



# PINWHEELS IN PIECES

WITH VAL NESBITT

## CONTACT

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## Class Description:

A great stash buster, by making large pinwheels and then cutting them into different sizes you can make this easy quilt. This class, with Val, uses the free Pinwheels in Pieces pattern (attached) designed by Janet Scotton. It can be made with Fat Quarters, half metres, or a 10" square layer cake.

## Fabric Requirements:

- You need 40no. 9" squares, in fabrics that tone & contrast well together.
- The 40no. squares can be either cut from precut 10" squares (aka layer cakes), from 10no. Fat Quarters (you can get 4no. 9" squares from one FQ) or from 5no. half metres.
- Additional fabric will be required if you wish to add borders.

## Equipment:

- Rotary cutter, cutting mat & acrylic ruler.
- A square up ruler at least 5 ½" square
- Large square ruler for your 9" squares, if your cutting mat is not imperial
- Sewing machine: don't forget foot pedal, power lead and accessories e.g. feet, bobbins, needles plus your manual. (Yes, power lead and foot pedal have been forgotten, do check you have yours!)
- Thread for piecing (neutral colours are best)
- General sewing kit (scissors, hand needles, thread snips, unpicker, pins, etc.)
- Notepad and pen

## Please remember:

- We have 6 sewing machines (Janome M100 QDC) for hire; if you would like to hire one for this class, please do book one in advance – they are available on a first come, first served basis.
- The windows may be opened periodically during the class to allow for adequate ventilation.
- To bring your own equipment where possible.
- Please read the terms and conditions (under "Classes and Demonstrations" on our website).



## Pinwheel in Pieces



Approx. finished size: 40" by 55" excluding borders  
Designed by Janet Scotton

### **Fabrics requirements:**

10 Fat  $\frac{1}{4}$ 's – that tone/contrast (or 5 x 1/2 m )  
Plus optional borders

### **Essential equipment:**

Rotary cutter, mat and ruler  
square up square ruler at least 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ "  
Large square ruler for your 9" squares if your board is not imperial.

### **Cutting Instructions**

You will need to cut the fabric into squares that are 9" square – you will get 4 from each fat  $\frac{1}{4}$  - so 40 squares

### **Workshop Notes**

#### **Designwork:**

Once cut you need to pair them up – 2 of one colour with 2 of another.  
Create as many variations as you can.

#### **Sewing**

Once you have selected the fabric into pairs – each set will create a pinwheel:  
You need to draw a diagonal line across the back of the lighter fabric; place it right-side down on its mate and sew either side of the drawn line –  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from it.

Cut up the drawn line; press seams to one side; you will now have 4 half-square triangles in that colour selection.

Sew together in a pinwheel.

Repeat the process with the rest of the fabrics to make 10 pinwheels

Press pinwheels with seams open across the middles – both vertically and horizontally.

### **Cutting apart**

You will now be cutting these large pinwheels into pieces.

Save one (or two) that you REALLY love to stay whole.\*

With the others, you need to cut 2 ¾" from either side of the central seams – both vertically and horizontally (**it does work better if you don't move the pinwheel while you are doing this – best to walk round your work or turn the cutting mat**).

Keep the central small pinwheel and put aside;

Trim all the other pieces so that they are 5 ½" square – that will mean both the half-square triangle pieces and the twin rectangles.

Pile up as half-squares or rectangle sets and keep safe until the design stage.

\* Take the large pinwheels and trim these now to an accurate 15½" square (which is 7.75" from both sides of the centre and vertical lines).

### **Design:**

This quilt has 11 rows of 8 pieces (or the equivalent where your large pinwheels are)

There is no set way of putting the pieces out – it will depend on your colour choices and how many large pinwheels you have opted to keep (if any) – and therefore no setting is WRONG!

The pictures will hopefully give you a guide – albeit they are very different.

### **Sewing the design together:**

Where the row is complete, sew as usual.

If the row has a large pinwheel in it, create the rows either side of it, and then add it in as a section.

You will need to do the same if you have created some medium pinwheels (i.e. with half square triangles)

Create as many sections as you need before sewing them together to form your quilt.

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