## Double Aster

From Quilts Galore
www.quilterscache.com
These instructions augment the instructions given on the website for Peninsula Piecemakers Quilt Guild (PPQG) Block of the Month (BOM) with detailed instructions and pictures to make the construction of the block easier.

You received the eight pieces of fabric in your BOM kit. Three pieces of aqua fabric. One piece of orange. Three pieces of black fabric.

You'll make the following cuts: (Please ignore the cat tail in the picture. That is not in your kit!)

Start by cutting the purple 5-1/2 x 11" strip into two 5-1/2" squares. Stack and cut these once on the diagonal to make four half square triangles...
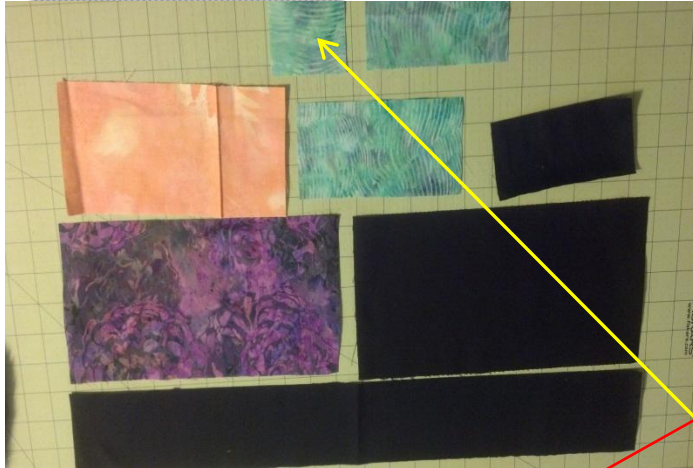
Next cut the ORANGE 3-7/8" x 7-3/4" strip into two 3-7/8" squares. Stack these and cut them once on the diagonal to get four half square triangles...
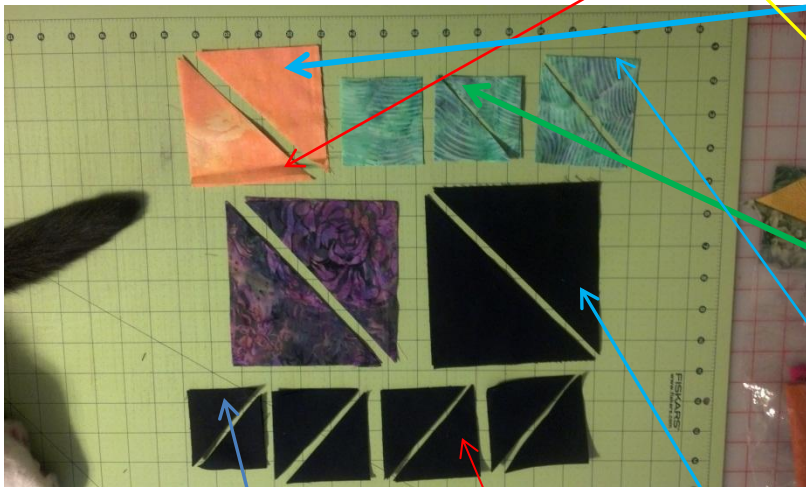
Then cut the AQUA 2-1/2" x 5" strip into two 2 1/2" squares. Stack and cut these to make four SMALL half square triangles. Cut the AQUA 3" x 6" strip into two 3" squares and cut these to make four MEDIUM half square triangles. Plus the 2 5/8 AQUA square that will be used for the center.

Now cut the BLACK 2-1/2" x 5" strip into two 2-1/2" squares. Stack and cut these to make four SMALL half square triangles. Cut the BLACK 3" x 18" strip into six 3" squares and cut these to make twelve MEDIUM half square triangles. Cut the BLACK 5-1/2" x 11" strip into two 5-1/2" squares and cut these to make four LARGE half square triangles...

Sewing the Block
** Scant 1/4" seams are used throughout the sewing process **
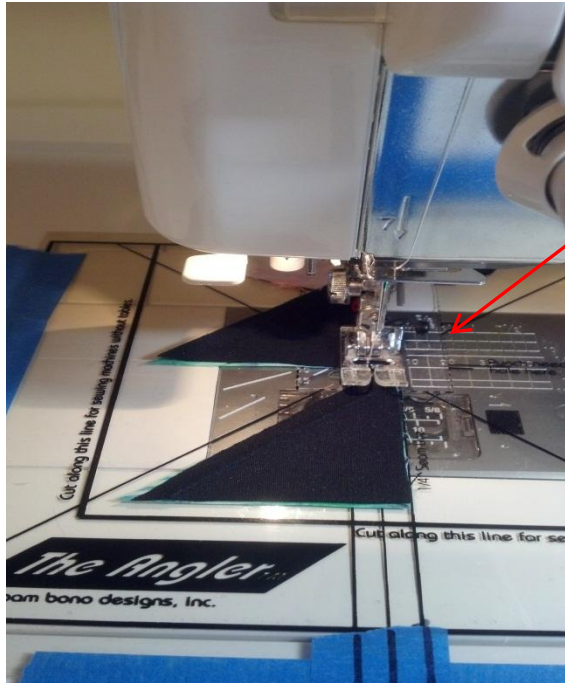
Sew pairs of SMALL (from 2 ½" squares) AQUA and **BLACK** half square triangles right sides together on the SHORT side of the triangle to make **four** pieced triangles as shown at top left.
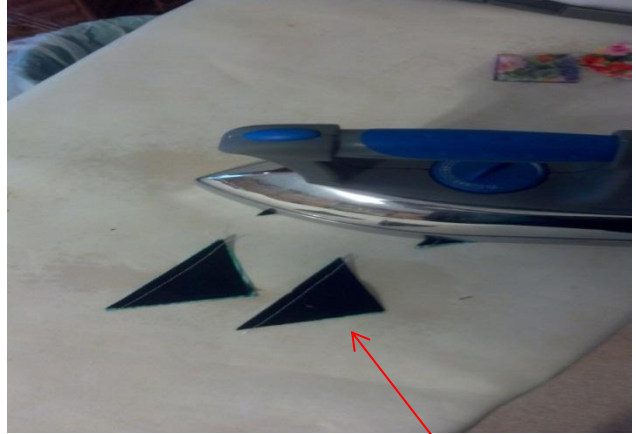

If you have trouble with your triangles distorting when you press them open, try this. Press the triangles flat first to set the thread in the seams. Then press the triangle open. There will be little or no distortion in the triangles when you do this!
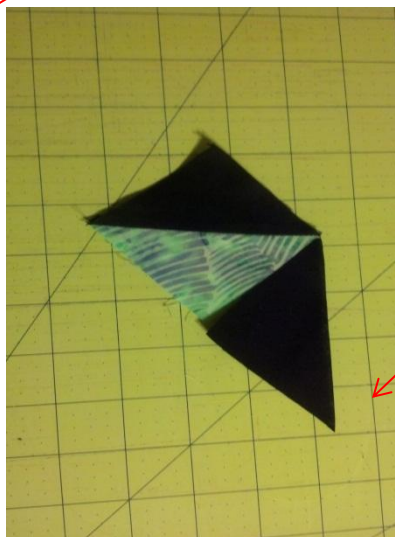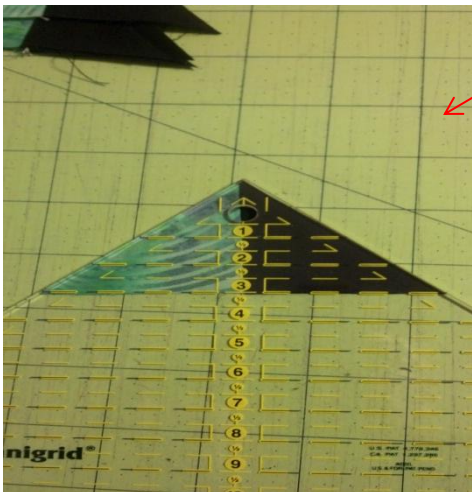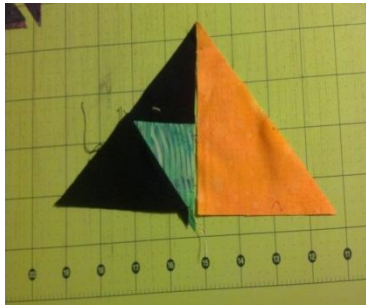

Also, slide your iron against the seam when you press the seam open towards the dark side. This will avoid distortion also.
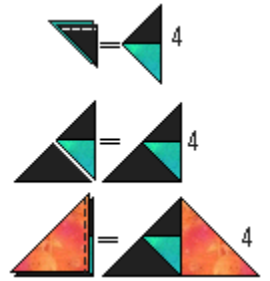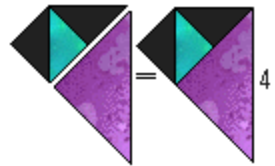

Square up triangles with Omnigrid triangle ruler.

Add a MEDIUM **BLACK** triangle (from the 3" squares) to the AQUA side of each of those, making four units as shown middle left.

Add an ORANGE half square triangle to the right to make **four** of the units shown at bottom left. These are the pieced units. Set these aside for now...

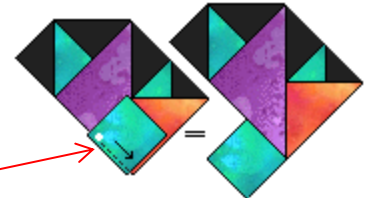Now sew together pairs of AQUA and **BLACK** MEDIUM triangles (FROM 3" SQUARES) to make four of the units shown at top left. Add another **BLACK** MEDIUM triangle to the AQUA side of each of those to make four of the units shown at middle left. Now add a PURPLE half square triangle to each of the units we just made, making four of the units. These are the pieced units. To position the purple triangle, fold the triangle in half on the long side. Make a small crease and mark with a pin. Then match the crease with the seam line of the aqua and black triangles.
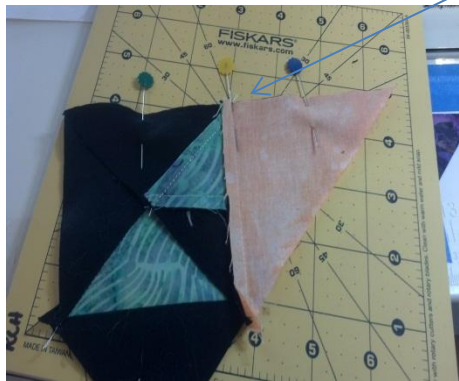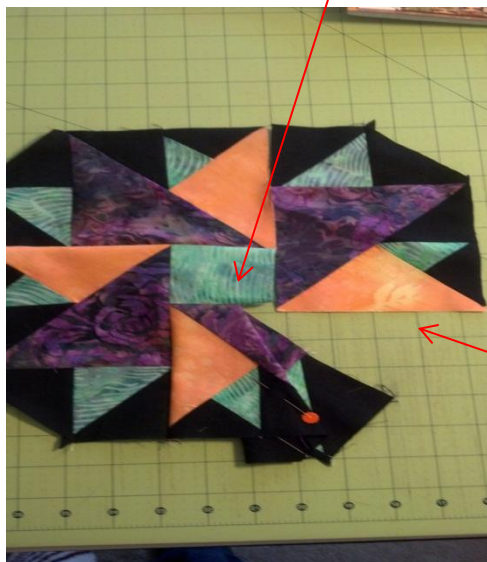
 Next sew one of the ORANGE pieced units we first made to each of the PURPLE pieced units we just made. Make four of these.
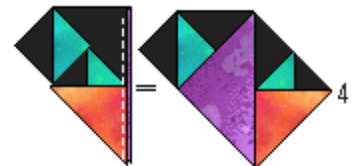
Then sew the AQUA 2-5/8" square to the bottom right edge of one of the larger pieced units, starting approximately 1" from top edge. This will keep you from having to do a Y seam.

Sew the units around to the bottom right edge of one of the larger pieced units, starting at a point 1/4" from the inner edge of the square and stitching to the outer edge. After you sew the 4th unit on, you can go back and sew the first seam and have all 4 seams sewn with no Y seam. YEA!
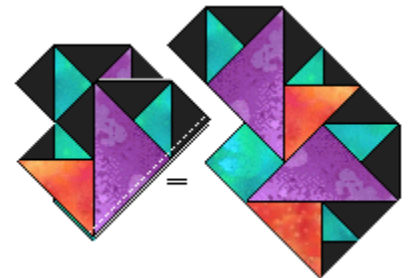
Now add the four **BLACK** LARGE half square triangles to the four corners, using the crease the middle of the triangle and the block edges to find the middle and match with pins, then sew.

Square up the block to 12 ½". The block is complete