



That's Sew Special! Giant Dahlia Handout

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Class: The Giant Dahlia

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As you move through the website photos, make yourself some notes as to the choices you prefer to make with your Dahlia before choosing your fabrics:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dark center | <input type="checkbox"/> Hard circle edge | <input type="checkbox"/> Strong points within |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light center | <input type="checkbox"/> Floating dahlia | <input type="checkbox"/> Light placement? |

Preparation Help:

- 1) DO NOT USE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED WITH TEMPLATES. I have tips and techniques that you will learn as we work together in class.
- 2) Starch your fabrics first for the best cutting results. Cut carefully and accurately. Do all cutting before any marking. Marking may be left until the sewing step in class.
- 3) Separate all of your templates and remove protective papers.
- 4) If your templates slide, use a glue stick on the template back to help the template stay put better on the fabrics (it is easily washed off).
- 5) Examine and cut large prints first, starting with largest pieces you desire, but cutting all before moving to others. Be sure you have 16 repeats of each before you cut!
- 6) Cut no more than two pieces of any template at any time! Two is recommended for accuracy.
- 7) Cut 16 of each template A-H, and 32 of Piece I.
- 8) Take a picture of your arrangement to reference if you have multiple fabrics per template.
- 9) Stack arcs together to stay organized if desired.
- 10) Be sure to bring all marking tools with you to class. No sewing before first class!

Remember to bring your templates to class! Additionally, a stiletto can be very helpful with the feeding of the pieces through your sewing machine. Come to class with all fabric precisely cut, ready for sewing. We'll explore how to successfully match the points of the gentle curved pieces and see the arcs of the Dahlia come alive. There are nine pattern pieces of varying sizes in a Dahlia, and some pieces may be of two or more fabrics, so layout on a design wall is recommended, as is labeling and keeping your pieces in sandwich bags to make assembly pain free. If you want to fussy cut your pieces, you will require enough fabric to have 16 repeats of your desired motif. Amounts listed below are for small print or solid fabrics ONLY! Pieces are labeled 'A' through 'I', starting at the center, and require the following amounts of fabric:

A – a fat eighth. Cut 16.
B – a fat eighth. Cut 16.
C – a fat eighth. Cut 16.
D – 3/8 of a yard. Cut 16.

E – 5/8 of a yard. Cut 16.
F – 7/8 of a yard. Cut 16.
G – 7/8 of a yard. Cut 16.
H – 3/8 of a yard. Cut 16.

I – 3/8 of a yard. Cut 32.
Background - 3 3/4 yds. Cut 8*

* The background is four pairs of mirrored pieces cut to the pattern provided. You will receive the pattern for the background at the first class.

Bring to class all cut and labeled pieces, and the following supplies:

- Snips or small scissors for clipping threads
- Thin straight pins
- Spray starch, sizing, or Mary Ellen's Best Press
- Iron & ironing mat (be prepared to share)
- Rotary cutting mat, at least 12 x 18 inches
- Sharp rotary cutter, 45mm size or smaller
- Blendable threads for sewing
- Sewing machine in good working order
- At least two bobbins
- Stiletto
- Glue stick
- Marking pencils & pens

Please feel free to contact me with any questions! I love to talk Dahlia!

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