

## August 2013 Dresden Sunflower



12 inch finished block

We Supply:	You Supply :
One 13 ½" X 13 ½" square Green fabric One 5" X 5" square Brown fabric One used fabric softener sheet (optional) 2 pattern pieces	<b>2 or more Yellow/Orange/Gold Fabrics:</b> 4" wide strips of yellow fabric - use at least two different shades, one darker, one lighter.

Note: A tutorial for making a Dresden Plate by Missouri Quilt Co. can be found online at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcy\\_p4pryE4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcy_p4pryE4) The background fabric is intentionally larger than 12 ½ inches as sometimes there is shrinkage when appliquéing the flower. **You can either trim to 12 ½ inches after you are done, or leave it be so the winner can do the trimming.**

### Preparation:

1. Cut out pattern pieces. If you have an **Easy Dresden Quilt** or another acrylic template, use the 4" mark. The center circle pattern piece is 3 1/2 inches wide.



2. Using the wedge-shaped template, cut 20 petals – 10 light and 10 dark from the 4" strip of Yellow/Orange/Gold fabric.

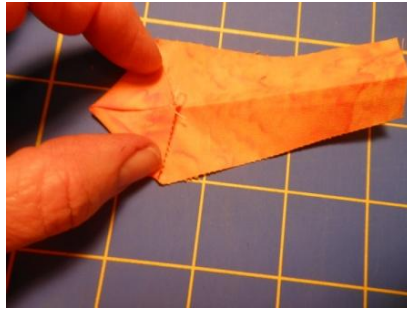


### Sunflower Petals:

3. Fold fabric petals in half lengthwise, right sides together, and press to make a temporary **guideline** down the center of the petal. Sew a scant ¼" seam across the wider end (the top) of the petal. Make a small clip in the folded corner at an angle to reduce bulk in the point.



- Turn the petal right side out, using a turning tool (chopsticks work great) to make a sharp point where the seam line meets the fold. Using the temporary **guideline** from step 3, line up the seam to the guideline to make an even point (see picture). Press the point flat and iron out the temporary guideline. Repeat for all petal pieces.



- Place one light and one dark petal piece right sides together and sew with a 1/4 inch seam. Take two or three backstitches at the top edge (nearest the point - see photo on right), as this will help the flower petals from pulling apart while you work with them. Sew all 20 petals together to make a circle. Press seams in one direction.



### Block Construction

- Fold the 13 1/2" square in half, right sides together. Press to create a guideline. Repeat in other direction so the square is divided into 4 sections.



- Center the flower petals on this square by centering every 5<sup>th</sup> point directly on a pressed guideline. Pin in place. Appliqué the flower to the square using your favorite method.



## Finishing

- Trace the circle template on to the Brown 5 inch square. Appliqué the circle to cover the open center and ends of the flower petals using your favorite method. The Turn-Method of appliqué is shown in steps 9 and 10.



### Turn-Method Appliqué:

- Place a used fabric softener sheet (or you can use sew-in lightweight interfacing) on the right side of the fabric. Sew directly on the drawn circle line (step 8) through both layers. Cut out the circle, leaving a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance all the way around.



- Cut an X in the center of the fabric softener sheet only. Reach inside and pull the brown fabric through the X. Using a turning tool, gently push on the seam line to make sure the circle is completely turned out and is smooth. Press the circle flat. Now appliqué the circle as directed in step 8.

