

Quilting Lodge



Texas Teardrops

70" x 70"

Designed by: Vicki Ruebel

Fabric Requirements

Fat Quarters, Teardrops	12-15
*Optional yardage requirements if not using fat quarters	{6} 1/3 yard cuts of different fabrics
Background & 2 nd Border	4 2/3 yards
1 st Border	1/2 yard
Binding	2/3 yard
Backing	4 1/2 yards, pieced vertically or horizontally

**Please Note: If using fat quarters, a minimum of 12 is required. I have indicated a range of 12 - 15 for added scrappiness. You will have leftover teardrop fabric even if you use the minimum of 12 fat quarters.

As a general guide, each fat quarter will yield 2 complete teardrops {8 separate teardrop pieces}.

Other Supplies

- Teardrop Templates, included in pattern
- Fusible Web ~ prefer Steam a Seam Lite, {24} 9" x 12" Sheets or equivalent amount {each teardrop requires an 11" square of fusible, approximately}
- Rotary cutter, ruler and mat
- Sharp scissors
- Matching thread for topstitching
- Large Square-Up Ruler

Helpful But Not Required Supplies

- 28 mm rotary cutter
- Applique Pressing Sheet

General Instructions

- * Read all directions before beginning
- * All seams are 1/4" unless otherwise stated
- * High contrasting fabrics paired with a neutral background {white, beige, grey, black} work best for this design
- * Precise cutting is important when cutting the teardrops apart

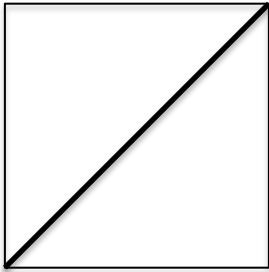
Directions

Cutting Background Fabric:

- Cut {8} 12" x WOF {width of fabric} strips
 - Sub-cut {3} 12" squares from each strip

You will have a total of {24} 12" blocks

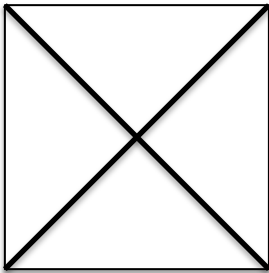
- Cut {2} 16.5" x WOF strips
 - Sub-cut {2} 16.5" squares from one strip
 - Cut each square in half diagonally (figure 1)



This will yield 4 corner triangles

Figure 1

- Sub-cut {2} 16.25" squares from the other strip
 - Cut each square in half diagonally two times (figure 2)



This will yield 8 setting or side triangles

Figure 2

Preparing the Teardrop Template:

Print 2 copies of each teardrop quarter.

NOTE** Please check the 1" mark to ensure the templates printed at the correct size. This is a very important step. Printers do not always print at the right size. If the 1" mark is not

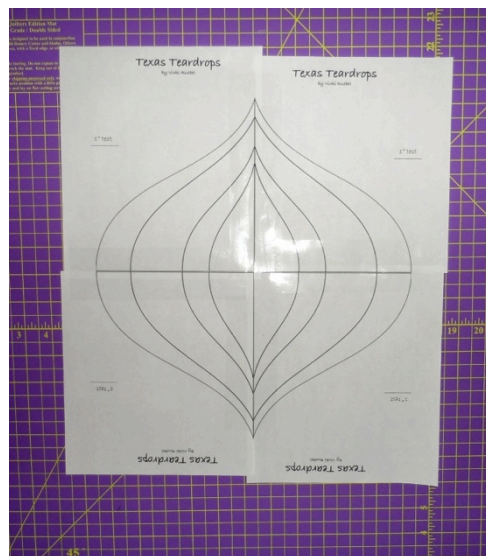
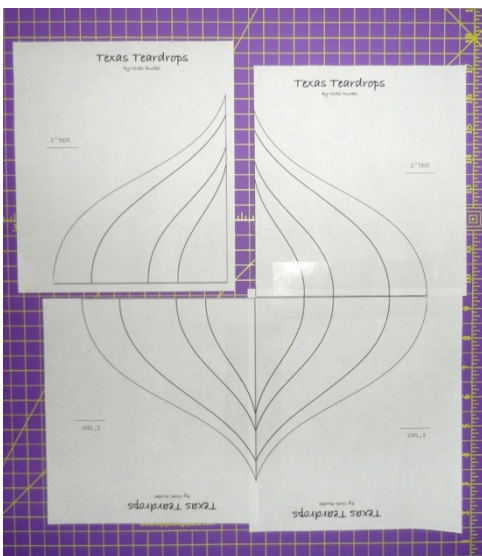
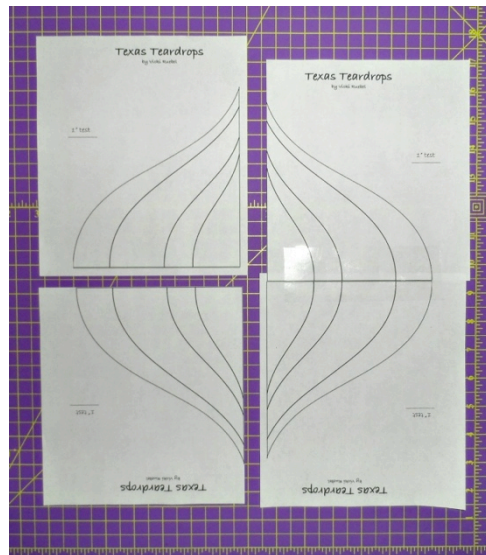
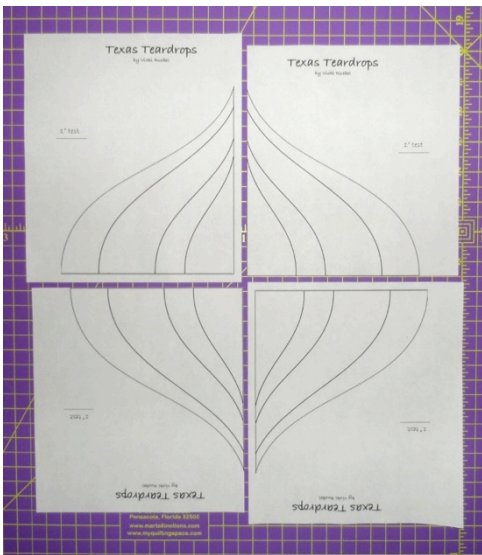
correct you need to make the necessary corrections now before going any further.

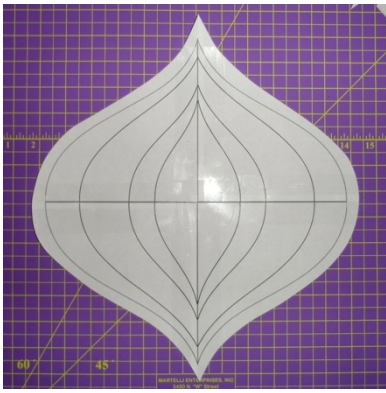
It's best to trim the quarters as follows:

Top left and bottom right quarters trimmed but leaving a 1/4" edge.

Top right and bottom left trimmed to the black line. DO NOT cut off the black line. Trim just to the edge of the black line.

Tape the four quarters together as shown below.



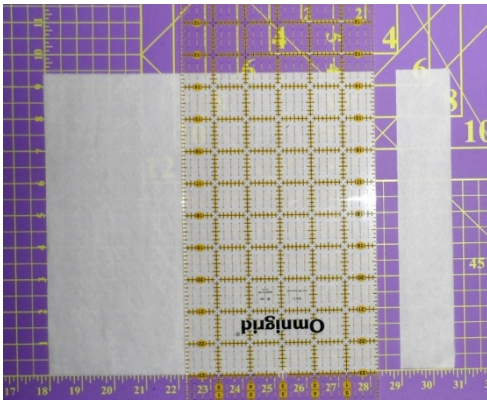


Trim off the excess paper. The teardrop should measure 12.5" from top to bottom and 11.5" side to side.

A slight variance in size is ok but anything over a 1/4" is too much.

Applying Fusible Web & Cutting Teardrops:

The teardrops are applied using fusible web and the raw edge applique technique. I prefer the 9" x 12" sheets of Steam a Seam Lite. The sheets are extremely flat and contain virtually no wrinkles. Rolled or folded fusibles tend to have wrinkles, which can distort the teardrops when traced. However, you can use a different fusible product if you choose.

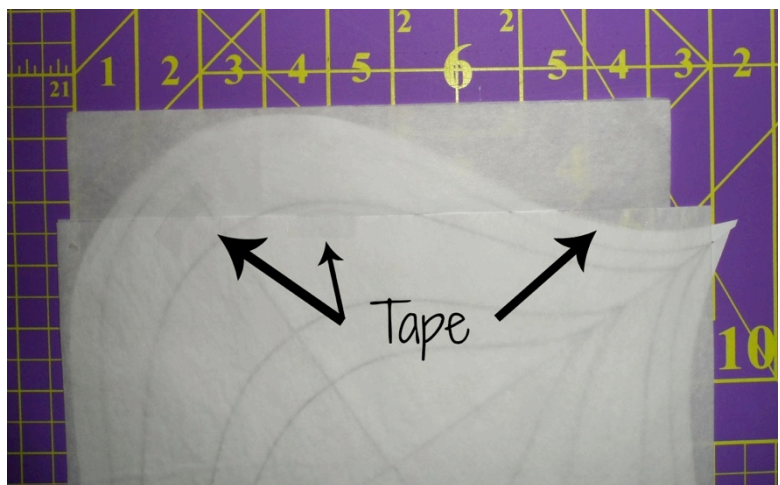


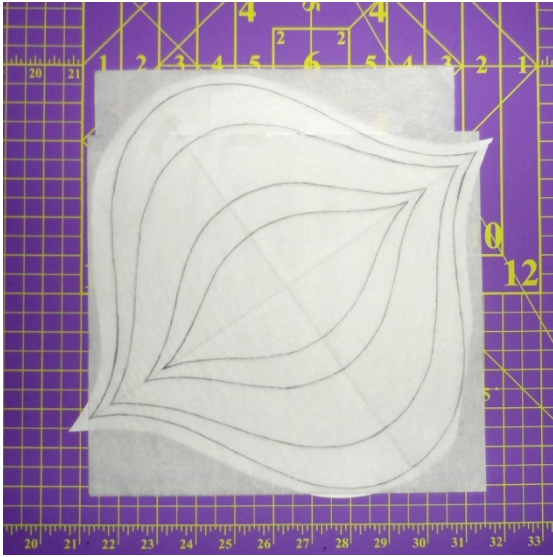
The 9" x 12" sheets need to be altered so that the teardrop will fit.

Trim a 1.75" strip from the length of the sheet. This will yield a 9" x 10.25" and a 1.75" x 9" piece.

Center the small piece along the 10.25" side of the larger piece. Use a small piece of tape to hold in place.

It's best not to tape over the lines you will be tracing.



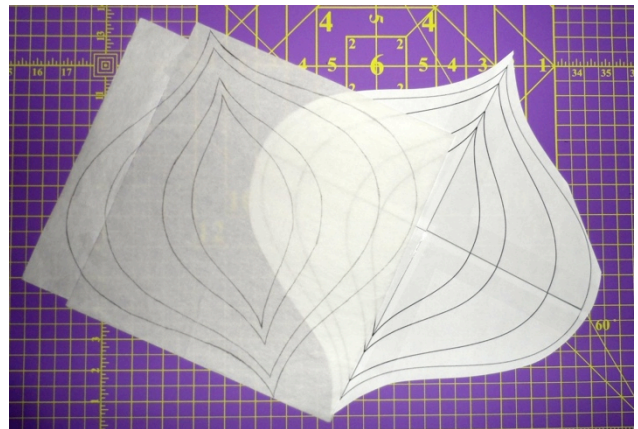


Trace 24 teardrops onto the paper side of the fusible web. Do not cut apart yet.

I recommend using a pencil to trace the teardrops.

It's best to trim away the excess fusible before you iron it onto the fabric.

This makes it easier to fit the teardrops onto the fat quarter and minimizes fabric waste.



Each teardrop will have two pieces of the fusible template.

It's easiest to iron them onto the fabric one at a time.

I ironed the little piece to the fabric then lined up the larger piece and ironed it in place.



Iron 2 teardrops to the wrong side of each fat quarter.

If you are using more than 12 fat quarters, you will have only 1 teardrop on some fat quarters.

Do not peel off the paper.

It is helpful to use an applique pressing sheet to avoid making a mess. It's very easy to get the fusible web on your iron or ironing board. The applique pressing sheet also prevents pencil marks from getting on your iron, which can end up on the fabric. Clean your iron frequently if you do not use an applique sheet.

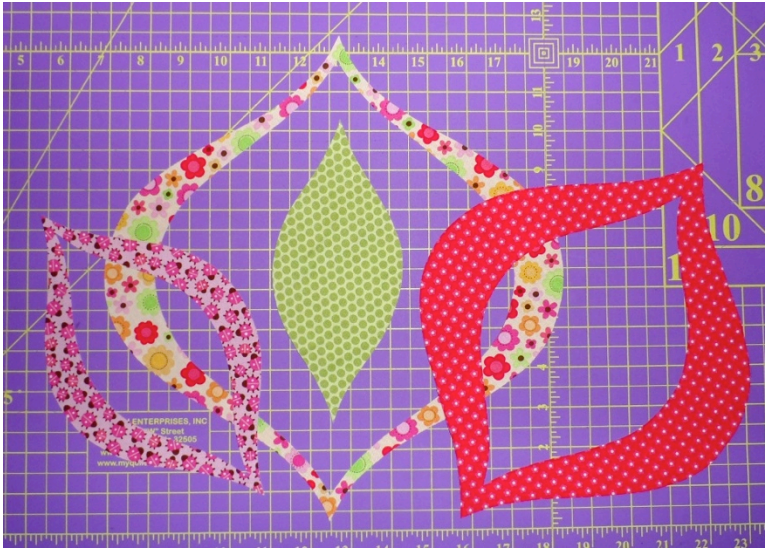
Cutting the Teardrops:

It is helpful to use a 28mm rotary cutter for this step. The smaller blade follows the curves of the teardrops easier than a 45 mm blade. Although it is helpful, a 28mm cutter is not necessary.

Continue to leave the paper on the teardrops.

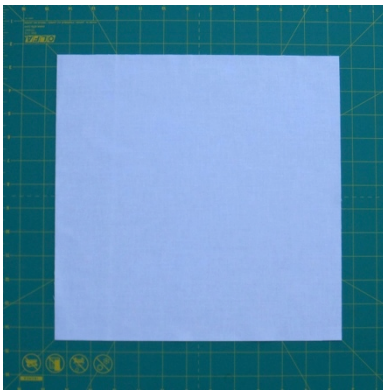


This might seem scary but it is totally possible. Take your time and follow the lines. You can do it! I'm sure scissors would also work but I did not want to use scissors.



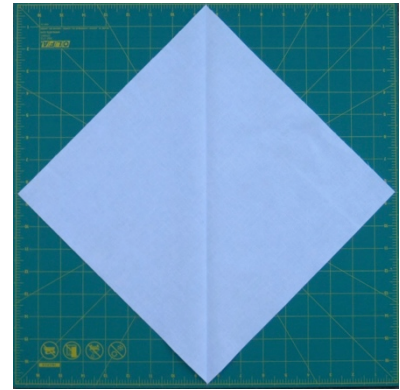
You will have 96 teardrop pieces, 24 of each size.

Fusing Teardrops to Blocks:



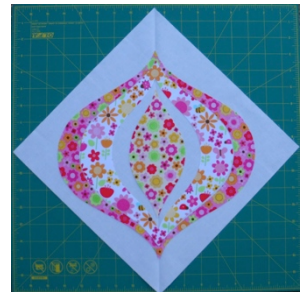
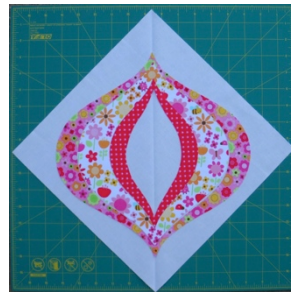
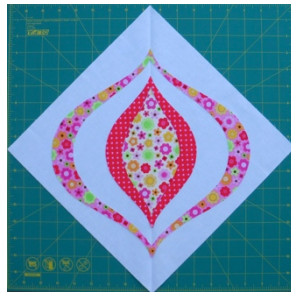
Fold each 12" block in half diagonally.

Press lightly to crease the block. This crease will serve as a guide for fusing the teardrops in place.



Mix and match the different teardrop pieces for each block. I made 6 blocks of each layout as seen in the pictures below.

In three of the layouts, pieces of the teardrop were left out. This allows the white background to show through and adds dimension to the quilt.



I recommend picking the teardrop pieces for all of the blocks before pressing any pieces.

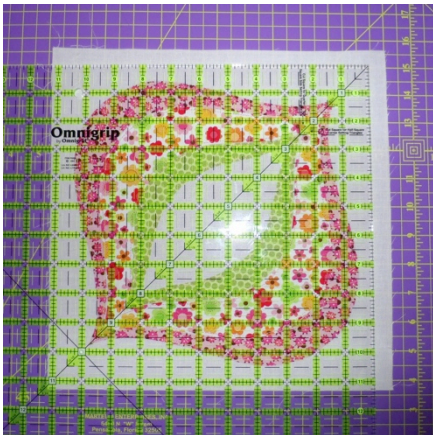
Peel off the paper backing before pressing. It's also best to press all the pieces for each block at the same time.

Do not drag your iron across the pieces. Press and lift so the pieces aren't stretched or moved before they are adhered to the blocks.

****NOTE** I used the outer {largest} teardrop piece in each block. The overall design will change if you do not use all of the outer teardrop pieces.

Appliqueing the Teardrops:

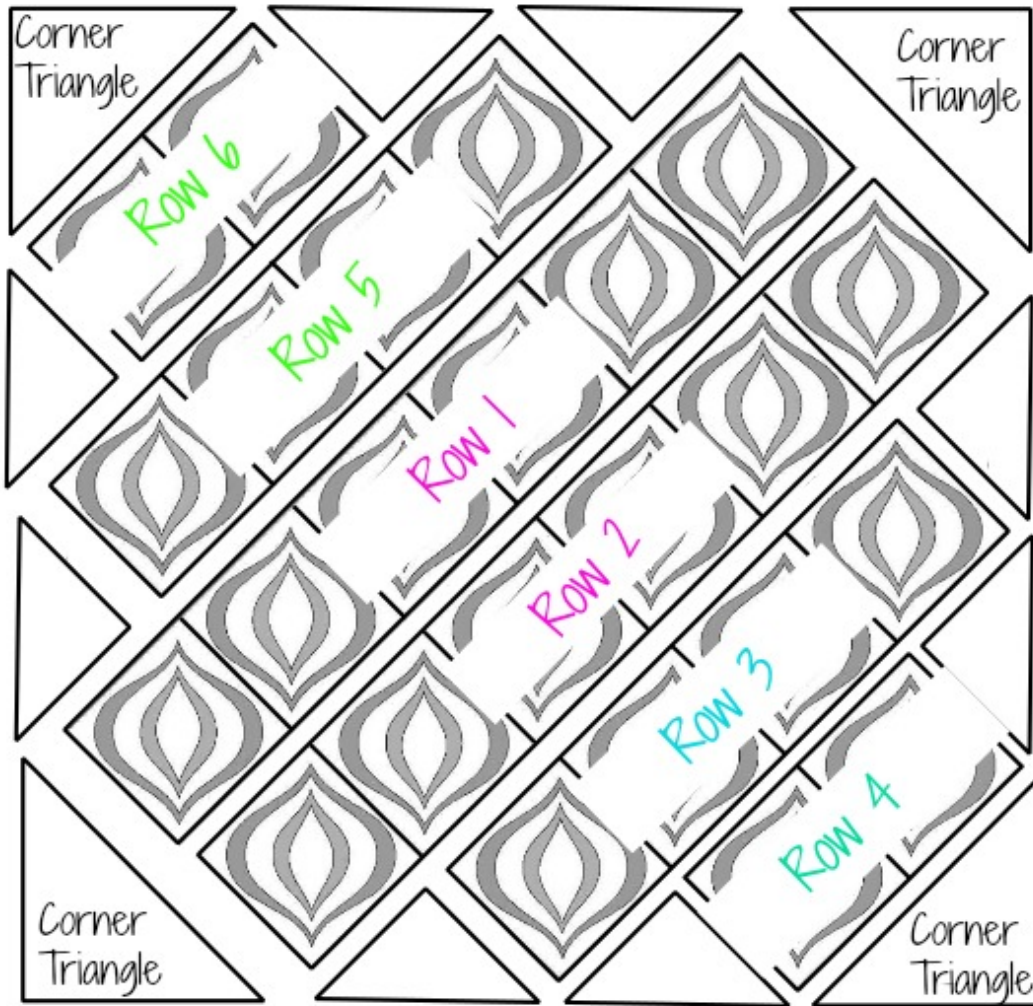
Stitch the teardrops in place after they are ironed onto the squares. I stitched close to the edge of each piece using a straight stitch and matching thread.



After each piece is applied in place the blocks should be squared up to 11".



Assembling the quilt:



This quilt is put together on point. There will be 4 corner triangles and 8 side or setting triangles. {These pieces were cut earlier.}

Begin by sewing together the 6 blocks of row 1. Repeat for row 2. Then sew row 1 and row 2 together.

Next, add a corner triangle to each end of the center row.

Sew together the blocks to make each of the remaining rows {3, 4, 5, & 6}. There will be a side or setting triangle on each end of each row.

Sew row 3 and row 4 together and then add a corner triangle. Repeat for rows 5 and 6.

Sew each section to the appropriate side of the center.

Adding the Borders:

Accent Color Border

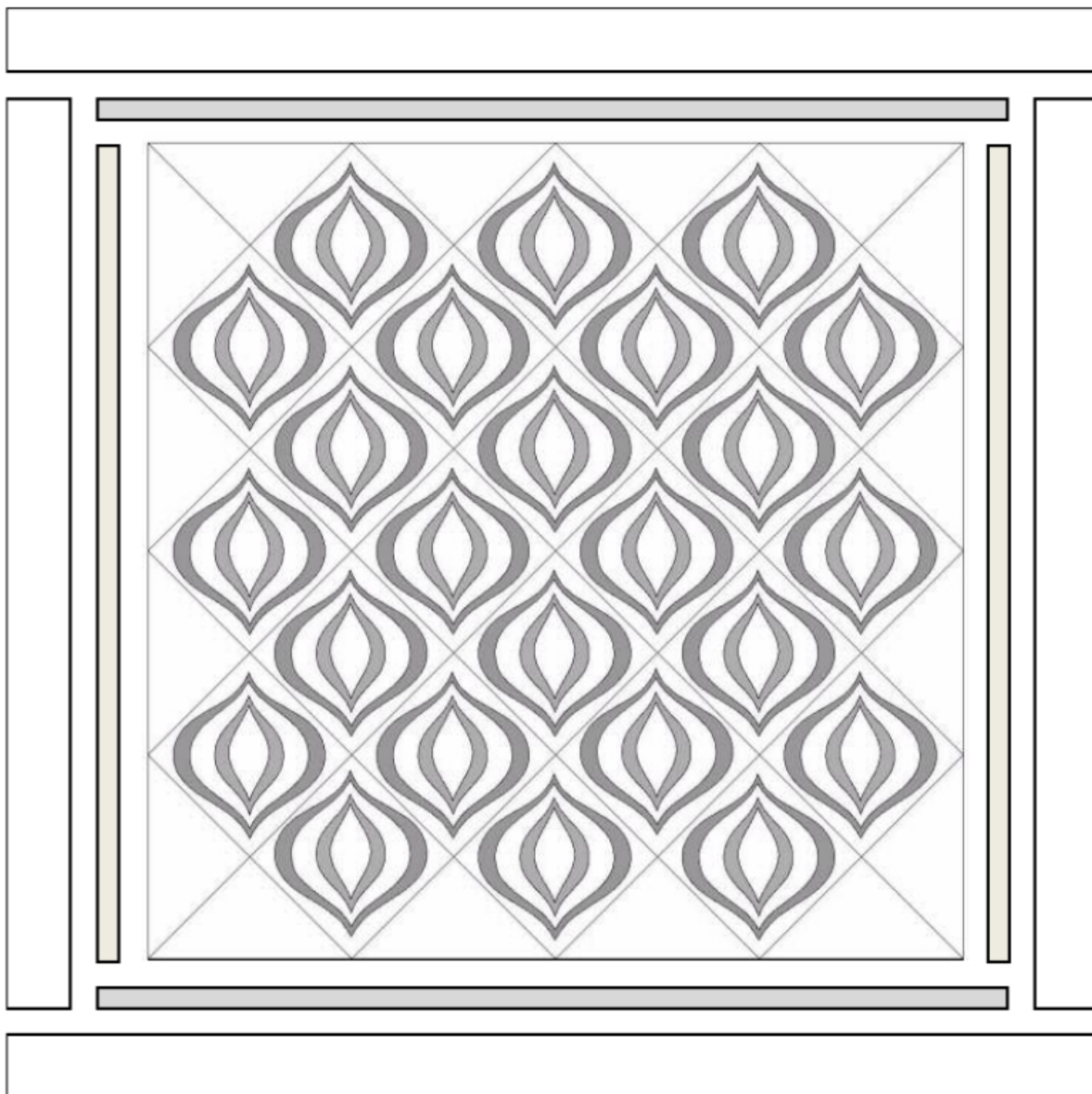
- Cut {8} 1.5" x WOF strips

Sew the first border to the quilt.

White Border

- Cut {8} 4" x WOF strips

Sew the second border to the quilt.



You are ready to sandwich, quilt and bind your masterpiece.

Additional Resources:



This pattern will be featured in an online [Quilt Along](http://www.quiltinglodgeblog.com/p/texas-teardrops-quilt-along.html) {<http://www.quiltinglodgeblog.com/p/texas-teardrops-quilt-along.html>}. There will be additional tips and advice for constructing the quilt.

There is a Texas Teardrops Flickr Group located at <http://www.flickr.com/groups/texasteardropsquiltalong>. Here you can share pictures of your progress as well as ask questions if you run into any problems.

Texas Teardrops is an award winning {Fall 2012 Blogger's Quilt Festival, Favorite Applique category} original design created by Vicki Ruebel.

I want you to be successful in making your quilt. Please feel free to contact me with any questions concerning this pattern. I am available by email, quiltinglodge@gmail.com, our blog, www.quiltinglodgeblog.com, and the Flickr group mentioned above.

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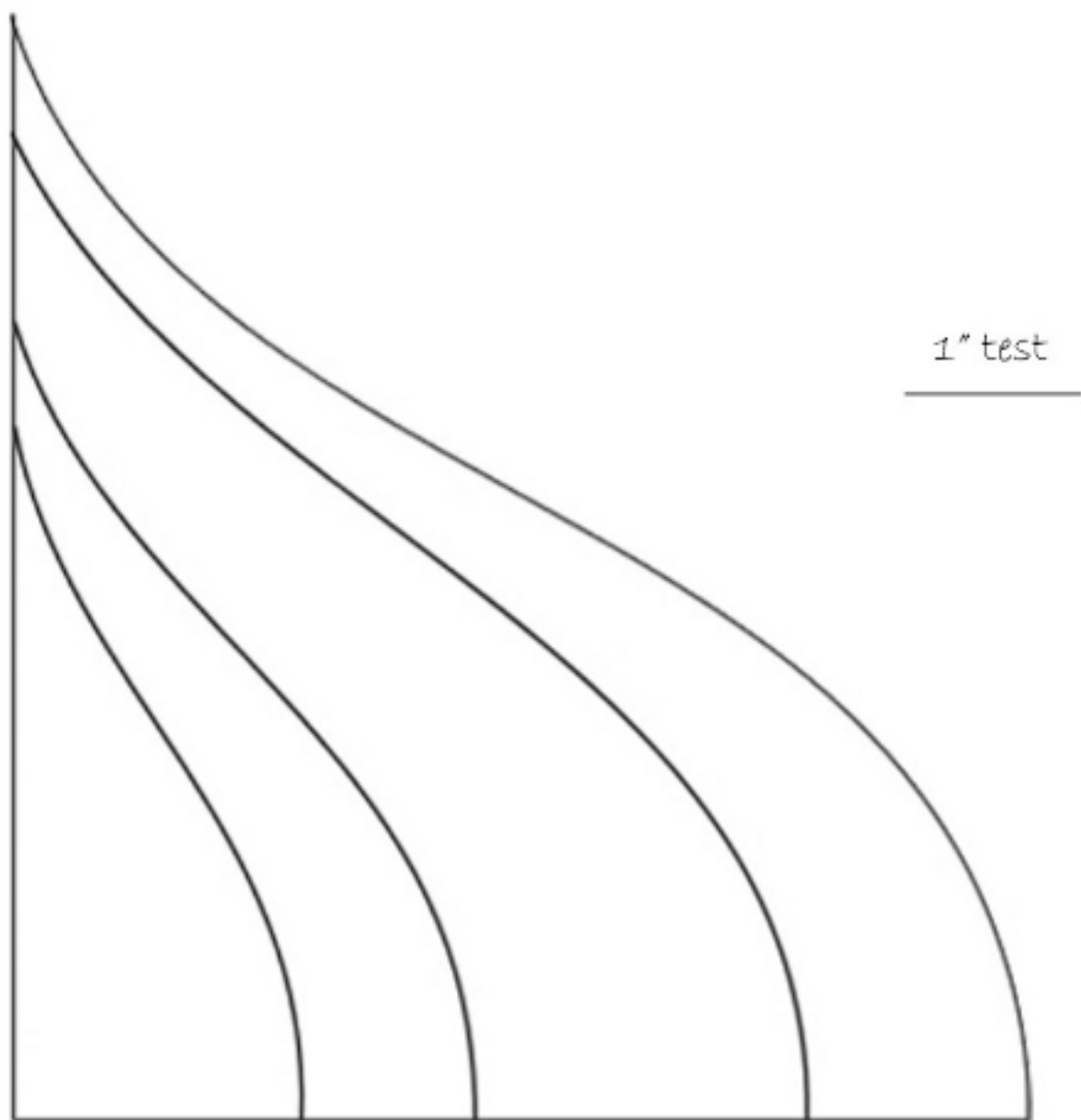
1" test



Print 2

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