

# SPRING INSPIRATIONS

A season where we delight in a time of  
rebirth, renewal & restoration.

Birds chirping, blossoms blooming and babies coming!



Finished Size approximately 52" square

Minimum Hoop Size 8" x 12"

Formats: art dst exp jef pes vip vp3

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## Spring Inspirations Supply List

### Fabric Supply List:

1 ¾ yards	White, Cream or Sky Blue tone on tone <b>Background Fabric</b> (44" wide or wider) Do not remove selvage. Remaining fabric used for the Checkerboard Border. Do not remove selvage.
2/3 yard	Blue or Purple tone on tone Center Sun Fabric (or could use extra Outer Border Fabric)
1 ½ yards	Dark Outer Border Fabric (could also include Checkerboard fabric and binding & eliminates pieced borders)
½ yard	Interfacing for Sun Appliqué (I used Polymesh)
10" Square	White fabric for appliqué center
6 yards	Fusible Woven Interfacing: Shape Flex 101 by Pellon (20" wide)
½ yard	Binding
3 ½ yards	Backing
60" x 60"	Batting

### Embroidery Supply List:

Hoop Requirements: stitch field must be 8" wide x 12" high or **larger** / bring your largest hoop & grid

15 yards Heavy Weight Tear Away (Pellon #806 Stitch & Tear or OESD Heavy Weight)

Temporary Adhesive Spray: Suggested 505 Spray Adhesive

Removable fabric marking pen (No air erasable pens) **SewLine Duo Marker**, medium tip recommended/ can be ironed

Mechanical Chalk Pencil (to mark on darker fabric if used for Sun Center: test pen on fabric for removal)

Needles 80/12 and 90/14 Sharps (both work but some machines prefer one over the other)

Terial Magic Starch (mandatory)

Optional: Top Cover (permanent vinyl topping) by OESD

**Basic embroidery kit** including small double curved scissors, tweezers, **Jumbo Wonder Clips**,

Optional Arrow shaped post it notes by Post-It-Notes (they say: **SIGN HERE**)



**Bobbin Thread:** (light neutral color & black)

**Embroidery Thread: Isacord 40 wt. Embroidery Threads listed**

#### Gold / Yellow

0630 Buttercup

0703 Orange Peel

0800 Goldenrod

#### Browns/ Tan

0842 Toffee

0932 Nutmeg

0941 Golden Grain

#### Pinks / Purple

1761 Tea Rose

2170 Chiffon

2520 Garden Rose

2910 Grape

#### Orange / Rust

1300 Tangerine

#### Blue

3901 Tropical Blue

3910 Crystal Blue

3962 River Mist

#### Greens

5510 Emerald

5633 Lime (2 spools)

5730 Apple Green

#### Greys

0132 Dark Pewter

#### Black & White

0020 Black

0015 White

### Sewing Supply List

50wt. Cotton Thread matching the fabric for piecing.

Basic sewing kit including double curve embroidery scissors (**Kai 5" double curve** recommended), pins, rotary cutter & mat, long straight ruler, etc.

20 ½" Square Ruler for accurate marking & trimming & Quick Trim & Circle Ruler XL by Creative Grids (recommended)

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# TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL EMBROIDERY!

Keep these pages accessible, you will need to refer to these “Tips” throughout your embroidery!!  
Follow Claudia’s two step “**Perfect Placement Technique**” for accurately multi-hooping large designs!

## Step #1: Marking the design’s first stitch location on the grid:

- Attach the **hoop and grid** to the module with no fabric.
- **Open the design** to be embroidered.
- Advance to the **embroidery sewing screen**. Embroidery Machines open a design in an editing screen. Touch the icon that moves you to the embroidery sewing screen. Advancing to the embroidery sewing screen takes you to the first stitch of the design, where you are ready to embroider!

**Brother, Babylock, Janome, and Singer** machines have an automatic center stitch programmed into the machine. You must advance past this “programmed center stitch” to move to the first stitch of my designs. These machines will have an additional icon (usually +/- key) you will need to touch to move you to first stitch of my design.

**Bernina** machines with a Basting Box option must make sure the built in basting box option is turned off before they advance to the embroidery sewing screen.

- By hand, lower your needle to touch the grid. Place an arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid so the tip of the arrow touches the tip of the needle. This marks the first stitch location of my design on the grid (not the center of the design, not the center of the hoop, but the first stitch of the opened design).
- Raise the needle; remove the hoop and the marked grid from the module.

## Step #2: Hooping the Fabric

- Place the **inner hoop with the grid** on the (stabilized and marked) background fabric. The arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid should be pointing to either the **Needle Alignment** or to the **Placement Line** location on the background fabric. The location is noted in the Embroidery Instructions and will be different for each hooping (it will almost never be the center of the hoop).
- Hoop the (stabilized and marked) fabric with the lines on the grid parallel and perpendicular to the drawn lines on the fabric. The drawn lines need not lie exactly under the lines of the grid, but must be parallel and perpendicular to the lines on the grid. This keeps the larger piece of fabric square and straight as you embroider.
- Remove the grid from the hoop and attach the hoop to the module.
- It may be necessary to re-position the needle exactly over the **mark** indicated in the instructions. Use your Move Motif Icon to tweak the needle perfectly over the mark.
- **Needle Alignment** is to place the needle over a specific mark like the drawn crosshair on the fabric
- **Placement Line** is to sew (without thread) over previously sewn stitches to ensure correct placement.
- To watch a demo of the “Perfect Placement Technique” from your computer go to:  
[www.claudiascreationsaz.com](http://www.claudiascreationsaz.com) Select the “Workshops” tab and choose Instructional Videos / Perfect Placement.

## Additional Tips and Helps!

### Tip #1: Built in Basting Box!

Many embroidery machines have a built-in basting box option. When this option is enabled it may add a color stop to the stitching order of the design. This option should be disabled before opening a design. If the basting box option is on or enabled when you advance to the embroidery sewing screen, you would be marking the grid with the first stitch position for the basting box and not the first stitch of the design! Be sure to disable the basting box option before opening a design.

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### Tip #2: Hooping Tips

Remove the tear away stabilizer from the last hooping to reduce the stabilizer “bulk”.  
Roll the excess fabric in a tube shape and use clips to hold the excess fabric out of the way.  
This will prevent the fabric from accidentally catching under the hoop.

### Tip #3: Unusual Embroidery Instructions:

**Needle Alignment:** This is placed **first** in the stitching order to align the needle exactly where it goes. It is strictly for needle placement and not to be sewn out (unless indicated). If it is accidentally sewn out it will look like a crosshair. Pick it out!

**Placement Line:** This is a line that is to be sewn out without thread over an existing line to ensure correct placement. It is an alignment tool for connecting one hooping to another.

**The blank line after the thread color: Thread Purple # \_\_\_\_\_** (Write your thread Color # on the line)  
It will help you remember what color you used when you return to embroidering.

**Combo Hoops: These designs are created for hoops larger than 8”x 12”.** I have **combined** 1 or 2 hoopings into one larger hooping, created for larger hoops. All other designs are made for 8”x12” hoops.

### Tip #4: Ironing/Pressing

Place the embroidered background fabric **wrong side up**, over a wool mat. Padding the stitches with a wool mat won’t crush them. I usually spray with starch and then press the fabric.

### Tip #5: Trimming the Blocks

For best accuracy, use a square ruler to trim all the blocks. Place the square ruler on the block lining up two sides, then trim. Trimming with a 6” x 24” ruler is not as accurate and leads to slips and miss-cuts. If you have difficulty keeping a ruler from moving when you cut, place double sided tape on the side that goes against the fabric! Also, using quilting gloves or tape helps to hold it in place!

### Tip #6 “Sewing without Thread” aka “Walk the Line”



Icons used for the “Broken Thread” or “Advance Icon” shown above.

Every machine has a button where you can **advance forward or move backwards** through a design. This is usually used when you “**break a needle**” or “**run out of bobbin thread**” and you need to backup to replace stitches. I use this feature to advance forward through a design to “**Walk the Placement Line**” or “**sew without thread.**” As you advance through Color #1 Placement Line, drop the needle often to check the position of the needle on the fabric to make sure you are following the **Placement Line**. Watch my video on my website.

### [Preparing the Fabric with Terial Magic](#)

### [Cutting and Marking the Fabric](#)

### [How to find the First Stitch on your brand of machine](#)

### [Hooping the Fabric vs Floating the Fabric](#)

### [Blocking a Quilt](#)

### [Easter Miracles — Grass Videos](#)

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## Cutting Instructions

**Background Fabric: (1 3/4 yards)**

Cut (1) 42"-44" square  
(or cut a square using the width of your fabric)

**Pieced Checkerboard White Fabric:**

Cut (7) 2" x 42"+ or width of fabric or a variety of light fabrics

(Note: extra pieces of white strips due to length of dark strips)

**Sun Fabric: (22" square)**

Cut (1) 22" square  
(Blue or purple)



**White Appliqué Fabric:**

Cut (1) 10" square  
Could use scrap fabric because it will be completely covered by embroidery.

Sun Applique  
10" square



**Pieced Checkerboard Dark Fabric:**

Cut (5) 2" strips of dark fabric or a variety of dark fabrics.

**You only need 5 strips because of the 54" length**

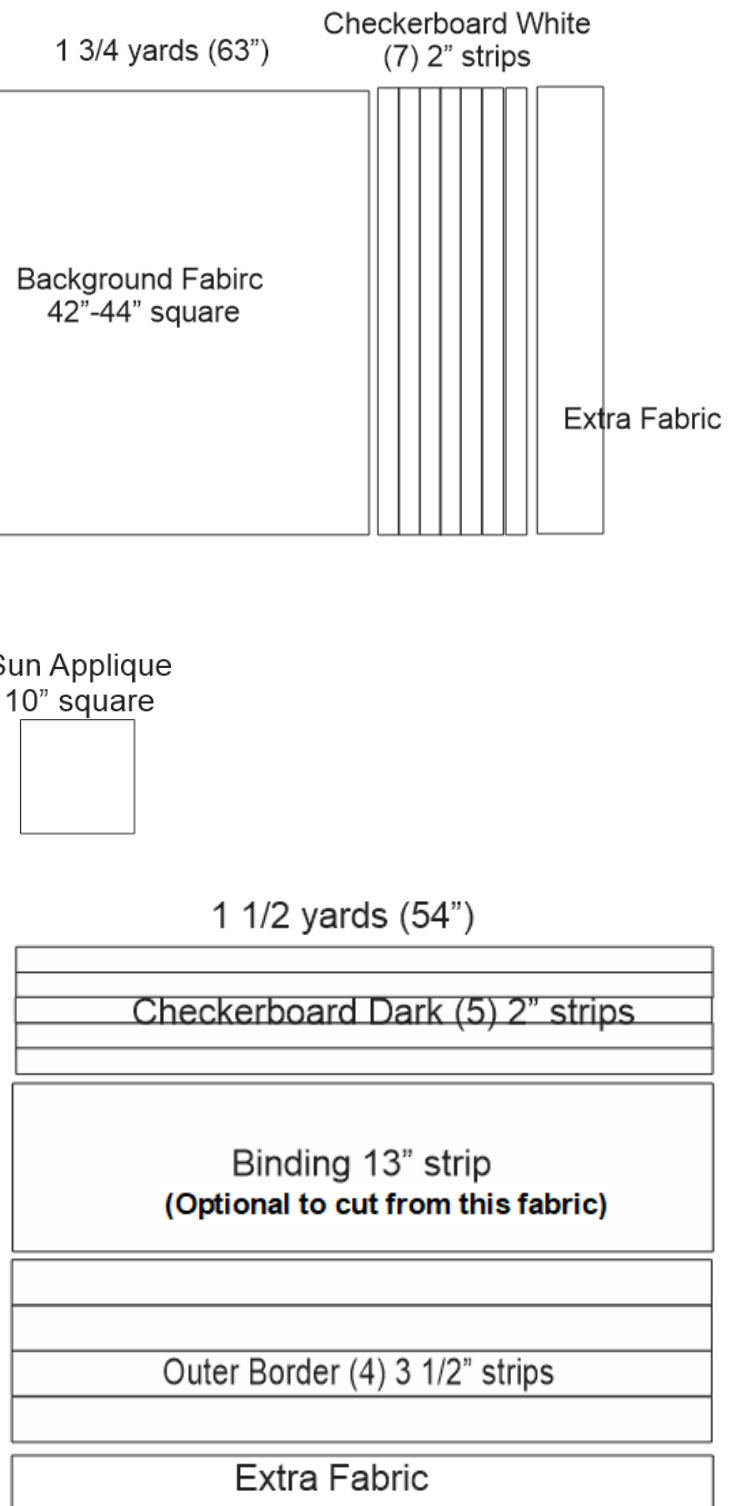
**Binding: (Optional to cut from this fabric)**

Cut (1) 13" strip  
Sub cut into your favorite binding strip size

**Outer Border:**

Cut (4) 3 1/2" strips

If you desire wider borders, don't cut the binding from this fabric. Then cut the borders any width.



## Fabric Preparation

### Starch the fabric: Terial Magic.

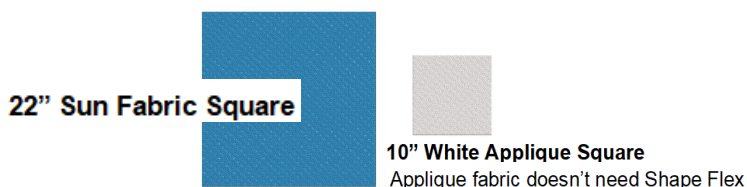
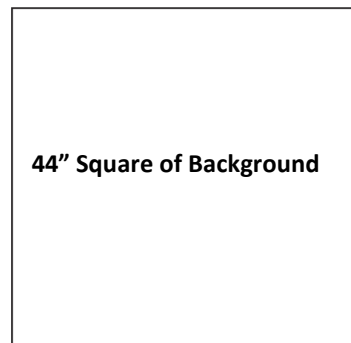
Saturate the **Background, Sun & Appliqué Fabric** in **Terial Magic**. This product is a heavy starch. The fabric must be very stiff to avoid stretching during embroidery. Let the fabric almost dry then iron the fabric flat and smooth.

### Preparing the Fabric with Terial Magic

### Interfacing: Shape Flex 101 by Pellon (woven) or Fusible Woven by OESD

Center and Iron interfacing (after Terial Magic) adhesive side down, to the back of the **44" Background Square** & the **22" Sun Fabric Square**. Piece the interfacing to get the size needed. Overlap the pieced sections by  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The interfacing may be slightly smaller than the fabric blocks & it will shrink more when you iron it. Lightly spray with water to activate the adhesive. Smooth the interfacing with your hands (this will help to displace the air between the interfacing & fabric).

Start pressing in the center and work out slowly. Iron the interfacing to the fabric. All edges should be sealed together. If you see air bubbles, spray with water and iron again.




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## Marking Instructions

**Mark the Fabric:** (use removable ink)

On the front side of the **Background** and **Sun Fabrics** mark a **horizontal & vertical line, the full LENGTH & WIDTH of the fabric, centered on the fabric** (aka=center crosshair / shown in red)

Use a 20  $\frac{1}{2}$ " square ruler to mark the **lines to ensure a 90° center**. See instructional video for example.

**Select Videos / Cutting & Marking Fabric with two rulers**

**Sun Fabric** marking is complete, (only needs the Center Crosshair marking) set aside.

### 44" Background Fabric:

Use a **6" x 24"** Ruler:

**Mark lines the "full width and length" of the fabric.**

Mark **Vertical lines 6" & 12"** on both sides of the **Center Vertical Line**.

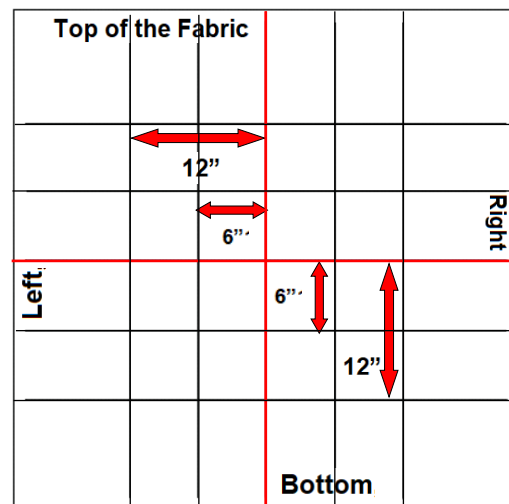
Mark **Horizontal lines 6" & 12"** above & below the **Center Horizontal Line**.

The lines form a grid.

Lines must be **parallel & perpendicular** to each other (**90° angle**).

Write the words **"Top of the Fabric"** at the top of the fabric. 

See picture. Also write **Bottom, Left, & Right** in the appropriate locations.



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## Circle Marking Instructions

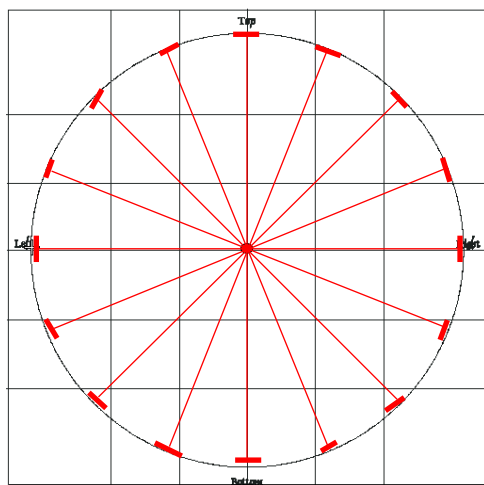
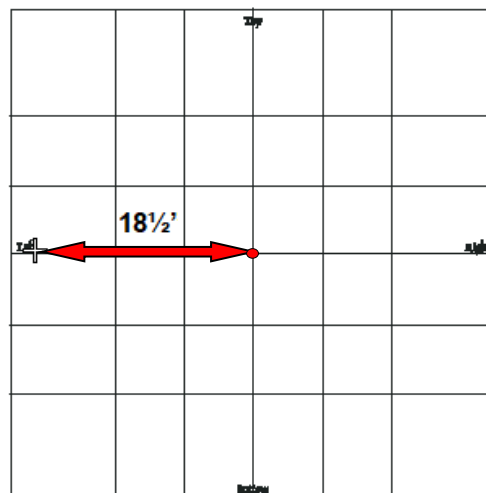
**Optional:** Use the **Creative Grids Quick Trim and Circle Ruler XL** ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ "x $24\frac{1}{2}$ ") to mark the circle in 20 seconds!!

Before marking, the fabric should be smooth and flat before beginning.  
Use Spray Starch if needed to help flatten and smooth the fabric.  
Use a large wide table if possible to mark the Circle Shape on the fabric.

Draw a "Circle Shape"  $18\frac{1}{2}$ " from the center (**use removable pen**).  
This new circle will be the placement line for the **Grass Border**.  
Follow steps below:

### Step #1:

Clearly mark the center of the quilt with a small dot.  
The key here is small, if you clearly **see** the center crosshair no need to re-mark the center.



### Step #2:

To mark a "circle shape" on the fabric:

Using a 6x24" ruler, place marks on the fabric  $18\frac{1}{2}$ " from the **center** at the top, bottom, left & right. This will help you start to form the circle.

**Add additional marks** between each of the sections  $18\frac{1}{2}$ " from the center. The more marks you add, the more the "circle shape" is developed. Add as many marks as you can to form a perfect circle shape.

The finished size is a **37" circle**.

### Step #3

Connect one mark to the next mark with a short line to finish forming the circle shape. Continually check the measurements to ensure a 37" circle!

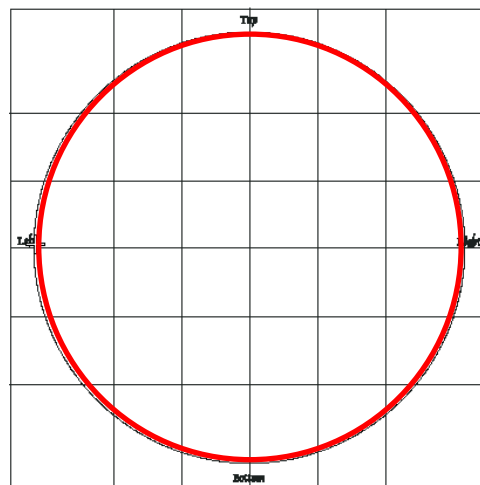
The more formed the circle is the easier it is to align the Grass Border. Take your time and be accurate! Very accurate!

Double check to make sure the circle is accurate.

This circle is the "**Placement Line**" for the **Grass Border** sections.

### Note:

It is totally worth the price for the **Quick Trim and Circle Ruler**  $4\frac{1}{2}$ "x  $24\frac{1}{2}$ "



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## Pre-Class Prep: Blue Sky Appliqué Paper Template Instructions

### Open #7 Sky Template folder

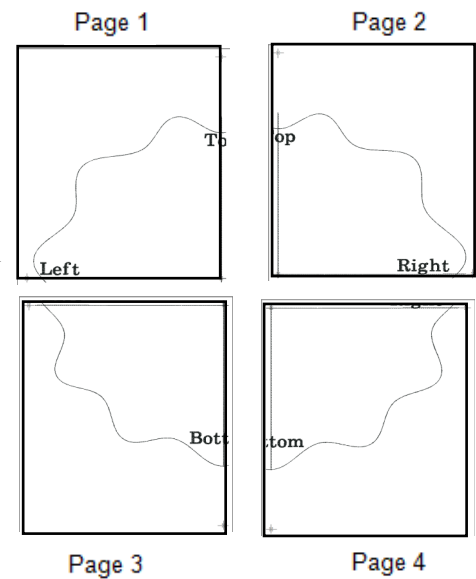
Print the **Paper Template** Pattern from the pdf file.

(Do Not use any other template.)

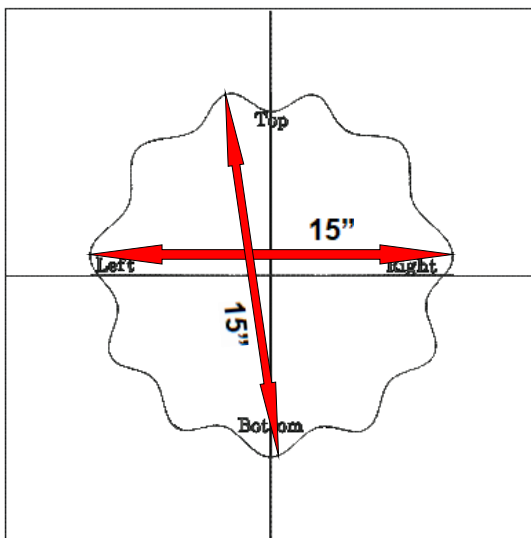
They will be 4 pages.

Tape the sections together matching the numbers in the outer corners.

One page will be on top of the other, over lapping by 1/4" or so with the numbers on top of each other.




### Paper Template



The **taped together paper template** measures **15"** at widest & highest points (not smaller). Measure your pattern and adjust if needed.

Diagram shows the horizontal widest points! Make sure the vertical & horizontal points are the same measurement. i.e. 15" vertical & horizontal

Center the Polymesh over the paper template. 

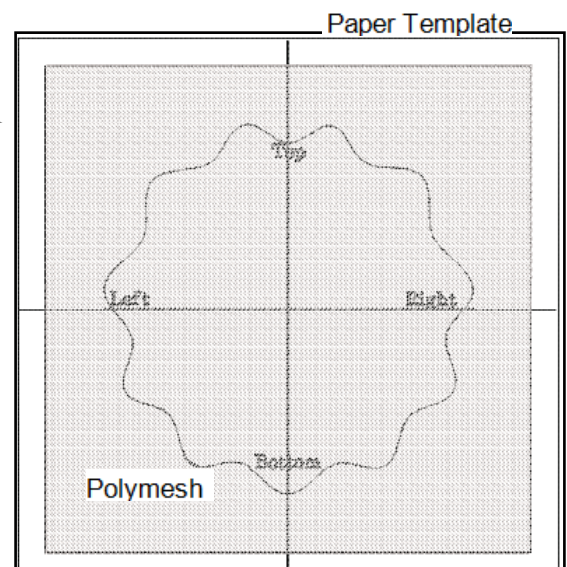
**Trace** the pattern on the Polymesh using the SewLine Duo Marking Pen.

Include the **Horizontal and Vertical Crosshairs, the words Top, Bottom, Left & Right.**

The pattern shape is now on the Polymesh and you can put the paper template aside.

**\*DO NOT CUT** the Fabric Square or the Polymesh to the template shape. Leave it in a square shape.

We need to embroider on the full square piece of Sky Fabric, then cut the shape out after we carefully center the finished design.



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