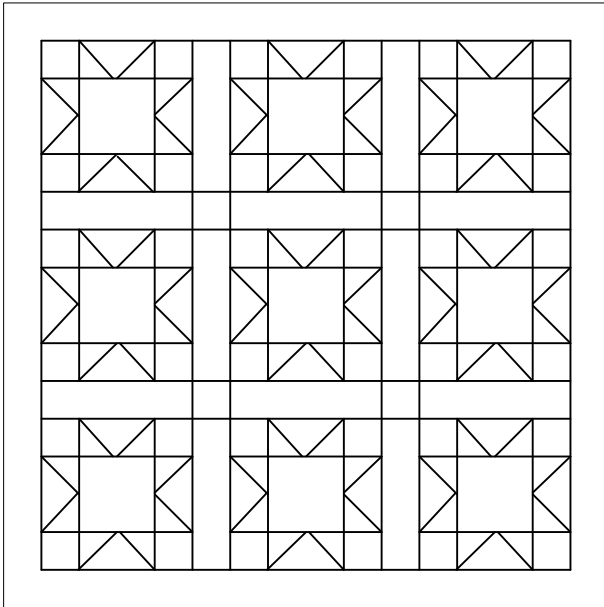




winky wonky setting

design thoughts

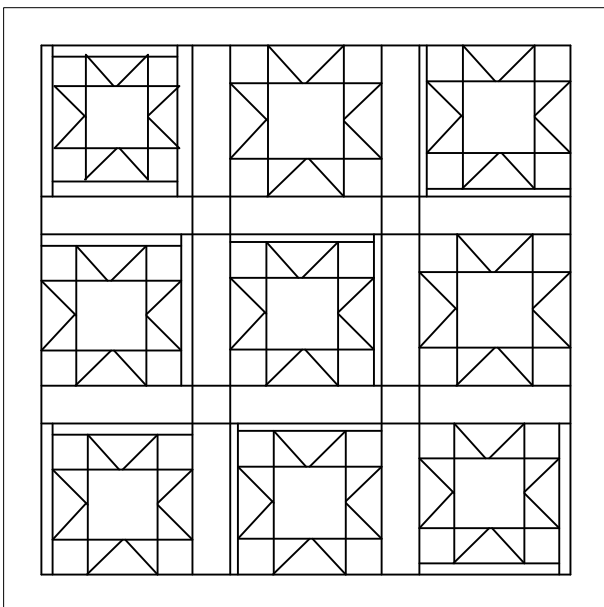


How do you set nine square blocks?

Here are nine sawtooth stars set very traditionally in a grid with sashing and a border.

This is pleasing, but what do you do if the blocks are not all the same size? You might decide to add strips to them to make them up to the same size, and then set them as before.

You might not like the look of all those extra strips. You might fancy setting your blocks at a slight angle. Your blocks might not even be square!



I had nine winky wonky -deliberately not quite square- blocks to set in a three by three grid like this.

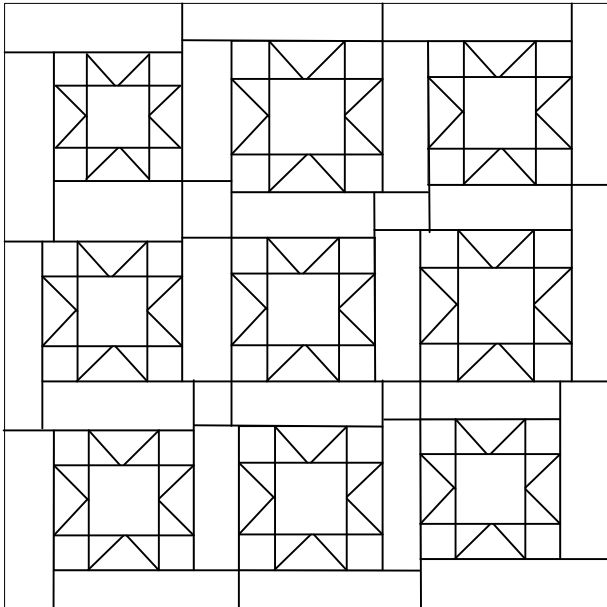
I don't like using templates for large pieces and I knew that if I measured instead I would make ghastly mistakes.

I realised that I didn't need to do either, that I could just lay the blocks out on the setting fabric and cut around them. The block I was using is a rather tortuous variation of the Arabic lattice, and it occurred to me that I could set the blocks using the same technique.

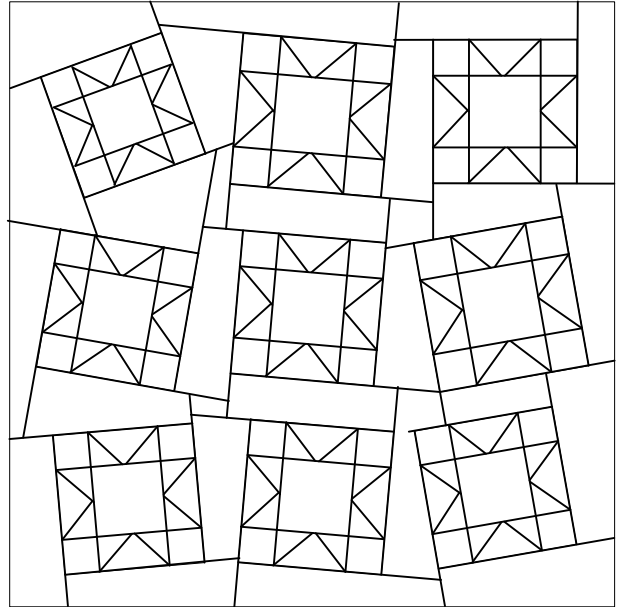
The next few diagrams show the development of my setting idea. For all of these diagrams, I have kept each block roughly the same size and in roughly the same place in the grid.



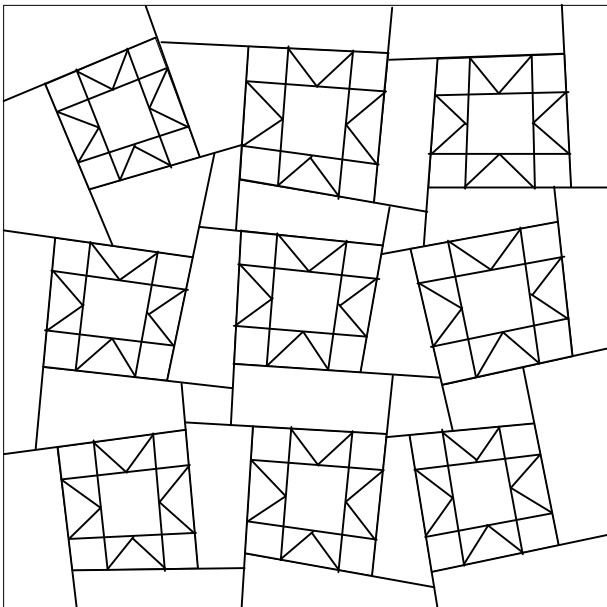
winky wonky setting



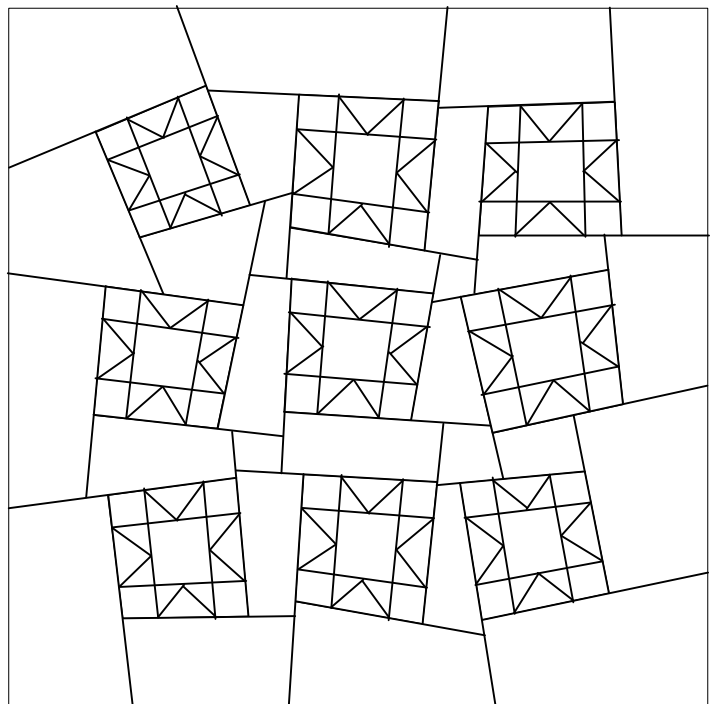
Here are those same differently-sized sawtooth stars set as if each is the centre of an Arabic lattice block



Here are those same blocks each rotated by different angles



Here the blocks are still rotated, but now they are not quite square

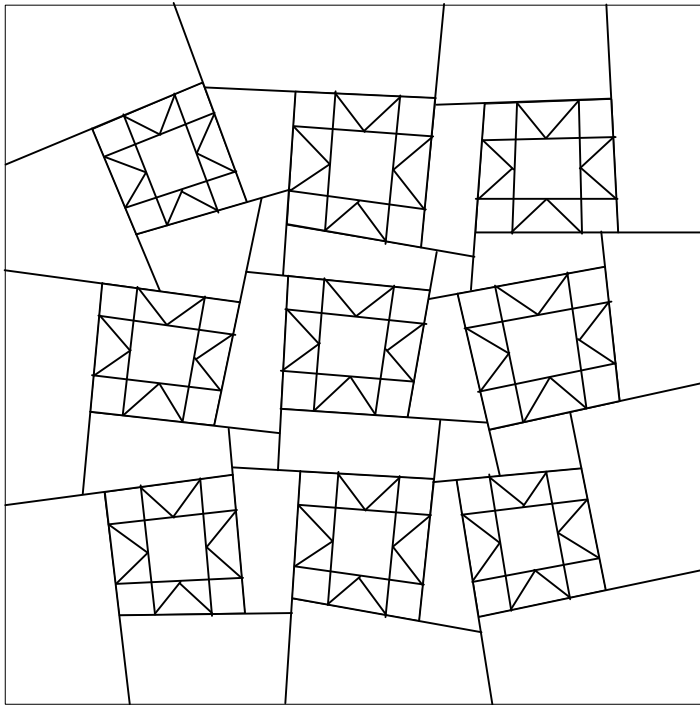


I've added a larger border as I prefer that.



winky wonky setting

cutting the border fabric and naming the pieces



a suggestion for cutting the setting fabric

The lines in this diagram are the cutting lines for the setting fabric.

Cut along the edge of each block, extending the cut until you reach the edge of the setting fabric or until you meet another cut. If you're not sure where the cut should end, just cut a little way beyond the block and complete the cut later.

You may prefer to draw the cutting lines on the setting fabric first!

It takes a leap of faith but, unless your blocks are set closer to 45° than 90°, you don't need to add seam allowances.

A1	B1	C1	D1	E1	F1	G1
A2	B2	C2	D2	E2	F2	G2
A3	B3	C3	D3	E3	F3	G3
A4	B4	C4	D4	E4	F4	G4
A5	B5	C5	D5	E5	F5	G5
A6	B6	C6	D6	E6	F6	G6
A7	B7	C7	D7	E7	F7	G7

a suggestion for naming the pieces

The top diagram shows a grid with the columns labelled alphabetically and the rows labelled numerically.

The bottom diagram shows the winky wonky block layout simplified onto the same grid, with the columns and rows labelled the same way, and blanks for the blocks themselves. But this time, where a setting piece straddles two rows or two columns, I've changed the label to show this.

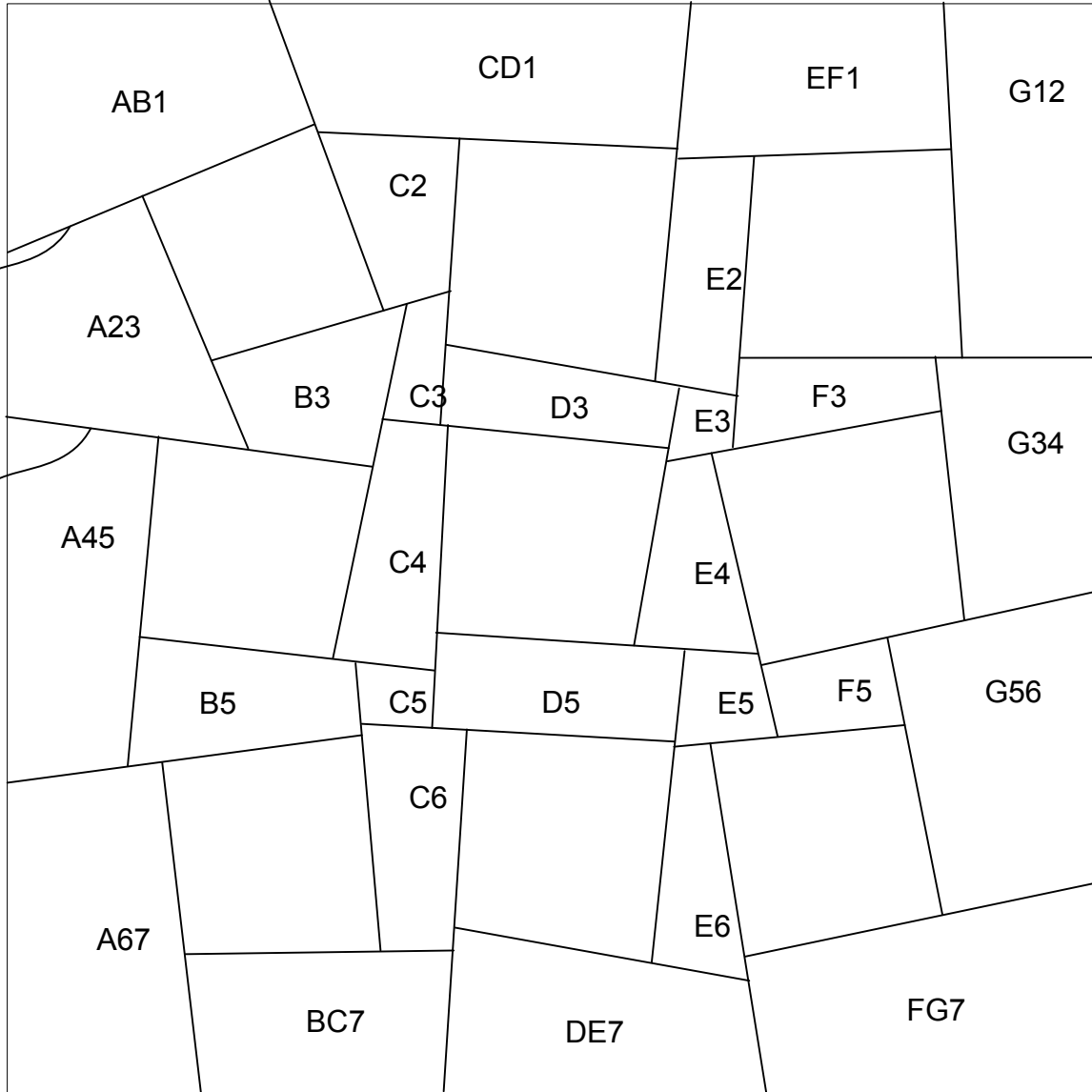
For example, piece AB1 is in row 1 but straddles columns A and B.

AB1		CD1		EF1		G12
A23		C2		E2		G34
	B3	C3	D3	E3	F3	
A45		C4		E4		G56
	B5	C5	D5	E5	F5	
A67		C6		E6		G7
	BC7		DE7		FG7	



winky wonky setting

trim 1/2" from these edges, and repeat for each side



Here is my layout with the pieces labelled using the same method. Again I've left the blocks themselves blank, though you might prefer to label them too.



winky wonky setting



untitled
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