## This ruler features unique four-patch <br> blocks with the illusion of curves. <br> Designed by Karla Alexander

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## NON-SLIP

## Straight Out of Line Ruler

This ruler creates unique four- patch blocks with the illusion of curves. Cut an even number of light and dark fabric squares - the same size. Squares from 4" to 10 " - and every $1 / 22^{\prime \prime}$ in between - can be used with this ruler. Achieve
a scrappy look by cutting equal amounts of light and dark fabric squares from your stash. The finished size of your project is simply dependent on how many blocks you make. Cut one square of fabric for each pieced block. The finished size of the pieced block will be approximately $3 / 4$ " smaller than the original cut square.


1. Cut an even number of light and dark fabric squares. Neatly layer them RIGHT SIDE UP, ALTERNATING THE LIGHT AND DARK FABRICS - into a "deck" of fabric squares. Start with any amount of squares, as long as there is an equal mix of light and dark fabrics. To insure accuracy, cut no more than six squares at one time.

2. Center the ruler over the top of the fabric deck. Match the measurements on the ruler to the size of the cut square. (In this example, the squares are $7^{\prime \prime}$ ). Cut along the angled edge of the ruler - cutting the fabric deck in half.

3. Flip the ruler over and rotate it one-quarter turn ( 90 degrees). Match the measurements on the ruler to the size of the square - in this case, $7^{\prime \prime}$. Place the white triangle printed on the angled side of the ruler on the cut edge in Step 2. Cut along the angled edge - creating two "kite" shapes and two pieces that are wider than the kite shapes.

4. Remove the ruler from the cut fabric deck. Shuffle the pieces as shown in the illustration so the light and dark fabrics alternate.

5. Pin the segments together - opening the pieces up before sewing to make sure the angled edge will be straight. Sew the segments together. Press the seam open or toward the dark fabric.

6. Match and pin the center seams, opening the pieces before sewing to check and see that the center seam allowances are matched. Sew these two halves together. Press the seam open or to one side.

7. Place the ruler over the top of the pressed block, lining the top and side edges of the ruler even with the kite shaped pieces. Trim any excess from the wide shapes. Repeat for other side.

8. Arrange the blocks so that the kite shapes line up within a block or from row to row.

To create a different block, use these directions:


1. Cut two light and two dark fabric squares. Neatly layer them RIGHT SIDE UP, ALTERNATING THE LIGHT AND DARK FABRICS - into a "deck" of fabric squares.

2. Center the ruler over the top of the fabric deck. Match the measurements on the ruler to the size of the cut square. (In this example, the squares are $8^{\prime \prime}$ ). Cut along the angled edge of the ruler - cutting the fabric deck in half.

3. Keep the stack together and rotate the ruler counter-clockwise $90^{\circ}$. Match the measurements on the ruler to the size of the square - in this case, $8^{\prime \prime}$. Cut the stack in half horizontally through all layers along the angled edge of the ruler as shown.

4. Remove the ruler from the cut fabric deck. Shuffle each stack of fabric by moving the top layer from the upper right set to the bottom of that stack. Move the top 2 layers from the lower right set to the bottom of that stack. Move the top 3 layers from the lower left set to the bottom of that stack.

5. Pin the segments together - opening the pieces up before sewing to make sure the angled edges will be straight. Sew the segments together. Press the seam open or toward the dark fabric.

6. Match and pin the center seams, opening the pieces before sewing to check and see that the center seam allowances are matched. Sew these two halves together. Press the seam open or to one side.

7. Repeat to complete the remaining 3 blocks.
8. Measure a variety of blocks to find the smallest size. Use this measurement and trim all the blocks to this size. If you use a $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ seam allowance, the block should trim to approximately 1 " smaller than the beginning size of the square. After the blocks are trimmed to size, arrange and use in place of any four-patch design.


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