

# Bonnie Hunter's *celtic solstice*

mystery



## *Clue # 1*

### *About Printing on Fabric*

When I first got the idea for **Inklingo**, I knew quilters who printed labels or photos on fabric. They had to use specially treated fabric or chemicals because the ink would wash out or fade or bleed. Inkjet ink can make a terrible mess on fabric.

I could see how wonderful it would be to have the cutting and stitching lines on the fabric for hand and machine sewing, and that it would make quilting more accessible to beginners.

However, I needed to make sure the ink would not ruin the quilt. I knew the ink would not hurt the fabric if it was left in forever, but I wanted to be able to:

- be sure the ink would wash out, even after pressing
- use the printer and ink I already have
- have a choice of colors that would show on almost any fabric
- use fabric efficiently

There are three important things which made Inklingo possible, as described in the **Quick Start Guide**.

1. Test Pages
2. Custom Page Sizes
3. Layouts of Shapes

These three concepts take all of the mystery out of Inklingo. When you understand these key ideas, you can do anything!

# Que #1

## VIDEO



### *YOU CHOOSE HOW MUCH TO PRINT*

*One of the 3 options demonstrated in the YouTube video will work even if you are working with tiny scraps or fabric which is too dark to print.*

#### ***To Print or not to Print?***

We think you will love the way these shapes fit together whether you sew by hand or by machine and whether you

- Print all of the shapes on fabric with Inklingo,
- Print some of the shapes on fabric with Inklingo, or
- Use Inklingo, but print none of the shapes on fabric!

We are using Bonnie's Celtic Solstice mystery to teach Inklingo techniques. Learning to print with Inklingo makes everything possible.

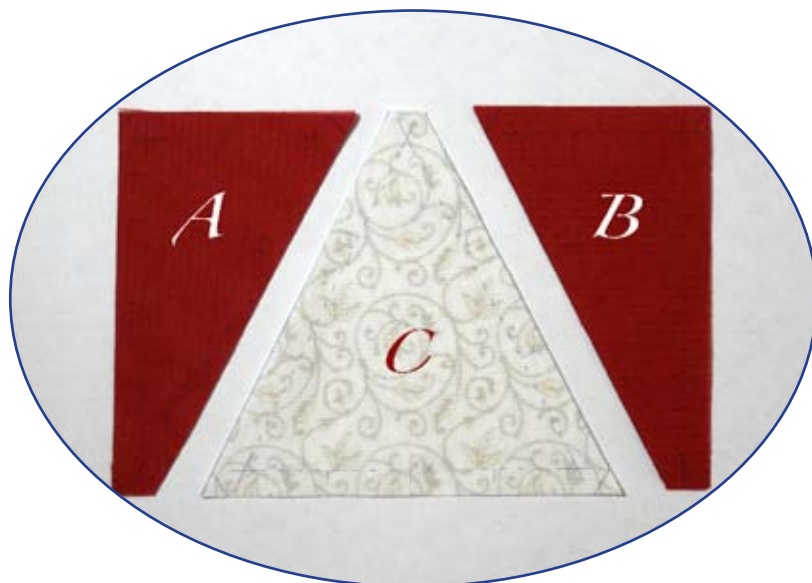
Have you ever printed on fabric? We have some great tips that will help you use fabric efficiently and jam-free!

- **How to test the ink in your printer (Test Pages)**  
(Very important evidence!)
- **How to print on fabric (Best Tips)**  
(Save time and fabric!)
- The first chapter of The Inklingo Handbook, pages H5 - H48 of the **FREE shape collection**. (Everything in one place.)

All of the shapes are printed from Bonnie's **Celtic Solstice Shape Collection**, which is at a special sale price for a limited time.

Click the image above for the video or see it on YouTube or the **All About Inklingo blog**.

# Clue # 1



## 1. PRINT ALL OF THE SHAPES ON FABRIC

If you print all of the shapes on fabric, you will have stitching lines, matching marks, and precision corners on every shape and that saves time and makes precision easier.

- It makes the cutting simpler and more accurate.
- It makes the sewing easier and more accurate.
- It allows you to use a rotary cutter or scissors, if necessary (portability, safety, disability).
- It allows you to sew by machine (fast) or by hand (portable, relaxing).
- It avoids mistakes and gives you confidence!

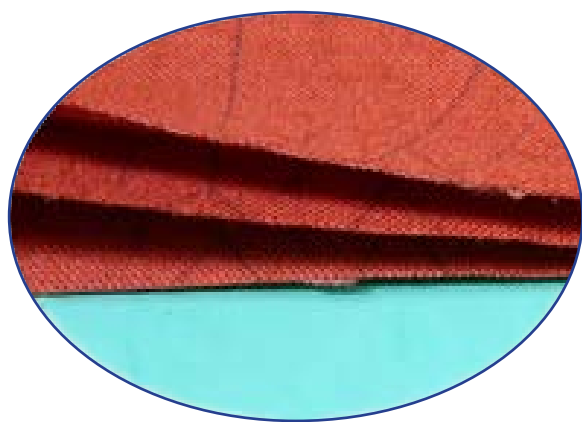
(a) Remove the freezer paper and put it in a safe place. It can be reused many times.

Stack the rows to cut 3 or 4 layers at a time.

(b) Rotary cut the rows (single layer, left). (Of course, you can use scissors if you prefer and switch to a rotary cutter for the next steps.)

(c) Stack 2, 3 or 4 rows with the cutting lines aligned. Check the lines at the edges (left). Rotary cut using a ruler as a straight edge (no measuring). A fresh blade makes it a pleasure. Zip. Zip.

**NOTE** There are perfect lines marking the dog ears on all of the corners. As shown in the video, I recommend *leaving the dog ears in place* until the block is sewn. I've tried it both ways, and leaving the dog ears in place eliminates an extra step, makes the cutting go faster **AND** makes sewing more precise. *This only applies if you print the Star Points.*



# Blue #1



## 2. PRINT SOME SHAPES ON FABRIC?

We call this method “layer to cut.”

- It works well with strips and very small scraps that might be a nuisance to print.
- It makes it easy to use fabrics which are too dark on the wrong side to print.
- It avoids buying special rulers with confusing instructions that cause mistakes.
- It is accurate and fast. No measuring. Precision corners.

It is not necessary to print all of the shapes if

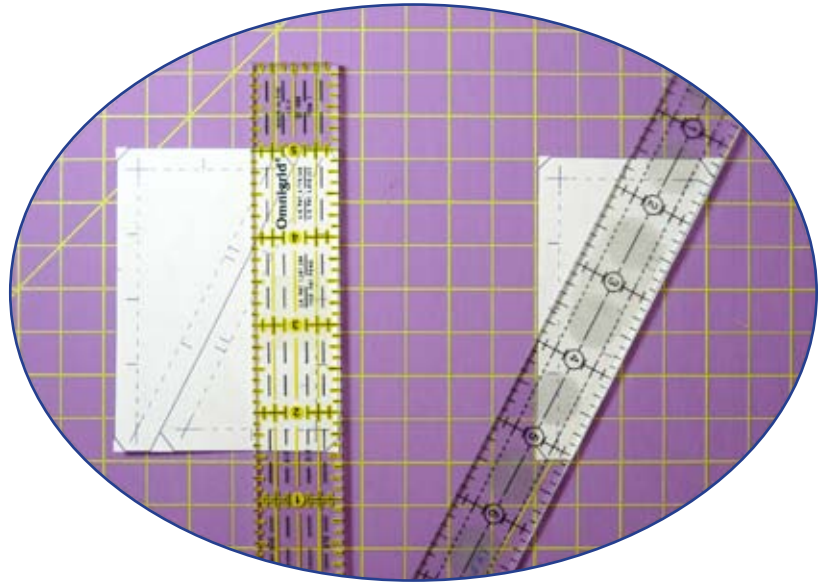
- you are rotary cutting and machine piecing, and
- you can sew an accurate scant quarter inch seam allowance without a line.

Print one sheet of fabric, layer with scraps of other fabric and rotary cut using the top layer as a cutting guide—no measuring, no templates. The unprinted fabric can be any size.

For example, if some of the Red (Bonnie’s Blue) fabric for the Star Points has already been cut into 3.5 inch strips for some reason, you can cut the printed shapes into matching strips before layering to cut, as shown in the video.

We call it “*Layer to Cut*” when you print larger scraps to use as a cutting guide for small bits and strips of fabric and fabrics which are too dark on the wrong side to print easily. No templates to slide around, no measuring. Just cut on the lines. Some of your shapes will have sewing lines and some won’t.

# Shoe #1

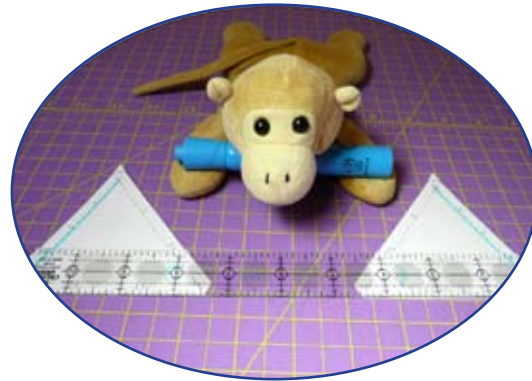


### 3. PRINT *NONE* OF THE SHAPES ON FABRIC?

Instead of printing on fabric, print a paper template and add it to one of your ordinary acrylic rulers to create an impromptu “specialty ruler,” as shown in the video. This can work brilliantly with itty bit scraps and fabric which is too dark on the wrong side to print.

This method is fast and accurate and avoids buying special rulers.

The video demonstrates this method for cutting Star Points and Triangle C (Base) from 3.5 inch strips of fabric.



*Rotary cut the dog ears from stacks of shapes.*

# Step #1



## TIPS FOR SEWING BY MACHINE

The small triangle (Star Point) is always on top.

If you sew immediately beside the stitching line it is easy to get an accurate *scant quarter inch* seam allowance without a seam guide or foot.

Sew one block before you start a chain piecing marathon. Measure to be sure the finished block is exactly 3.5 x 3.5 (unfinished). If not, adjust your scant quarter inch seam when you sew the rest. (Your block will be too small if you sew ON the line.)

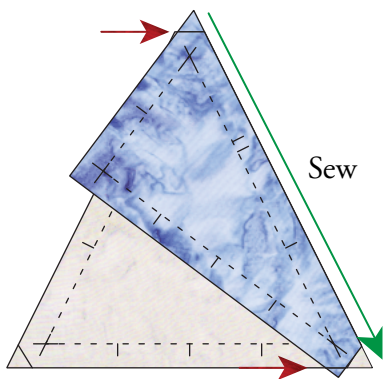
There is a combo layout with Star Point A and Star Point B, but I find it easier to stay organized if I print them separately and cut them separately. I like to sew a few dozen Star Points to the right side, press, and then sew the other Star Points. It is faster and easier to stay organized than sewing right then left then right then left.

If you use a machine with a walking foot and line up the edges, there is no need to pin.

Use an open toe foot and move the needle position so you can see well, if possible.

Wear reading glasses or a special prescription so you can see clearly at this distance. (Tell your optometrist how far you are sitting from the needle.)

Press away from the Base Triangle (Triangle C) toward the star points. Use a hot, dry iron.



All of these tips are in the **VIDEO**.