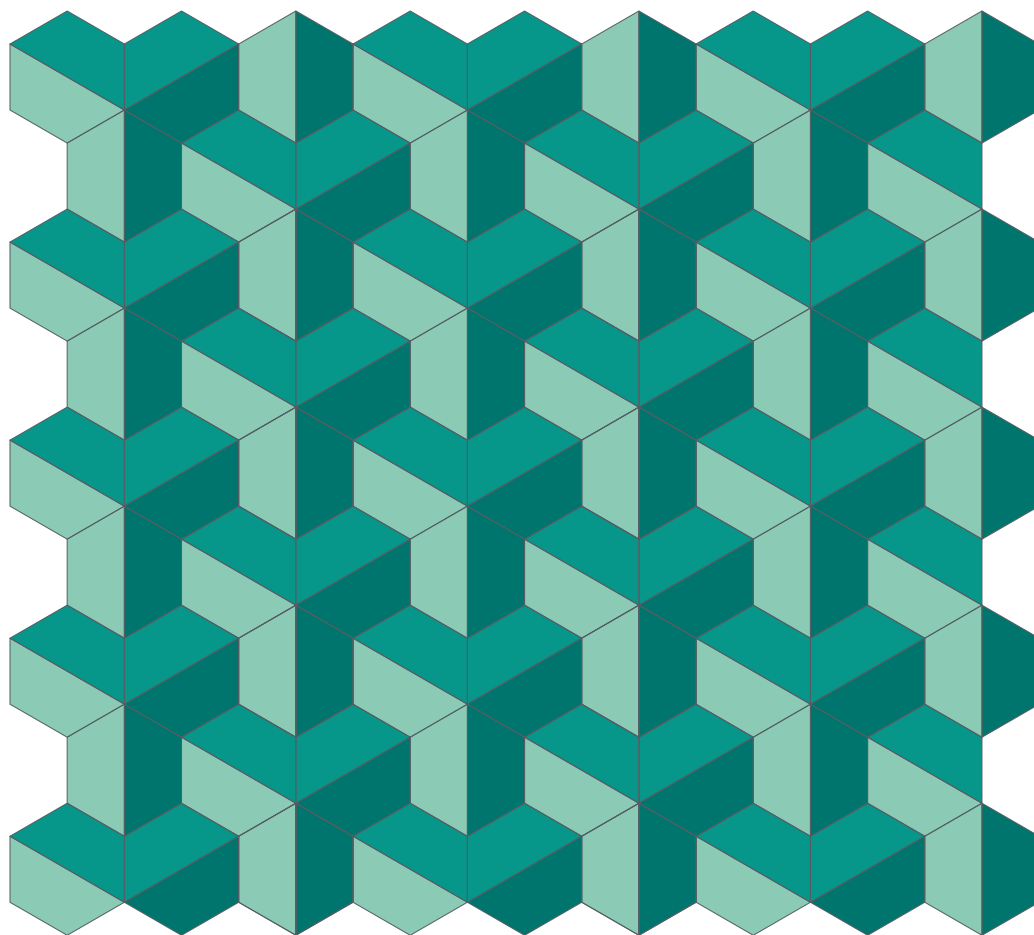


2020 50WT COLOR BUILDERS HALF-HEXIES BLOCK



◆ English Paper Pieced Pattern



FINISHED SIZE

approx. 15½" x 14"

Did you know? English Paper Piecing [EPP] has been around since the late 18th century, and does in fact have its origins in England. EPP is a fun, relaxing, and portable piecing method done entirely by hand, with tools and supplies most thread enthusiasts already have.

PAPER PIECES & NOTIONS REQUIRED:

- 📏 (154) 1" half hexagons (see note below)
- 📏 Fabric friendly glue stick for basting (or a contrasting thread if you prefer to stitch)
- 📏 Thread to match fabrics (your Color Builders)
- 📏 Preferred cutting tools (rotary cutter, cutting mat, etc.)
- 📏 Hand sewing needle(s) (size 10 works well; see note below)

For the half hexagons— There are lots of places to purchase pre-cut EPP paper templates. If you prefer to print and cut your own, we've included a printable template for half hexies on the last page of this pattern. If you're making your own, you'll find that thicker paper will give you a firm edge to fold the fabric over when basting. You might consider using some old file folders, or any cardstock-like paper you have around.

A note about needles— It's really about preference. A sharps will do it, or a milliners or straw needle (both are a little longer). You'll hear that a Clover Gold Eye appliqué needle, or a Tulip Hiroshima Milliners is the best. Use what you're comfortable with. Many people do prefer a longer, and possibly more flexible needle. If that is true for you check out appliqué needles. They offer extra length and a fine point to minimize how much the fibers of the fabric are pushed apart as you stitch.

FABRIC REQUIRED:

- 📏 3 Fat quarters total of 3 values of the same color—
1 light, 1 medium, & 1 dark

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Using one of the half-hexie paper pieces as a template, cut the fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ " – $\frac{3}{8}$ " larger than the half-hexie on all sides. Use as much of an allowance as you're comfortable with, or if you're fussy cutting, use how much you can. You need enough to wrap the fabric around the paper template and baste into place using your preferred method!

You will need the following half-hexies total:

- 📏 (54) light half-hexies
- 📏 (50) medium half-hexies
- 📏 (50) dark half-hexies

ASSEMBLY:

[1] *Baste the half-hexies*, using your preferred method. For glue basting draw a very thin line of glue about an $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge of your paper piece. A little glue goes a long way. Or, if you prefer, you can secure the fabric around the template with a few basting stitches. Use contrasting thread so your work is easier to see. It's on the back, so don't worry because you won't see it once the piece is finished.

ASSEMBLY, CONTINUED:

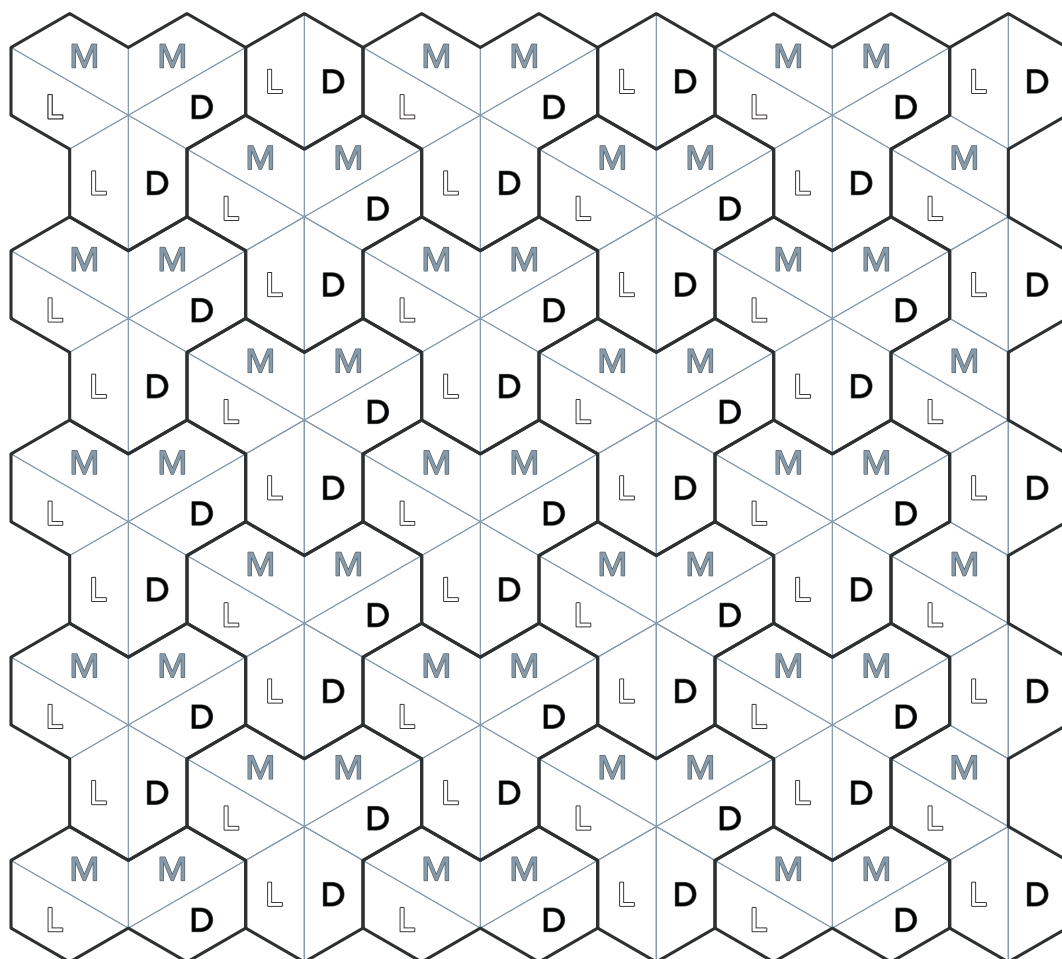
[2] Create full hexies by joining two half-hexies with a whip stitch or flat back stitch. The whip stitch method involves placing your two fabric pieces right sides together and pinching them to hold (clips can be very handy for this). Then insert your needle in through just a few threads of fabric on both pieces and tie a small knot. Stitch along the entire seam and end with another knot.

Flat Back stitches are ideal when you want your sewing to be completely invisible. Begin by placing your two pieces face up, the way they join. Place a piece of masking tape over where the seam will go, on the front side of the pieces to be joined. The tape will hold the pieces in place while you stitch. Now flip the unit over. You will work on the back with the unit flat. Begin with a knot, then follow along the seam until you're ready to finish with another knot.

You will need the following half hexie combinations total:

- ◆ (27) medium & light
- ◆ (23) medium & dark
- ◆ (27) light & dark

[3] Once you have the hexies together, join them into larger units, or sections, following the layout diagram below.





1" Half-Hexies Template

1" TEST
SQUARE