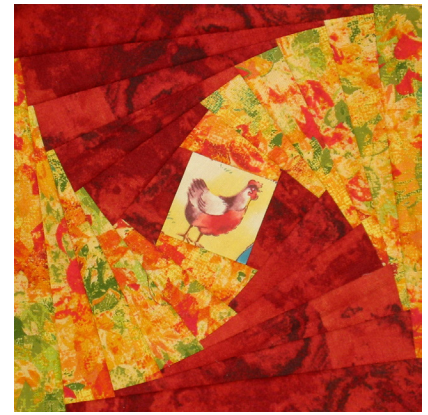


Simply Amazing Pinwheel Spirals

Online Workshop

with RaNae Merrill

Based on RaNae's book *Simply Amazing Spiral Quilts*



SAVE THIS PAGE!

Besides the online locations where you accessed materials for this class, follow-up materials, including the spiral foundation and hot pad pattern can also be found on the Spiromandalas Blog at

<http://spiromandalas.wordpress.com/simply-amazing-pinwheel-spirals>

Sign into that page with password **leehwniP3281**

Instructions

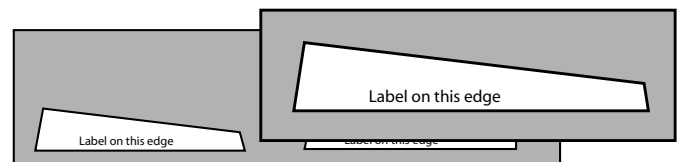
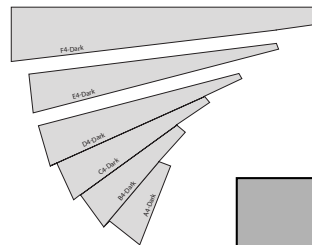
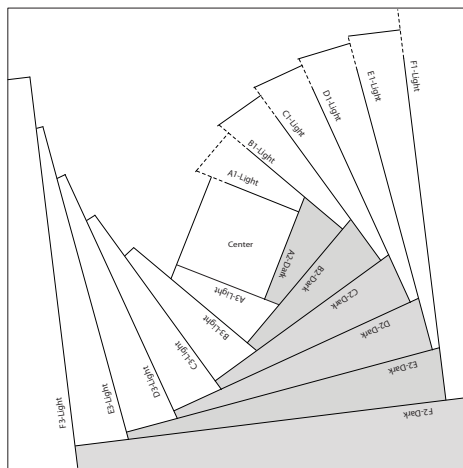
To draw your own Pinwheel spiral, follow the instructions in *SASQ*, pages 20-23 or *Magnificent Spiral Mandala Quilts* pages 67-70.)

If you'd like to sew along during the class, pre-cut your fabric using the Sawtooth Edges template.

Cut fabric for spiral:

Place strips of double-sided tape 1/4" apart all the way across the back of the white paper copy of the spiral. Cut apart all the triangles in the spiral and stick the light pieces onto the light fabric and the dark fabrics onto the dark fabric.

Place each triangle template on its fabric with the labelled edge 1/4" from the cut edge of fabric. Leave at least 1/2" (a generous thumb's width) between the points.



Cut **RECTANGLE** strips of fabric 1/4" wider on each side and 1/4" higher on top and bottom. (Don't cut triangles.)

Center:

Cut a generous square around the center template. If you wish, fussy-cut a design.

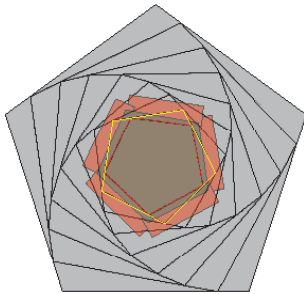
Sew the Spiral: Instructions for sewing a Pinwheel spiral are in **SASQ**, pages 96-98. If you have the 1st edition (you'll know because it has a CD in the back), I recommend getting the improved instructions available in the update to the 1st edition of **SASQ**. This is a free download available at www.ranaemerrillquilts.com - go to **SHOP**, then to the **BOOKS** section of the store.

Use a 1.5 - 1.6 stitch length and a sewing machine foot that allows you to see the lines on the foundation. Begin and end 2 stitches beyond end of sewing lines, so thread ends tuck under next seam.

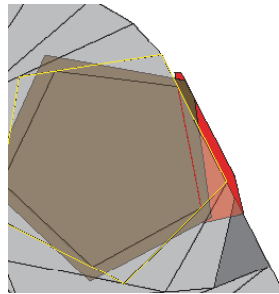
Center:

Place a piece of rolled painter's tape or a dab of fabric glue in the center area on the front of the foundation.

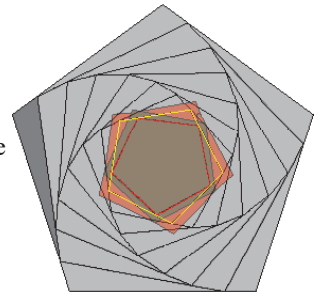
Place the spiral face down on the cutting mat. Highlight the line you'll sew for the next ring of triangles



Fold back the foundation on the highlighted line. Place the Add-a-Quarter along the fold. Trim.



You now have a 1/4" seam allowance set up for the next ring of triangles.



Place center fabric face up on the front of the foundation, completely covering the center area of foundation.

Do a Next-Step Trim around the edge of the Center fabric to set up a 1/4" seam allowance for Ring A. (See **SASQ** page 93 or **Magnificent Spiral Mandala Quilts** pages 102-103.)

Rings of Triangles:

Sew triangles one at a time in numerical order, beginning with Ring A. On the first triangle of each ring, leave the seam partially unsewn over the dashed line. Complete seam after sewing the last piece in that ring.

Ring A: Position piece A1 and sew partial seam. Flip face up into position and press.

When pressing, make sure to pull the fabric all the way back to the seam line, to avoid "hooks" on the edges of your spokes.

Position piece A2 and sew complete seam. Flip face up into position and press.

Position piece A3 and sew complete seam. Flip face up into position and press.

Position piece A4 and sew complete seam. Flip face up into position and press.

Complete the partial seam on piece A1. Flip face up into position and press

Complete ring by doing a Next Step Trim all around it to set up seam allowances for the next ring of triangles.

Repeat these steps for Rings B through F.

Baste 1/8" inside edge of foundation. Trim edges of block along edges of paper on each side and along top and bottom lines to create a block 8-1/2" square. Tear out foundation and tape in center of spiral.

When it's time to set up and sew

Prepare your cut pieces of fabric:

Stack your cut pieces of fabric in alphabetical order -- all A's together, all B's together, etc. The pieces do not have to be in numerical order. Keep in mind that there will probably be several colors of fabric in each stack.

Set up your sewing machine:

- ____ Needle: 75/11 or 80/12 needle
- ____ Foot: Open-toe or other foot that lets you see lines on the foundation easily and clearly
- ____ Stitch length: 1.5 (18-20 stitches per inch)
- ____ Thread: If you have to choose between light or dark, choose light.

Get out these tools and have them next to your sewing machine:

- ____ Rotary cutting mat
- ____ Rotary cutter
- ____ Add-a-Quarter Tool (and/or Add-an-Eighth Tool)
- ____ Card for Add-a-Quarter / Add-an-Eighth tools
- ____ Two highlighters - pink, orange or yellow
- ____ Seam Roller
- ____ Masking Tape
- ____ Thread-trimming scissors

Set the CENTER in place on the FRONT of the foundation with a piece of masking tape (don't sew).

Work in this order to sew each ring of triangles:

MARK	Highlight the seam lines for the ring of triangles you are about to sew. Brush lightly with the pen so the ink doesn't bleed through on the fabric. Alternate between colors so you always have a new color on the lines you are about to sew. <i>Remember: New Color - No Stitching!</i>
TRIM	Place the card on each line highlighted with the new color around the ring. <i>Remember: New Color - No Stitching!</i> Fold back the foundation and use the Add-a-Quarter tool to trim the excess fabric, leaving 1/4" seam allowance (or 1/8" if you are using an Add-an-Eighth tool).
SEW Triangle #1	Place fabric strip #1 over triangle #1 on the front of the foundation. On the back of the foundation, sew along the SOLID part of the #1 seam line. Leave the DASHED part of the line unsewn. This is called a PARTIAL seam.
PRESS Triangle #1	Flip fabric strip #1 right side up and press into place with the seam roller before sewing another piece of fabric over it. Remember to pull it back until you see stitches!
SEW & PRESS one at a time	Sew & Press each fabric strip IN # ORDER around the ring. On these, always sew the FULL seam (not partial like #1).
Finish Triangle #1	Sew the loose end of fabric strip #1 over fabric strip #8 to finish the ring.

Sew all the pieces in a ring before starting these steps over again for the next ring.

To remember these steps, think "My TSP -- My Teaspoon"

Template for Pinwheel Spiral with Sawtooth Edges

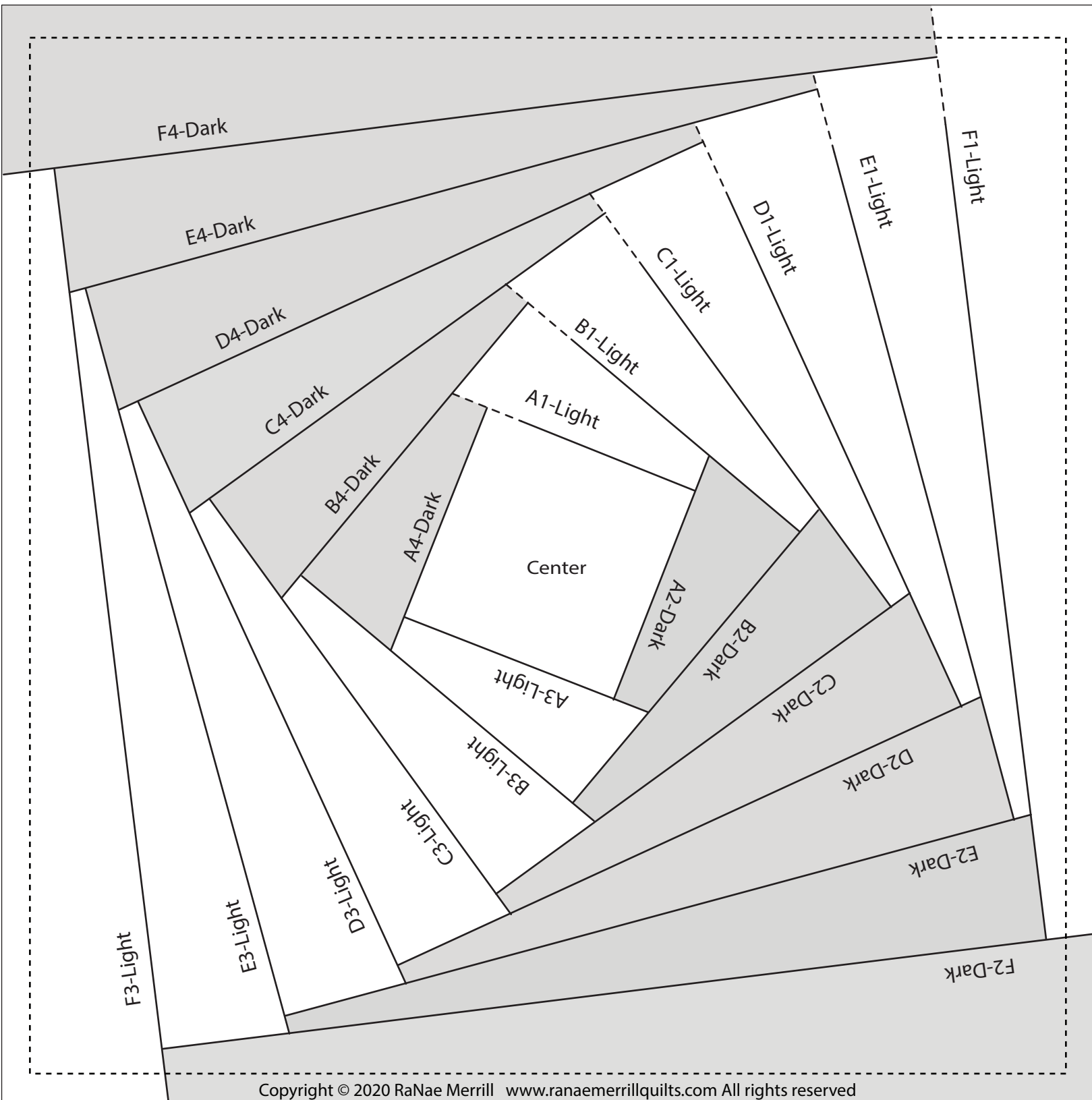
(C) RaNae Merrill 2009

Use this template
to round 3
corners of the
hotpad after
quilting

Unfinished size: 8-1/2" square.

Edges of block are sides of paper on right and left.

After piecing, trim block along edges of paper and top and bottom lines for an 8-1/2" block.



Template for Pinwheel Spiral with Smooth Edges

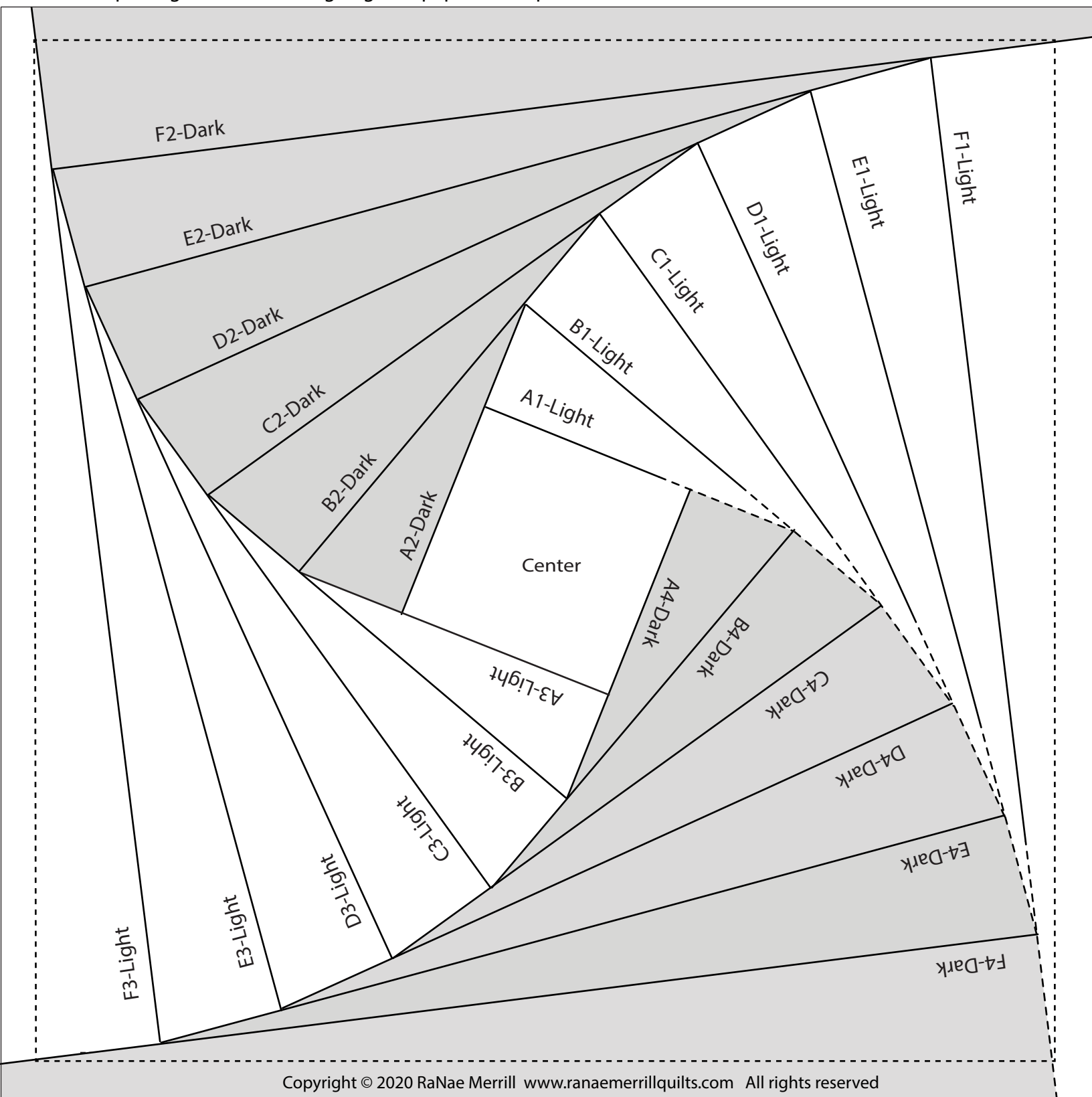
(C) RaNae Merrill 2009

Unfinished size: 8-1/2" square.

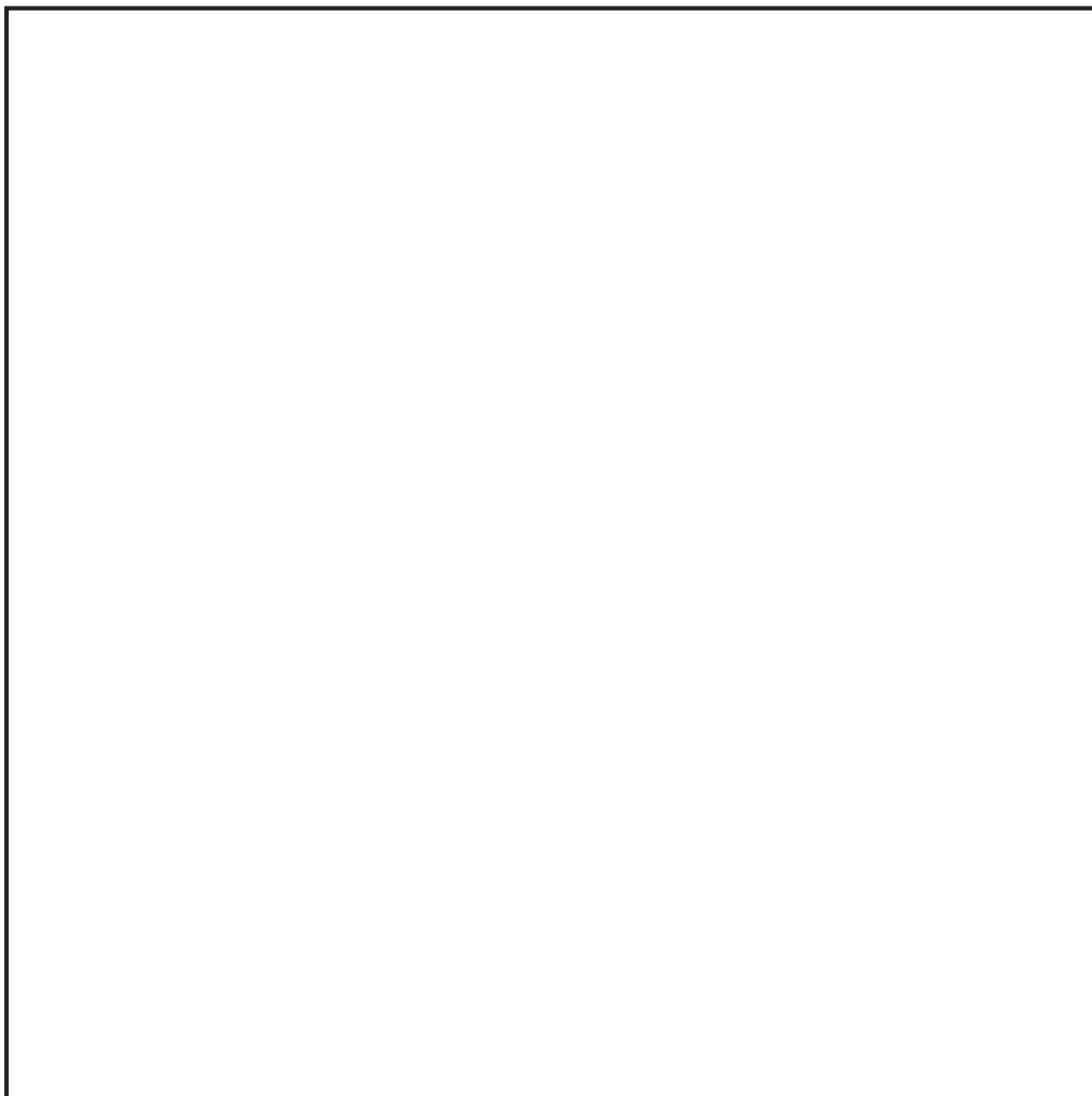
Edges of block are sides of paper on right and left.

After piecing, trim block along edges of paper and top and bottom lines for an 8-1/2" block.

Use this template
to round 3
corners of the
hotpad after
quilting



Draw a Pinwheel Spiral with Sawtooth Spokes. Use pencil -- you'll need to erase.



Draw a Pinwheel Spiral with Smooth Spokes. Use pencil -- you'll need to erase.

