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Learn the technique of no-tear paper piecing to complete this fun holiday mug rug. There is no stitching through the paper with this technique. You can use a normal stitch length, the paper removes easily, mistakes are easy to rectify, and your pattern can be reused. This project also includes some simple piecing and edge stitching. Fast, fun, and easy!

Time: 1:30 Skill Level: Beginner Size: 8" x 6½"

Janome Supplies Required:

- Janome ¼" Seam Foot O (*w/Guide is recommended for this project.*)
- Needles (Janome Blue Tip needle or 80/12 Universal needle recommended)
- Straight Stitch Throat Plate
- Zigzag Throat Plate and zigzag foot is optional for decorative stitches.

Fabric and Notions Required:

- Printed copy of the included Paper Piecing Pattern and templates (See last page of this Pdf guide.)
- Cut fabric units as follows for each participant:
 - Tree Fabric: 1 7" x 9"
 - Background Fabric 1 7" x 15", sub cut into 3
 7" x 9" (For units A-C)
 - 7" x 2" (for units D and E)
 - 7" x 4" (To extend the mug mat)
 - Accent Fabric for Tree 2 $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares
 - Tree trunk fabric 1 2½" Square
 - Backing Fabric 1 8" x 6½" and 1 10" x 6½"
 - Batting square 1 1 8" x 6½" (Fusible is nice but not required.)

- Card Stock 4" x 7" (The Plus side of an Add-A-Quarter ruler may also be used for this purpose or a Postcard.)
- Piecing Thread
- Water Soluble School Glue Stick
- Pins or Wonder clips
- Rotary Mat and Cutter
- Small Rotary Ruler 14" x 8" or so.

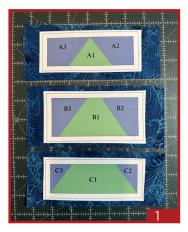
*OPTIONAL: An Add-a-Quarter Plus Foundation Piecing Ruler is very helpful if available.

Paper Pattern Cut Instructions:

Cut apart the 5-piece paper pattern section leaving a little bit of paper beyond the edges of the outer marked boundaries. Units are labeled A-E.

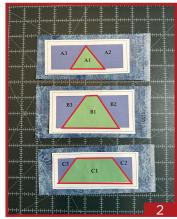
Sewing Instructions: Unit Assembly Steps for A-C Pattern Pieces

1. Layer the tree fabric rectangle on top of the larger background fabric. Align paper units A-C onto these fabrics with a little space in between each piece. Rough cut these to have fabric rectangles a little larger than the paper pattern pieces. See Photo 1. (Set the background fabrics aside for step 4.) edges.

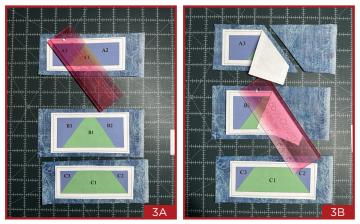




2. Attach the pattern pieces to the wrong side of the tree fabric with a small swipe of the glue stick on the back of the paper pattern on the tree section only - A1. Repeat this step for B1 and C1 pattern pieces as well. See Photo 2. Red shape outlines show the glue areas



3. Next, align the card stock (or the flat side of the Add-a-Quarter Plus ruler) on the seam boundary between A1 and A2. Fold the paper back over the card stock and crease well. Align an Adda-Quarter ruler or 1/4" rotary ruler extending beyond the folded edge to trim a ¹/₄" beyond the fold. This is the ¹/₄" seam allowance. See Photo 3a-c.

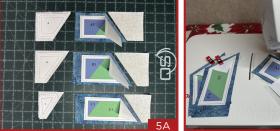




4. Using the precut background fabric rectangle from Step 1, fold rectangles in half lengthwise with right sides together. Align Template A from page 7 on folded A rectangle and cut in a generous seam allowance. This gives a straight edge and the correct seam angle for a left and right background piece. This makes it easy to align the fabrics A2/ A1 and A3/A1. Repeat for B and C units. See Photo 4. Be sure to cut off the folded edge.



- 5. Install ¼" Seam Foot and the Straight Stitch Throat plate on your machine if available. Use regular piecing thread for both the top thread and bobbin. Sew using the Janome blue tip needle or an 80/12 Universal needle in the machine
- 6. Align tree and background fabrics right sides together: A1 to A2, B1 to B2, and C1 to C2. Chain-stitch all units using the ¹/₄" Seam Foot. The paper remains folded back when sewing these seams. Stitch only through the fabric, close to the fold in the paper. Feeding a small, folded piece of scrap fabric (a leader fabric) through the machine first can help create a smooth start to a line of chain stitching. See Photos 5a and 5b.

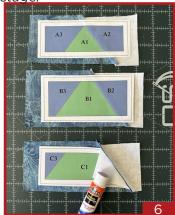




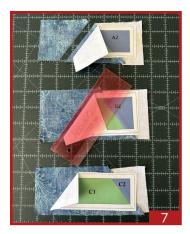


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7. Cut apart the newly stitched units A-C. Press the seams to one side using a DRY iron. Use a small dab of glue to attach the folded-back edge of the paper to the back of the just added background fabric. See Photo 6. Note that the background fabric must be larger than the paper at this stage.



 Using the process from Step 3, fold back the paper using the card stock and pre-trim the seam allowance between A1/A3, B1/B3 and C1/ C3. See Photo 7.



 Align the other sides of the pre-cut background units (from Step 4) against the newly trimmedin seam allowances for units A, B, and C with right sides together. Chain-stitch those units. See Photo 8a and 8b.

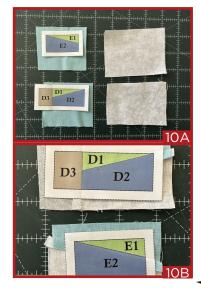


 Cut apart and press these newly stitched seams to one side and again use glue to secure the paper pattern to the back of the background fabric unit. See Photo 9. Set these completed units aside for now.



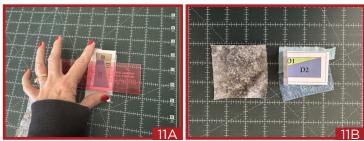
Unit Assembly Steps for E and D Pattern Pieces

11. Glue the D1 and E1 paper pattern to the back of the accent fabric. Ensure the pieces are large enough to completely cover the D1 and E1 sections by more than 1/4" on each side. Hold the units up to the light to be sure. When adding D2 and E2, again check the fabric size to make sure it can cover the folded back paper section. This makes sure it will be large enough for the unit. Follow the same procedures from Steps 1-3 to cut in the seam allowances for these units. Stitch D1 to D2 and E1 to E2. Chain-stitch these units and press the seam to one side as shown with previous units. Attach the foldedback paper edge to the back of the background fabric with a dab of glue. This completes the stitching for unit E but unit D needs one more fabric added. See Photo 10a and 10b.



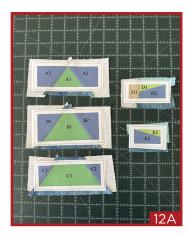
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12. Using the Add-a-Quarter Plus side of the ruler or the card stock, fold back the paper between unit D1/D2 and D3. Trim in the seam allowance and align the 2 ½" square trunk fabric along the newly trimmed seam allowance. Stitch this seam to complete unit D. Press seam towards the "Trunk" and adhere paper pattern to the back of the "Trunk" fabric with glue. See Photos 11a and 11b.



Trim All Pattern Sections before Stitching Units Together

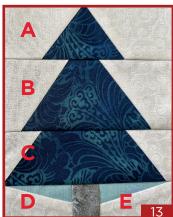
13. All units must be trimmed before further assembly. Trim the edges of the pattern units along the outer most boundary using the Add a Quarter or a small rotary ruler. See Photos 12a and 12b for images of the units. Photos show both the before and after trimming appearance.





Creating the Mug Rug

- **14.** Remove all paper pattern pieces gently before proceeding with this step
- Align the units in the order shown below. Pin unit edges together and stitch using a ¼" seam. Press units as needed.
 - Stitch the bottom of Unit A to the top of Unit B.
 - Stitch D and E together such that the trunk is centered between the 2 units. Press this seam towards the "Trunk".
 - Next stitch the top of unit D/E to the bottom of unit C.
 Stitch the bottom



- of the A/B unit to the top of the C/D/E unit to complete the tree.
- See Photo 13 for finished tree and pattern positions. Press the tree unit. Steam may be used now that the paper has been removed.
- 16. Align and stitch the 4"" x 6 ½" rectangle of background fabric to the left or right side of the tree as desired. This step completes the mug rug top. Unit should measure 8" x 6 ½".
- 17. Layer the 8" x 6 ½" batting square behind the mug rug top. Here are 2 options for finishing the mug rug:
 - Standard quilt with binding: Add a larger backing fabric and quilt as desired. Simple echo stitching of the tree or stitching in the ditch can secure the batting. Feel free to decorate the tree and background as desired. If you plan to use this as a mug rug, make sure to keep the mug surface flat. You can also add a fun message in the blank background space if desired. This should be done before quilting. Once you complete any quilting or embellishing, trim and bind your mug rug. About 40" of binding will be needed for this method. See Photo 14



• Envelope Closure: Fold the 2 backing rectangle units in half lengthwise with wrong sides together. One is longer than the other unit to allow an overlap. Position the raw edges of these units along the edges of the mug rug, one on each side. The folds will overlap through the center. Layer the batting behind the quilt top against the wrong side of the fabric. Pin layers and stitch all the way around the edge with a ¼" seam. Turn the fabric right side out through the overlap opening. Clip corners and push out for a turner. Press. Your mug rug is ready to use. (*This is faster and easier and shown in the accompanying video.*)

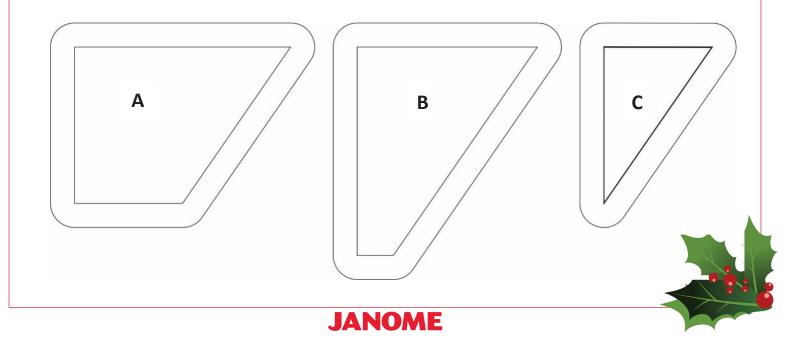


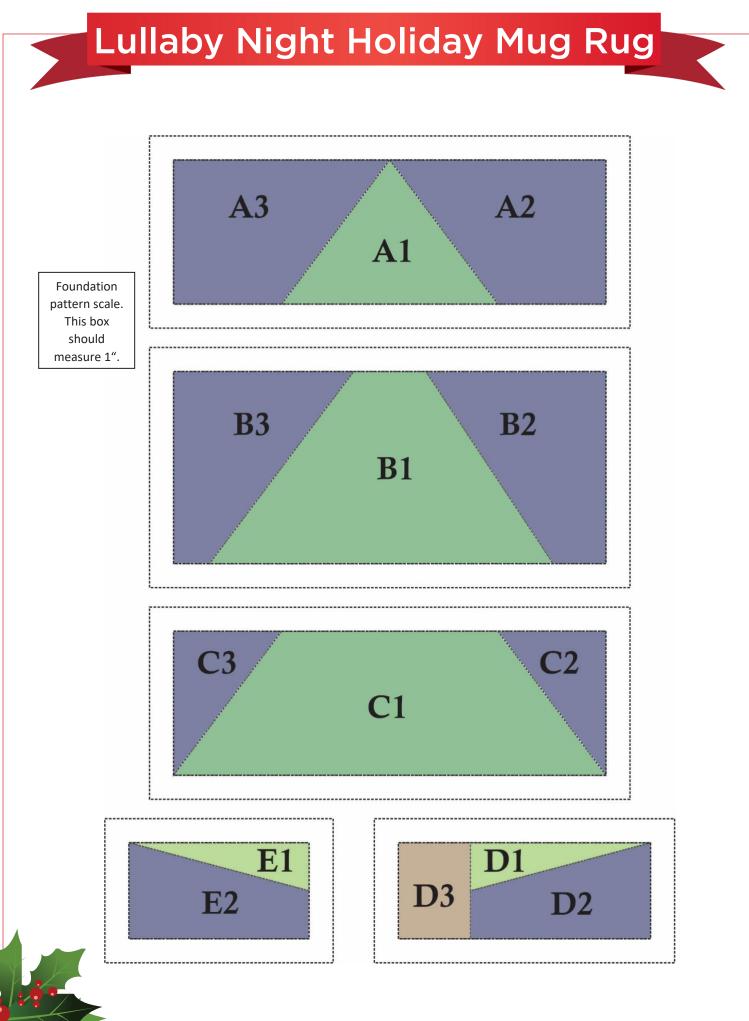




TEMPLATES FOR A1/A3, B1/B3 and C1/C3

These templates can be used to pre-trim the background pieces for A1 and A3, B1 and B3, and C1 and C3. Rough cut them apart on the outer boundary lines and use them in Step 4.





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