Love Ring Quilt

Designed by Darlene C. Christopherson

Skill Level: Intermediate



A very old traditional quilt pattern based on the Drunkard's Path block.

This quilt was made for my daughter upon her engagement. Now my second grandson cuddles up in it. It has always been a favorite quilt pattern of mine. This example is scrappy. The arrangement of dark to light values provides the graphic image of rings.

As shown 56" x 80" using 4" finished blocks, 14 blocks across by 20 blocks down. No border is added. The size is easily increased in increments of 4".

Fabric Needed

280 - 4" finished squares 140 light and 140 dark prints. Packs of 5" squares are available at most quilt shops making variety easy.

OR

dark fabric	3 yards
light fabric	3 yards
Backing	5 yards
Binding	3/4 yard

Materials Needed

Legacy™ Premier Quilt Batting Natural Blend 80/20 Cotton/Poly Twin 72" x 96"

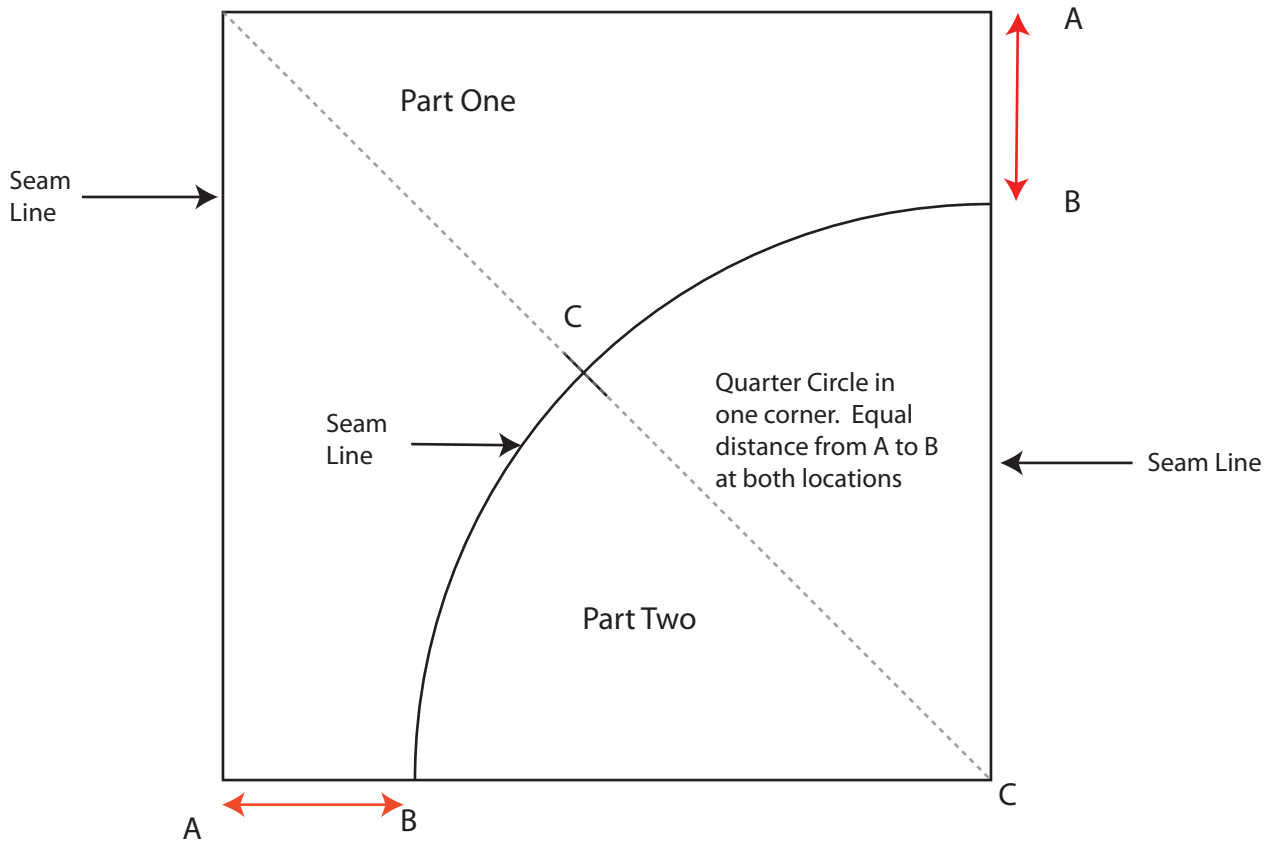
Tools Needed

Sewing machine and related tools
Standard hand sewing supplies
Thread

Graphic Artist Alexandra Henry
Designer Darlene C. Christopherson

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The Drunkard's Path Block is a simple square with a quarter circle in one corner. The measurement from A to B is the same at both ends. (see diagram below) This assures a perfect fit every time. The curved seam is achieved by easing as it is stitched. A mark is placed on each template (C) to assist in aligning the two pieces along the curved seam when stitching. This line is transferred to the fabric when marking. This diagram is to show you how to construct any size drunkard path block you want, the templates for this project are on page 5.



In this diagram, the line represent seam lines.

A 1/4" seam allowance is added to ALL sides of each part, one and two.

Basic Rule #1 For every block/unit made with a dark part one and a light part two, make one with the reverse combination. If you are making a "scrappy" quilt, keep count of how many of each small block/units you have sewn and arrange them on a design wall as they grow in number.

Basic Rule #2 You determine the finished size of your quilt by (1) counting the number of block/units in the rows ___long x ___wide and (2) by determining the finished size of the block itself. Our example is 4" finished.

Basic Rule #3 Always align straight edges along the straight of grain. So, for part two, align the two straight edges along the straight of grain. The strongest grain line is the selvage edge of fabric.

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Template Method - Hand or Machine

The method presented here calls for templates and a marked sewing line. This can be pieced by hand or machine.

Each piece is traced and cut by hand in preparation. Once completed this makes a carry along project when hand sewing. In hand piecing, aka patchwork, the seam allowances are not stitched down. They remain free to lay in any directions. The Drunkard's Path block calls for the curved seam allowance to fall toward the larger area, or towards piece one. When machine piecing, the curved seam is also pressed towards piece one.

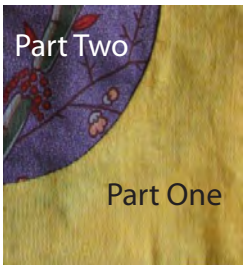
To enjoy success with Drunkard's Path requires accurate cutting. Whether you use a commerical plastic template and a rotary cutter or make a template and draw each piece, then cut out with scissors, cut your pieces with care to get good clean edges. Reminder: Cut 1/4" uniform seam allowance out and away from the marked seamline.

Cut:

140 pieces (Part one) in light tones
140 pieces (Part two) in light tones
140 pieces (Part one) in dark tones
140 pieces (Part one) in dark tones

Marked Seamline →





Part one is light
Part two is dark

Finished Units

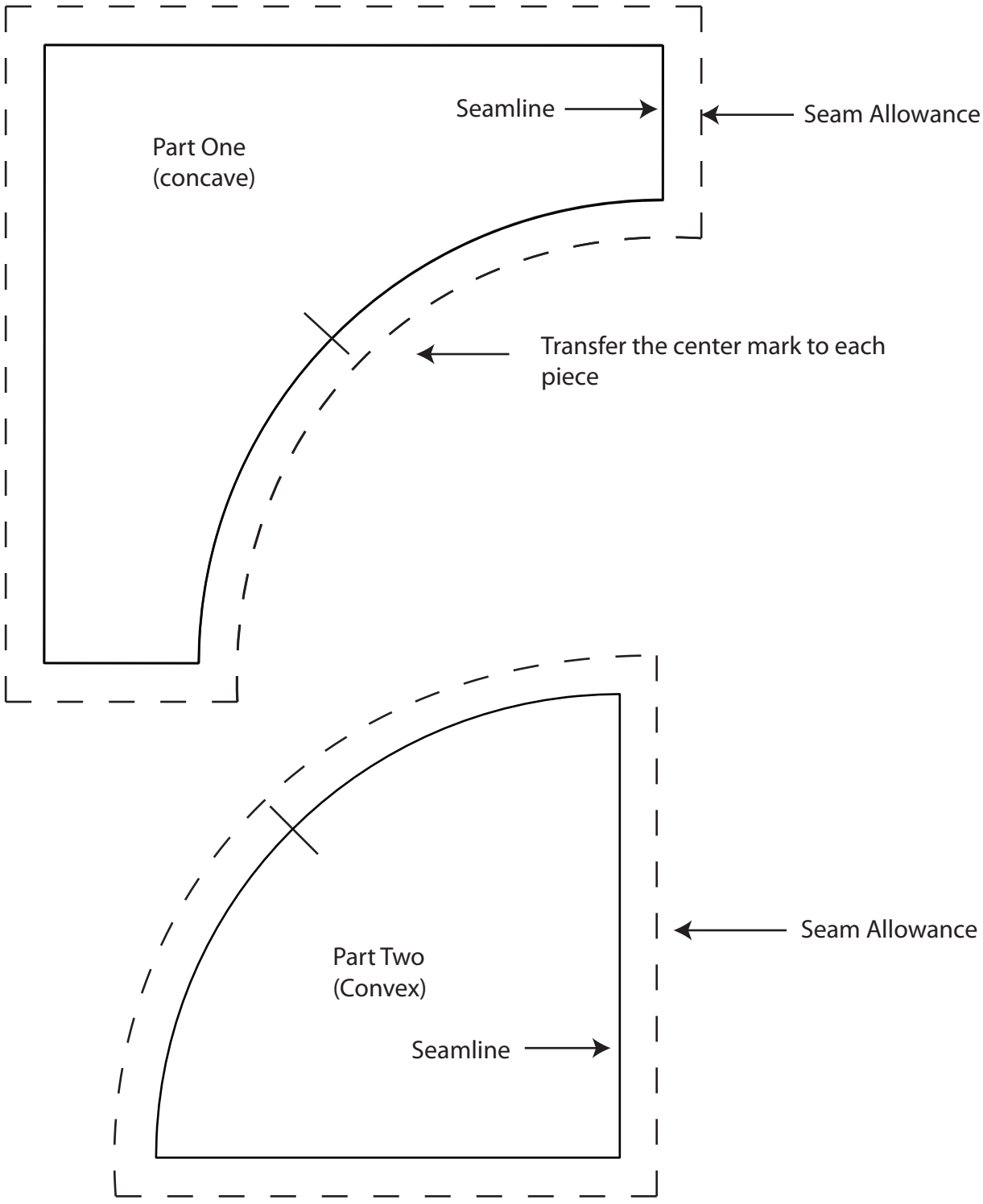


Part one is dark
Part two is light

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Templates

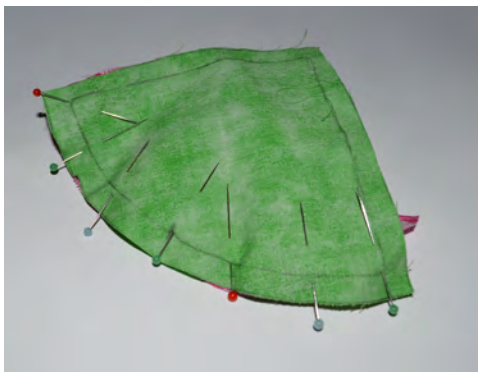


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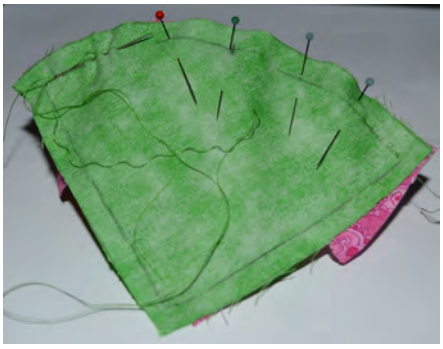
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Sewing A Curved Seam

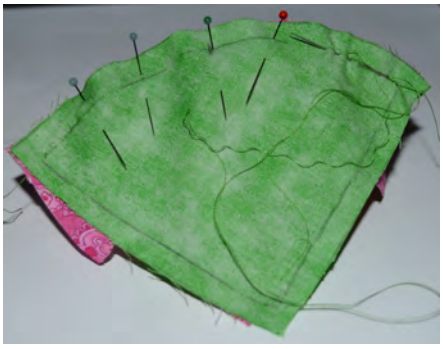
Place part one on table, right side up. Place part two, right side down on top of part one. Align beginning and ending points and fasten with a pin. Align the center mark on each piece and fasten with a pin. Align the drawn seamline while pinning (see photo).



Begin stitching at seamline intersection, going toward the middle, removing pins as you stitch. Backstitch occasionally to secure your stitching. Always double stitch with first and last stitch to secure intersections. Look at reverse side occasionally to make sure your stitching is following the marked line (see picture below).



Left Handed



Right Handed

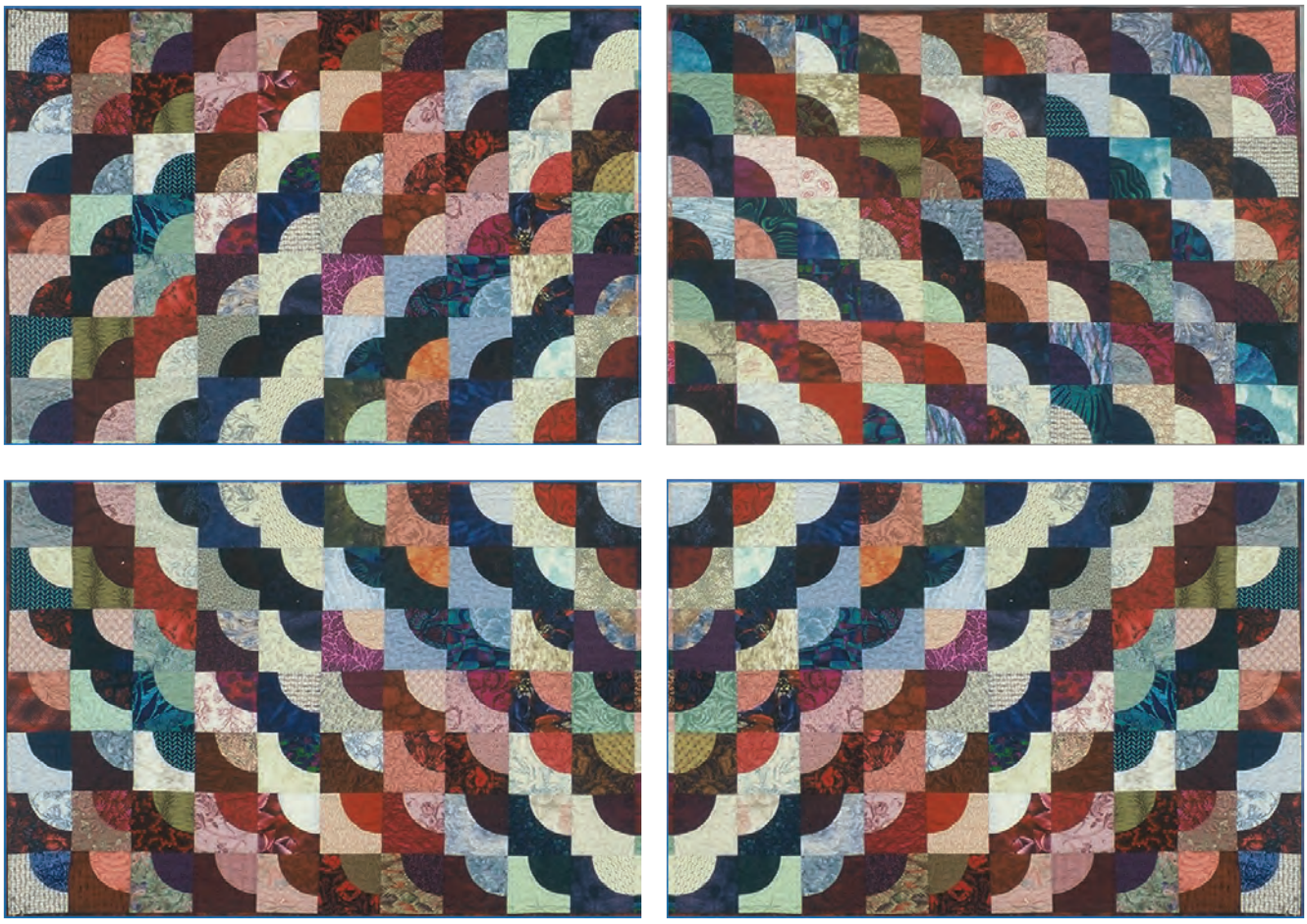


Backside view

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Layout



Once curved seam on all units are sewn, arrange them as in the above photos. For hand piecing, stitch units together by pinning at each intersection and stay stitching your first and last stitch for each unit. Do not stitch down the seam allowance.

For machine pin units together at each intersesction.

Once squares/units are sewn into rows and then sections, the four sections can be sewn together.

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