

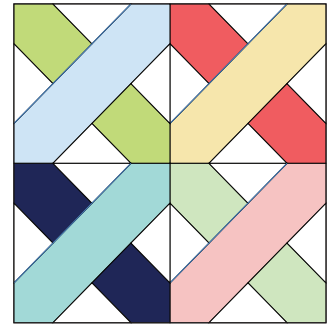
*This block reminds me of my sewing education. I learnt to sew at a young age through my mother and at school. I went to a progressive primary school where creative activities, especially sewing, were as much a part of our daily routine as reading, writing and number work. I still have my Binca canvas sampler needle book with the stitches sewn in knitting yarn from when I was in Mrs Bellfield's class complete with the cross stitches that inspired this block.*

## First Stitch

for the Splendid Sampler™

Kerry Green

Finished Block Size 6" x 6"



### Requirements

- ✚ Eight contrasting coloured fabrics for the stitches. You will need small pieces (e.g. 10" square) of each. Each cross stitch is made up of two different colours
- ✚ One fat eighth light coloured background fabric
- ✚ A sheet of A4 / letter size printer paper. Lightweight paper is easiest to use, e.g. 70gsm weight.
- ✚ Water based glue stick e.g. Sewline glue stick (optional)
- ✚ Hera marker or a blunt smooth edged butter knife (optional)

### Preparation

1. Print four copies of the First Stitch pattern, check your settings are at 100% and not scaled down. The dashed outer square measures 3 ½" and the solid square measures 3". Cut out along the dashed lines.

### Cutting

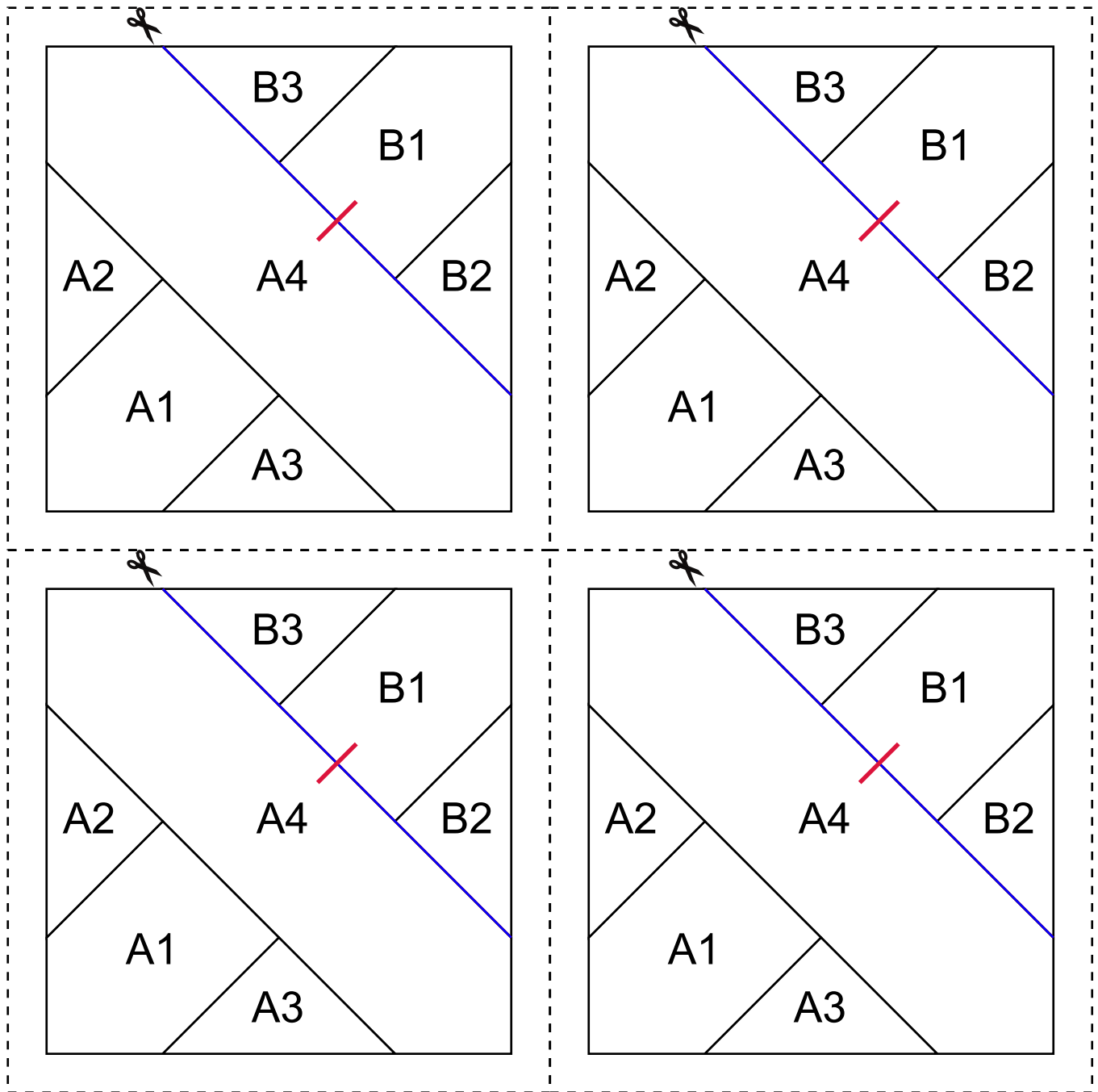
- ✂ From the background fabric cut (4) 3 ½" squares. Sub-cut each square across both diagonals to make quarter square triangles.
- ✂ For each cross-stitch select two fabrics. From one fabric cut a rectangle 2" x 6": this will be the top of the stitch. From the other fabric cut (2) 2" x 3" rectangles: these will form the underneath of the stitch.

### Block Assembly

2. Prepare your pattern by pre-creasing all the seam lines using a Hera marker or a blunt smooth edged butter knife and a quilt ruler. These are the solid black lines on the pattern. Cut each square along the diagonal line to separate sections A and B.
3. Foundation paper piece sections A and B.
 

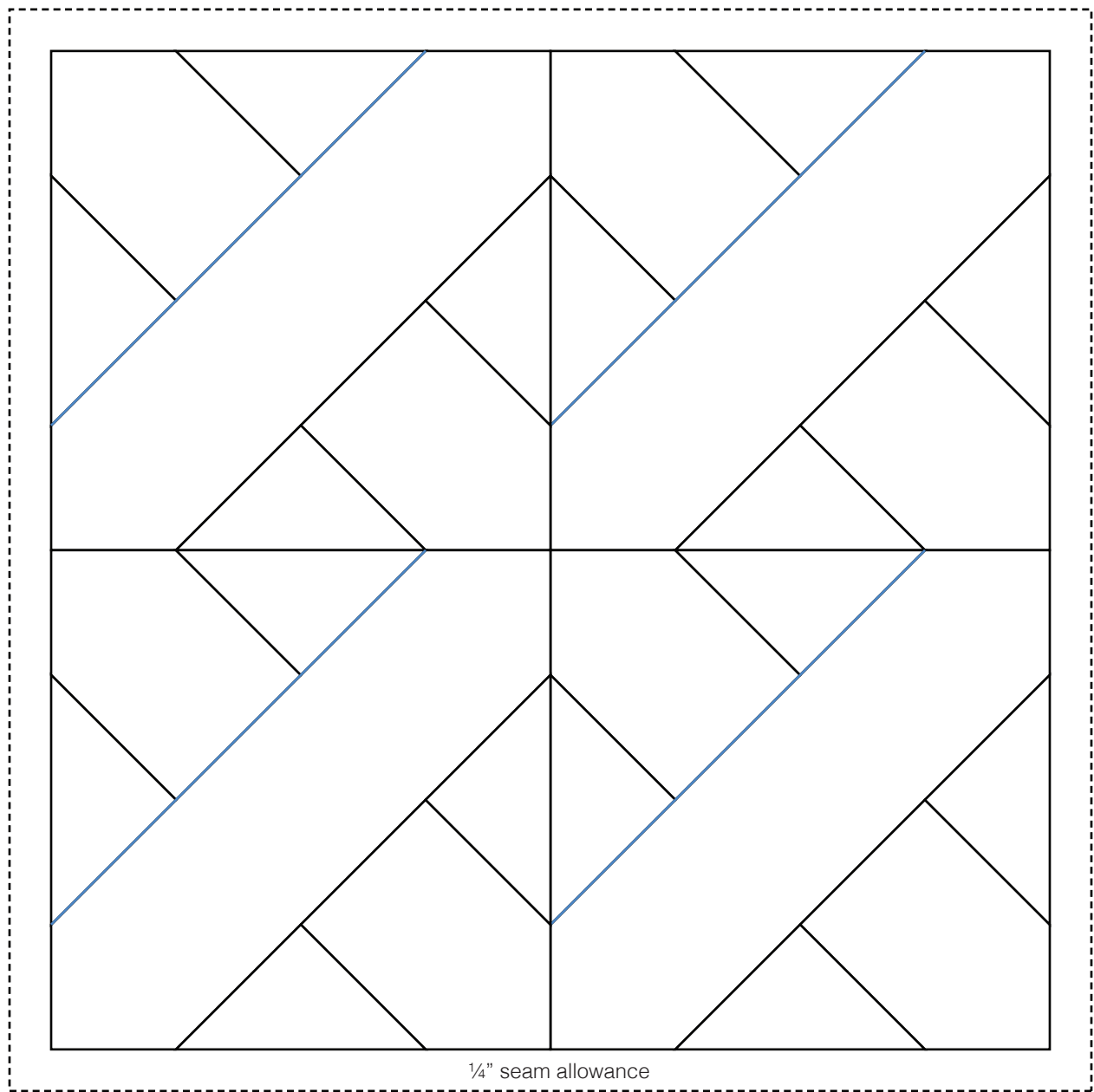
TIP: It helps to colour code on the paper pattern with colour pencils so you know which section is background and which are the different cross stitch pieces.
4. Trim each section remembering to add on the seam allowance at the diagonal edge of sections A and B. Leave the paper in place on each section.
5. Join section A to B using the centre tick line and the seam points at the start and end of the seam to align the sections. Remove the paper and press the joining seam towards section A. Make four single cross stitch blocks in total.
6. Arrange squares to make block. Join the pairs of cross stitch blocks – the seams should nest together. Press joining seam open. Join rows, nesting the seams and pressing open as before. Your block is complete.
7. Unfinished block size 6 ½" x 6 ½".

# Paper Piecing Templates



Do not 'fit to page' or scale

1 inch



Do not 'fit to page' or scale

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 inch

#TheSplendidSampler

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