

# 44 Iris

As seen in *The Farmer's Wife 1930s Sampler Quilt* book by Laurie Aaron Hird



## From MARTI MICHELL Perfect Patchwork Templates Conversion Chart

For personal use in conjunction with the book and these From MARTI MICHELL Tools:

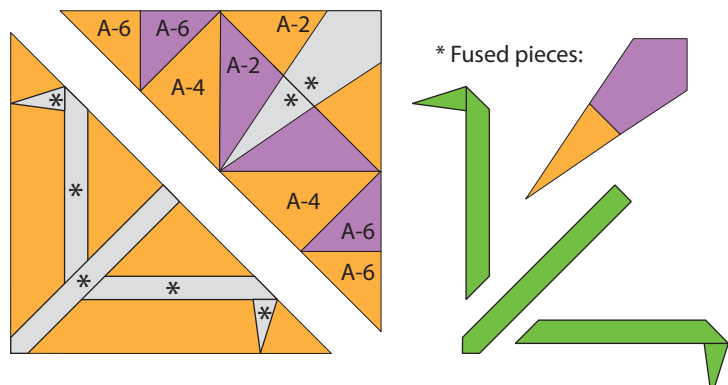
Perfect Patchwork Template Set A, Product #8251, and Multi-Size Half Square Triangle Ruler #8290

Iris Template	44A, B, J, M, N, O	44C, D	44E	44F, G	44H	44I, P, Q, K, L (Bottom half of block)
is the same as FMM Set A	Replaced with fused fabrics; use patterns without seam allowances	A-2 – Cut 2 “orange”	A-6 – Cut 2 each “lavender” & “orange”	Replaced with A-2 – Cut 1 “lavender”	A-4 – Cut 2 “orange”	Replaced with 1 half-square triangle. Cut 1 6 7/8” square in half diagonally. <b>OR</b> Cut 1 6 1/2” triangle with Half Square Triangle Ruler

Observe grainline arrows on templates when cutting.

### Making a Template Friendly Iris Block

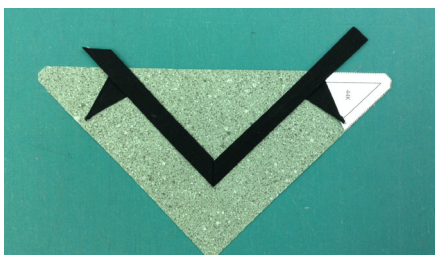
Rather than piece 23 small pieces, we pieced and appliquéd 16. We appliquéd the stem and leaves to a large background triangle for the bottom half of the block, and then used a combination of piecing and appliqué to make the top half of the block.



Regardless of how you choose to appliqué—hand, machine or hot iron, cut the background pieces as shown. How you cut the applique pieces will depend on your favorite method. We chose to do fusible appliqué. Some of the pieces are raw edge and some have edges turned under. All are secured with a machine blanket stitch.

### Making the Bottom of the Block

1. The leaves, pieces N & O were cut with a raw edge from fabric that was backed with fusible. We left the seam allowance at the top so that it would be covered and secured by the stems. Use pattern pieces L & K (with the seam allowance next to the leaves cut off) to position the leaves and fuse the leaves in place.



2. For the M stems, we cut strips 1” wide x 5” long and pressed under each side so the raw edges met. Then we cut a scant 1/2” x 5” strip of paper-backed fusible web – we use Shades SoftFuse™ – and fused it to the back of the strips. Repeat that preparation for stem J with a 3/4” x 5 1/2” strip of fabric and a scant 1/2” x 5 1/2” strip of fusible.

Use the 45° angle on your ruler to cut mirror image strip ends.

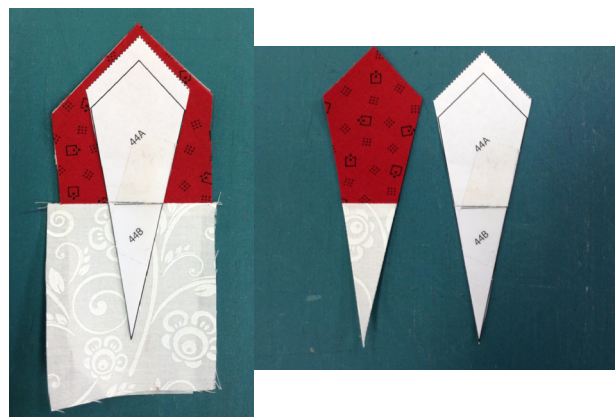


3. Fold the background triangle in half and make a crease to mark the center line. Open the triangle. Remove the paper backing on the M stems. Position them so their bottom edges are 1 1/4” from the edge of the triangle, the 45° ends are butting on the center crease and the other ends cover the top of the leaves. Press in place with a hot iron.
4. Complete the bottom half by fusing the J stem in place. Trim away any excess stem fabric that extends beyond the edge of the block. Blanket stitch the appliqué pieces.

### Making the Top of the Block

1. Make the triangle units as shown in the book.
2. Cut out pattern pieces 44A and 44B. Cut away all seam allowances except the top two edges of 44A. Tape them together at the seam line to make a new pattern. Cut fabric pieces approximately 2 1/2” wide and 3” long from each of the flower fabrics. Shorten the machine stitch and seam the fabrics together on the short side, Press the seam open and cover the entire back with paper-backed fusible web.

Carefully align the center seam of the newly-made pattern on the center seam of the fused fabric and cut out the new piece:



Remove the paper backing, align the corners and seams, fuse in place and celebrate a perfect match. Edge stitch the appliqué pieces.

### Completing the Block

Join two halves and press the seam open.