

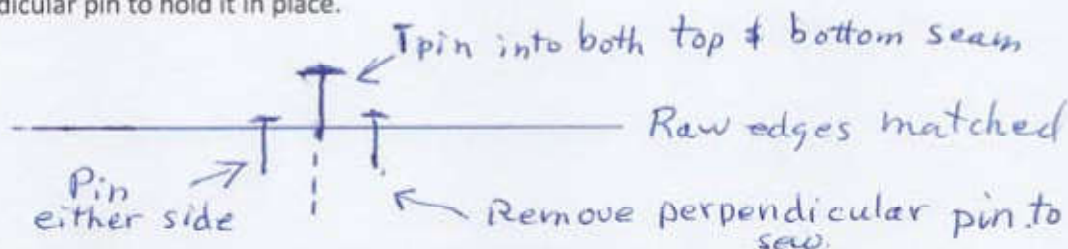
## Saskatoon Quilters' Guild "A Starlit Journey, Block #2"

Please find your instructions for Block #2 and these tips and Tricks:

As a part of our "educational program", we are including some tips and techniques that might make your navigation smoother. These are only suggestions, but are tried and have been found to be beneficial. Watch for others as you continue your journey with the different blocks.

### "Trimming your Sails for Better Navigation"

1. Once you have sewn your seam, "set your seam" by pressing the iron along your flat seam.
2. Press, not iron your seams. Press means to place the iron on the seam and not move it like you would iron a piece of clothing. You may use steam, dry iron or something like Best Press. Hold the iron on the seam for 10 or more seconds. Press seams closed or open. Rule of thumb is to press seams closed unless there is a bulky build up of converging seams, then press seams open to avoid the extra bulk.
3. A tip before you press your seam, do a "finger press" using your thumb nail. Flip the wrong side of the sewn piece over, so the right side is facing up. Run your thumbnail along the seam, then press with your iron.
4. To get perfect piecing you must:
  - i) Cut accurately
  - ii) Sew  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam accurately. (Sew a sample seam, measure the width of your seam. If it isn't  $\frac{1}{4}$ ", adjust your needle's position if possible, or mark a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on your machine table.
  - iii) Press accurately. We often can lose parts of an inch by poor pressing.
5. Pin, pin, pin accurately, especially when joining two seams or points like in flying geese. Use a pin, pushing it into the seam/point of what you are trying to match up. Hold this pin in a perpendicular position, checking to see that your raw edges are lined up. Carefully place a pin next to the perpendicular pin to hold it in place.

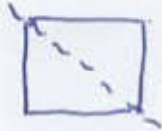
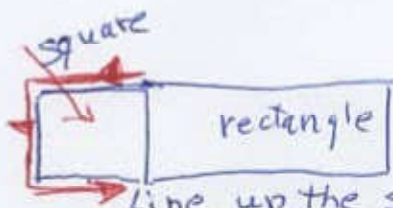


6. When you've sewn blocks in rows, press the seams in top row in one direction, then next row, press the seams in the opposite direction. This way your seams will "nest" together and line up. We still recommend you pinning as described in tip #5.



7. In Block 2, you will be making "flying geese". Draw the diagonal line from tip of the corner on the top to the tip of the corner in the opposite corner. This must be accurately sewn if you are to get the nice flying geese that have a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " space at the tip of the goose point. Before you sew along

that diagonal line, make sure the sides of the square that is being sewn to the rectangle, are lined up along the sides of the rectangle. Sew from the middle of tip of the corner, right down to the opposite tip.



Mark through middle of the corner points. Sew carefully through those points, on your drawn line.

Line up the square with the 3 sides of the rectangle's raw edges

8. There is a lot of matching seams in this block. Refer to tip #5....it works!!!
9. We found that when sewing rows together and you have pinned your rows, a walking foot will help ease in the blocks so you are not pulling on the fabric to ease it in.
10. Remember to press, not iron. Ironing will stretch the flying geese as these are cut on the diagonal and tend to stretch easily.