## Virtual WHIIZ BANG WORKSHOP Requirements with Rachaeldaisy

## Fabric requirements

- $\mathbf{7}$ fat quarters or equivalent eg. $\mathbf{2 5 c m}$ cut across width of fabric: Choose a variety of fabrics from light to dark in a mix of contrasting colours. Small prints, stripes, dots and spots, tone on tone, solids, 30's prints, civil war repro, batiks all work well.
You don't have to use bright colours, these blocks look beautiful in soft, pretty colours too.
OR Use up bits and pieces from your stash.
- 2, 12in squares of neutral coloured fabric, this will be covered.
- 1, 3in square of a cute fabric for a hidden peeper in the center.
- Optional - A picture fabric to use for one of the blocks, any size picture.
- 1, 12in square lightweight fusible pellon
- Bias strips: 2 yds of $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in wide bias strip, unfolded, for the circle edges. Each block uses approximately 1 yd , in case you would like to use different coloured bindings. OR make your own strips from yardage. ***You can choose the binding after you've made your circle blocks at a later date.*
- Freezer Paper: 1yd
- Lightweight card


## Tools

Sewing Machine,
Rotary cutter, ruler, cutting mat
Small craft iron and small ironing board if you have one
Compass for drawing circles.
Pencil
Fabric scissors, (Karen Kay Buckley’s Perfect Scissors are excellent)
Paper scissors
Neutral-coloured thread
Good sharp pins
General sewing supplies

## Optional Pre-cutting and folding.

Please note- Folding the triangles at home will allow more time to focus on creating the blocks, and will save time ironing in class but I understand that not everyone has time at home so if you don't have time to pre-fold triangles you can do it in the workshop.

Making triangles can be a lovely chance to play with fabric in a relaxing way that is also productive. I like to compare it to basting hexagons or prepping applique. Listen to some music, a podcast or watch a movie and you'll have a pile of folded triangles made in no time.

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## Handy tips -

- It's best to use a dry iron as steam can be hot on your fingers.
- Spray starch is optional.
- Don't worry too much if the bottom edge is a little uneven, that part will be covered up.
- Using a craft iron can be lighter and easier on your hands.
- Don't worry about exact numbers of triangles, as there are fun ways to use leftover triangles. You'll have more exciting results if you start with a palette of pretty triangles and create as you build the block rather than planning with exact numbers. You'll learn all about that in the workshop.


## Cutting

- Cut a 1 1/2in strip of paper or lightweight card x approx 10 in or more. (this can really be any length).
- Cut 4, 2in strips from the fat quarters, or 2, 2in strips across the width of fabric. ( have the rest of the fat quarter/fabric handy in case you'd like to use more of a particular fabric.)
NOTE- You can use Jelly Roll strips of $2 \mathbf{1 / 2 i n}$, there is no need to cut them down to 2 in . You will just have a bit more fabric to fold over the paper strip. See Folding Instructions below.


## Folding

Prairie points and traditional folded fabric blocks are made using squares, however the magic secret of the Whizz Bang blocks is that they are made from rectangles. This way the triangles use less fabric and the overall blocks are lighter in weight than they appear to be.

1. At an ironing board, line up the $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in cardstock strip lengthwise, along the bottom of the wrong side of a 2 in fabric strip ( or $21 / 2$ in jelly roll strip).
2. Fold the excess fabric at the top inwards over the cardstock and press.

3. Continue moving the cardstock strip along the fabric and press until the length of the fabric has been folded. Your folded fabric strip should now be $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in x width of fabric.

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4. Lay the folded strips on your cutting board so you can cut many pieces at once. Cross cut the strips into 3in pieces.

5. At your ironing board, fold the top corners of each rectangle down to the middle to create a triangle and press.

6. If your triangles are popping open, chain piece them along the bottom to keep them closed.

7. Store triangles in a box. That's it! You are now ready for our workshop.
