

MODERN ART QUILTERS

Block of the Month



Block Eight - Double Curves



A

Curves! Don't be afraid, they really are much easier than you think...

HB made her sub-blocks to finish at 4 inches square and faded the colours across the big block in a 16-patch arrangement

HH made hers into a 9-patch and used a narrow palette of pinks with black - step-by-step images are from these blocks but the principle is the same...

Start by pressing and cutting three squares of different fabrics (for the pink blocks these started at 8 inches square) (you will need to make more than one set, but start with one...) - here I show three sets of three for all nine sub-blocks

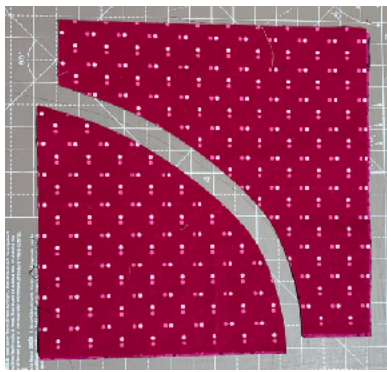
(A)

Lay the first three pieces on your mat Right Sides UP and exactly on top of each other

(B)



B



C

Using your rotary cutter (with a nice sharp blade!) make a gentle curved cut from the bottom edge to the left edge, keeping at least an inch from the other edges and not trying to get fancy with the curve. If you are left-handed, cut the other way!

(C)



D

Take the top piece from the pile of “bumps” and put it underneath the pile

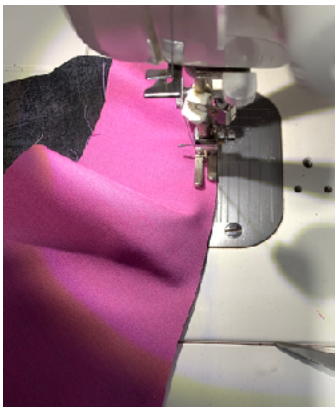
(D)



E

Take the first two pieces, one of each shape, from the top of the piles. Sew with the hollow side on top, using around a 1/4 inch seam (even is better than accurate here) and making the beginning overlap a little as shown. Sew Right Sides Together, of course

(E)



F

Sew slowly, gently pulling the upper layer round to match the edges as you go. A slightly smaller stitch than usual makes it easier

(F)



G

Repeat for all three pairs.

Press the seams to one side whichever way they prefer to go

Lay the three pieces on top of each other again, all the same way round.

(G)

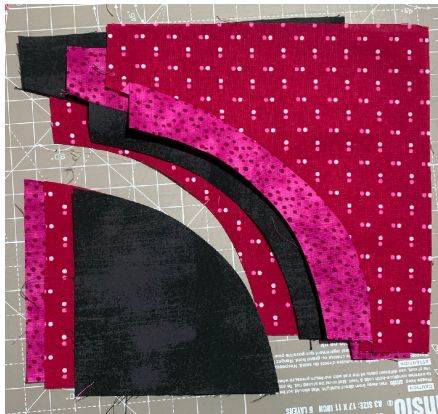


Make a second cut through all three layers as before, inside the first curve and at least 1 inch away from the seam

(H)

H

Take the top piece from the bump side to the bottom as before and sew the parts together - you will have three blocks each with three colours



(K)

J

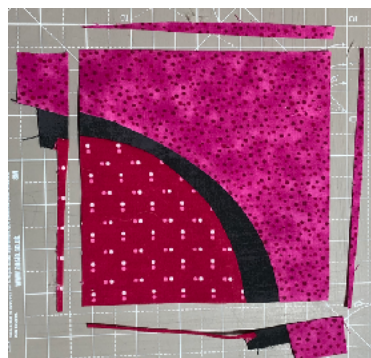
Trim the sub-blocks - for a 9-patch trim to 5-7/8 inches and sew the blocks together, check the size and trim if needed to 16-1/2 inches

(L)

For a 16-patch, start with 6 1/2 -inch squares, trim to 4-1/2 inches, and sew into four rows of four. Six threes will give you 18 sub-blocks; two chances to make mistakes, or to use them elsewhere...



K



L

There are lots and lots of ways to arrange these...

