

OBW tutorial by cutebuns

So here is my fabric that I will be using today, I have 19 repeats so now I have to decide how many I will be using and how,



Since I don't want a huge quilt, I am going to use 12 of the repeats, so I am going to count 12 and cut an inch or two longer just to make sure I get the full repeat in, so I went and cut off where I needed to and then split the fabric in half length wise, I will be working with half of the fabric at a time, depending on where you are getting your repeats from, you may be doing this differently,



So I looked for something easy to line the ruler up with, I want to make it easy to find, and so here is where I start, I want to see what it looks like as I have to do it a few more times, you can cut the little piece off if you would like, I just left mine on



so then I move the ruler along and match it to what I saw in the start, if you cut that little piece off you can move it and match it where you cut to make sure that you are in the same place, but if you pick an obvious spot to line up your fabric it is easier, some prints are easier as well.



so then I get a piece like this and need 5 more



So now I have 6 pieces of fabric that all look the same, and I am ready to start stacking them,

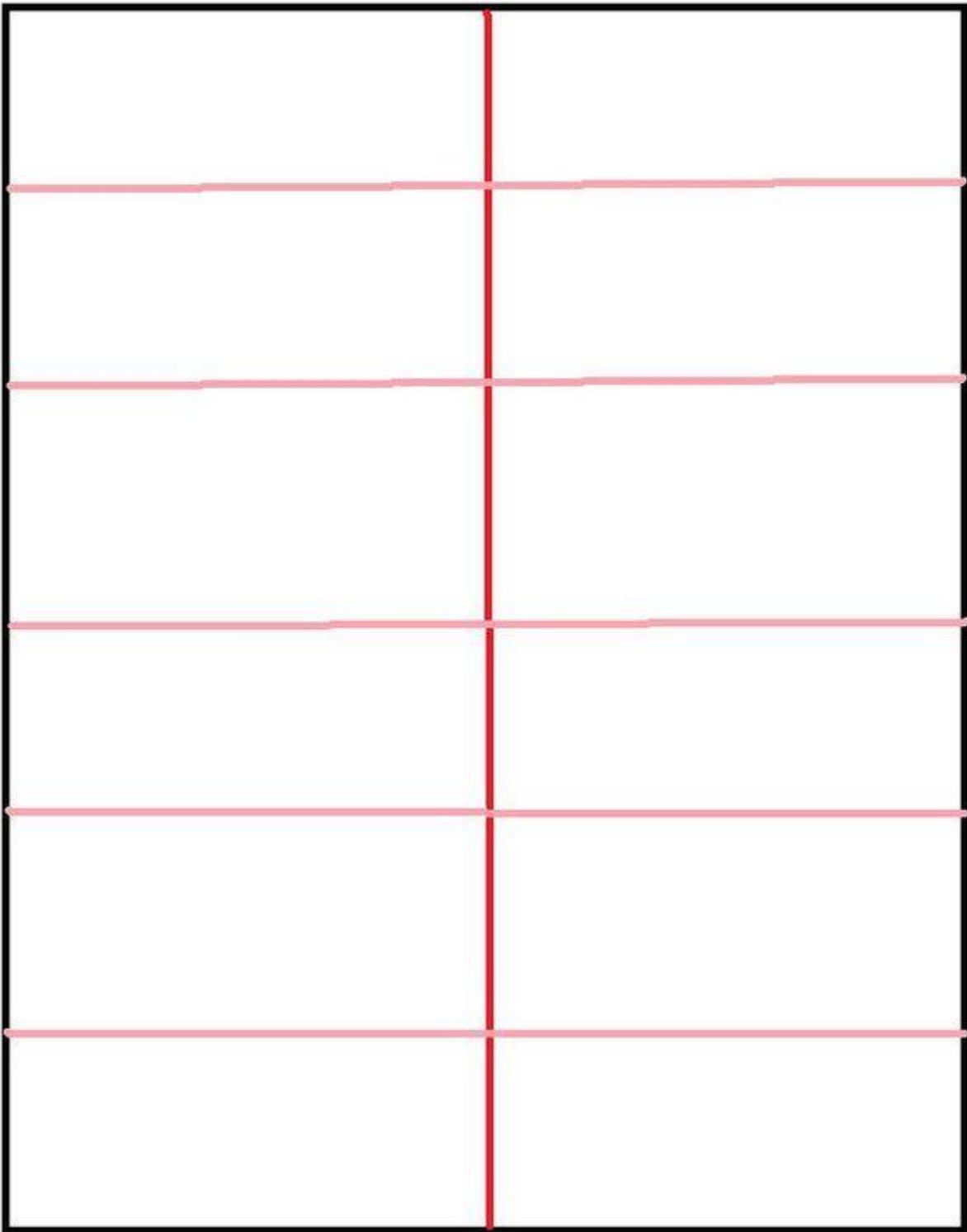


This is what my ruler looks like, though there are different ones on the market, some will be using their regular ruler, and if there isn't an 60 degree mark on it a piece of tape and protractor can solve that.



so the cut edges are up and down and the salvage are on the sides, the red is the first cut line, the pink are the repeats, (no they are not even.)

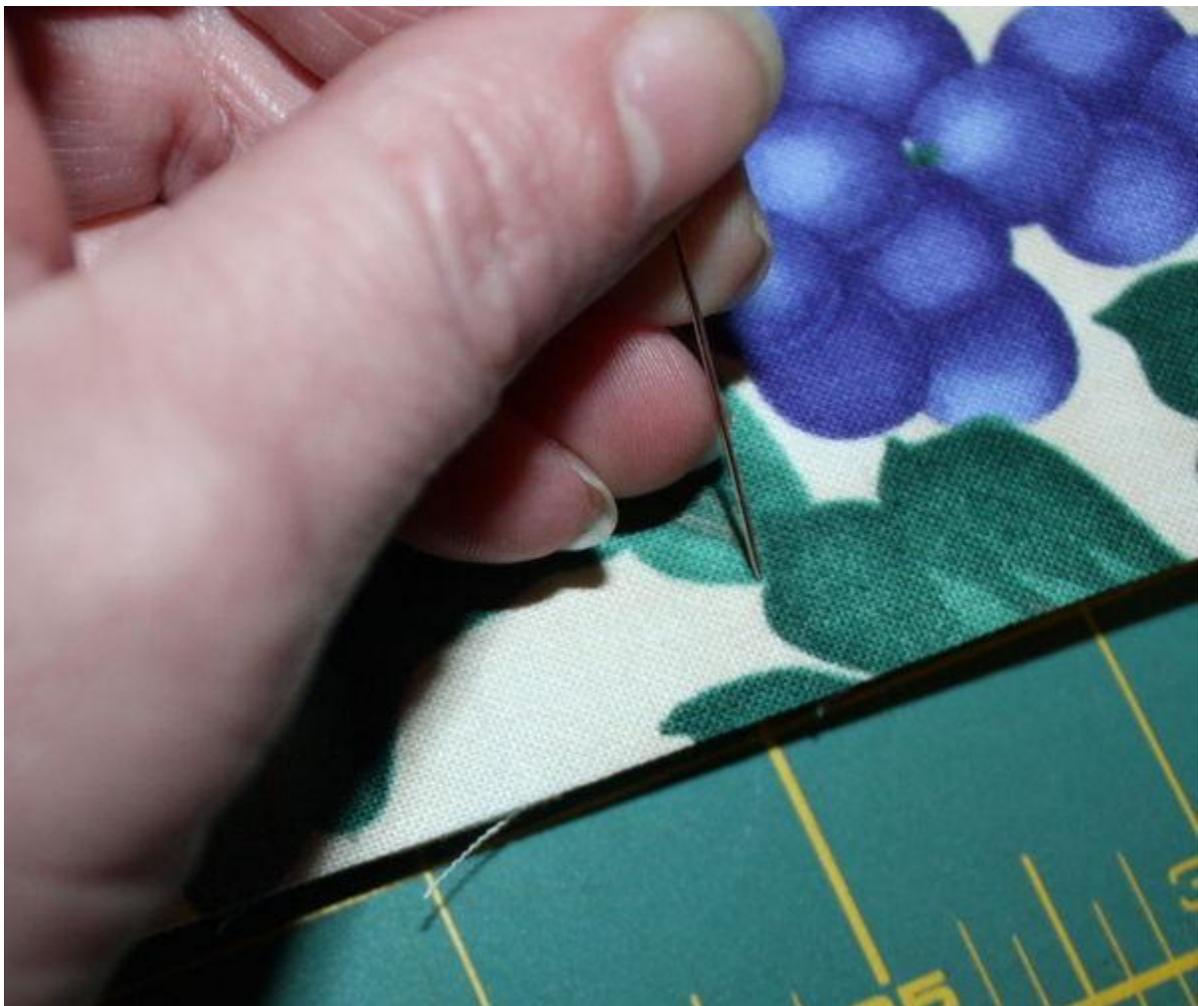
The issues with using the whole width at once is that spread out it is just to wide to cut. And folded the bottom that you can't see may be off and you won't get it straight across the same way and not on an angle



some of you will have repeats like this, you want to cut as many as you can and still have it manageable with the fabric that you have. (different colors are for

Awesome. Now the hard part. Lining up your six repeats as close as you can. Along the edge. Find an easy spot to recognize a tip of leaf or corner. Stick a pin through all the layers in exactly the same spot. If the edges are not exactly matched. As long as the print is matched. We will be trimming the edge to make sure that they are all even. Do this in several places along each side. If you are really careful, you can fully pin it. But you have to make sure that you don't shift your layers when poking them back up through. Just the edges. The middle should line up if the edges are matched. Some when printed are a little off so a tug here and there sometimes to make them lay flat. When cutting your strips you will be able to see if it is lined up along the way.

here is an example of a good place to pin, it is easy to spot and to hit the same spot more than once,



so then I am all pinned, I don't tend to use a lot of pins, feel free to use as many as you need to,



so now to figure out what size I am cutting, I may have an idea coming into it but here is the crunch, my repeat is just a hair under 8 inches, so I want to avoid 2 and 4.

Using a ruler is always nice when trying to picture what will show at what size cut, I like this one as it shows the seams, on what will show after it is put together, so remember that you will be cutting it a bit bigger than what you want to see, some people will have an easier time seeing this than others, it will be easier after the first one, this will be the hardest for most people,



so I am figuring on cutting this anywhere between 3 and 3 1/2,

What you will see on one piece, you will see on all the pieces around,

Is this going to give me the color variation that I am looking for?

So the first thing I do is straighten my edge, I don't like working around the pins so I take them out, it is a personal choice, but if you don't use the flat head one they can get in the way of the ruler laying flat. just make sure that if you take them out that you make sure that your layers don't move on you,

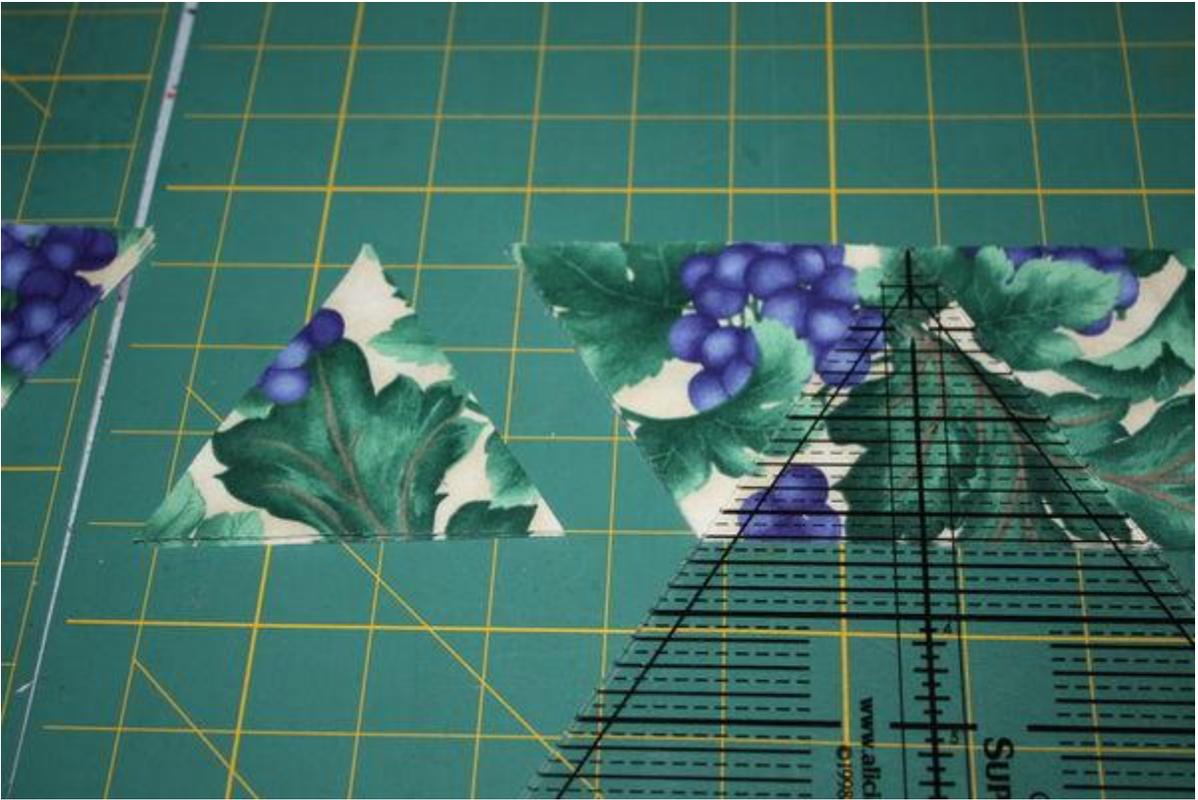


so then I start cutting the strips that I have decided on, until I can't cut any more, I have a left over piece that is a fair size, I will leave it stacked, and I will have two of them when I am done the other half. I will cut them both as big as I can (same size) and make a set of smaller blocks that can be used for a wall hanging or a doll quilt.



I take one of my strips that I just cut and line up my ruler like this, and then make my first cut, and my second cut give me my first equilateral triangle, you can move the ruler back and forth and line it up from either side but I prefer to just keep to the one side and work this way.

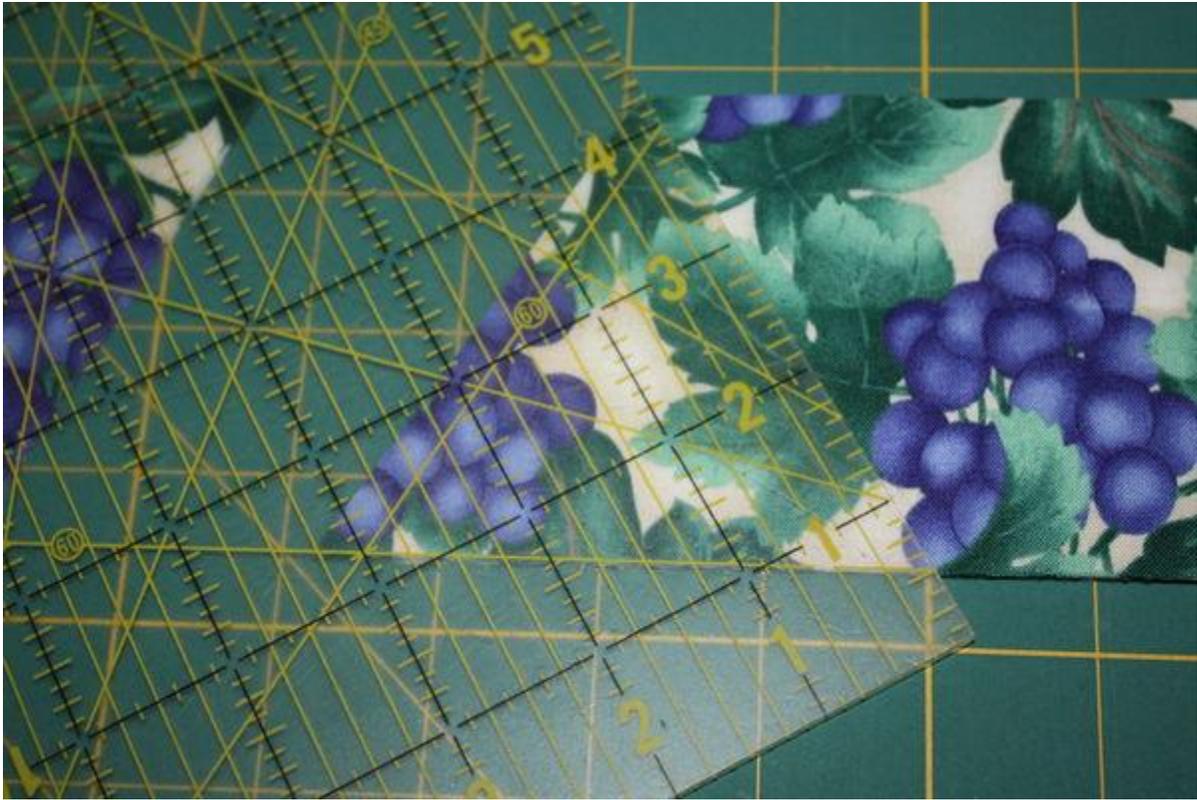
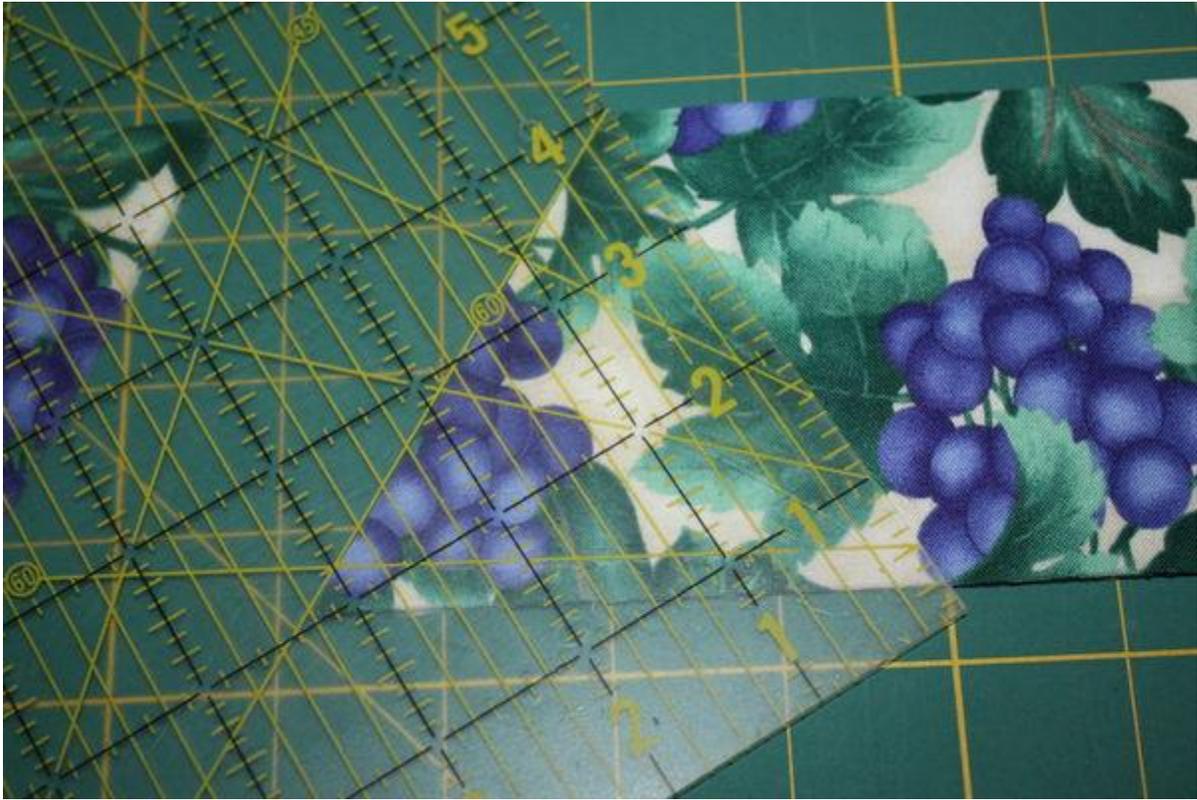




Here is pictures using a regular ruler with the 60 degree line on it,

There is two 60 degree lines on mine, and it depends on personal preference which one you use,





So what do you do then with all the pieces, you need to keep them separate in their piles of 6, I wouldn't want to be trying to sort pieces if they got mixed up, I like to use a piece of cardboard or something else that is hard to layer them like this to transport them, I have a couple of pieces cut the same size so that if I get too many on one I can move to the next and then I can stack the cardboard. then continue cutting until they are all triangles.

TIPS:

as you are cutting along, if you notice that some of your strips look alike, you can move the triangle over a bit to make it in a different spot and or cut from the other end, I started on the salvage edge in the pictures, you can also cut from the other end so that your start and stop will be in a different place.

For those that don't have a long ruler, you can use a long straight edge, I am using two repeats together for my stack so I put my ruler on one and a yard stick on the other to show, for this you just need to line it up on the repeat, there is no measurement so as long as it has a straight edge.



Auditioning my first block.....







so here is what you do after auditioning your block, take two pieces and right sides together and sew from the center out, do that for two sets, press your seams open and add the third piece and sew, I find it easiest to sew from the center out, and press and then pin the twins together to make a whole block, (pictures to follow)

Looking at them I would go with one of the first two, but there is nothing wrong with the third one either, it is personal preference,

So i went with the first one anyway. and did my first two seams,



Press your seams open and line up your next piece, it is important to have straight which is your middle as it isn't always easy to tell what it the center and you want to keep it straight or you will be picking if you get it wrong, because part of the piece is hidden in the seam it isn't always easy to match up the way that they should go,



So our seam should look like this, the corner is where our seam should rest, if it doesn't it means that you are not consistent in your seam allowance, with this block if you do not have a perfect 1/4 inch it doesn't really matter, what matters is that

you have the same seam allowance all the way through, your points will be where they are supposed to be if you do,



I do not trim my points, when I am assembling the blocks I like them to help line up my pieces and probably just to lazy to cut them off afterwards, some times I nip them when I am cutting the pieces apart as I chain piece, and we will be covering how I do that with these as well,

yes, so you end up with two pieces, this is one of the only times that I will actually pin anything, and that is to keep the pieces together until the next step, no way I want to be sorting pieces to find matches.

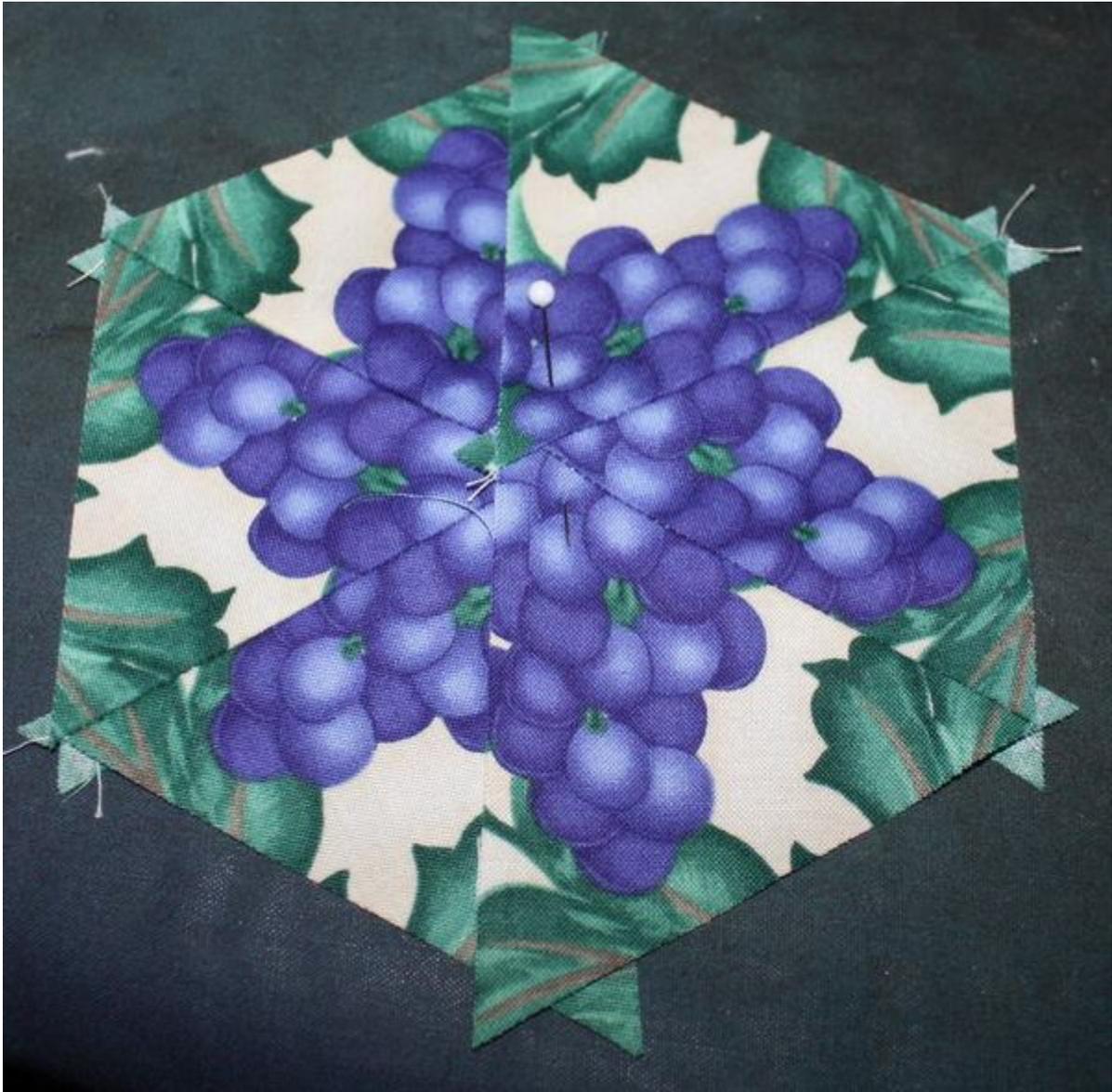
So we press open once again and then we have our two pieces that should look identical,



And this is one of the only times you will see me pin on a block, the last thing you want is all these pieces getting mixed up, trying to sort them is a pain, ask me how I know.....

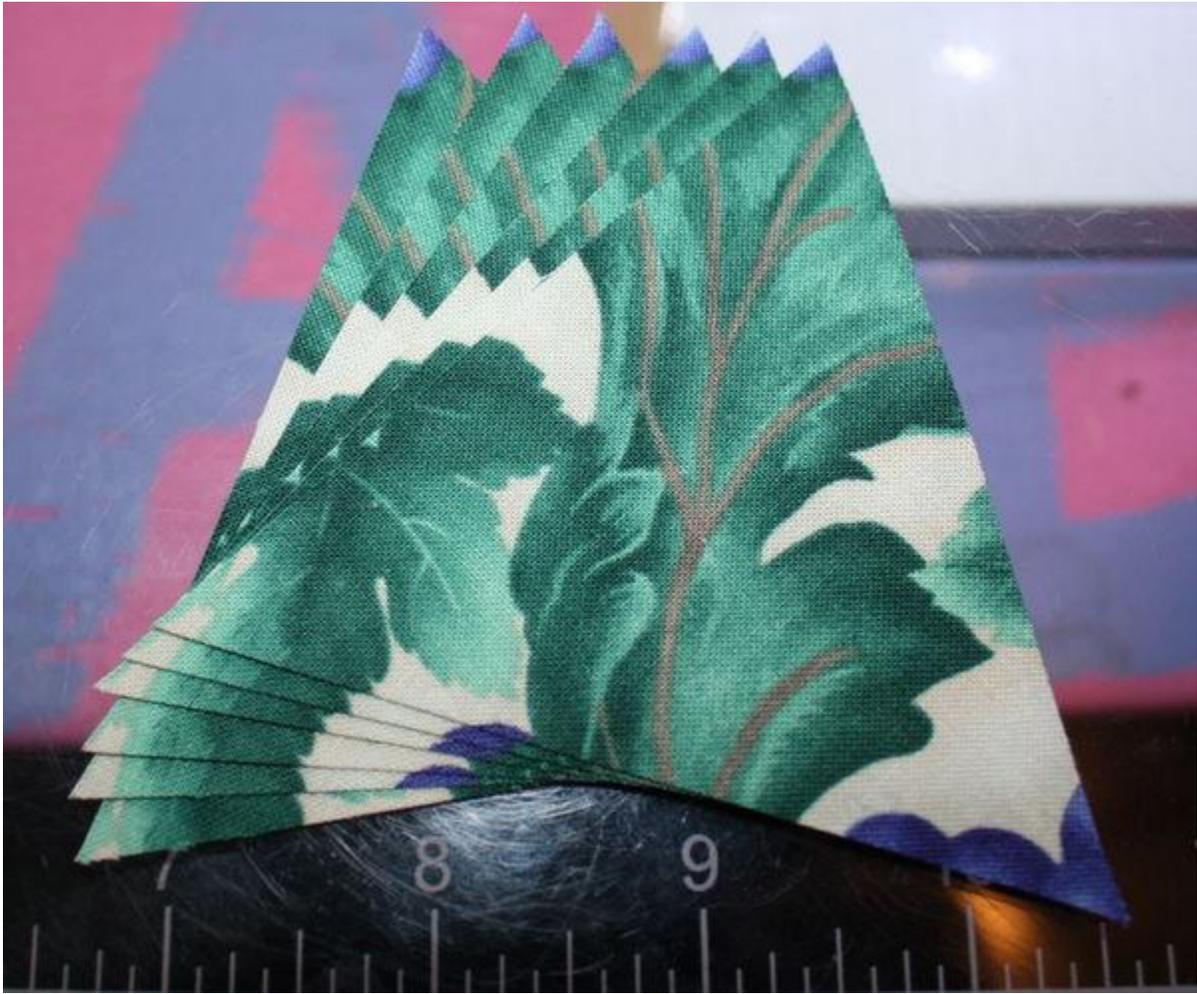
Overlay them so that they will be approximately where they would be if they were sewn and stick a pin or two depending on how big your block is, usually one will do it,

And we are done our first block, this is as far as they go until you go to put the whole top together,



When I decide what I am going to use in my center I spread them like this for ease of picking up the pieces, I leave the point up and move it to the right, under the arm of the machine until I am ready for it again







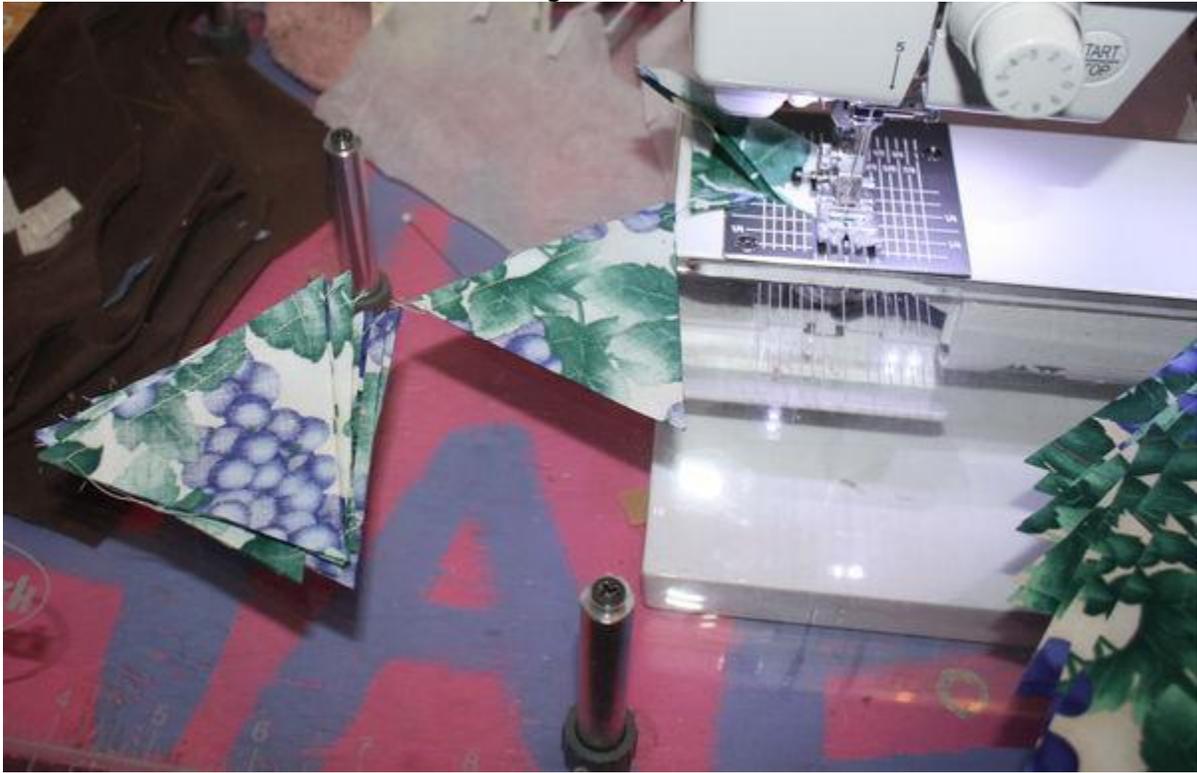
I sew two by two and stack the remaining pieces on the right, keeping the centers pointed up, everything is kept in order this way, I don't cut the pieces off,

(this is for when you are ready to move forward from doing one block at a time)

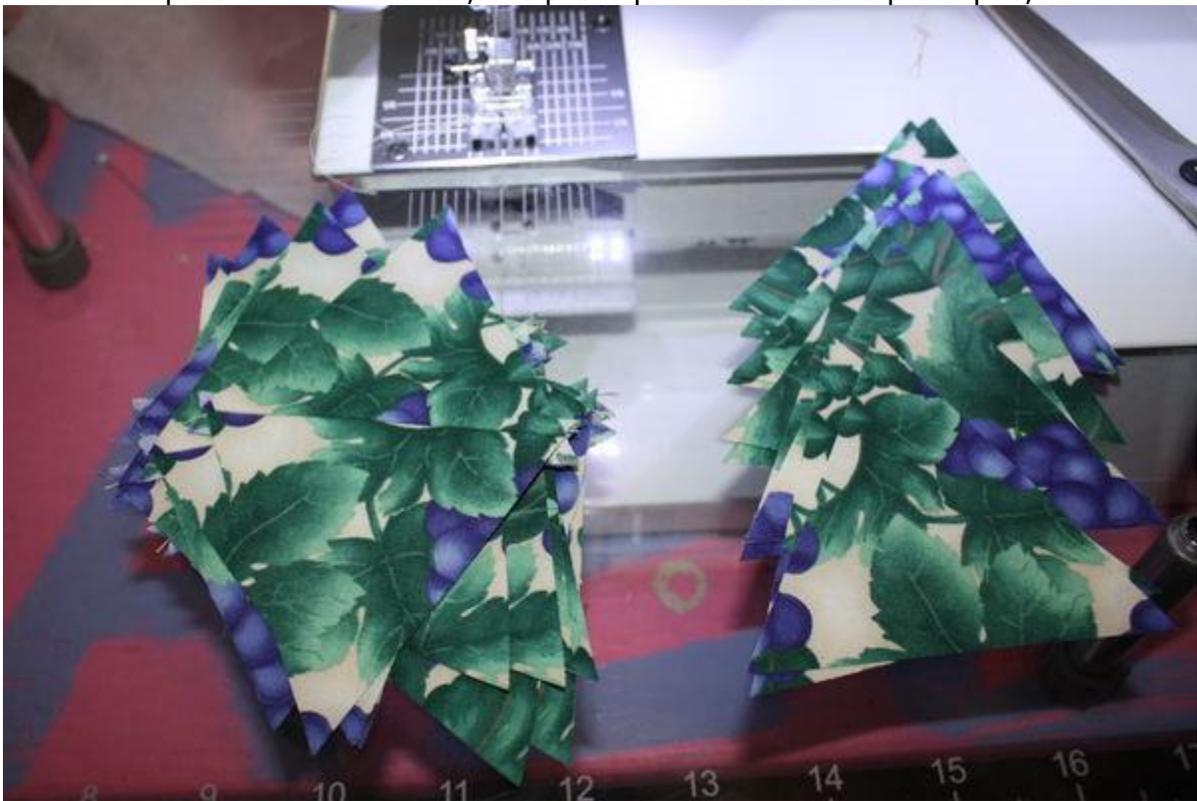


I cut them apart, starting with the first one that I put together and leave it on top, I stack everything to the bottom, so when I press, the first ones are on the bottom of the pile, just like the pieces that are left to put on,

cutting them apart



pressed and stacked, the press pile matches the piece pile,



I also have a few more blocks done.



Here is the next bit of blocks, when you get on a roll they go together pretty quickly,



EXAMPLES:

OK, I am using 2 - 2 1/2 yards of each of these fabrics. The darker fabric is giving me darker colored blocks. The lighter fabric is giving me light to medium colors. I think they will all play nicely together once I get them all sewn and figure out how to use them...

Maybe use the dark ones as a big hexagon, with the med and lights in and around LOL who knows, but when that time comes, I will be open to suggestions 😊😊😊

The fabrics

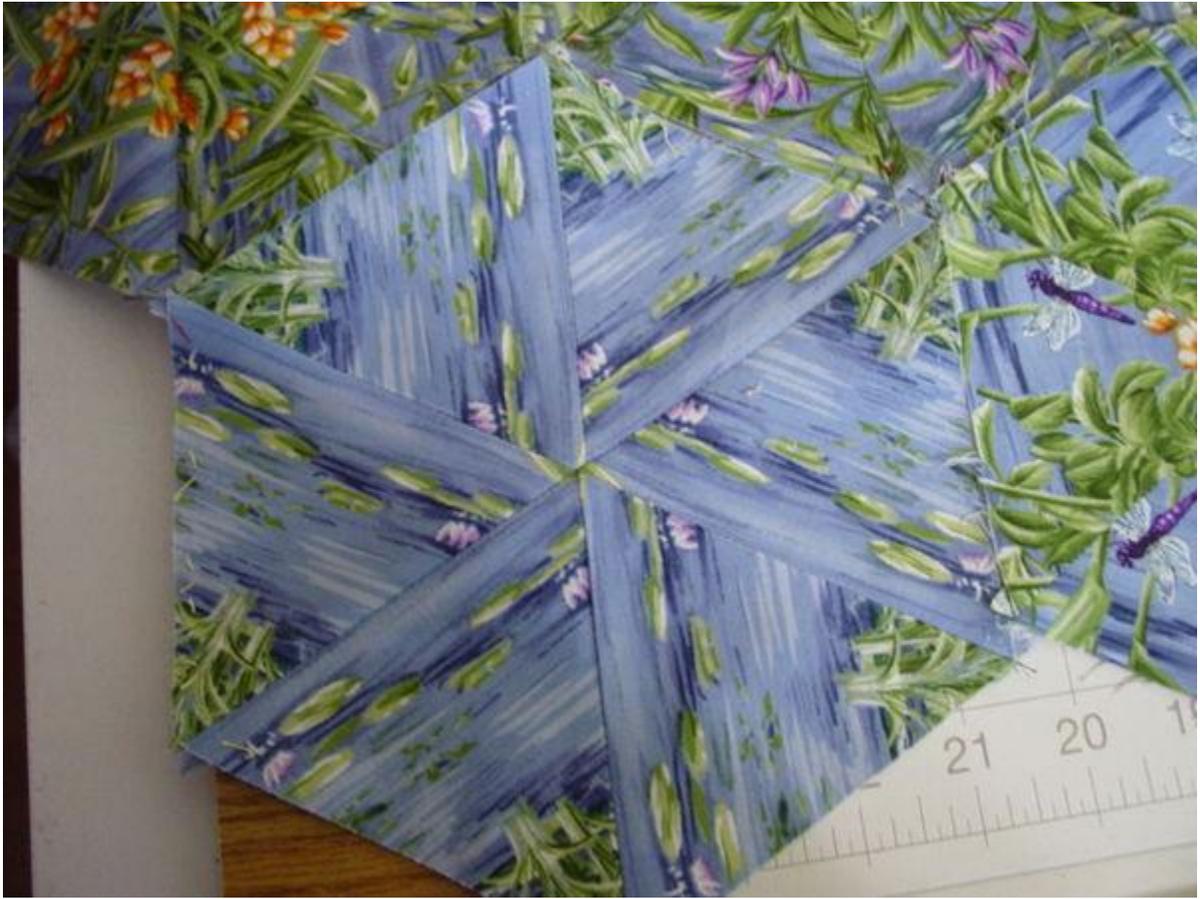


A few of the blocks



here is my fabric whole









Restful Waters OBW





