

Button Box

Master curved piecing

From ***Piecing the Piece O' Cake Way, Revised Second Edition***

By Becky Goldsmith and Linda Jenkins

This book was designed to be a teaching tool. The information on pp. 1-34 includes things that every quilter should know. Please do refer your students to this information and tell them as much as you can in class.

Class Description:

Curves are surprisingly easy to sew! Students will learn the secrets to perfectly curved shapes. This class is suitable for any skill level. Beginners should be able to sew together at least two Drunkard's Path blocks and one set-in circle. Quilters with more experience should finish more blocks.

Class Length:

This can be taught as a 1-day class.

Class Supply List:

- Book: ***Piecing the Piece O' Cake Way, Revised Second Edition***
- Fabric, as listed on p. 87
- Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat. Ruler should be 6½" × 24½"
- Sewing machine in good working order
- Matching thread
- Scissors
- Sandboard (or sandpaper) and a chalk pencil
- *Essential Self-Adhesive Laminating Sheets for templates
- *fast2mark Essential Circle Tool

*You can teach one or both of the methods shown in the book for marking the curved edges. You can use the templates from the book and/or the Essential Circle Tool. Adjust the supply list so that students are prepared for the method(s) you want to teach.

It's a good idea to make a fabric-choosing date with your students before the day of the class. Beginners especially like to have help with this step. We recommend that fabric be washed and dried before using and that will give students time to do that.

Classroom Preparation:

Each student needs room to cut. Cutting is an important part of this class, and it's hard to do on a tiny mat in a cramped space. They also need room to set up their sewing

machine. Once the sewing begins, students will need to iron. Two to three students could share an iron.

Class Agenda:

1. Teach how to cut accurately. Refer to pp. 35–37. Also refer to Using Rotary Tools, pp. 18–21.
2. Make the templates. Refer to Templates, pp. 17–18.
3. Refer to Cutting Instructions on p. 87. To make the most of class time, cut only the strips that you are likely to use in class. Cut 2 light and 2 dark strips $7\frac{1}{2}'' \times \text{WOF}$. Subcut 8 squares $7\frac{1}{2}'' \times 7\frac{1}{2}''$ from each strip.
4. Follow the instructions to teach Drunkard's Path blocks, pp. 87–88. Refer to Curves, pp. 79–82.
5. Follow the instructions to teach set-in circles, p. 88–89. Refer to Set-In Circles, pp. 83–85.
6. Continue sewing blocks as time permits.
7. Discuss how to finish the quilt.