

How to draw "FLYING GEESE" in a graduated curve

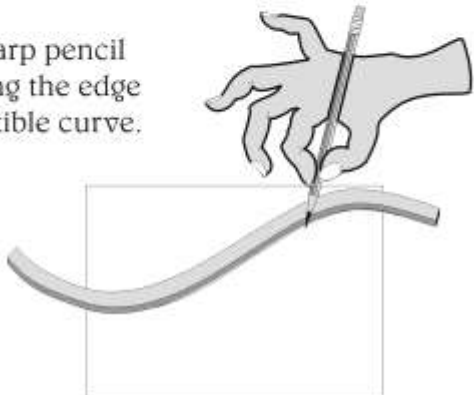
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Draw Curve #1— top of the path:

1

Arrange your flexible curve to form a graceful arc across a piece of paper.

With a sharp pencil trace along the edge of the flexible curve.

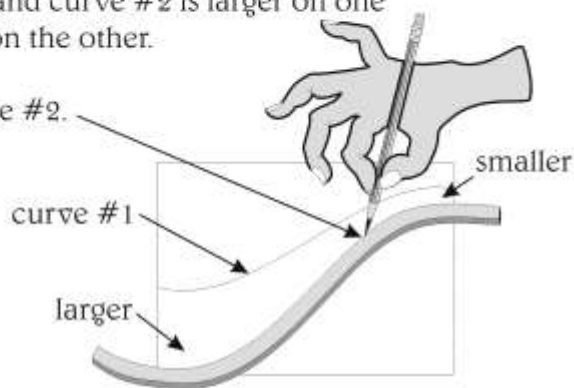


Draw Curve #2 — bottom of the path:

2

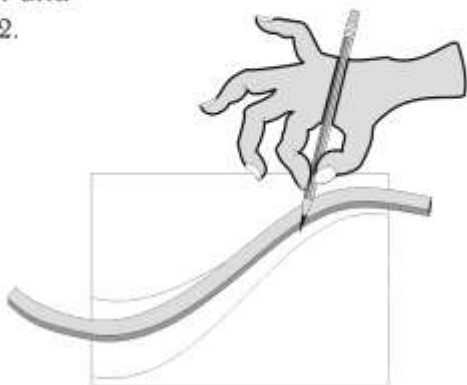
Move the flexible curve down the page, and rotate it slightly, so the space between curve #1 and curve #2 is larger on one end than on the other.

Draw curve #2.



Move the flexible curve again, and draw a third curved line between curve #1 and curve #2.

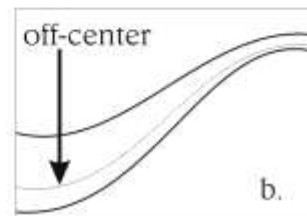
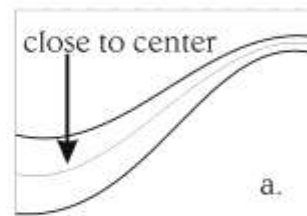
3



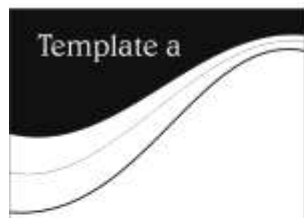
The points of all the triangles that form the "geese" will fall along this line.

4

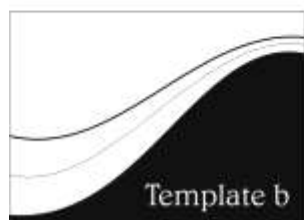
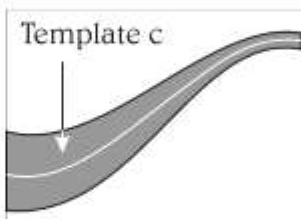
It can be centered between curves #1 and #2 (diagram a), or it can be off-center (diagram b)



For your first practice block, a location close to center is recommended.



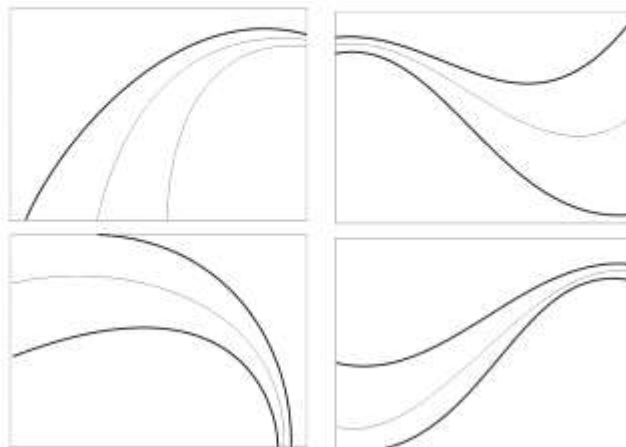
5



You have now divided your paper/block into three templates.

Many different arrangements of curves are possible

6

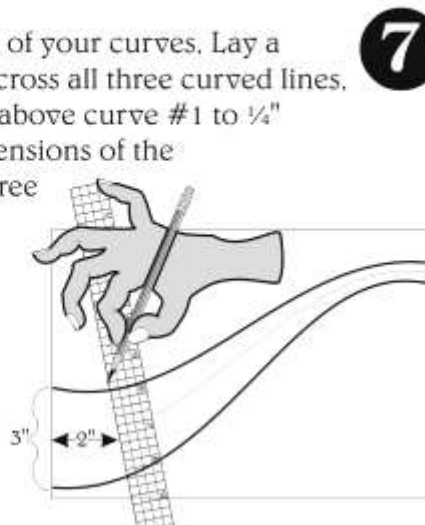


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Beginning at the large end of your curves, Lay a straight edge or a ruler across all three curved lines, and draw a line from ¼" above curve #1 to ¼" past curve #2. These extensions of the line will help align the three templates when you are ready to piece them together.

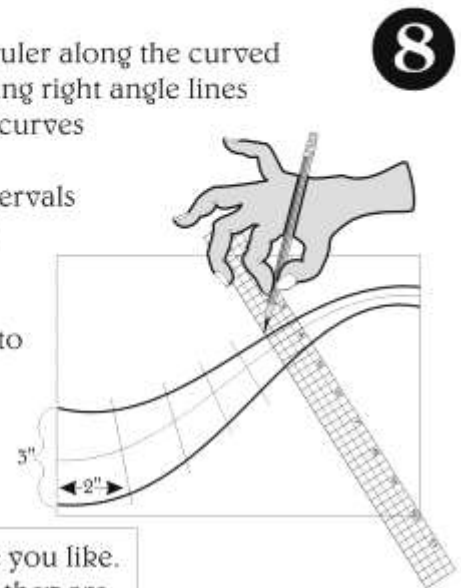
A line that intersects the center curve at approximately 90° (right angle) always works well.



7

Move the ruler along the curved lines, making right angle lines across the curves at slightly smaller intervals each time.

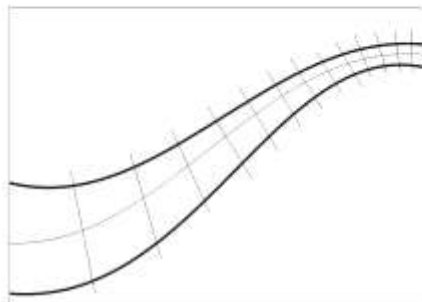
It is not necessary to measure each space.



8

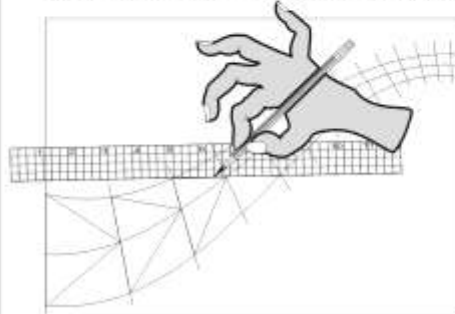
Your "geese" (triangles) can be any size and shape you like. I find that triangles that are two thirds as wide as they are high always seem to have pleasing proportions.

When you are finished drawing your right angle lines, this is approximately how it will look.



9

Using your ruler or straight edge as a guide, draw straight lines, from the point where each line intersects the center curve to the points where the previous line intersects curves # 1 and #2.



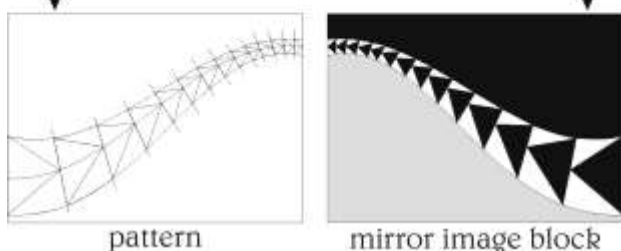
10

Be sure to use a good sharp pencil and thin ruler, so you get crisp lines and precise points.

When you have finished drawing your block pattern, it will look like this.

11

You will be sewing on these lines, and your fabric will go on the opposite side of the paper, so the block you actually piece will end up as a mirror image of your pattern.

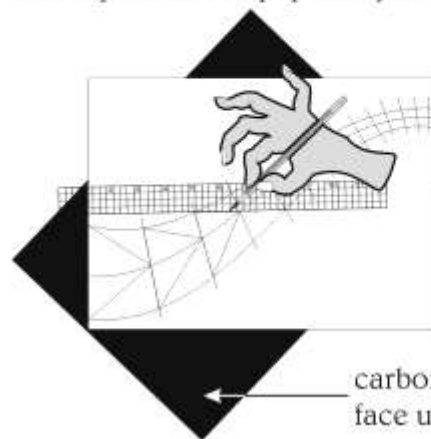


pattern

mirror image block

If you want a positive image of your drawing rather than a mirror image, lay carbon paper face up under the paper as you draw your lines.

12



Lines can also be traced from the back of the paper by using a light box.

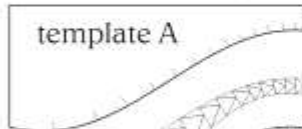
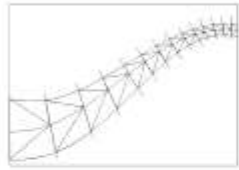
carbon paper face up

How to piece "FLYING GEESE" in a curve

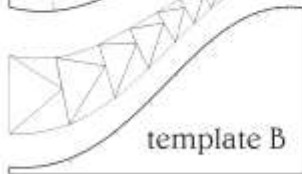
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Cut your paper block into three templates.

1



template C



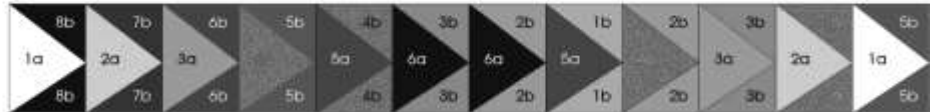
Select fabrics for your "geese" (center triangles) and "sky" (side triangles). The block can be made with as few as two fabrics.



2

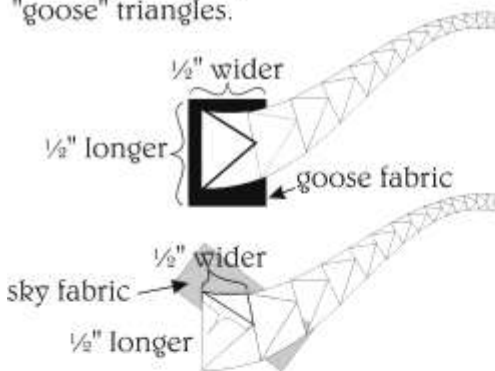
Beautiful, luminous, colorful results can be achieved with gradations of color and/or value (light to dark)

Intersecting color gradations are very effective with this pattern. Use two different color and/or value gradations, one in the geese and a second in the sky.



From your "goose" fabrics cut strips or rectangles at least 1/2" wider and longer than the "goose" triangles.

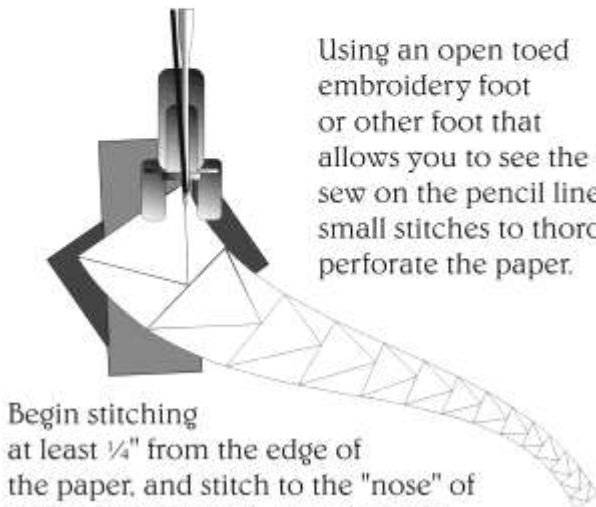
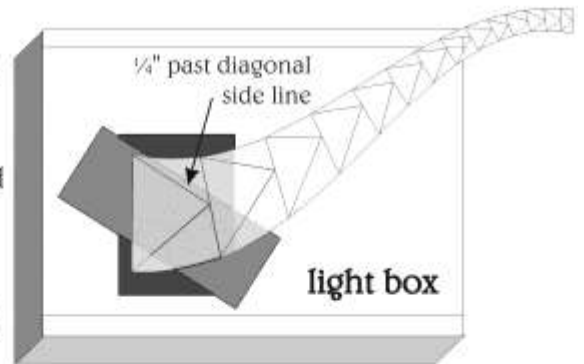
3



Lay goose triangle #1 (on your paper pattern) on top of goose fabric #1. Be sure that the edge of goose fabric #1 extends at least 1/4" past the "nose" point of the goose pattern.

4

Using a light box or a window, align sky fabric #1 under goose triangle #1 and goose fabric #1 and at least 1/4" past one of the two diagonal side lines of goose #1



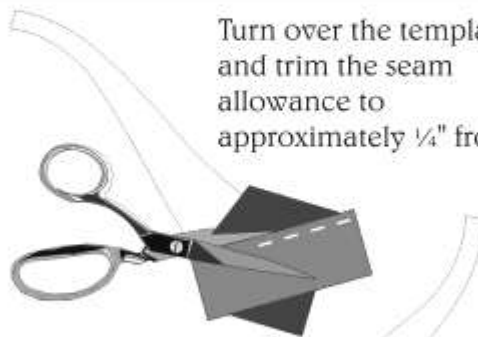
Using an open toed embroidery foot or other foot that allows you to see the line, sew on the pencil line. Use very small stitches to thoroughly perforate the paper.

5

Begin stitching at least 1/4" from the edge of the paper, and stitch to the "nose" of the "goose" triangle, or 1-2 stitches past the "nose."

Turn over the template and trim the seam allowance to approximately 1/4" from the seam

6



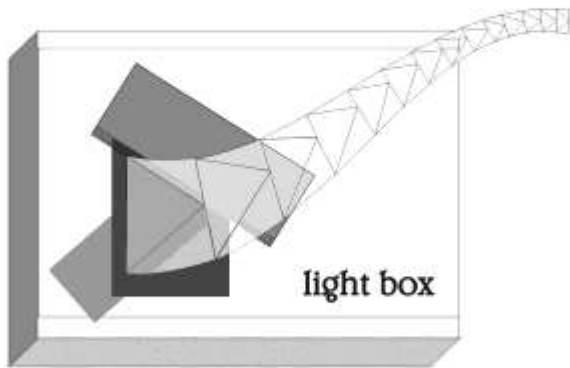
Fold back and iron the seam as flat as possible.

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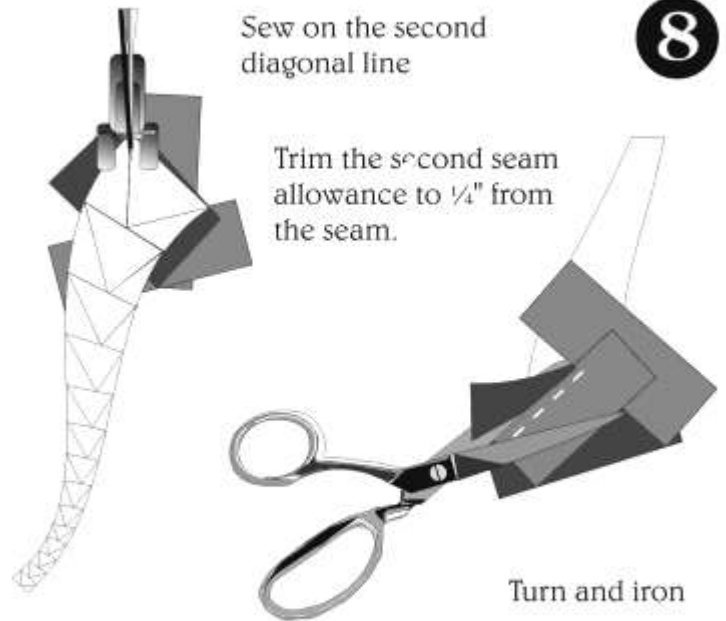
On the light box, align a second piece of sky fabric #1 under Goose #1 and 1/4" past the second diagonal line of goose #1.

7



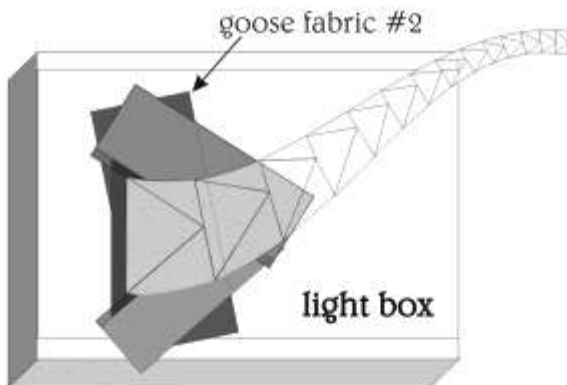
Sew on the second diagonal line

8



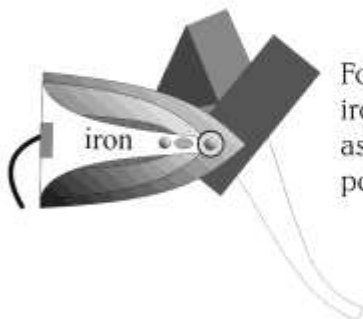
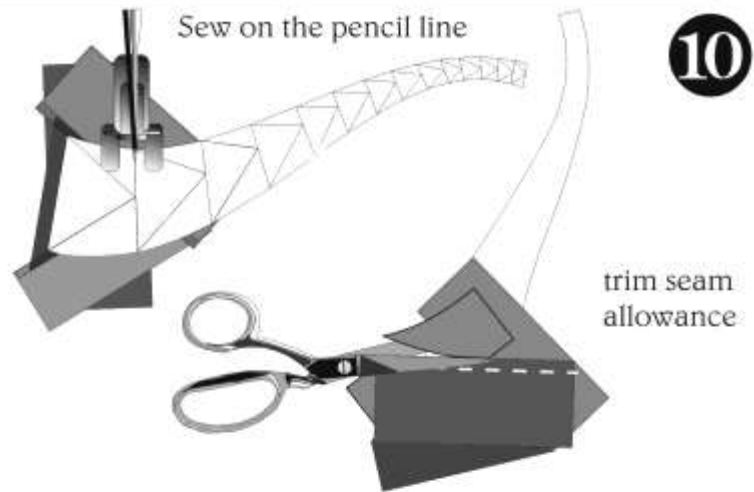
Place goose fabric #2 under goose #1 and 1/4" past the pencil line.

9



Sew on the pencil line

10



Fold back and iron the seam as flat as possible.

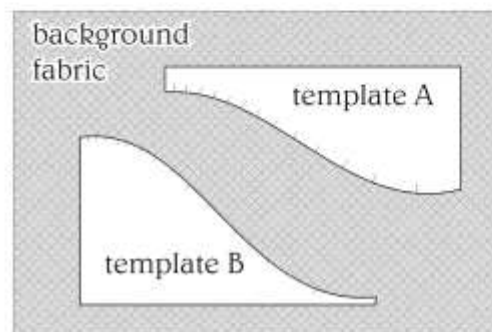
11

Lay template A and template B on back side of background fabric. Spray templates with embroidery adhesive or use a few dots of glue stick to keep templates from shifting.

12

Repeat steps 4-11 until you have sewn on all the pencil lines.

Trim fabric to 1/4" from the edge of the paper template on all sides.



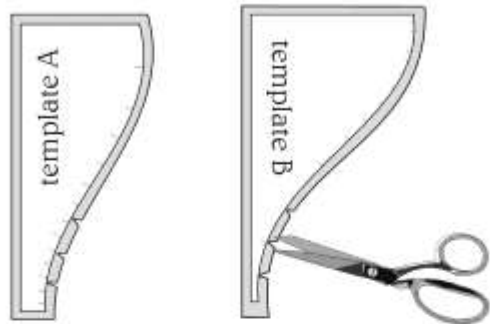
Cut around both templates, 1/4" from the edge of the paper.

Be sure the side of the paper with the pencil marks is face up.

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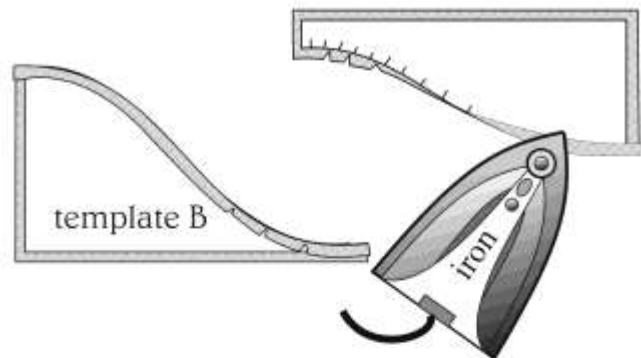
Clip the inside curves of the seam allowances to within three or four threads of the edge of the paper



13

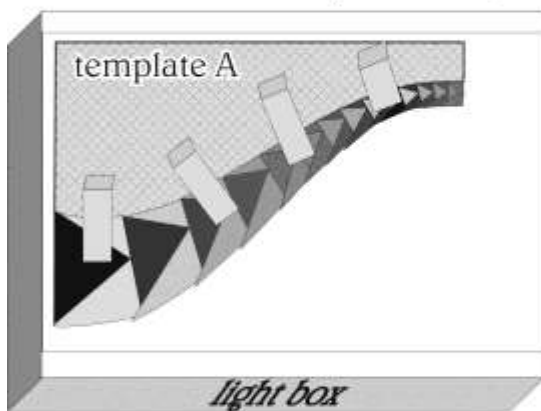
Iron the curved seam allowances over the edge of the paper.

14



TIP: For a nice crisp edge that is temporarily stuck down paint a little liquid starch along the edge of the paper before you iron.

Align the edges of template A and template C. Your goal is to have the seam allowances overlapping each other, and the edges of the paper templates just butted up against each other. This is easiest if you use a light box



Before sewing turn the templates to the paper side and check to see that the little orientation lines on template A line up with the outside points of the "goose" triangles.

Cut several 1 1/2" long pieces of Scotch tape. Fold back 1/4" on one end to form a handle. Place these across the folded edge to hold the templates together.

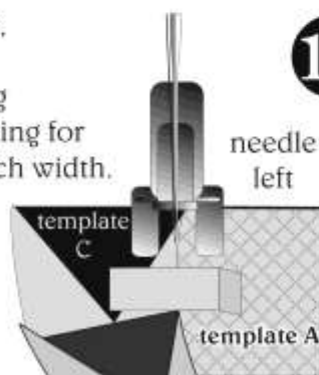


15



With clear mono-filament, sew over the folded edge with a very narrow zig-zag stitch. 1mm is a good setting for both stitch length and stitch width.

DO NOT SEW OVER SCOTCH TAPE



16

Repeat steps 15 and 16 with templates B and C.

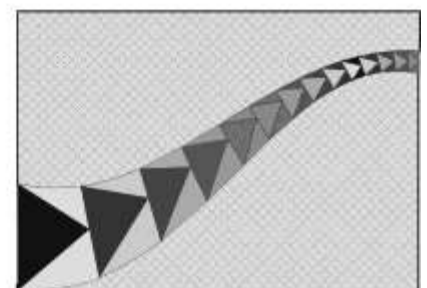
17

Then remove the paper.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!
your block is finished.

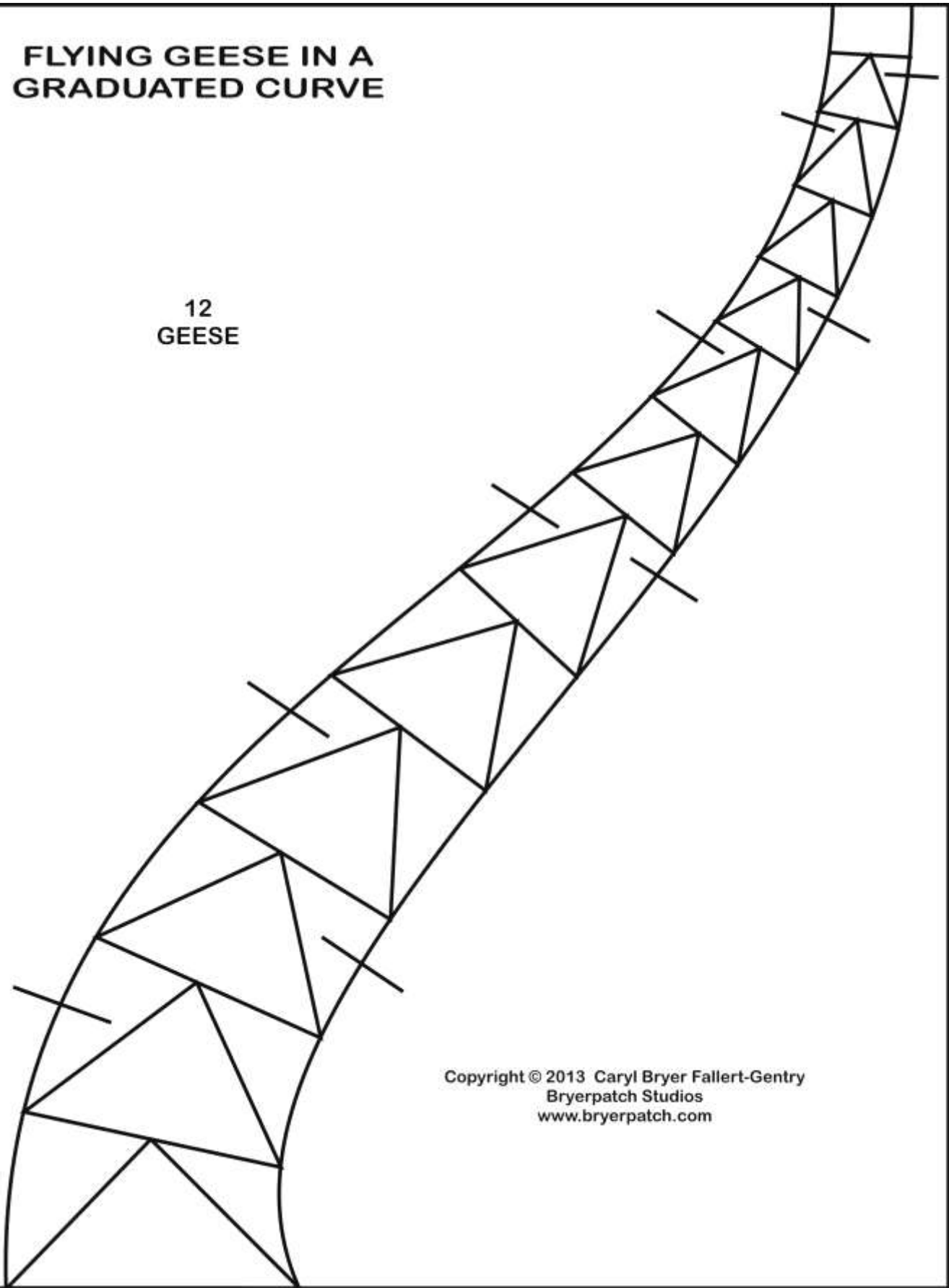
Try to just catch about three threads on the folded edge, when the needle swings to the right. You do not want to pierce the folded edge when the needle swings to the left, but ideally the side of the needle will be touching the folded edge as it pierces template C.

Tape tabs can be reused several times.



FLYING GEESE IN A GRADUATED CURVE

12
GEESE

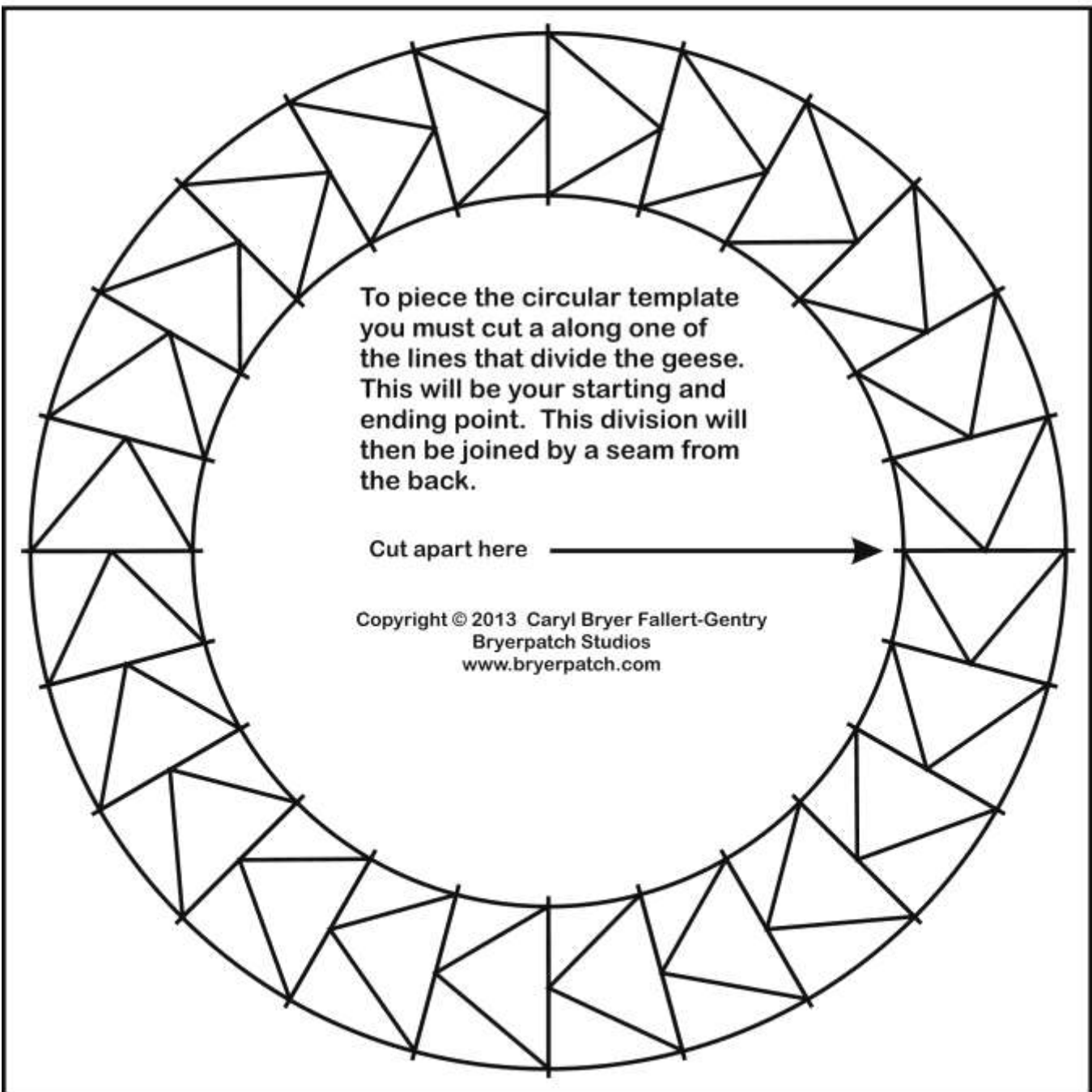


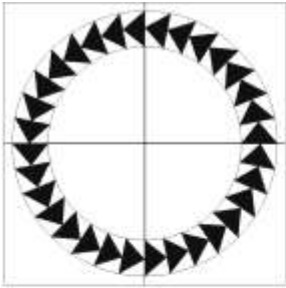
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FLYING GEESE IN AN EIGHT INCH CIRCLE

24 geese

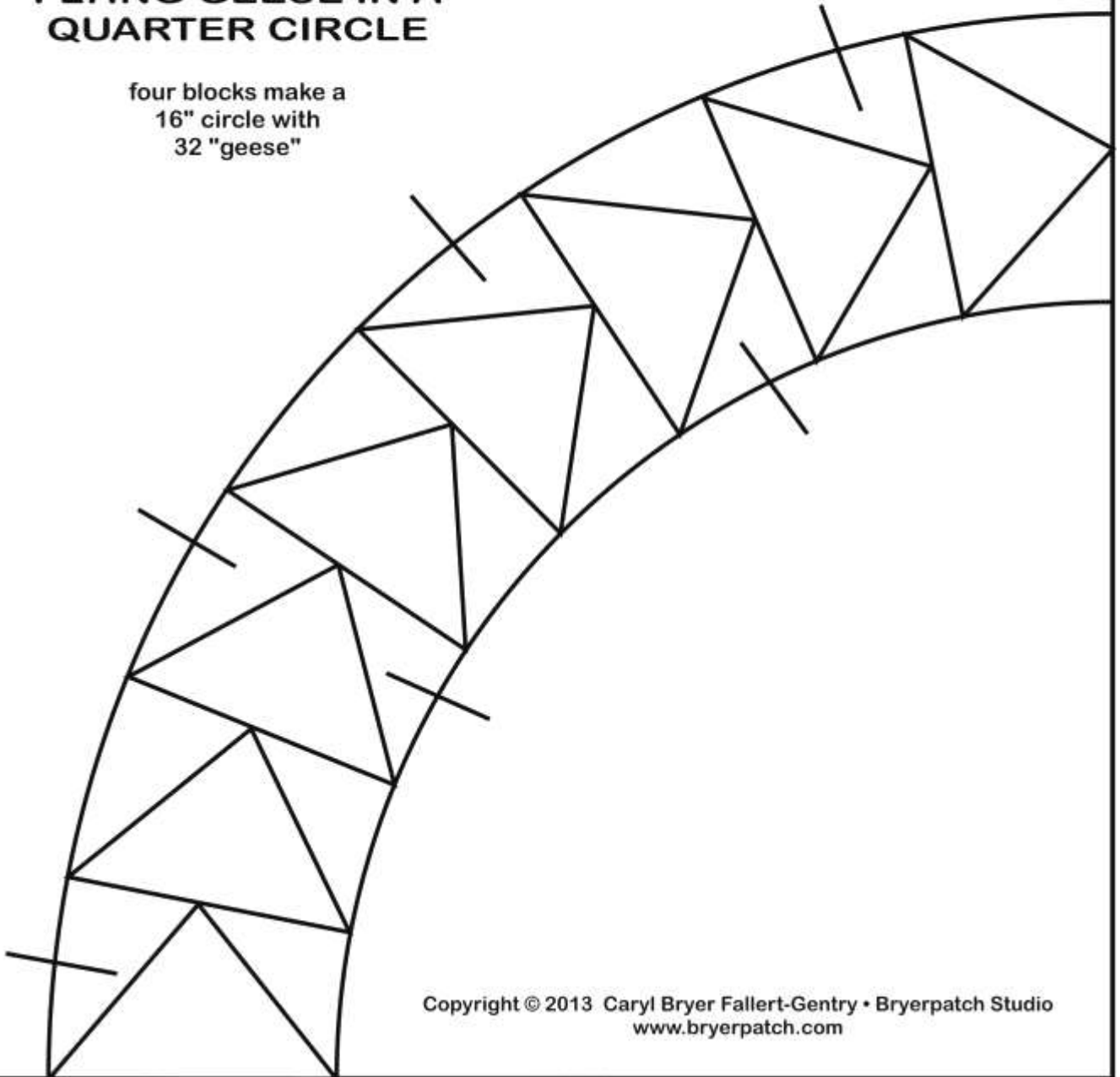




FLYING GEESE IN A QUARTER CIRCLE

FLYING GEESE IN A QUARTER CIRCLE

four blocks make a
16" circle with
32 "geese"



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FLYING GEESE IN A GRADUATED CURVE

