

Easy Peasy 6 minute Circles

Apparently quilters have a love/hate relationship with circles but after you learn this painless, pin less piecing technique you'll want to put them on all your quilts!

1. Cut two pieces of freezer paper the size of your background fabric (Pat's block) 12" and two pieces size of inner circle (Pat's block 9") fabric.
2. Fuse together; place both shiny sides down working from the middle to avoid bubbles.
3. Fold on diagonals to find center.
4. Using a compass to measure out the circle diameter; for a (Pat's) 12" circle set compass at 4", for the 9" set no larger than 3"
5. Cut out using paper scissors, the square with the hole is the negative space pattern and the circle is the positive part.
6. Fuse shiny side of negative space pattern to wrong side of your background fabric.
7. Cut out the fabric from the inside of circle leaving at least 1/2" seam allowance.
8. Cut & clip the seam allowance to within 1/8" from the pattern, this is called the "fringe".
9. Use washout glue around the opening on the paper pattern, let dry. Use your finger to fold and press the "fringe" over the edge of the pattern; use a dry iron to press the seam.

TIP: Go lightly with the glue on paper; heavily with the permanent glue on fabric!

10. Using your protective cloth on your work surface, generously apply permanent glue on the edge of the clipped seam; band of glue should be applied 1/2" wider from folded edge.
11. Wipe away any excess glue from front of circle.
12. Cut your "positive" square 1 1/2" larger than the circle; (your stash Batik 10 1/2") you want to cover the clipped/glued fringe.

13. Now place glued side of background fabric onto right side of square of your circle fabric; finger press; turn over and press with dry iron until glue is dry.
14. Remove the paper from fabric; peel the fabric from the shiny side first.
15. Press the circle to make a sharp crease at the fold; this forms the sewing line.
16. Attach your zipper foot onto your sewing machine; the clipped “fringe” seam is right side up and extends to the right of the needle. Sew 1 thread to the right of the crease; stitching a continuous seam around the circle.
17. Trim to $\frac{1}{4}$ ”, pressing towards the circle makes the block look appliquéd on top of the background; pressing away makes it look like reverse appliquéd.
18. Repeat steps for second circle.

