

# The window way tutorial

## “Hexies” cathedral window block



## Introduction

Hi! I'm Victoria and I love cathedral window. I hope you too!

I started working with CW in 2014 and I realized that there were several ways to do it. I study and practice the different methods to do CW and, sometimes I make my way.

I found the books of Lynne Edwards; she explains the traditional way to make CW. She uses the traditional technique that folds the fabric to make the "envelope square unit" and teach how to make rectangular and triangular units. Lynne Edwards also proposes unusual kinds of fabrics to make the projects. She inspires and delights us with her beautiful quilts. (Through the Window & Beyond: New Designs for Cathedral Window, 1995. Cathedral Window Quilts: The Classic Folded Technique and a Wealth of Variations, 2008).

The books of Shelly Swanland allow us to make the CW projects completely by machine. Her quilts are wonderful! (Machine-Stitched Cathedral Windows: Updating an Old Favorite-1999; Machine-Stitched Cathedral Stars-2001). There are many variations of her technique: the "10 minutes block" by Suzanne Mc Neil. Or the beautiful work of Vendulka Battais. (Cathedral Windows NEW VIEWS).

There is another method, popularized by Jenny Doan of Missouri Star Quilt Company that it is easy and fun. In my work I explore this method in deep, most of all its variations.

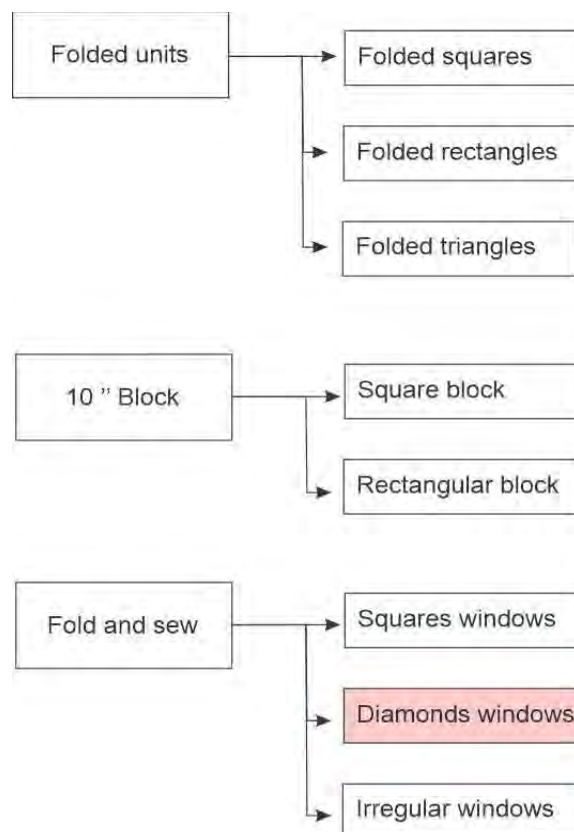
Together, all these ways of doing CW offer us a variety of designs that I want to explore and share with you as I try them.

It is my greatest wish that you love CW as I do and that you can discover new ways to create beauty with this technique. We all feel the need to create beauty and when we do we are so happy!!

Some techniques are more challenging than others, sometimes we feel overwhelming by a new thing to learn. Sometimes we are so busy that we cannot concentrate for the time required to learn. And we left projects undone or in our "to make" list. Usually I feel this way, so I try to make things step by step trying to finish each part of the project and not all the project at one time. I make the tutorials having this in mind so you can achieve your goals.

And ENJOY doing it!!

## Technique: fold and sew diamond windows



This is a variation of the method described by Jenny Doan of Missouri Star Quilts Company. The pieces will no longer be squares but shapes that we will cut with templates.

Each unit is made with three pieces of fabric and forms a side of the window frame. One of the pieces of the unit forms the base. The other two, the frame. With the templates at hand, we cut the fabric with precision.

NOTE: We can chose different colors for each piece

In the tutorial I first show you how to make the units, then the blocks with specific instructions about sewing sequence, trimming and press direction. When all this is explained I start with the project itself. So be patient, please. Learn well how to make each block then you'll be confident to make the project with ease.

## The units

We start by making the unit. Each unit has a base, and two folded pieces put under this base.

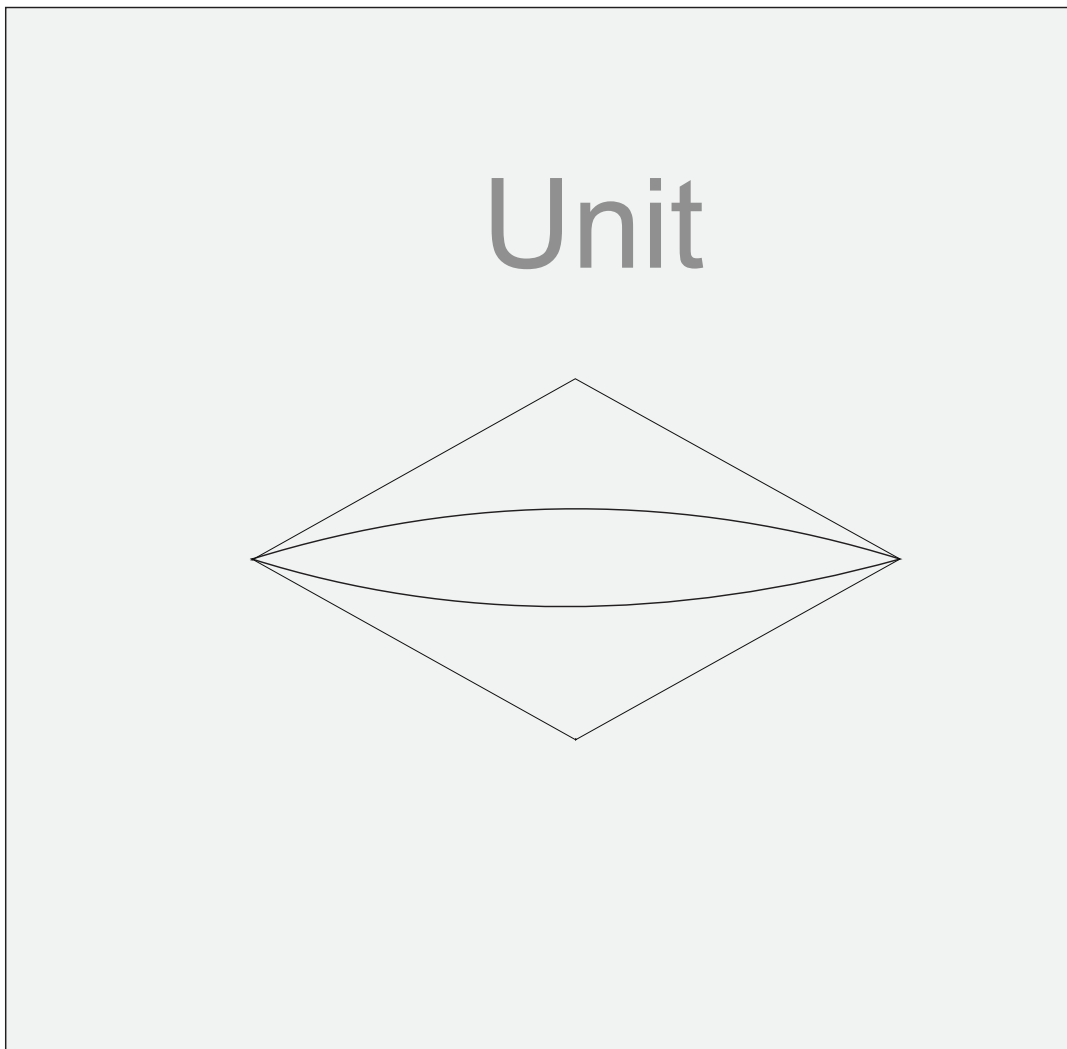
Pay attention to the indications in the templates:

Direction of the grain of the fabric to position the template when you cut

Where you must fold the fabric

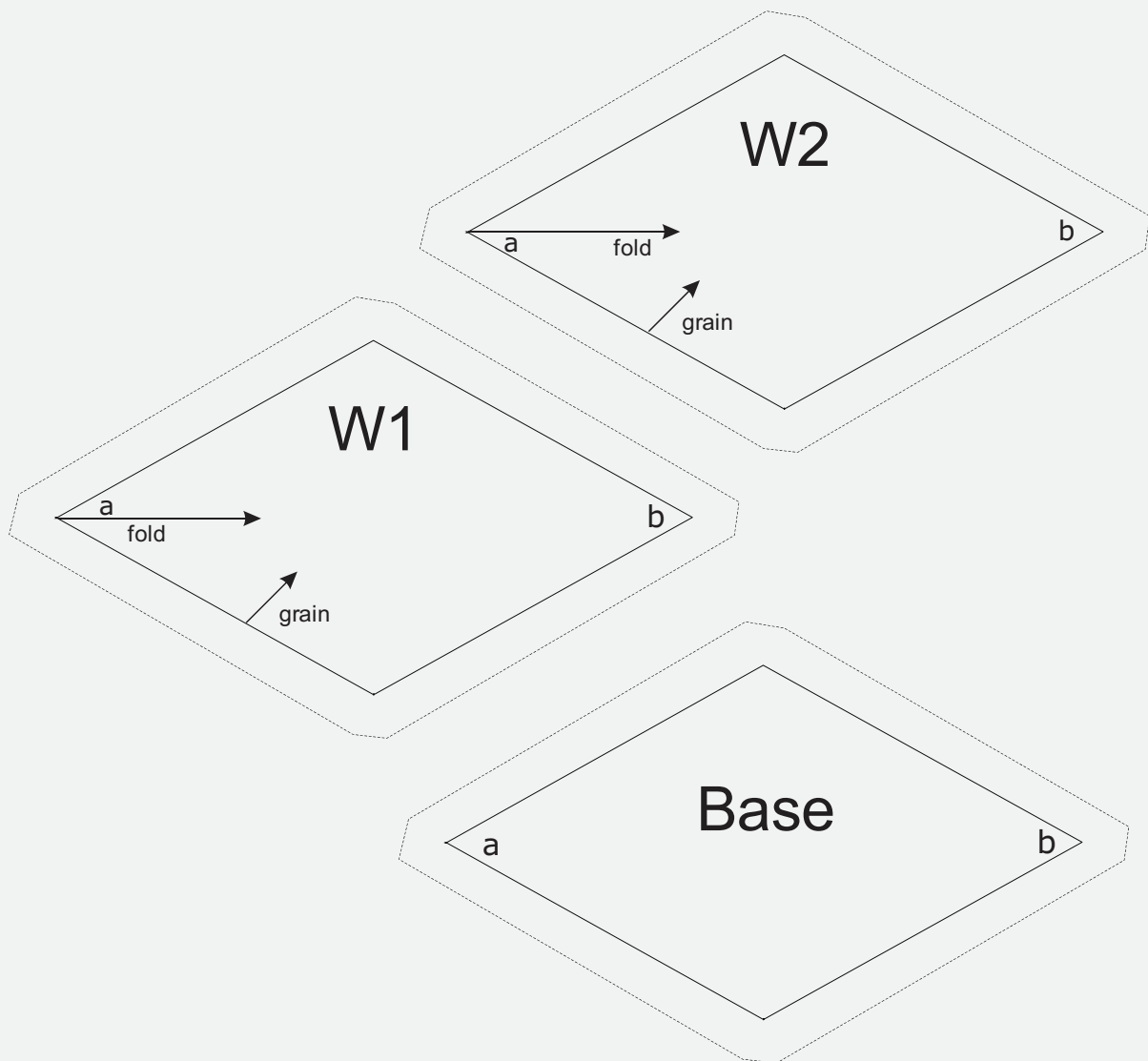
The points marking with letters where the pieces come together

The color of each piece in the unit.



These are the templates. You can print it at a 100% size.

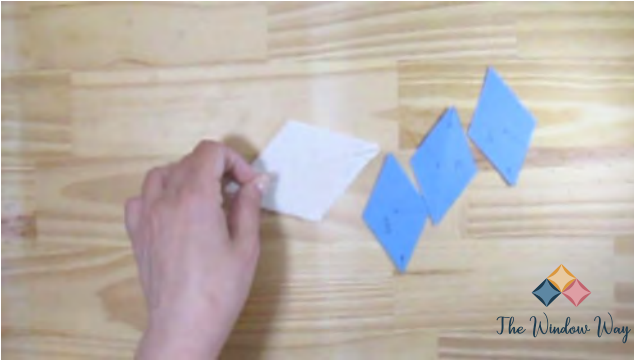
# Pieces templates Unit



Cut the pieces according to the templates.

Fold the fabric of the frames and press well. Be careful with the bias of the fabric. Place the two folded pieces on the base fabric. Pay attention to the indications of the template. Sew the three pieces, respecting the seam allowance.

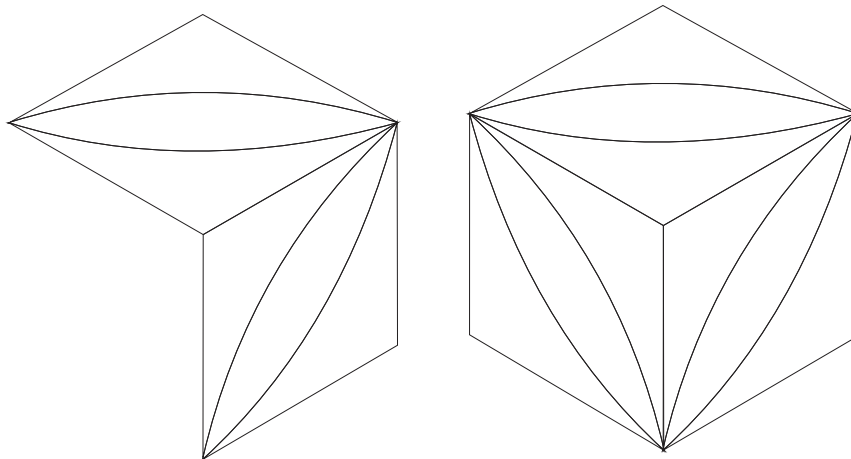
Place the fold pieces over the base piece. Sew the three pieces together.



## The block

Join the different units and see how the block looks like. It is a good idea pay attention to the templates and match the units according to the scheme. Imagine you are making a puzzle and have fun!!

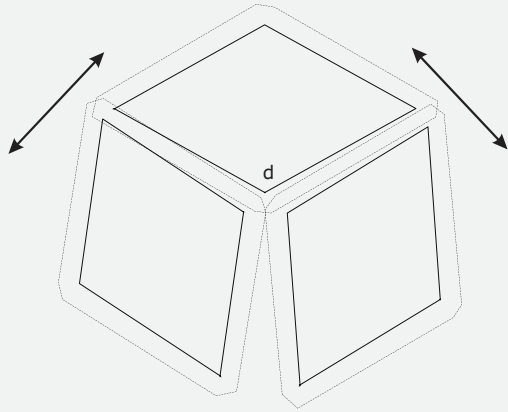
And if you like the schemes...



The following schemes show the order to join and sew the units.

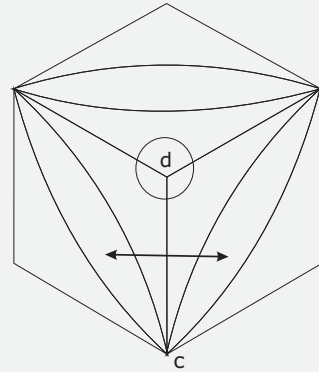
## Sewing sequence of the units

Step 1 Join and sew three units



## Sewing sequence of the units

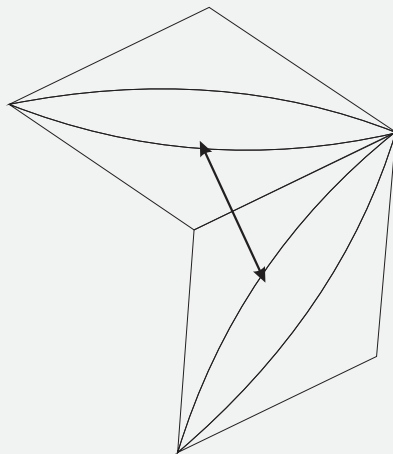
Step 2 Sew from point c to point d, and leave it open



Make 75 of this mini block

## Sewing sequence of the units

Step 3 Join and sew two units more



Make 10 of this mini block

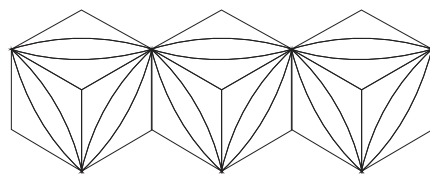
Join and sew the units.



It looks like this

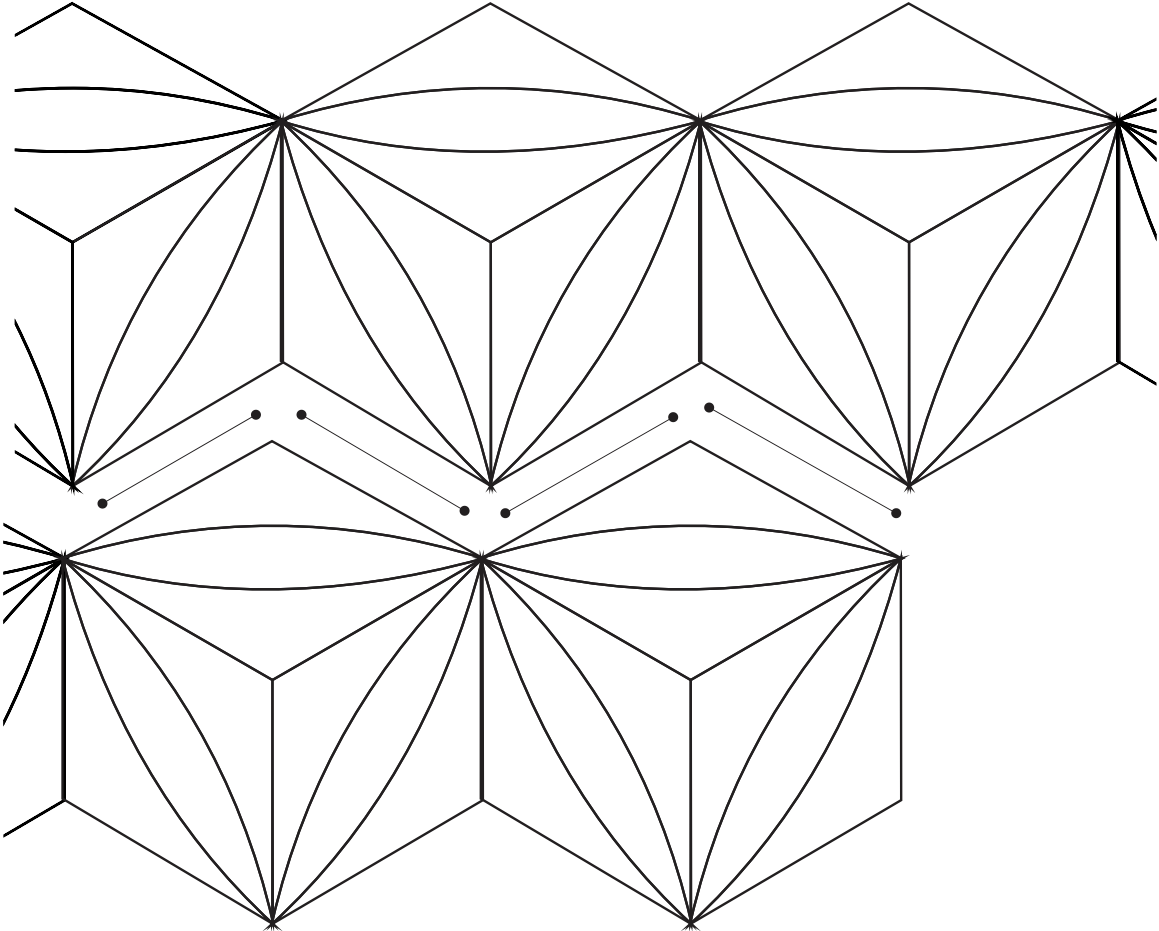


Make a row of blocks of three units.



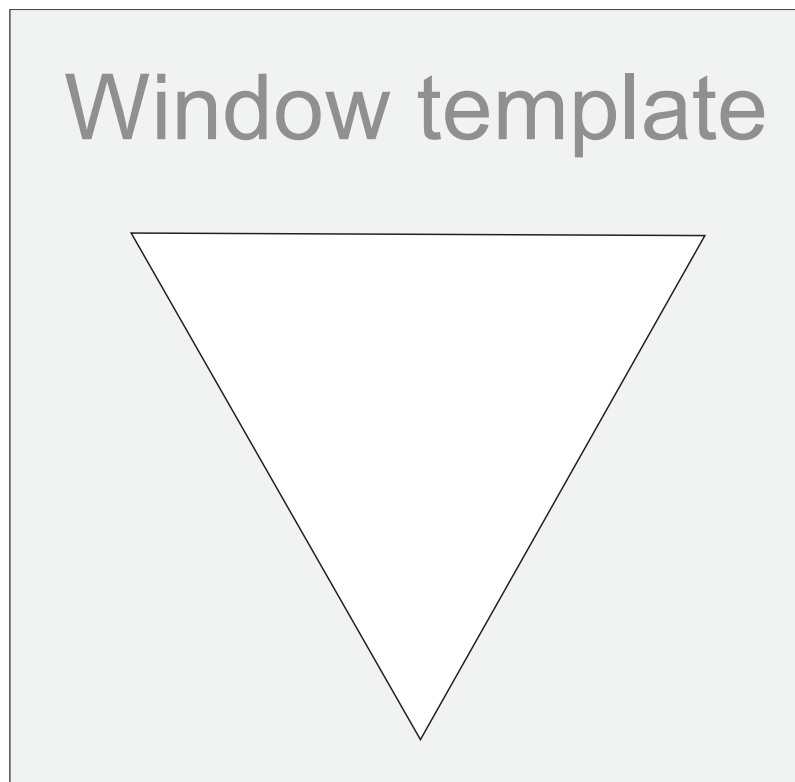


To sew two rows, first lining up from the beginning and mark the dots as show in the scheme.



Sew from the first dot to the next and backstitch. Then sew from the next one to the following until you ended up with the entire row.

And this is the template for the windows; you can print it at a 100% size. No seams.



When you have all the windows cut place them over the frames and secure them with a pin. You can work by sections if you feel more comfortable.

You can sew the windows by machine or by hand. Roll the border of the frame over the window fabric and sew, corner to corner until you're done.





I hope you enjoy this tutorial.

Try this project with any combination of fabric you want.

It is a great block so easy and fun to make.

Remember to go step by step.

Remember to practice with muslin until you make the block easily.

Remember not to hear your little voice in your head that tells you all those things to keep you from learning. Learning something means change and, sometimes, we resist change ;)

You can contact me with any questions you may have, I would love to help you! For you, of course, and for me because answering is one of the best ways to keep learning!

And because of this web thing about meeting people without the presence of the person, I would like to ask you to contact me and let me know how can I improve the tutorial, how it feels to do it, if you could achieve your goals or whatever you want to share (maybe your finished project... I don't know, just saying :) ).

Thank you very much for your time and trust.

They are very valuable for me.

God bless you!