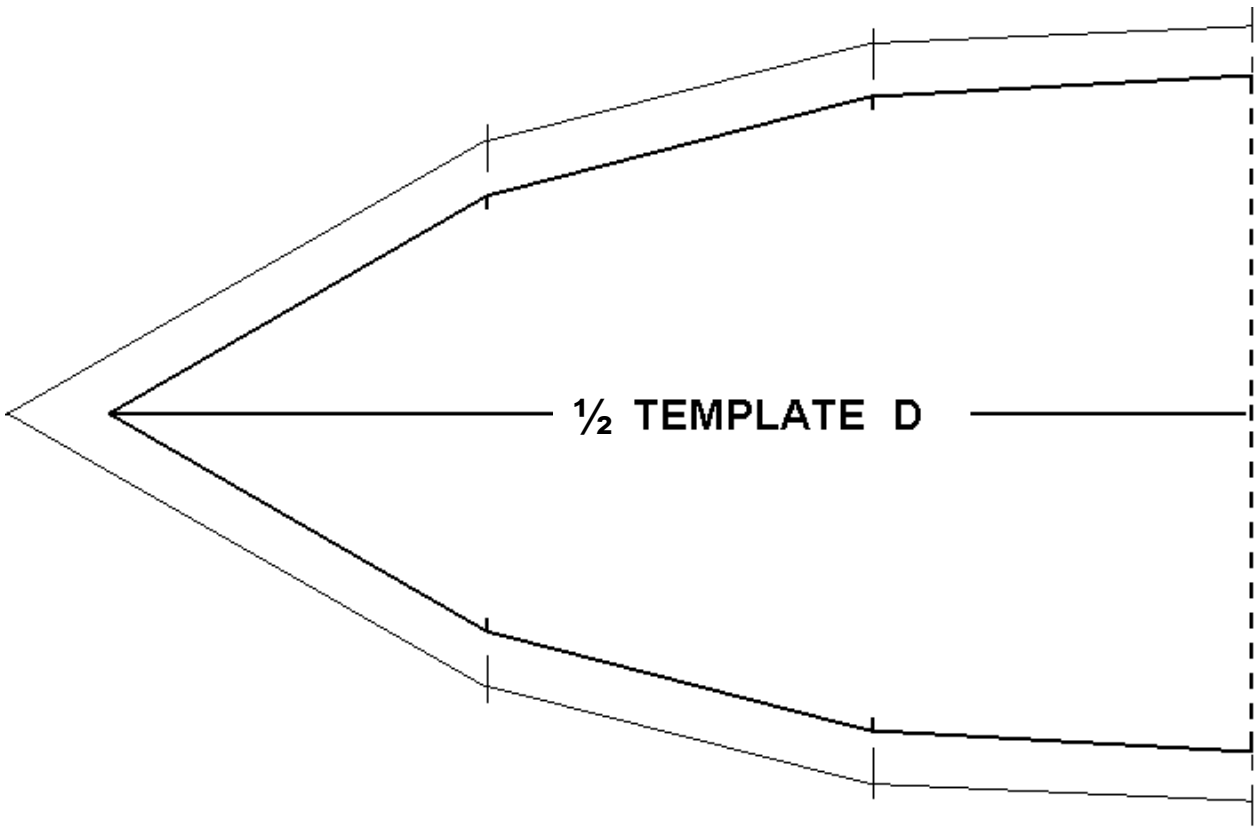


As a check on your printer printing the templates the correct size, this text is enclosed in a 2" x 2" box. (51 x 51mm!!)

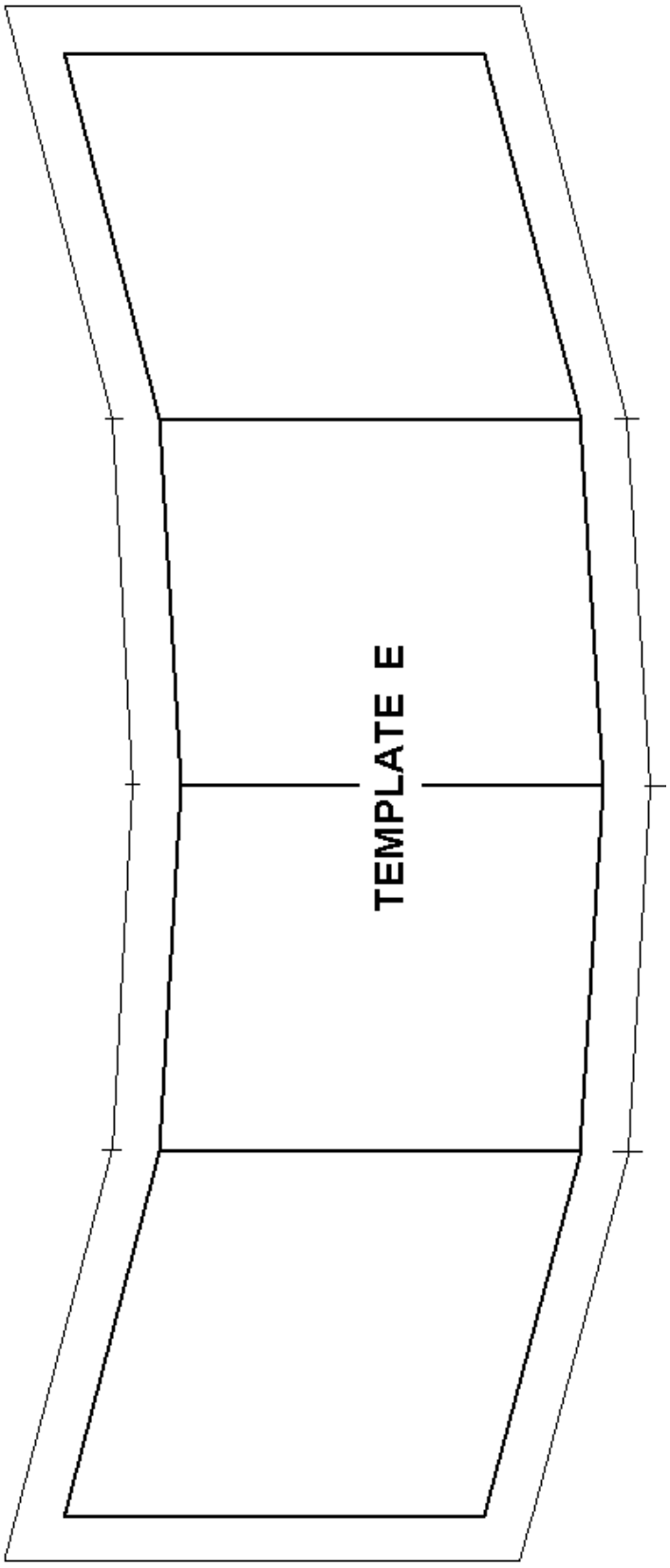


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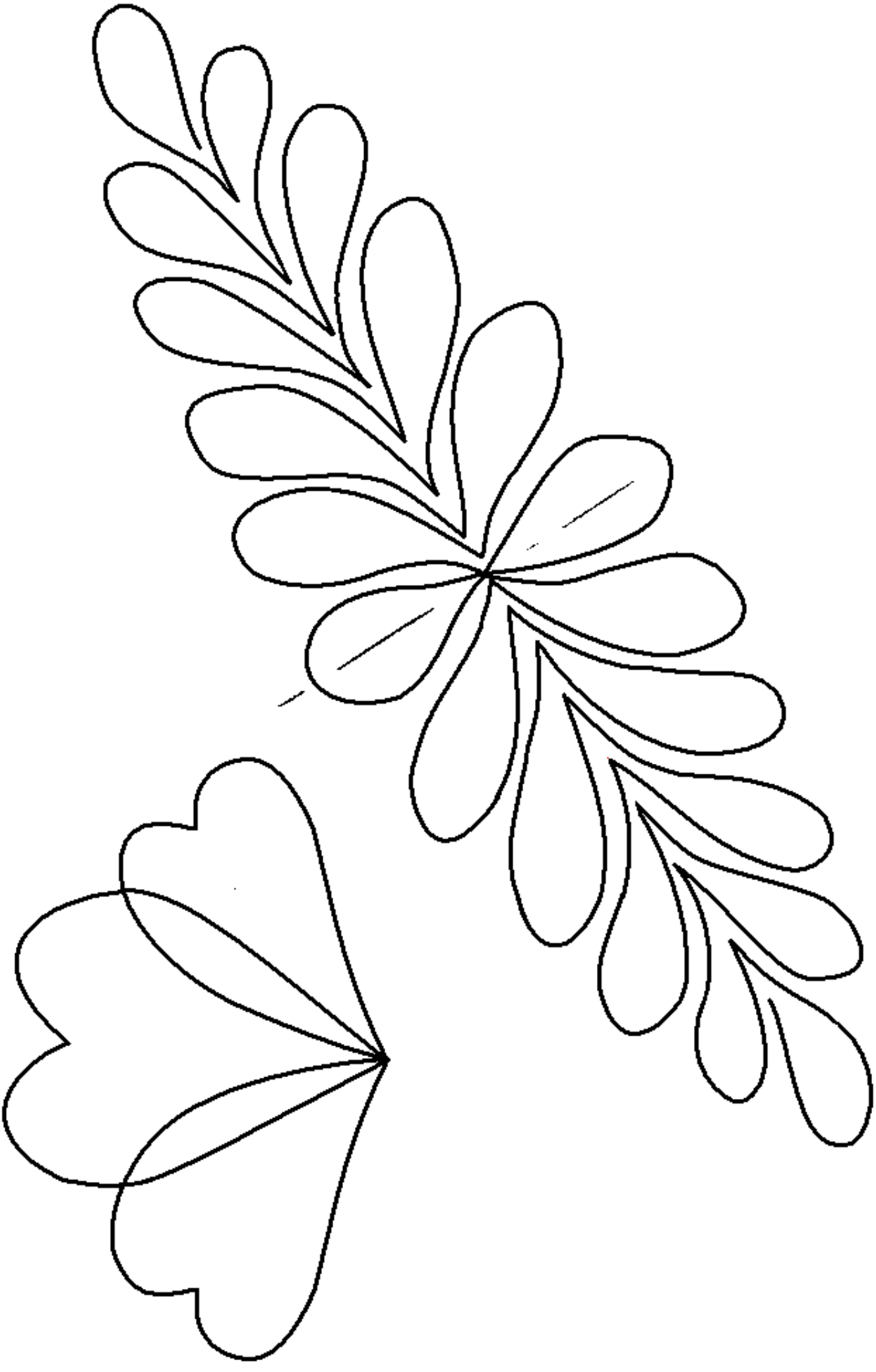




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