

# The Case of the Diamond *Necklace*

COTDN



*Welcome back, detectives!*

This is it! I hope you like the Case of the Diamond Necklace as much as I do. The red diamonds form the chain and there are sparkling diamonds all the way around.

I hope you have enjoyed the suspense and are ready for the final scene. You have sewn everything you need to assemble this hexagon wall hanging and there are some extra bonuses too.

# Clue #8



With this last clue, you will get more practice with continuous stitching and circling the intersection. You will also be able to press the seam allowances to distribute the bulk in the intersections, so your exquisite jewel of a quilt looks its best from the front.

We have covered some dazzling info in the mystery clues! You should have become more familiar with the resources on the website and the *two* methods of fussy cutting that we use with Inklingo.

You should also be comfortable with using Monkey's Cheat Sheet, so you can prepare your own cheat sheets for other projects.

You also know how to prepare freezer paper templates when a shape is not inklingo-able (yet) or when you want to combine two shapes into one. You know you can use those shapes with shapes you print with Inklingo.

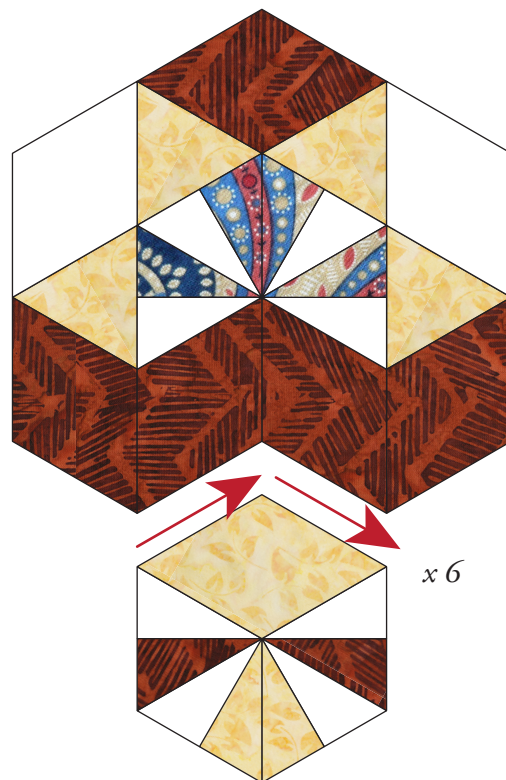
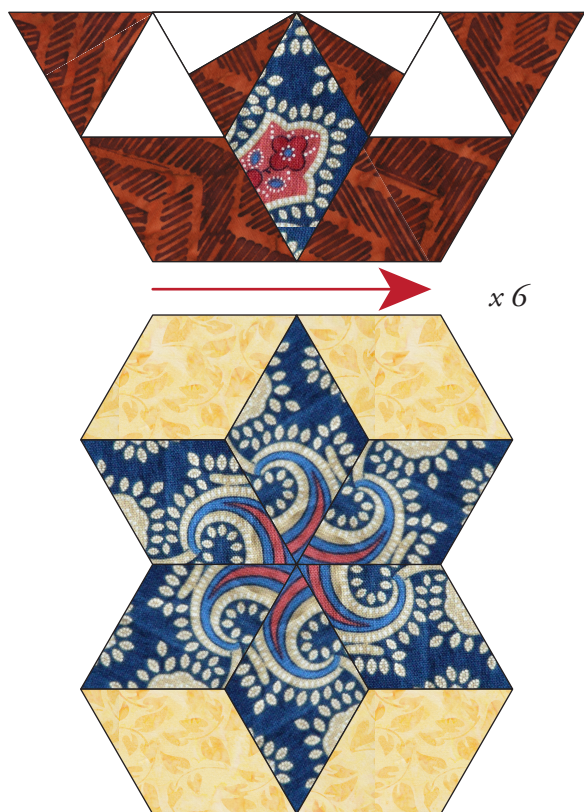
You are confident that you can sew ANY pieced hexagon with a running stitch, no matter what the shapes and no matter whether the shapes are available from Inklingo.

You know how to print on tiny scraps of fabric and how to print on dark fabric.

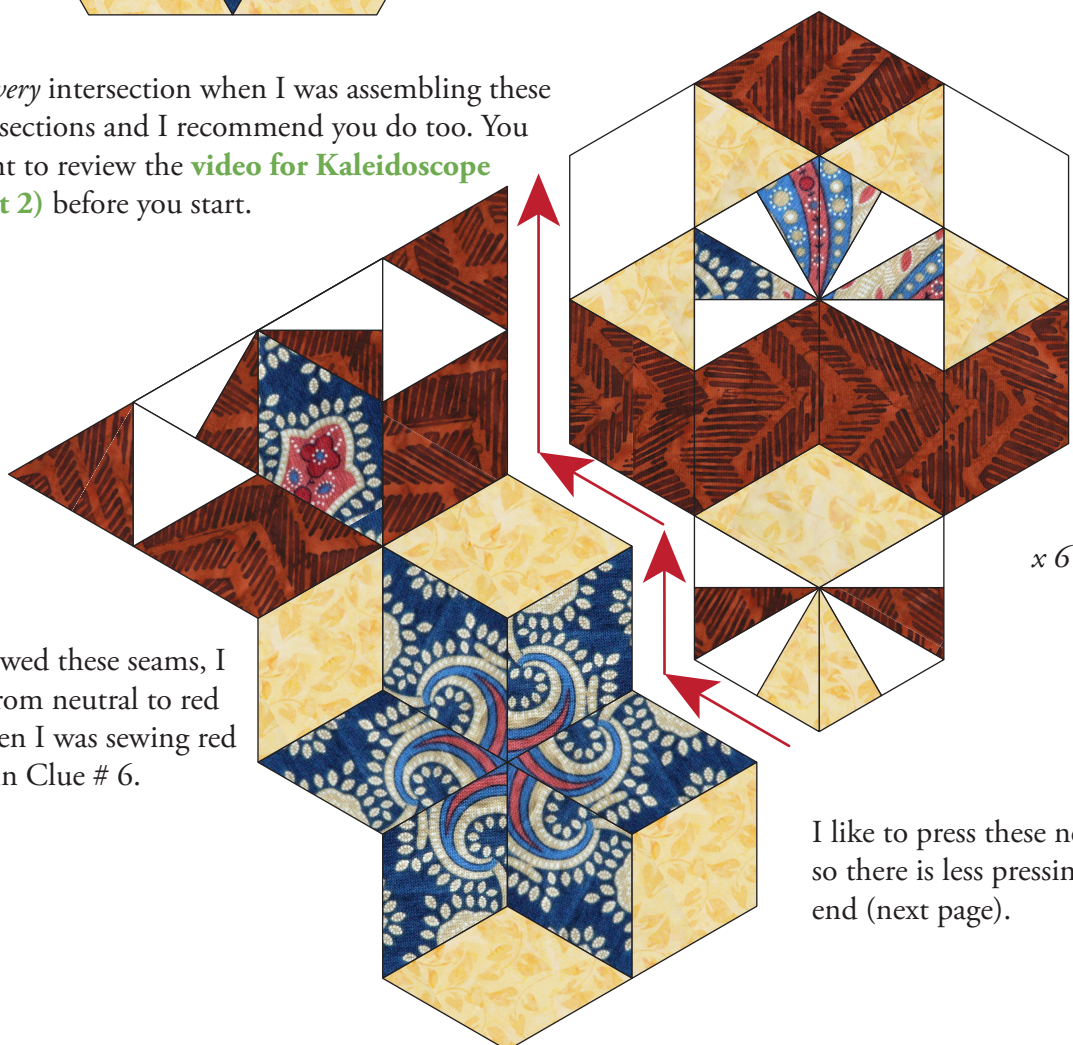
You are more familiar with the layout of the shape collections, so you are comfortable with Suggested Custom Page Sizes, shapes with and without seam allowances, and the difference between layouts for straight grain.

You learned that you can combine hand and machine stitching. I hope you tried sewing crosshair to crosshair by machine or at least reviewed that video on the [Main Hexagon Page](#).



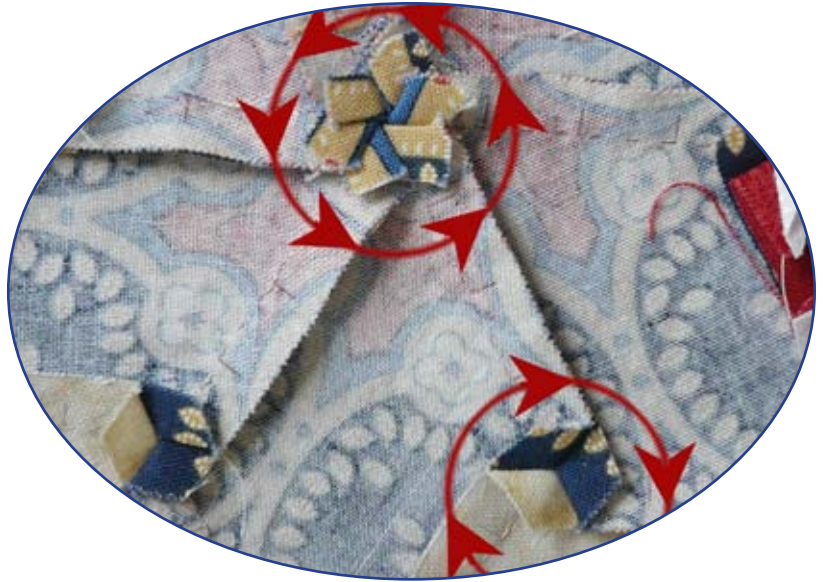


I circled *every* intersection when I was assembling these COTDN sections and I recommend you do too. You might want to review the [video for Kaleidoscope Stars \(Part 2\)](#) before you start.



When I sewed these seams, I changed from neutral to red thread when I was sewing red to red, as in Clue # 6.

I like to press these new seams now, so there is less pressing to do at the end (next page).



Of course, we prefer it when all of the seam allowances can be pressed around the intersections to distribute the bulk (above). It makes the quilt look its best from the front and makes the quilting easier.

### ***NO STEAM!***

*Always use a hot, dry iron and press one intersection at a time.*



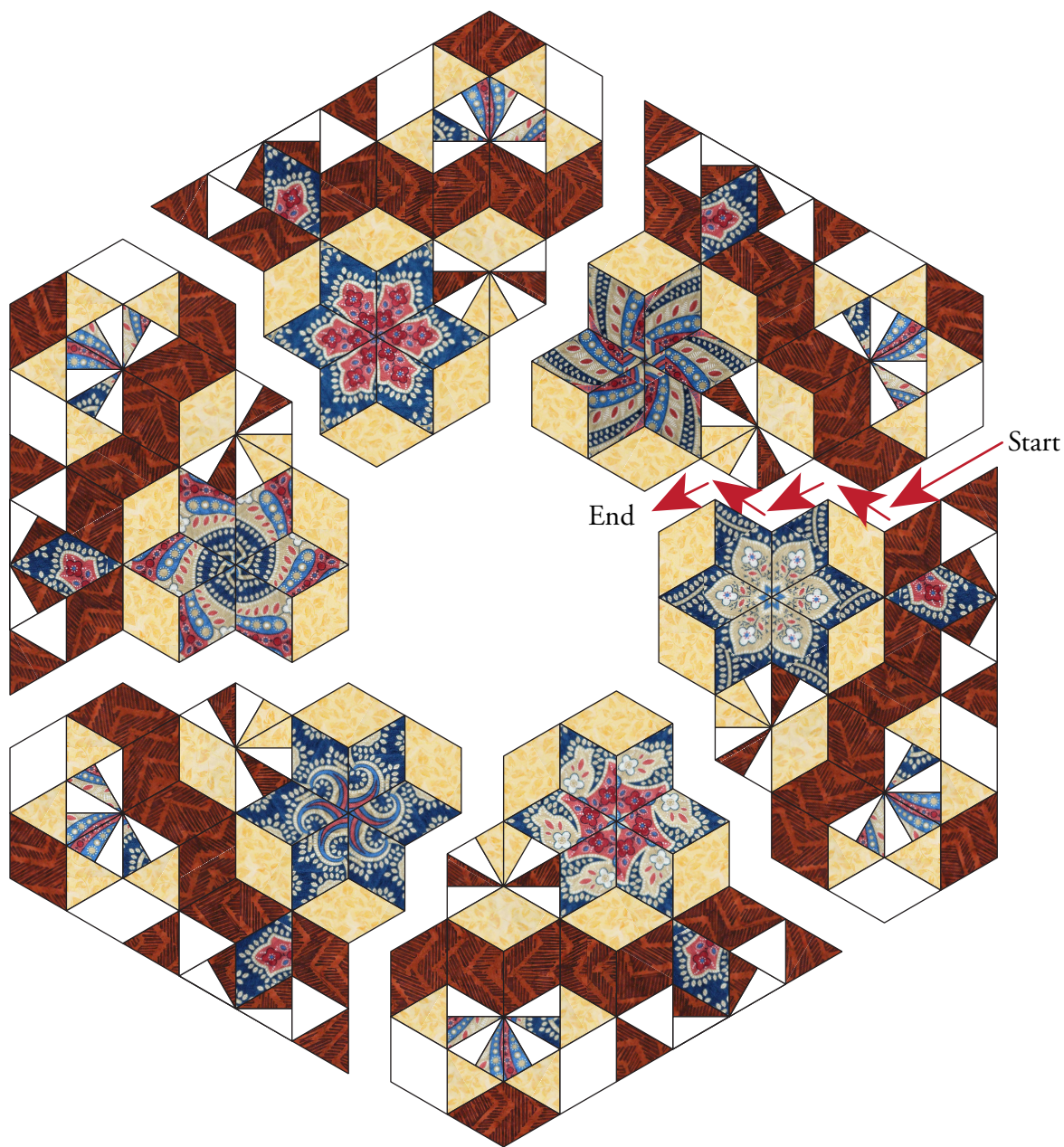
Unfortunately, it doesn't always work that way, so we just have to do the best we can.

Sometimes, I twist a seam in the middle to make it work at both intersections. Sometimes I press fabric back on itself.

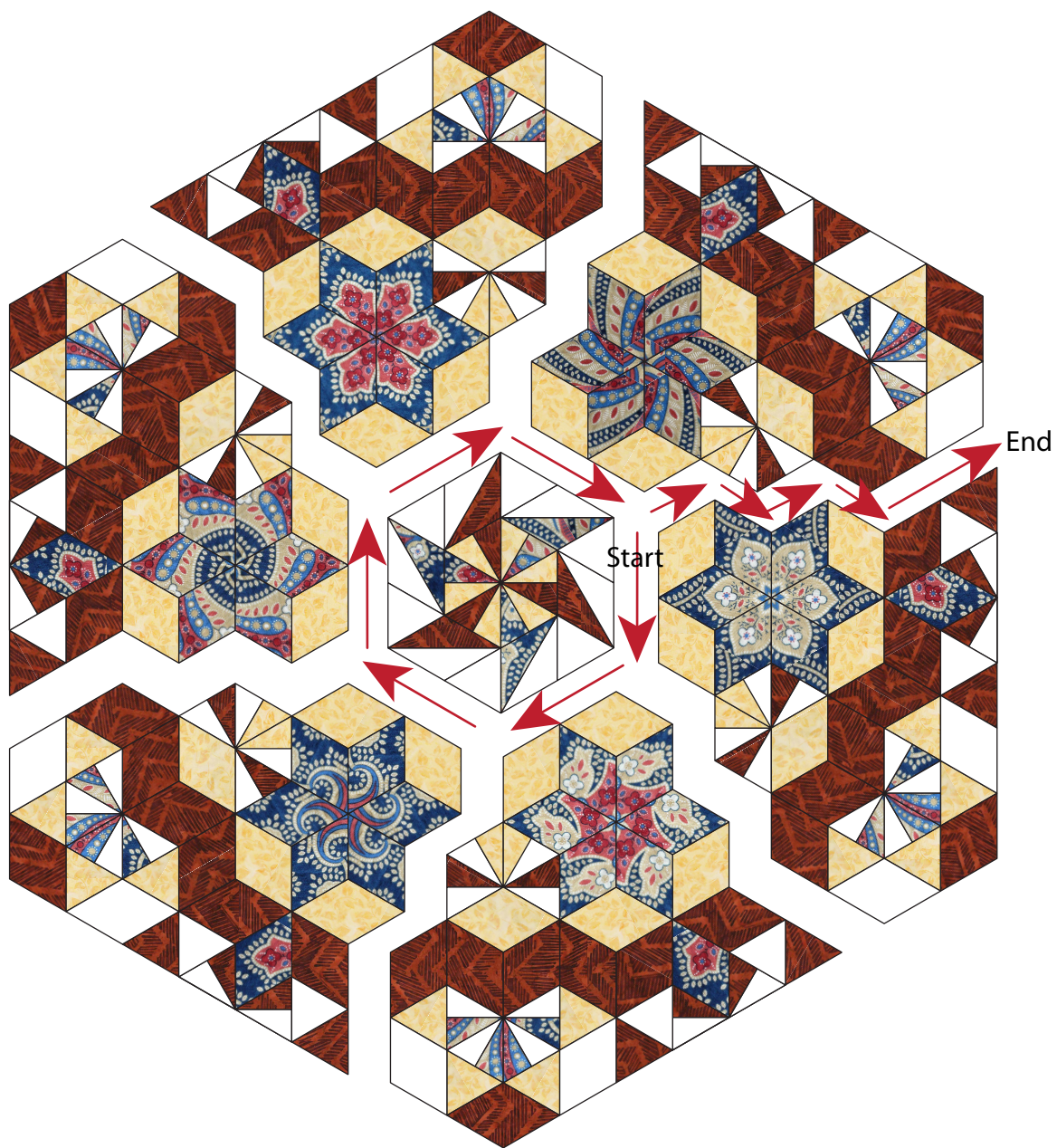
In this wall hanging, many of the seam allowances press perfectly, and others will test you. There is no perfect answer.

Do the best you can from the back, then give a final press on the front.





I sewed 5 of these zig zag seams and left one open until I had added the center hexagon (next page). However, you can choose any sewing sequence you like when you are sewing crosshair to crosshair by hand or by machine.



After sewing the 5 seams (previous page) you can add the center hexagon with one long, final seam!

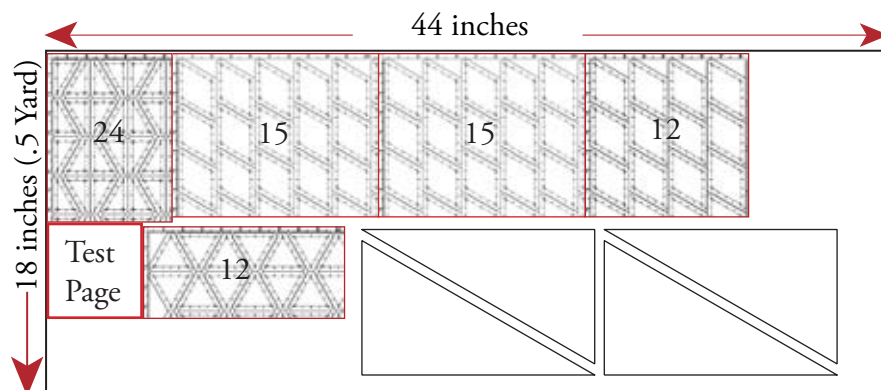
It gives you one more chance to perfect your technique for continuous stitching and circling the intersections.





### ***PLOT TWIST***

Monkey wanted one final plot twist, so we are adding this option. There is enough of the Jewel fabric (Red) to add corner triangles, if you prefer a rectangular quilt. Use freezer paper templates (next page).



*Freezer paper template for the Big Triangle*

Not actual size.



Print the shapes without seam allowances (page 326 of the **60° Diamond 1.75 inch Shape Collection**) on paper to get the angles and trace on freezer paper to make a template. Mark matches along the diagonal line. Make a second one that is the mirror image.

This template technique is taught in detail in my **Quilted Diamonds books**. There is also an **article on the All About Inklingo blog** showing how to use templates. That example is fussy cut but it also explains why I do not recommend templates with seam allowances, whether paper, acrylic, plastic, or metal.

Add 0.25 inch seam allowances when you cut the fabric, as usual.

Mark the sewing lines and matches with a mechanical pencil and a ruler, creating crosshairs at the seam endings. Sew the triangles by hand or by machine.



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## *Appliqué*

There is one final twist. You can appliqué the COTDN hexagon to a background to use as a medallion for a larger quilt.

Working from the back, sew a basting stitch (hand or machine) along the printed stitching line all the way around the hexagon to mark where to turn under the edges.

Position the hexagon on the front of the background.

Working from the front, needle-turn appliqué, using the basting line as a guide to turn the fabric under, removing the basting stitches as you go and trimming the seam allowance to about 1/8 inch.

There is a whole chapter on appliqué in **The Inklingo Handbook** and this method is illustrated.

## *Quilting*

Quilt in straight lines diagonally to avoid the thickest intersections. I prefer to mark lines with masking tape, as taught in **Quilted Diamonds** (first book).

I think you can see how versatile the shapes in the **Inklingo 60° Diamond 1.75 inch Shape Collection** are now, and you can use the techniques in the COTDN mystery to make more hexagons.

I hope you have enjoyed following the Case of the Diamond Necklace and that the clues have taken the mystery out of Inklingo. You can simplify the preparation and sewing of all of your quilts!



