



<b>Technique:</b>	Piecing, Hand Quilting
<b>Skill Level:</b>	Intermediate
<b>Crafting time:</b>	Weekend

Create a clamshell design using the English paper-piecing technique, then outline the silhouette with hand quilting using Coats Bold Hand Quilting thread.

**Finished Sizes of Project:**  
14" x 14" (35.5 mm x 35.5 mm)

**Supplies**

- Coats Dual Duty XP General Purpose thread
- Coats Paper Piecing Thread
- Coats Bold Hand Quilting thread
- Fabric squares in assorted prints (4 shells can be cut from a 5" square)
- 45 2" clamshell paper templates (available from [www.paperpieces.com](http://www.paperpieces.com))
- Basting thread
- FreeSpirit Designer Essentials Cotton Linen, ½ yd.
- FreeSpirit Designer Essentials Cotton, 5/8 yd. for binding and backing
- 16" square of cotton or muslin for pillow top backing
- Low Loft batting, 16" square
- Pillow form, 14"
  
- Hand sewing needles
- Scissors
- Rotary cutter, ruler and cutting mat
- Sewing machine

## Instructions

1. Cut fabrics for clamshells allowing around  $\frac{3}{8}$ " extra around the paper shapes.

**TIP:** A Perspex template is available from PaperPieces.com to be used for tracing clamshells if preferred. (PICTURE 1)



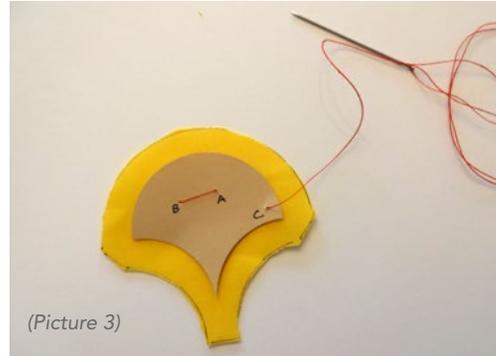
(Picture 1)

2. Baste top curved edges of 45 clamshell pieces. Place paper piece in middle of cut shape. (PICTURE 2)



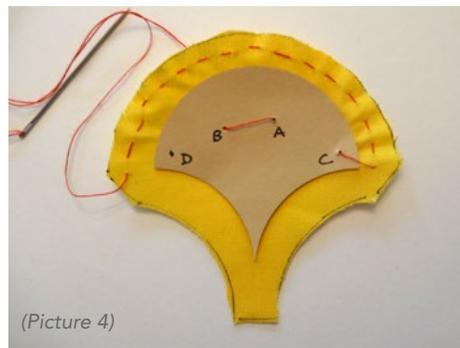
(Picture 2)

Knot basting thread and come up from paper side at **A**. Go back through at **B** to secure paper in place then come out again at **C** (PICTURE 3).

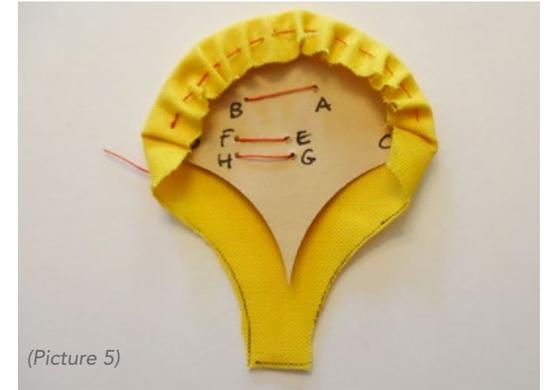


(Picture 3)

Make small running stitches around top edge of fabric, go back through at **D**, (PICTURE 4) pull thread up and secure by making two more stitches **EF** and **GH** finishing on paper side and trim thread (PICTURE 5).

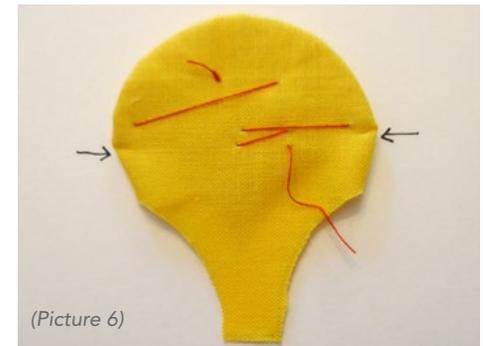


(Picture 4)

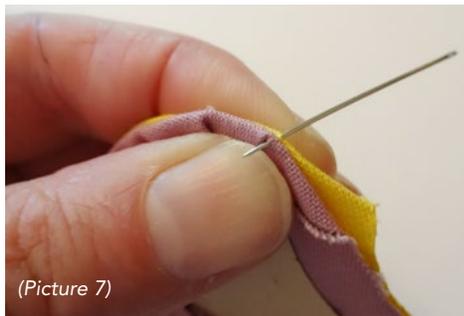


(Picture 5)

3. Arrange and stitch together in 3 rows of 7 pieces and 3 rows of 8. Hold clamshells right side together to stitch at extreme ends of the top arcs using paper piecing thread in a matching or toning color (PICTURES 6,7,8 9 )



(Picture 6)



(Picture 7)



(Picture 8)



(Picture 9)

4. Cut 16" square for front of pillow. (This will be trimmed later.)
5. Mark 1" in from all sides of fabric piece, making a 14" square. Mark a line 5" up from the bottom of this square.
6. Pin first row of clamshells onto pillow fabric matching the bottom of the top arcs to the marked line and hand appliqué top arcs of the clamshells to pillow front. Remove basting and papers before pinning and stitching the next row down.

**TIP:** Using a paper template will help in correct placement.

7. Once all the clamshells are stitched on press carefully, mark for hand quilting then layer with batting and backing. Machine stitch in the ditch around the stitched clamshells and then hand quilt the rest of the top.

**TIP:** Coats Bold hand quilting thread and a big even stitch adds a lovely design element to the pillow

Trim your top and assemble pillow. Insert pillow form.

**TIP:** Use your favorite method for making pillows. The front of the pillow will finish at about 14". The pillow shown was finished with a simple overlapping back sewn wrong sides together with the top, with a 1/2" (finished) binding all the way around.

