ENGLISH PAPER PIECING GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

• Sue Daley Designs Size 11 Milliners needles. The finer the needles the neater your stitches will be.
• Sue Daley Designs Sewline Glue Pen.
• Superior Bottom Line thread for sewing the pieces together. When you sew the pieces together the thread drags across the top of the card and it shreds therefore weakening the thread. Superior Bottom Line is a polyester thread and is extremely strong. The thread is very fine and it is not necessary to have lots of colours as it blends well and disappears into the fabric.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUE DALEY FABRIC GLUE PEN METHOD

These instructions apply to all shapes when paper piecing.

Fold your fabric into layers if necessary and place your acrylic template on top of the fabric and rotary cut around the shape (you can cut up to 6 pieces at a time).

HINT: If you are fussy cutting you will need to cut one shape out at a time on the same pattern repeat of the fabric for as many shapes as you need.

Lay your fabric shape wrong side up and place the paper shape on top making sure you centre it.

Run the glue pen along one side of the paper shape, keeping the glue away from the edge of the paper. Be careful not to take it over the edge onto the fabric (this will cause a build-up making it difficult to stitch through).
Fold the fabric over and hold for a moment. Continue around the shape in the one direction until all sides are turned over.

**Note:**

1. Don’t use too much glue. You will get the hang of it after you have done a few.
2. In the warm weather the glue can become soft (i.e. you will use too much). I suggest putting it in the fridge for a few minutes.
3. If you use too much glue and the papers are hard to remove, press with a steam iron and it will relax the glue allowing you to remove the papers more easily.

**Note:** With some of the shapes the corners will fold in nice and neatly (e.g. the hexagon) and others (e.g. diamonds or pies) don’t. See the diagram above. Leave the tails hanging out making sure that the fabric is nice and tight around the card.
TO ASSEMBLE THE PIECES

Place right sides together and make a knicker knot.

**The Knicker Knot**
Pass the needle through all layers to start the knot.

Take the double thread and do the opposite - pass to the right side of the needle. Wrapping underneath and around the needle.

Take the single thread and pass under the needle to the left.

Pull the thread through to create the knot.

Whip stitch from corner to corner.

**Note:** Always start with a knicker knot and finish with a knicker knot

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Open them out and with a dry iron give them a press.

Note:
1. When sewing stars or pies together do not sew the tails in. They will automatically lay flat behind your work.
2. When sewing stars or pies make sure that you sew two halves and then sew them together with one seam through the middle. This will eliminate having a hole in the centre of your work.

Paper can be removed once the blocks are surrounded and stabilised by other blocks. Gently peel the fabric back from the papers.

Note: If you are having problems peeling the fabric back from the paper, you have probably used too much glue. Just dampen slightly with water which will soften the glue and help you to peel back the fabric.

Papers can then be re-used a number of times.