

MOD HEARTS



Scrap Friendly
Coloring Pages Included



CAROLE
LYLES SHAW

Introduction

I've always enjoyed seeing the pieced heart blocks in so many quilts. However, I decided that I wanted to take a more modern approach to this appealing motif. I also wanted to use improvisational techniques in how I placed each piece of the heart.

In this pattern, you have templates you can use to make this block using fusible on the fabric and using machine applique stitches to quilt the motifs.

Option—hand applique! If you prefer to hand applique the heart blocks, the templates include the seam allowance for needle turn applique.

Selecting Your Fabrics

You can make this block from any type of fabrics. Here are some tips for selecting your fabrics:

1. Choose one colorway for each heart. In the sample, I used red, purple, green and teal solids.
2. If you use prints, make sure they contrast with each other. Low volume prints that can almost read like a solid will probably work best in this project. Good choices include batiks, tone on tone prints.
3. Single color ombres will work well for this project because you can usually get all three values.
4. Choose one **Zinger** color. In the sample, my Zinger was a bright, deep yellow and I used it in all four blocks. The Zinger color will link the blocks together.
5. The background fabric should be low volume print or a neutral tone on tone. In the sample, I used a white with a very faint white printed motif.



I chose 3 values of each color—a light, medium and a dark value. This will provide good contrast in the sections of the heart block. The deep yellow is my Zinger!

The fabric on the bottom is a red ombre with all 3 values in it. It worked well with my solids. Ombres also make great options for this quilt.

Of course, you can choose low volume prints or even make this quilt using black and white prints. Just make sure you have good contrast between the fabrics that you use. I also

recommend that you use only ONE color for each heart. However, the choices are yours and the possibilities are endless!

Materials List

Fabric estimates are generous so that you can make sashing and borders from the leftovers. You will also have enough to make a pieced backing.

STASH BUSTING? You can use small scraps for each heart—the template pieces are small!

Fabric	Mini 23" x 23"
Background Fabric	3/4 yard
Fusible Web (omit if you are using needle turn applique to make hearts)	1/2 yard
4 Heart Colors: one color needed for each heart	1/8 yard or large scraps of each color in dark, medium and light values
Zinger Fabric used in all of the blocks	1/4 yard or large scraps —ONE COLOR
Backing and Batting	27" x 27"

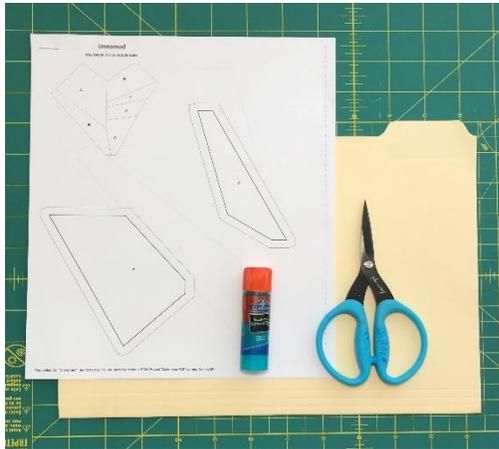


*Light, medium and dark purple.
High contrast is very important in
this project. Audition your fabrics
carefully.*

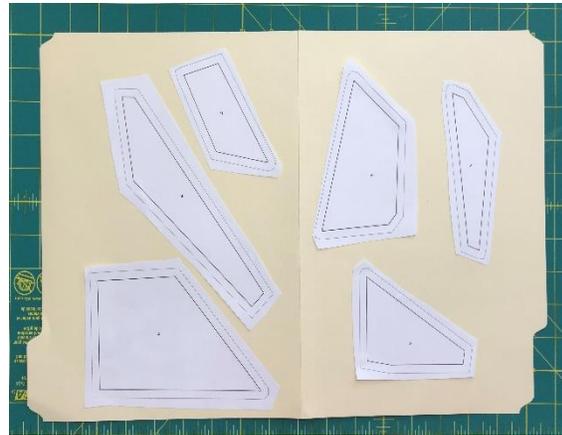
PREPARING THE TEMPLATES

Templates are on last pages of pattern. Copy the templates onto regular copy paper. Cut them out leaving a generous amount of paper around them. Paste them to card stock or manila folder (my preferred backing). This will make them stiffer and easier to use.

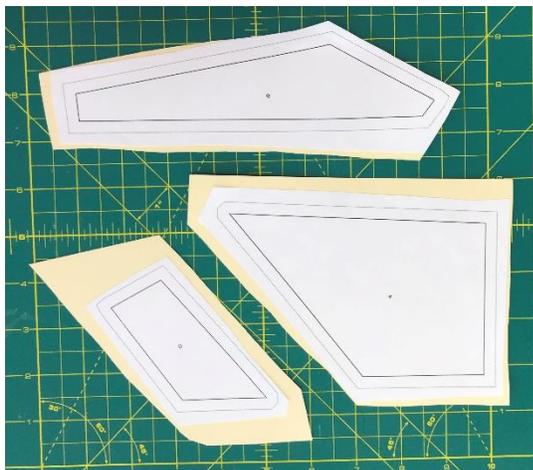
- Trim the template to the **SOLID** black line if you will be using fusible to make the hearts.
- Trim the template to the light black line if you will be doing needle turn applique.



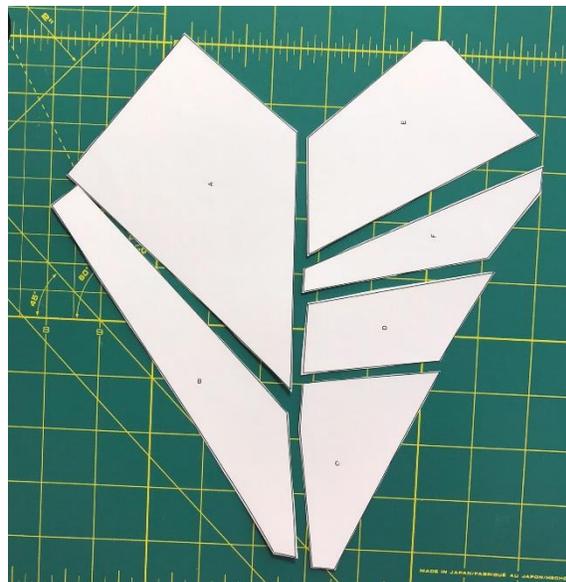
Sharp scissors, manila folder, glue stick, printed templates. Save block layout in upper left corner.



Templates cut and glued to manila folder.



Cut templates apart

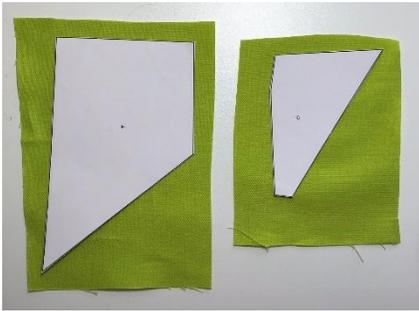


All templates trimmed for fusing process. Pieces laid out according to block diagram from template page.

Making the Mod Heart Block: USING FUSIBLE WEB

I suggest making one heart at a time, so you can focus on selecting the right values. Read all steps before you begin.

Step 1: Cut a 12-1/2" square from the background fabric. Lay it aside.



Step 2: Select the first color way you will work with. Cut a small piece of the light, medium and dark color fabric by laying the templates on the fabric and cutting generously. See example to left.



Step 3: Apply light weight fusible to the **WRONG** side of the fabric following manufacturer's instructions. I use Pellon 805 Wonder Under lightweight paper backed fusible.

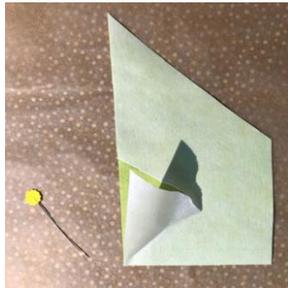
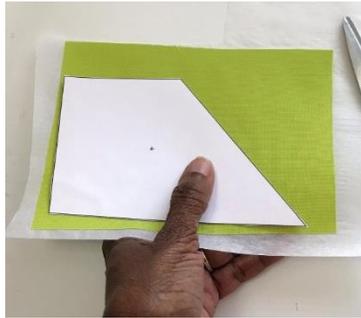
I use **parchment** paper (found in the baking supplies aisle at any grocery store) to protect my iron and ironing surface. It comes in brown or white—either can be used. (Do not use freezer paper or waxed paper.)



1 Pieces of fabric under fusible. Fusible paper backing is on top. Parchment paper is on bottom to protect ironing surface.

Cleaning Fusible off your iron: It's easy to accidentally iron over a bit of the fusible web. If you get fusible on the iron, you can immediately clean it off without using any harsh chemicals. Grab an unscented dryer sheet and run the warm iron over it a few times. I keep a small box of dryer sheets in my studio for these emergencies.

Step 4: Place template right side UP with right side of fabric facing UP. Fused side with paper will be on the bottom. Trim fabric to template. Sometimes I use small clips to hold this sandwich together for trimming.



To remove paper backing, score it very, very lightly with a pin. Fusible paper should tear away easily.

Step 5: I keep the heart patches organized by keeping the Quilt Assembly Diagram from page 8 and the block layout handy.

The colors shown here are only suggestions. Also, you can vary where you place your light, medium and dark values as well as where you place your Zinger fabric.

If you want to plan different colors, you can print out and color in the coloring sheet found on page 11.



Step 6: Place the fabric on the background square with fused side down. Arrange the heart pieces improvisationally. I left open space in each block in my sample. When you are pleased



with the arrangement, place parchment paper over the block and iron for a few seconds to fuse the pieces in place.

Repeat all 6 steps for the remaining three hearts.

Image on left is heart ready for fusing covered in brown parchment paper.

Improvisational Tips

You can make this mini quilt uniquely your own with fabric, thread and stitching choices.



ZINGER Fabric: I chose a vibrant solid yellow. Notice that I used it in different patches each time. I only used it once or twice in each heart.

In one of the hearts, I substituted a scrap of white on white fabric for one of the heart segments. I was experimenting with the effect of an incomplete heart. I outlined it with row of quilting using variegated thread.



I used a zig zag stitch to outline each heart patch, and then echoed the heart again. I call this 'eccentric' quilting because I deliberately placed my lines away from the exact shapes. I wanted irregularity and improvisation—not precision.

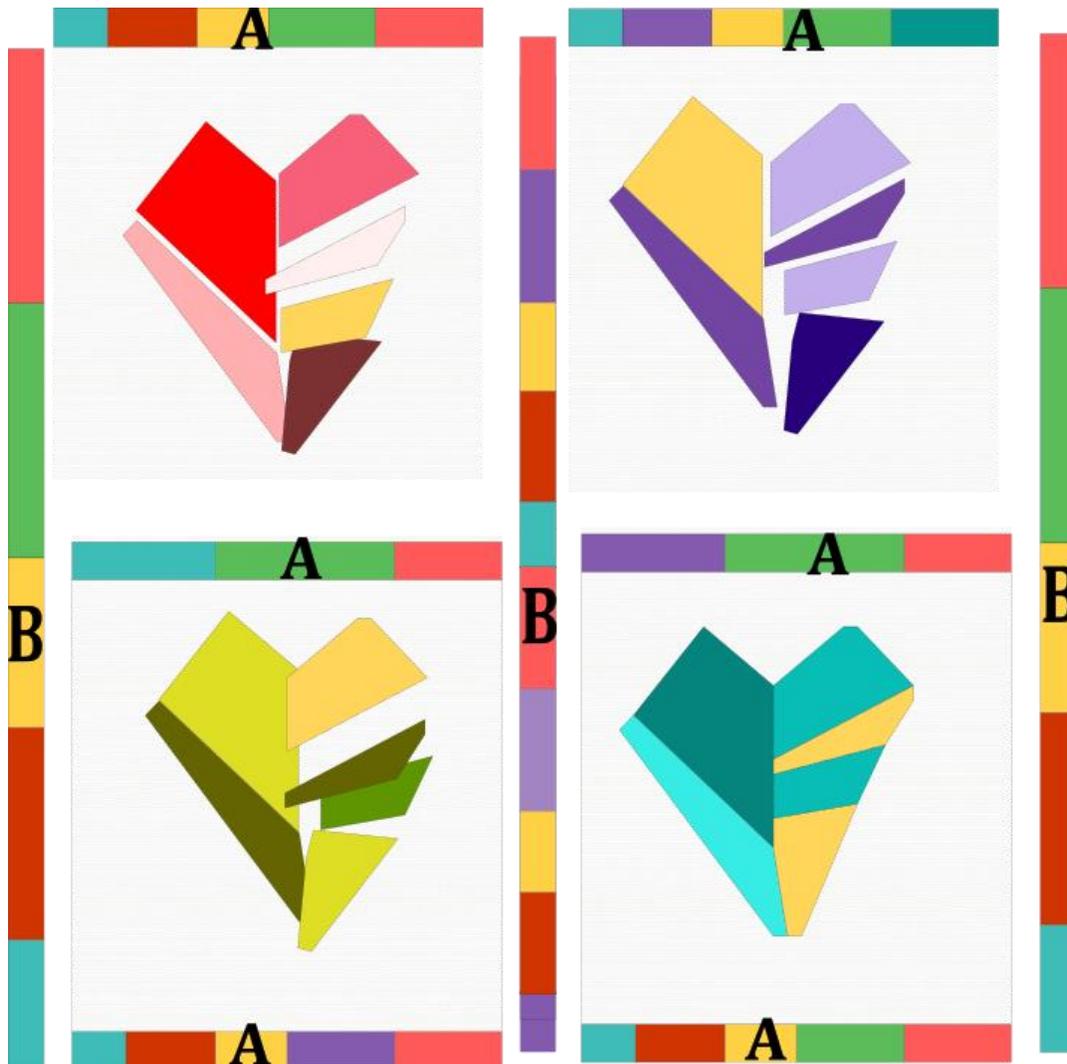
The thread used to machine applique and quilt around the hearts is a variegated thread that had most of the colors that I used in the fabrics.

Quilt Assembly Diagram

I decided to add an improvisational pieced sashing and borders.

Step 1: Cut strips that are 1-1/2" wide in random lengths of 4" to 6" from the 5 colors (4 heart colors and the Zinger). Piece the strips into 6 strips measuring 1-1/2" by 12-1/2". This is **Strip A** on diagram.

Step 2: Piece 3 strips measuring 1-1/2" x 25-1/2". This is Strip B on Diagram.



Finishing the Quilt

Assemble quilt sandwich.

Using your preferred machine applique stitch, sew around all heart pieces. I used a 50wt variegated thread for this step. I also quilted the sashing and border strips using this thread.

I used a white thread to quilt around the hearts in the background fabric. Using my walking foot, I used a wavy meander stitch and I did not mark it. I decided to quilt the background in white because I wanted texture only. I didn't want more color to detract from the hearts.

I made a faced binding to finish the quilt. There is a faced binding tutorial on my blog: www.carolelylesshaw.com.

Final step: Add a hanging sleeve and display it proudly!



ABOUT CAROLE LYLES SHAW

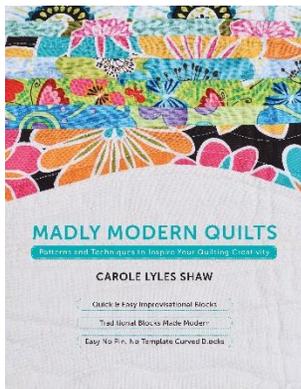
Carole is a modern quilter, designer, workshop instructor and author. Her quilts have been featured in several books and magazines and exhibited in galleries and museums in the US and internationally. She is co-founder and past president of the Sarasota Modern Quilt Guild and served on the Board of The Modern Quilt Guild. She blogs at www.CaroleLylesShaw.com



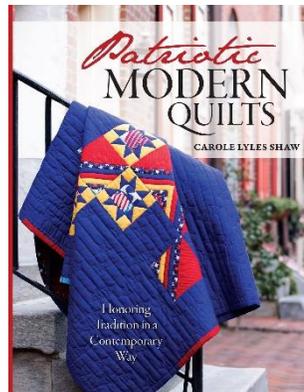
Carole is a 2018 Island Batik Brand Ambassador and will be posting modern quilt projects featuring these fabrics on her blog.

To find out about Carole's workshops and presentations, visit her blog at <http://www.carolelylesshaw.com/teaching>

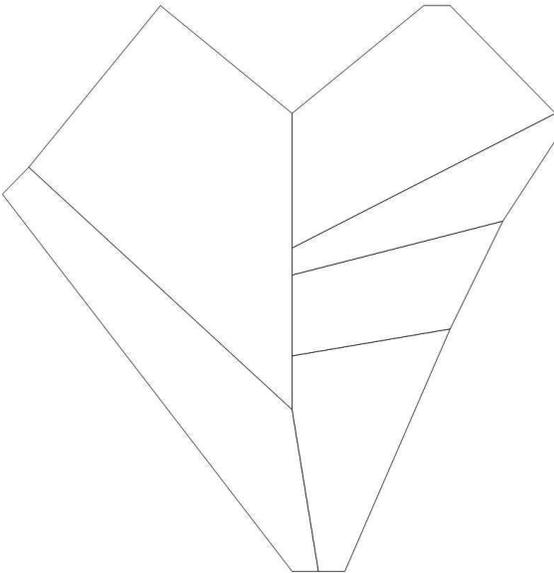
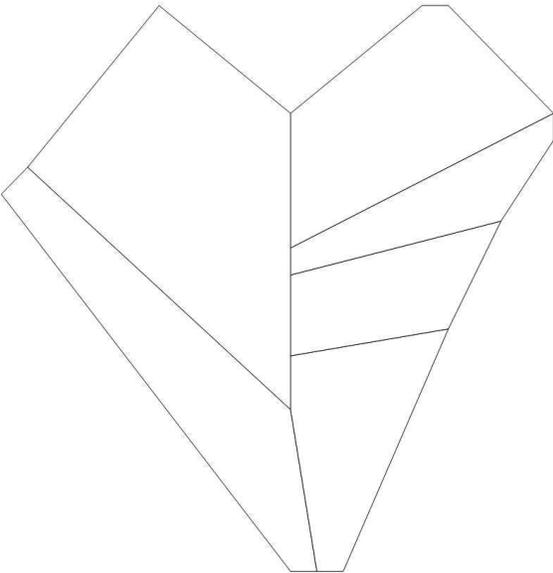
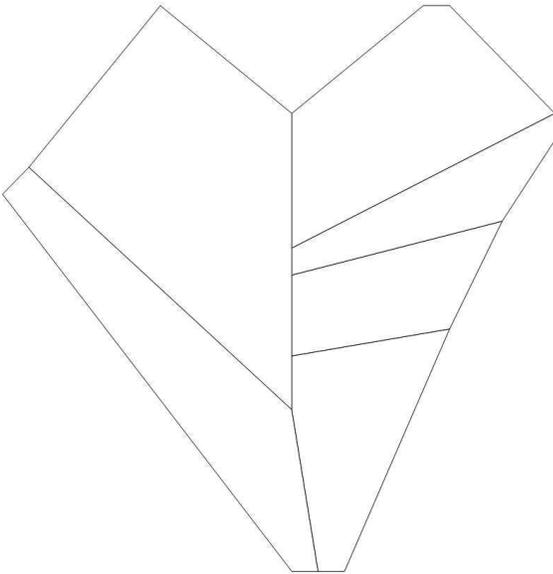
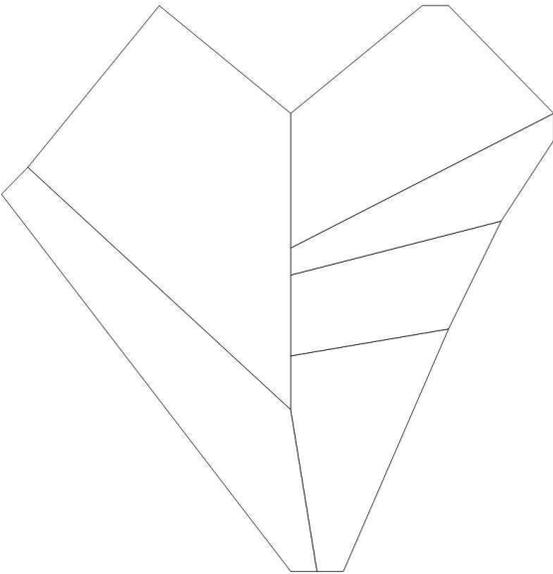
More of Carole's **patterns** are available for purchase at www.CaroleLylesShaw.com and at your local quilt shop.



You can find more modern patterns in her books, **Patriotic Modern Quilts** and **Madly Modern Quilts** wherever quilt books are sold.



Coloring Pages for Hearts



Templates and Key Block

