

The Case of the Diamond *necklace*

COTDN



Welcome back, detectives!

Have you chosen fabric for the Case of the Diamond Necklace? It's time to start printing and sewing! We have great leads for you.

About Printing on Fabric

When I first got the idea for **Inklingo**, I knew quilters who printed labels or photos on fabric. They had to use specially treated fabric or chemicals because the ink would wash out or fade or bleed. Inkjet ink can make a terrible mess on fabric.

I could see how wonderful it would be to have the cutting and stitching lines on the fabric for hand and machine sewing, and that it would make quilting more accessible to beginners.

However, I needed to make sure the ink would not ruin the quilt. I knew the ink would not hurt the fabric if it was left in forever but I wanted to be able to:

- be sure the ink would wash out, even after pressing
- use the printer and ink I already have
- have a choice of colors that would show on almost any fabric
- use fabric efficiently
- make it easy
- make it affordable

There were two critical factors which made Inklingo possible.

1. **Test Pages**
2. **Custom Page Sizes**

These two concepts take all of the mystery out of Inklingo. When you understand these two key ideas, you can do anything!

Clue # 2



The COTDN mystery is designed to teach some fun Inkingo techniques. Printing is the key!

Printing clues are everywhere:

- **How to test the ink in your printer (Test Pages)**
(Very important evidence!)
- **How to print on fabric (Best Tips)**
(Save time and fabric!)
- The first chapter of The Inkingo Handbook, pages H5 - H48 of the **FREE shape collection**. (Everything in one place.)

There is only a little bit of printing in this clue so we can get right to the sewing. Longtime **Inkingo** quilters already know how to print dozens of pages quickly and easily but I have included some cool tips for them too.

To make everything crystal clear, we usually use **Monkey's Cheat Sheet** to summarize the printing (**example on website**), but this is a mystery, so the Cheat Sheet is presented a little bit differently. It is still intended to be clear and easy to understand, but the evidence is revealed a bit at a time. Most of the printing is in future clues.

The layout diagram (next page) shows how to position the FP on the fabric to make the best use of the yardage.

All of the shapes are printed from the **Inkingo 60° Diamond 1.75 inch Shape Collection**, which you should already have.

We think you will love the way these shapes fit together whether you sew by hand or by machine.

Clue # 2

Use the "cheat sheet" below with the **Inklingo 60° Diamond 1.75 inch Shape Collection**.

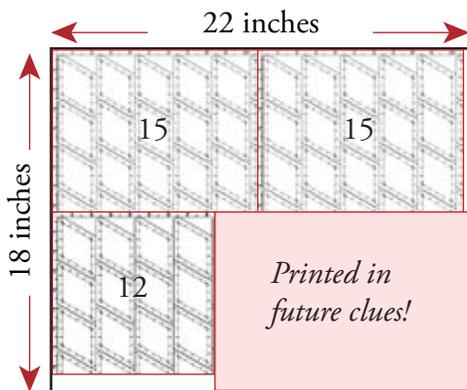
There are more **Print Checklists on the blog** too.



inklingo CASE OF THE DIAMOND NECKLACE

Fabric/Shape	Number Required	Suggested FP Size	Other FP Sizes?	Notes
<i>Focus fabric</i>				
<i>diamond</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>8.5 x 10.75 L</i>	<i>p15</i>	<i>2 sheets of 15</i>
		<i>8.5 x 8.5 P</i>		<i>1 sheet of 12</i>
<i>(layouts 3 and 4 are also suitable - FP sizes on pages 19-21)</i>				

IMPORTANT CLUE



A fat quarter is enough to print all of the shapes required from the focus fabric but it is a very tight fit.

<gasp of horror> If you only have a fat quarter of the focus fabric, you do not have enough to print a 5 x 5 Test Page! Oh! No!

Don't worry. If you don't have enough fabric to print a test, there are tips for determining which color/page to use in Chapter 1 of *The Inklingo Handbook*. In fact, the information in that chapter is so important that I included it in the **FREE shape collection for Diamond/Triangles/Square**. The clue you need is hiding in plain sight on page H36.

VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Always write cheat sheets in pencil.

If this is your first time using Inklingo, it is a good idea to at least skim that whole chapter.

BONUS CLUE

Printing on dark fabric? See the first chapter of the handbook & Top Ten Tutes on the blog.



FUSSY CUTTING OPTIONS

The COTDN design sparkles without fussy cutting. However, 36 of the focus fabric diamonds are sewn into stars and this is the best opportunity for fussy cutting in the COTDN.

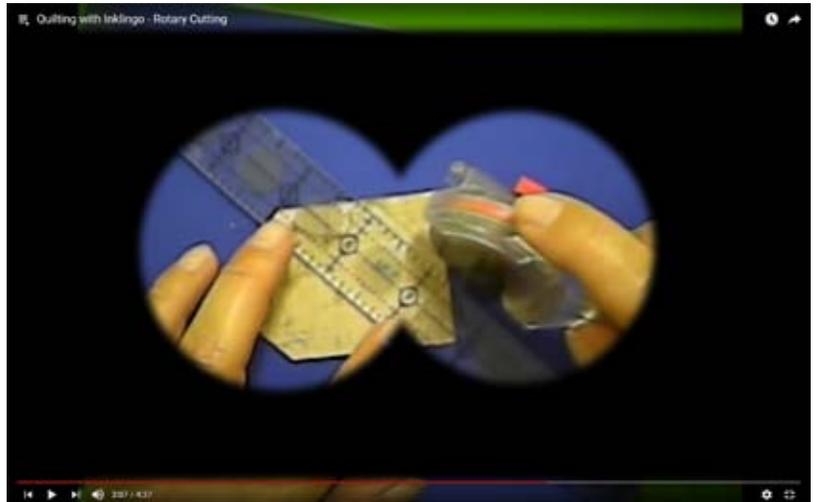
Of course, you will need more fabric if you want to fussy cut but you can use the rest of the fabric for the binding and the back of the COTDN quilt. There are two options:

- 1. Fussy cut 36 of the diamonds* by printing 6 identical sheets of 6 using any of the four diamond layouts.
- 2. Fussy cut all 42 diamonds* by printing 6 identical sheets of 8 using any of the four diamond layouts. (You will have 6 extra diamonds to use to sew a star label for the back of the quilt.)

If you are interested in this option, please see the articles about fussy cutting on the [All About Inkingo](#) blog before Clue # 3 is published.



Surveillance Video Rotary Cutting



ROTARY CUTTING

All printed and ready to cut? The beauty of printing the lines on the fabric! Wow.

The **surveillance video shows how to rotary cut** several layers at a time. The example is for **Lucy Boston Patchwork of the Crosses** hexagons but it works exactly the same way for diamonds.

It is easy and fast to rotary cut diamonds. Wear your diamond necklace and put a fresh blade in your rotary cutter to make it fun.

1. Remove the freezer paper and put it in a safe place. You will need it again later for more diamonds. (Did you label it?)
2. Rotary cut the rows first (single layer).



3. Stack 2, 3 or 4 rows with the cutting lines aligned. Check the lines at the edges (left). Rotary cut using a ruler as a straight edge.
4. If you want to trim the dog ears (optional), cut along the printed lines while the shapes are still stacked.

Isn't it nice just to cut on the lines? No measuring. No templates! Plus, you can use scissors if you need a relaxing portable project.

Surveillance Video Bling for Fingers



As soon as the shapes are cut, we're ready to sew but before you start, let's add some bling—finger jewelry and our diamond necklaces!

Wear your finger pincushions when you sew by hand OR by machine.

Monkey taped **all our best secrets for making finger pincushions** with a hidden camera. Grab your gun (glue). It would be criminal not to follow the trail in his 80 second exposé.

It is fine to tell your friends about it too. Be an informant.



NEW EVIDENCE

Monkey and I use 1/16 inch beading elastic now. It lasts longer and is easier to thread through the buttons than thicker elastic.

Surveillance Video
How to Sew
Diamonds

*TWO secret surveillance videos on the **Main Diamond Page** (under the Shop tab).*



SEWING STARS!

Now that you have printed and cut 42 diamonds, let's sew! You have a relaxing portable project that is ready to go. (No basting! No whip-stitching! No templates!)

IMPORTANT!

Set aside 6 of the diamonds. Sew the other 36 diamonds into 6 stars.

If you are sewing by hand, there are **TWO surveillance videos** with great leads, including "continuous stitching" and "circling the intersection." If you examine the clues, you see key information about the hand piecing method taught in my **Quilted Diamonds books** and in **The Inklingo Handbook**. You will understand how important these two concepts are and why quilters love the precision of hand piecing.

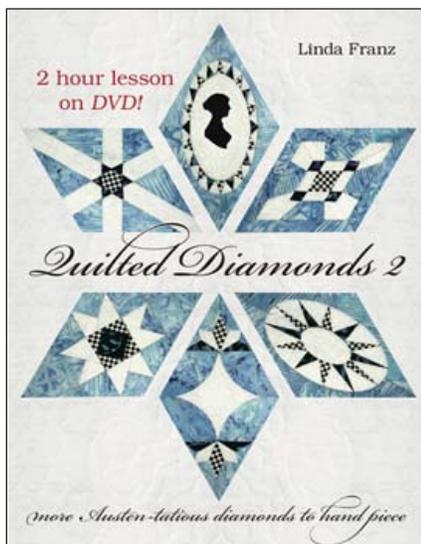
It won't take long to sew all 6 stars. Keep the other 6 diamonds in a safe place or a safe.

As with all hand piecing, it is not necessary to "press as you go" but if you do want to press, press all the seam allowances counterclockwise around the center intersection, as shown at the end of Part 2 of the video.

BY MACHINE?

Yes, you can sew these stars by machine! Sew from crosshair to crosshair as shown in this **VIDEO**. The example is a hexagon flower but it works the same way for diamonds. It is easier than you might think, thanks to the precise printed lines.

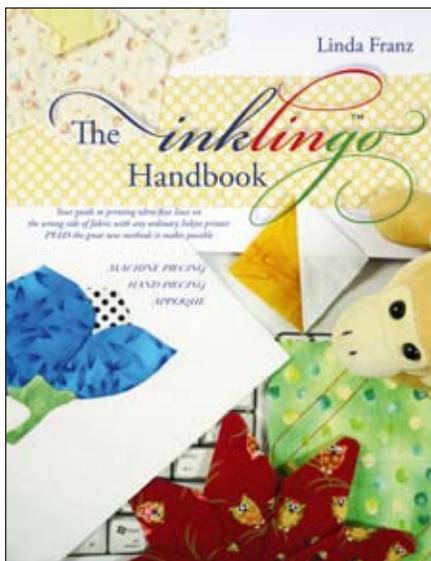
There are good clues for machine piecing the center seam on the All About Inklingo blog. The **example is an 8-pointed star**, but it works the same way for 6-pointed stars.





As with all hand piecing, it is not necessary to "press as you go" but if you do want to press, press all the seam allowances counterclockwise around the intersection. Weight them down with precious gems and store in the vault.

There is a lot of information in this clue!



If this is your very first time printing on fabric, my best advice is to jump in! Jams should be rare if you wash the fabric and prepare the fabric sheets according to the instructions. There is more about how to avoid jams in the **Top Ten Tutes** on the All About Inkingo blog. See how much you're learning about Inkingo online resources?

The Inkingo Handbook is a wonderful paper resource too. We think you will love every page but information in the first chapter is so important that I included it in the free **Diamonds Triangle Square shape collection**. Ace detectives do not miss a clue like that!

Questions?

If you have any questions as you go along, please ask!

Inkingo Yahoo Group (very friendly)
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Inkingo/>

Linda@lindafranz.com (also friendly)

Inkingo on Facebook (new photos every day!)

If additional evidence, plot twists, or surveillance videos are uncovered, they will be on the **All About Inkingo** blog before the next clue is announced. There will also be more info about fussy cutting. It is a good idea for quilting detectives to subscribe to the blog, so they are sure to witness everything!