

## Grandmother's Fan

Traditionally hand English paper pieced. However we will be constructing this slightly differently using a sewing machine. The fan is divided into segments, for this example we will be dividing it into 6 segments, although in old quilts you can find many more.

You will need:

Background fabric – 12 ½in square of fabric. I suggest that you do not use a plain fabric.

3 fabrics for the fan which contrast with the background fabric. I suggest a light, dark and medium.

One 4 ½ in square of different fabric, perhaps a plain fabric.

Bondaweb - do not use the type that is "tacky" when the backing paper is removed.

Pencil or pen for marking on fabric. You do not have to use an erasable pen for this technique unless your fabric choices are very light, in which case the markings may show through.

Pins

NOTE: you can also just use 2 fabrics for the fan, or 6 fabrics, it is up to you, however this example will be using 3 fabrics.

*Bondaweb is an adhesive sandwiched between two sheets of paper. The paper supports the adhesive whilst drawing as well as ironing. To use, simply remove one paper side leaving the other side on, and lay the adhesive onto the fabric (usually on the back of the fabric) and iron over the paper. The heat makes the adhesive stick to the fabric which, after the removal of the second piece of paper, can then be adhered to another piece of fabric.*

Using the template at the end of these instructions, trace the template 6 times onto the Bondaweb and cut them out. Take the Bondaweb templates to your fabric and remove one of the papers and lay the exposed Bondaweb onto the wrong side of your fabric and iron on. The template is the exact size of the finished fan segment, so allow around half an inch of fabric around the template when cutting out (this can be cut back later to ¼ in after you have joined the segments). Do not remove the 2<sup>nd</sup> paper from the Bondaweb once you have ironed it onto the fabric. Draw around the Bondaweb template with your pen or pencil. See example.



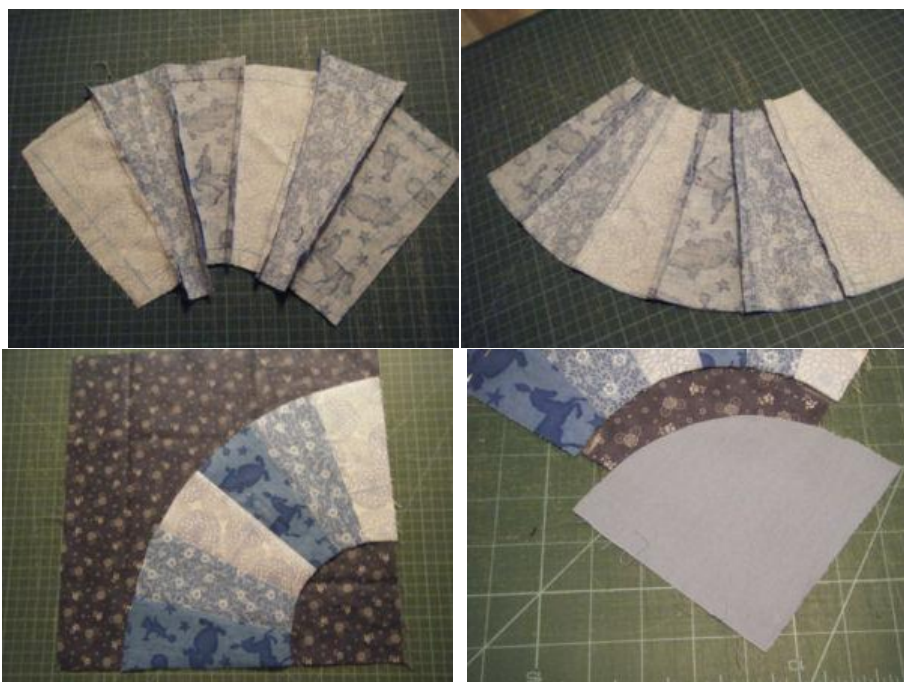
You can now remove the paper from the Bondaweb. Continue until you have all segments cut out and contours drawn.

Take your first two segments and place them right sides together. Looking at your drawn contour, push a pin into the top of one corner of a segment and through into the corner of the adjoining segment, matching up the drawn lines. Then take another pin and put it through the bottom drawn corner of the segment and into the bottom of the other segment. Pin along the length of the two segments matching the drawn lines. Machine stitch just inside the drawn line, down the length of the two segments, joining them together.



DO NOT IRON, but just finger press the seam to one side.. Trim the excess seam fabric to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in; do not trim the top and bottom, just the seam you have just sewed. Continue with the other segments joining the segments together in a similar fashion, making sure you have finger pressed all seams in one direction.

Place your fan right side down. Look at the tops and bottoms of your drawn line. The line should be a smooth curve. If this is not the case, do not despair. Trim the line so that it is smooth. You can use something round, like a saucepan lid or plate to trim your fan if you are not sure you can obtain a smooth curve.



Once you have got your curves, turn your fan right side up and place on your background fabric so it sits 2in from the top and 4in on the bottom. Pin in place. Take your 4½ in square and place it so it fits on the corner and under your fan. Trim to fit ½in under the fan. Now you can iron the fan onto the background fabric and trimmed square. Trim away the excess background fabric under the corner square fabric.

Using a decorative stitch, stitch down the individual segments and top and bottom of the fan.



I hope you enjoy making this alternative method of your Grandmother's Fan.

