



Combining plain solids with a few fat quarters of a favourite print collection is a great way to make a designer fabric go further

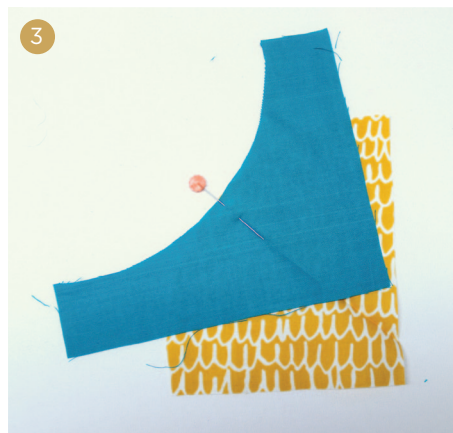
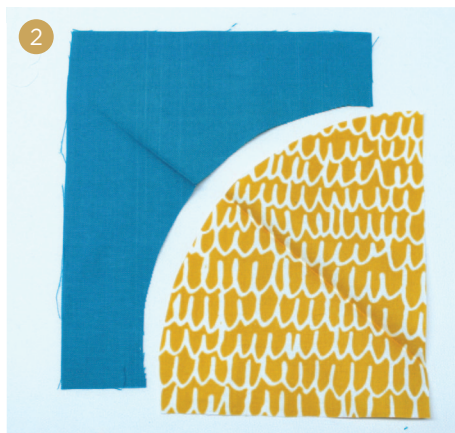
# Sweet circles

Learn how to get curves in all the right places with this vibrant mini quilt project that's much simpler than it looks

Project and photography by **VANESSA LYNCH OF PUNKIN PATTERNS**







## HOW YOU MAKE IT

### MATERIALS

- ♥ 4 fat quarters of print fabric
- ♥ Two ½ yd cuts of solids – I used Cloud9's Cirrus solids in Limestone, Ash and Turquoise
- ♥ ½ yd fabric, for sashing
- ♥ Basic sewing box



FOR TEMPLATES PLEASE  
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### FINISHED SIZE

Approximately 36" x 48"

### CUTTING NOTES

✂ Cut out 48 circle pieces, outer circle pieces and rectangles. The rectangles measure 7"x 1½", so you can cut them out with a ruler instead of a template if you wish.

1 Lay out an inner circle piece and an outer circle piece. Note that the pieces are not symmetrical; the solid black circle on the pattern pieces shows which direction they should be in relation to one another.

2 Fold the inner circle piece, right sides together, so that the end points of the curved side are touching. The straight sides will not align because the piece is not symmetrical. Press to create a seam, as shown.

Repeat for the outer circle piece, folding wrong sides together to align the ends of the curve. Press.

3 Turn the outer circle piece wrong side up onto the inner circle piece, making sure that the pressed seams sit inside each other. (The outer circle piece is a solid, so it looks the same on both sides.) The pieces are now right sides together. Pin in the centre seam only.

4 Pull the end of the outer circle piece to line up with the edge of the inner circle piece,

as shown. While you are sewing the pieces together, make sure the bottom inner circle piece remains flat. The outer circle piece will curve to fit.

5 With your sewing machine set to a smaller than usual stitch length, begin sewing the edges together slowly. As you turn your fabric, re-adjust the top fabric to make sure the edges line up.

6 Remove the pin as you go, and stop at the centre to re-adjust the second half. Align the other edges and hold them firmly in place as you begin to sew the second half of the curve.

7 Press the piece flat when you're done.

8 Next sew a rectangle to the side of the block. It will fit on only one side: the other side will be too short. Press flat.

Repeat this block construction to make a total of 48 blocks.





Vanessa used Skinny laMinx's new Yoyogi Park collection for cloud9fabrics.com  
For UK stockists see [www.hantex.co.uk/cloud9](http://www.hantex.co.uk/cloud9)  
Turn to page 70 to find out more about Skinny laMinx designer Heather Moore

9 Trim each of the blocks to a  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square. To do this, use a patchwork square ruler (it can be larger than  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square). Align the  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " line with the sashing seam. The spot where the circle meets the sashing should be at the intersection of 1" and  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ". The top of the circle should be at the 6" ruler line over to the left and at the 1" line down. Trim the left and top side of the block.

10 Rotate the block so that the  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " ruler lines are on the edges you just cut. Trim the top and left side again. You now have your perfect  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square block. Repeat for all of the 48 blocks.

### ASSEMBLING THE QUILT

When all your blocks are sized and ready, arrange them in larger blocks of four to complete a circle design. Sew together. Next sew your larger circle blocks together in a grid of 3 x 4 blocks to create the quilt top (see diagram, right).

Baste and quilt as desired.

