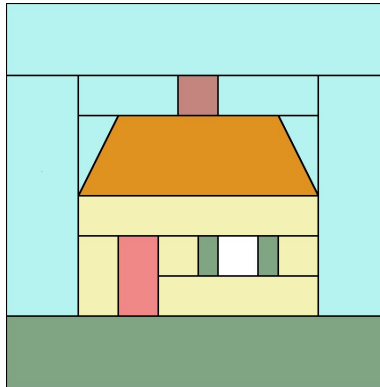


**ANDY'S HOUSE**  
12½" unfinished (12" finished)



**Fabrics Needed:** Scraps for the house, door, window, roof, chimney, and background. How much and colors depends on your house. We have supplied the **shutter** fabric.

4" square for shutters, cut in half lengthwise to form 2 rectangles 2" x 4"

There are only a few things to do when getting ready to paper piece. Use a sharp needle, either an 80/12 or 90/14 with regular sewing thread.

Shorten your machine's default stitch one notch. For example, my machine defaults at 2.5 so I shorten it down to 2.0. It needs to be short enough so the seam is strong enough to hold when the paper is torn away, but not so short as to cause the paper to fall off before you are done.

If you have to rip out a few stitches (or a whole piece), work from the fabric side of your piece.

Press after each number addition to your piece. I've scorched the paper a time or two, but I've never had it burst into flames yet. Use a dry iron, or the paper will get mushy and ink will run.

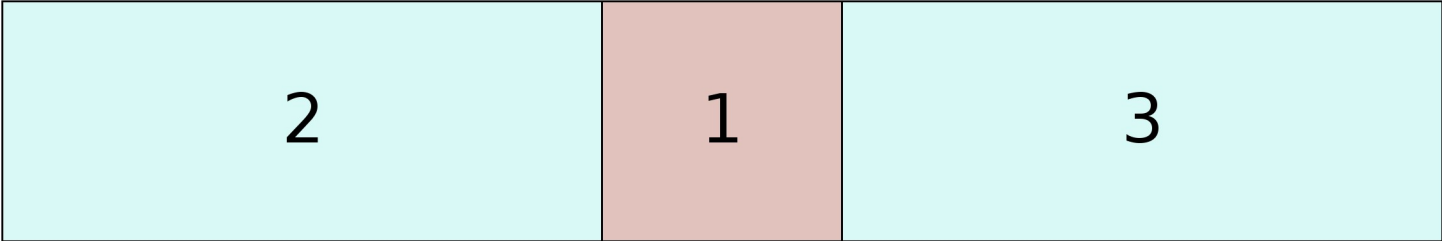
Whatever you see printed on the foundation will be reversed on the finished work. The chimney piece won't be affected, but the door will suddenly seem to have migrated across the house. It's okay. It's supposed to do that.

**Paper-Piecing Technique:**

Leave the paper in the block until you have the final pieces attached. You can turn it in with the paper still attached.

Always remember, the fabric goes on the plain side of the paper. You sew on the lines printed on the other side of the paper. I know this sounds obvious to anyone who's worked with a foundation paper-pieced project before, but it can be confusing to a beginner.

1. Place a generous chunk of fabric to cover the window (#1) You want it to overlap the square in all directions so you'll have a seam allowance around it. Place a pin down by the #3 side to hold it in place.
2. Place the shutter fabric on top of the #1 piece. Hold the fabrics and paper up to the light or to a window (daytime) to make sure you'll catch in the seam. Pin the shutter fabric in place if you want and turn to the paper side of your work. Sew on the line between the #1 and #2. Start the stitching a few stitches before the line and continue a few stitches beyond the line. (Okay, I can't see through two pieces of fabric and a sheet of paper so I treat my work like a pincushion and stick pins in to see if I'm getting proper coverage.)
3. Flip and press the #2 fabric in place. Check your coverage for seam allowances. You need to extend the fabric beyond the shape of the shutter.
4. Sew on the #3 shutter piece the same way you attached the first one.
5. Continue building your house by sewing on the next higher numbered shape. (If you started with your chimney #1 and background #2 and #3 that's fine, too.)
6. Once you have the house body and chimney section completed, trim them to the dark line surrounding them. This is the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Carefully position the chimney atop the house, matching corners and seam lines. Sew through all thicknesses.
7. Attach the  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " background strips to the sides of your house. Attach the  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " X  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " background to the top and the  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " X  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " base to finish the block.



*Andy Laugel, 2010*

