

Thank you for buying Design **N** **Q**UILT™

Once you've downloaded and activated your software, this handy booklet will help get you started with general "How To " using the software's tools & features.

Plus, 5 lessons using Design N Quilt so you can start designing beautiful blocks and quilts as if you were Alex Anderson herself!



www.QuiltersSelect.com

General How To – Tools and Features



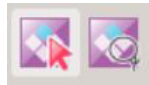
These are the tools that are used to create quilt blocks and layout quilts. The tools in this group are colored in yellow for the block and quilt libraries. The purple tools are for making and editing blocks and the blue tools are for making quilt layouts with borders and sashing.



On the left you will find yellow library tools for **Blocks and Quilts** that will open a browsing window to choose from saved blocks and quilts. **My Blocks** and **My Quilts** are easy to find folders inside of the library tools. To save blocks or quilts to your library look in the File drop down menu for the option to "Save to Library".



This is the **Easy Block Creator** tool. Select this tool to start a new easy block layout. With this tool you will start with grid of either squares, half squares, or quarter square triangles. You set the size and number of rows and columns needed to create the block. Then you use the **Piece Select Tools** to select and join pieces into the shapes of your block.

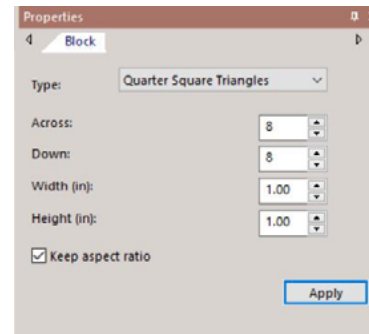
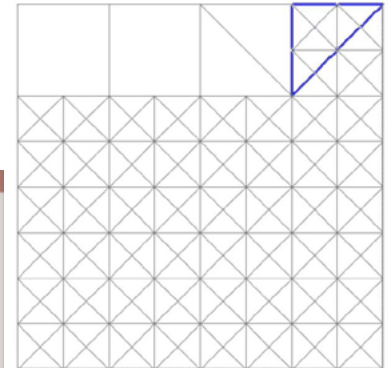


These are the **Piece Select** tools. You can use them to select the individual pieces of a block or quilt. On the left is the **Piece Select Tool** and on the right is the **Lasso Piece Select Tool**. With **Lasso** you

click and drag around the pieces you want to select. With **Piece Select** you can click and drag a rectangle to select pieces. You can also click on a piece to select it and if you hold down the control key on your keyboard, you can select or deselect pieces one at a time. When pieces are selected you can assign them a color by clicking on a color in the palette at the bottom of the workspace.

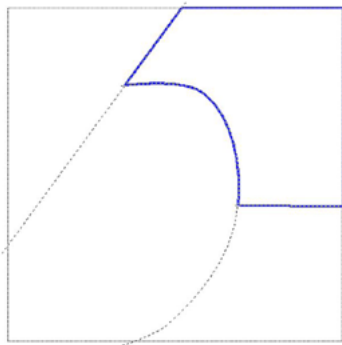


These are the **Unite** and **Break Apart Tools**. These tools are used with the **Easy Block Creator** to join smaller pieces into the actual pieces needed to make a quilt block. If two or more pieces are selected then the **Unite Tool** will be available to join all of the pieces into one. You can undo the Unite process by selecting the shape and then using the **Break Apart Tool**.

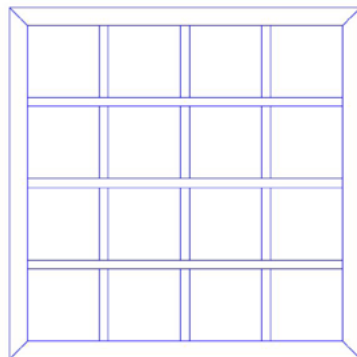
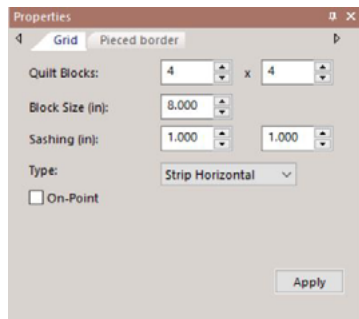




This is the **Advanced Block Creator** which is easy to use to create more advanced blocks that include irregular and curved shapes. When you select the tool a new empty block will open and wait for you to draw the shapes. You use the drawing tool to create either straight or curved lines. With this tool you can create blocks that have advanced shaped pieces that require innovative block assembly techniques.



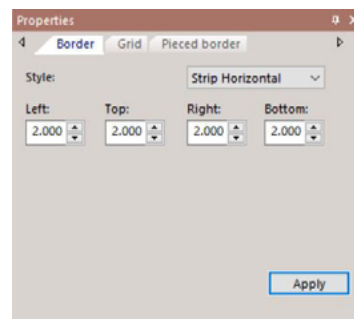
This is the **New Quilt Layout Tool**. When you select this tool a new tab will appear. When you start a new layout an empty quilt appears. You can change the number of rows and columns in the layout with the settings box on the right side of the workspace. This is also where you will adjust the sashing size or style and interact with the settings for the borders.



This is the **Block Select Tool** you use for selecting blocks, sashing and border pieces in quilt layout mode. It is important to note when you are in the quilt layout mode you can also use the purple **Piece Select Tool**. The blue **Block Select Tool** is used to select the entire block area in the layout however if you want to select a piece of a block then you use the purple **Piece Select Tool** instead.

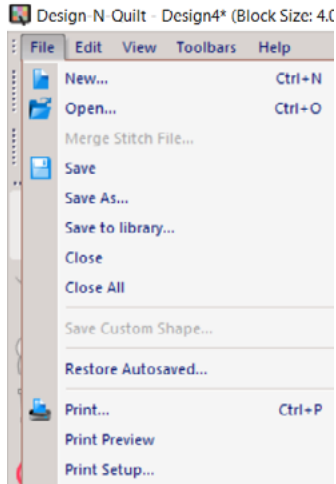


These tools are used to add and remove borders from your quilt layout. The first tool is **Add Border** and is used to add a border around the main quilt layout. The second tool is called **Add Outer Border** and it will only be available if you add an optional pieced border to the quilt layout. You can add unlimited numbers of borders with each one having different sizes or colors. When you select a border piece notice that the properties box area changes to have a new tab with information about the border. Here you can set the size of each border piece as well as choose from stripped or mitered corners.





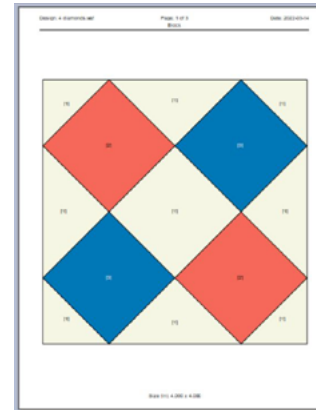
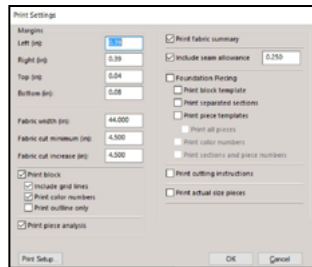
These are the **New**, **Open**, and **Save** buttons. The main format for your Design N Quilt projects is called .WAF. When you choose the Save tool it will allow you to select where on your computer to save the design. Use the Open tool and browse the folders where you choose to save your projects. If you use the **File** drop down menu there are also options such as "Save As" that let you choose a new name or location when saving a file.



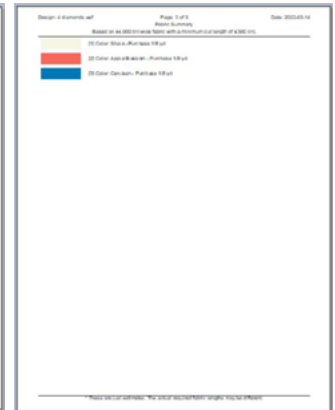
Take a **Snap Shot** of your block or quilt. Select this button and a save window will allow you to choose where to save your snap shot and in what format. Choose from popular image formats like JPG, BMP or PNG. Now you can ask a friend for their help. Do you like it better in red or blue?



This is the **Print Preview** button and when selected it will open a settings window that allows you to select from a menu of options which can be included in the results. The options are different when you use this tool with a block vs a quilt layout. If you use it for a single block then the results are all that's needed for that one block, but if you use this button with a quilt layout, then the results will include everything you need to make the entire quilt.



Page 1 shows the finished block.



Page 2 shows the fabric summary.



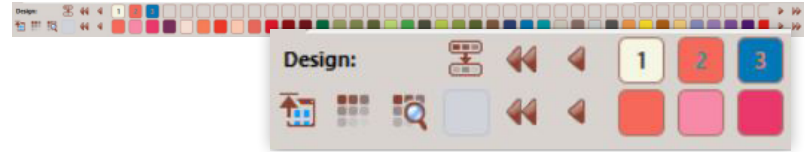
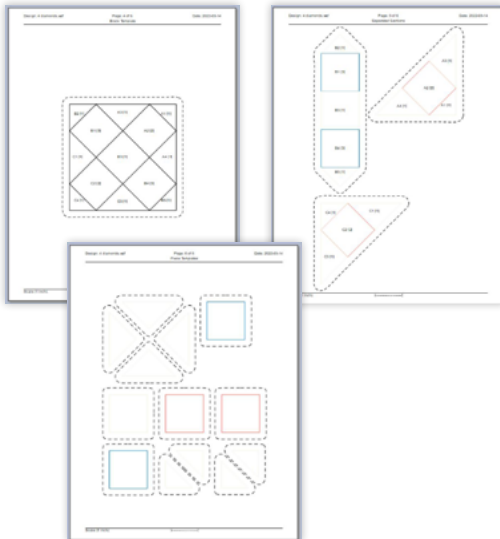
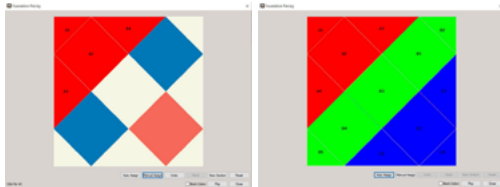
Page 3 shows the pieces needed to make a block.



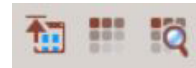
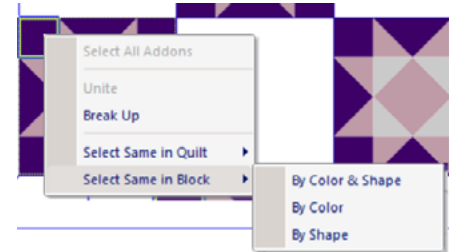
Page 4 shows the rotary cutting information.



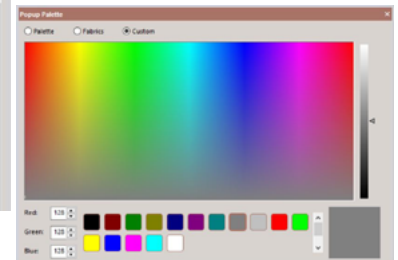
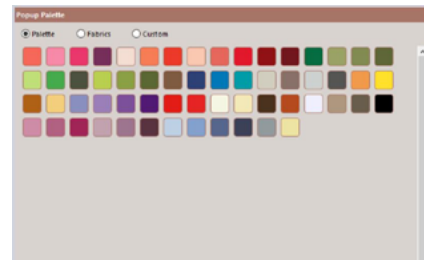
This is the **Foundational Piecing Tool** that is found in the purple block creation tools. Use this tool to prepare patterns when you want to make a block using the Foundation Paper Piecing technique. When you select the tool a window will open that allows you to interact with the pattern pieces. You can use **Auto Assign** and the program will figure the best way to piece the block together. Choose **Manual Assign** to take control of the numbering of the pieces. There is a cool **Play** button you can use to watch the sequence that the block gets created. When you are happy with the results you can close the tool and the information is saved with the block. Use the **Print Preview** tool to get the actual size templates needed to make your block.

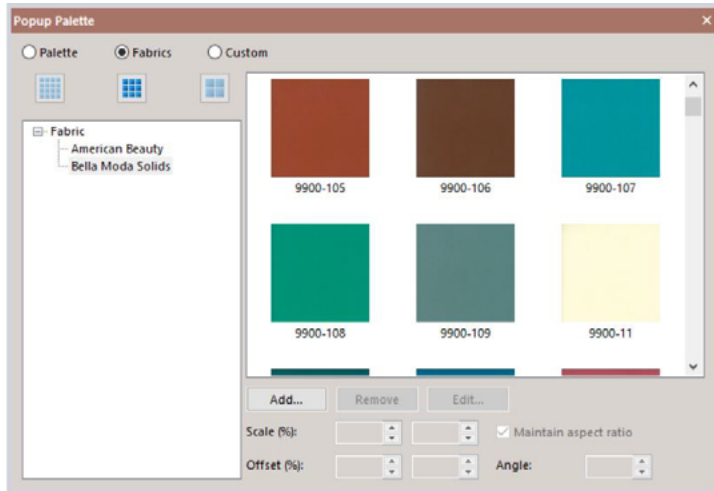


The **Color Palette** is found at the bottom of the workspace. The bottom row represents the color palette and the top row represents the colors or fabrics used in the design. Select anything and then select a color in the palette to assign the color. You can try new colors in a block or quilt by dragging a color from the bottom row and letting go over the color on the top row you want to replace. Another easy way to change colors is to right click on the block pieces and use the options for Select "same in quilt" or "same in block" with options of by size, color, or size and color. Once selected you then click to assign a new color.

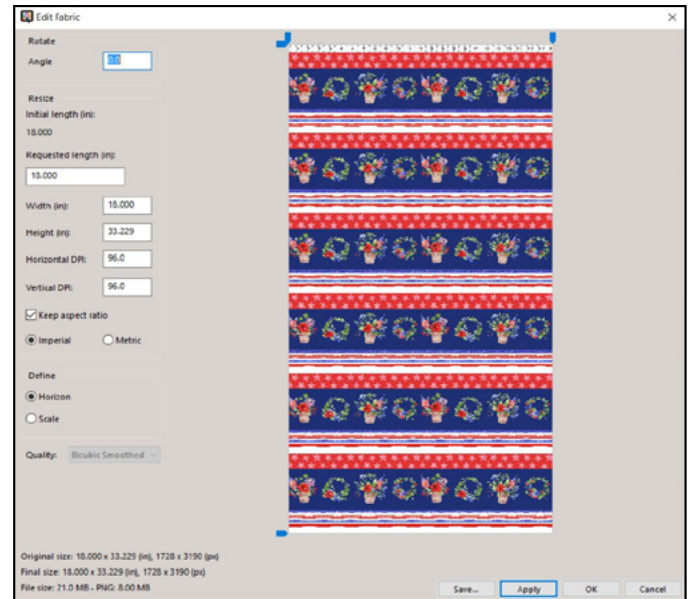


These are the color palette tools. The one on the left opens a **pop up palette** that is helpful when you are re-coloring a design and want to see more colors at once. The middle tool is a **Palette Selector** that allows you to choose colors from major thread brands. The tool on the right is a **Color Finder** where you can type in a specific color like "pink" to see a filtered list of shades or pink.





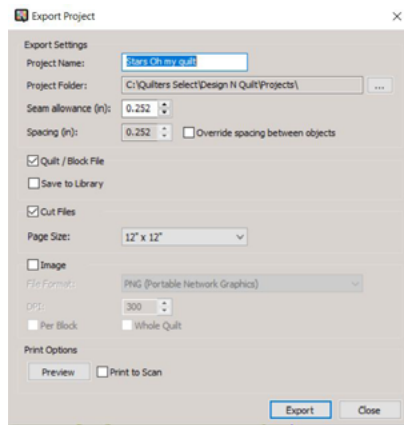
For easy use you can choose fabric to use in the project and then right click to add them to the top row of the color bar at the bottom of your screen. The program comes with a few fabric options and you can add your own fabric to the software. That can be from photos that you take of the fabric you own or you can download and install fabric images from your favorite suppliers' websites. When you choose the Add button a window will open and allow you to select the images you want to add all at one time. After you add fabric to the program you can make edits to adjust the size or orientation.



This is the **Edit Fabric Wizard** that opens when you select a fabric and choose Edit on the pop up palette. From this window you can make all of your changes before you save the updated image. With this tool you can crop the image by sliding the blue tabs. You can rotate the image to any angle and also set the size and the desired resolution.



This is the **Export Quilt** button. Use this tool if you want to use a digital cutting machine to cut the quilt pieces. This tool will allow you to choose where to save the SVG artwork files and it will make files for each color of the project. This tool will assign the seam allowances to be added to the pieces. Quilt/Block File includes the entire quilt design file in the export. Save to Library will do what it says. Cut Files will save the pieces as SVG with all red pieces in one SVG and all blue in a different one. Image includes a bitmap image like .JPG that will match the SVG artwork. There is an option to export the parts per block or per quilt. Print To Scan will create a printed version of the pieces.



This is the **Custom Shape Library** where you will find a gallery of artwork shapes that are perfect for appliqué quilt shapes. You can attach an artwork shape to a block or quilt border and the pieces will be included with the printed pages. The program comes with two alphabets and several categories of shapes. Add your own shapes to the "Custom Shape Library" with the option in the "File" drop down menu. You can open popular SVG artwork to use as applique in your quilts and also save those SVG images to your library for easy finding later. If you create your own shapes using the drawing tools you can save those to the library also.



This is the **Drawing Tool** that allows you to click and make points to create your own custom shapes. You can use an image as a backdrop and then click to trace around the image to make your shape.



These are the **Backdrop Tools**. Use the top button to select an image to use as the background of the workspace. This is how you can put your photos on the screen and then make quilt blocks or appliqué shapes that match. The bottom button is a show/hide button so you can quickly turn the backdrop "on and off".



This is the **Artwork Select Tool** that is found on the left-hand menu. Note that this is for selecting artwork shapes and not block pieces or borders. This is the correct tool to use to select an artwork shape to be added to a quilt block. Select shape and "copy" and then "paste" to attach the appliqué to a quilt block. Once the appliqué is attached to a block then you will then need to use the **Piece Select Tool** to select the appliqué you added to the block.



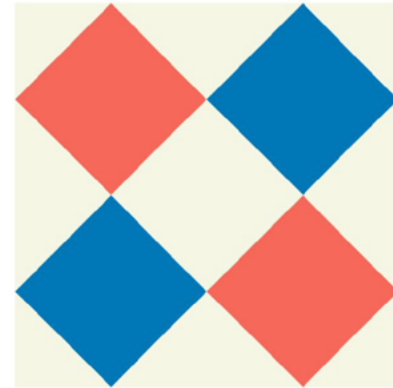
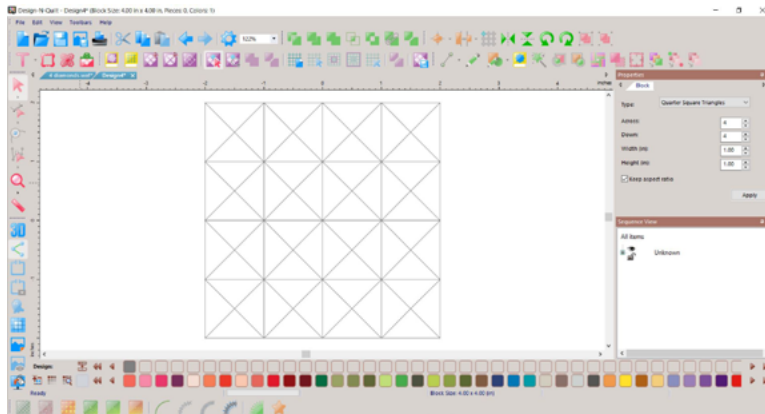
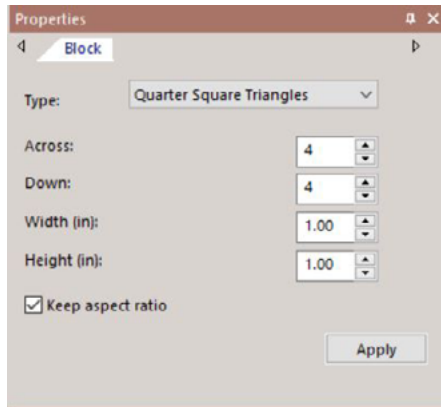
Lesson 1

Easy Quilt Block

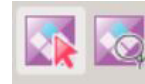
Learn to Create a Quilt Block with the Easy Block Tool.



Select the **Easy Block Creator Tool**. An empty quilt block will open with the default settings of 8 squares across by 8 down set at 1" each. Use the drop down menu to change from "squares" to be "quarter square triangles" with 4 across and 4 down at 1" size. This will make a 4" quilt block but you can use it in a quilt layout at any size.



This is the pattern we are making with the tool. To get started we will need to select and join the quarter square triangle pieces to create the diamond and triangles in the block.

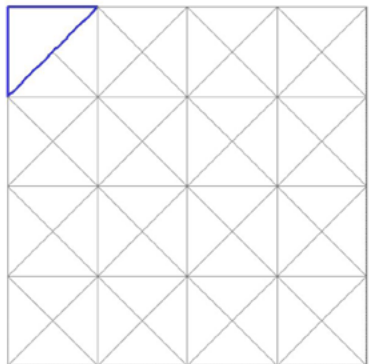


These are the **Piece Select Tools** that we will use to select and join the shapes. The one on the left is used by clicking on the shape to select and if you hold down the control key you can select multiple pieces. The tool on the right is a **Lasso Select Tool** where you need to click around pieces to select them. Once you have selected two or more pieces then the **Unite Tool** will become available.

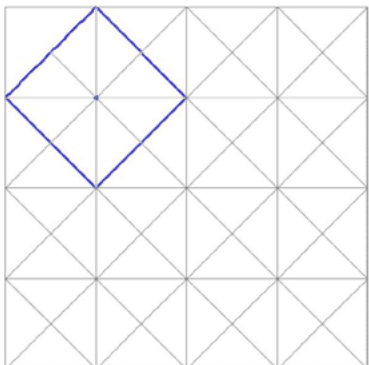


The tool on the left is the **Unite Tool** and it will join the smaller shapes into the actual piece of the block. The tool on the right is the **Break Apart Tool** that you can use to reverse the **Unite Tool** in case you need to start again.

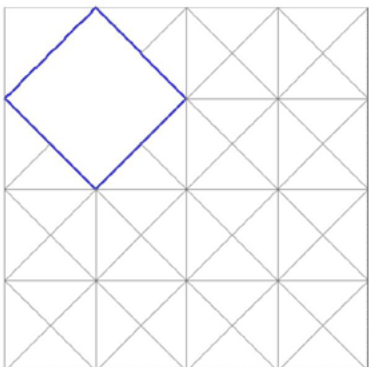
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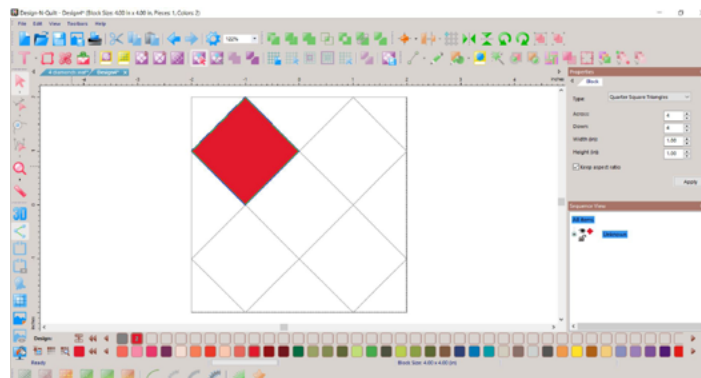
Select the top left two triangles and then select unite to join them into one.



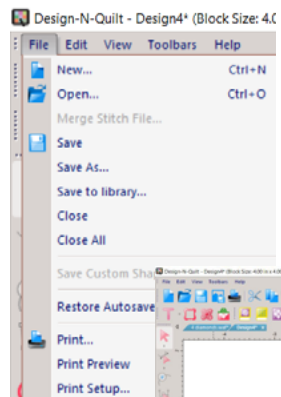
Hold down the control key while you click to select all of the triangles that make up this square. When they are all selected you select the **Unite Tool** to join them.



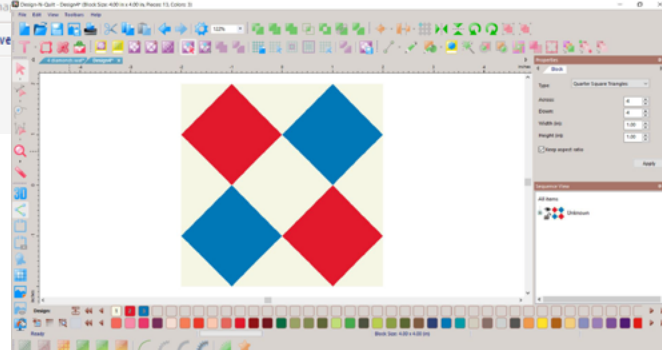
Practice using the two different tools to select pieces. There are times when **Lasso Select** is easier and other times when **Rectangle Select** is easier. Continue to select and make the shapes of this block until you have united all of the actual pieces of your block.



Select the pieces of your block and choose a color from the color palette bar at the bottom. Notice that the colors you choose get added to the top bar showing the colors used in your block. Continue to add color to your block until it is complete.



From the file drop down menu you can either choose "Save As" or "Save to Library". If you choose "Save As" you can select any location on your computer to save the design. Saving it to your library is a good idea if you want the block to be easy to find in your block library.

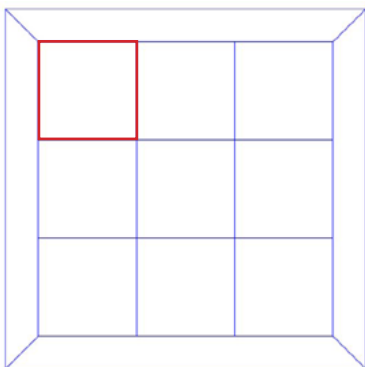
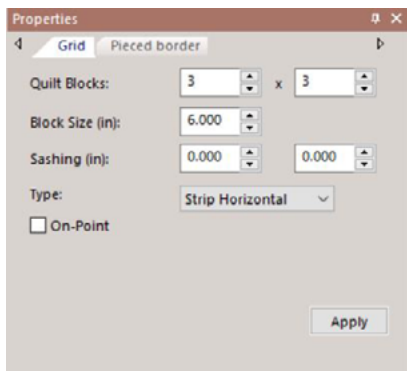
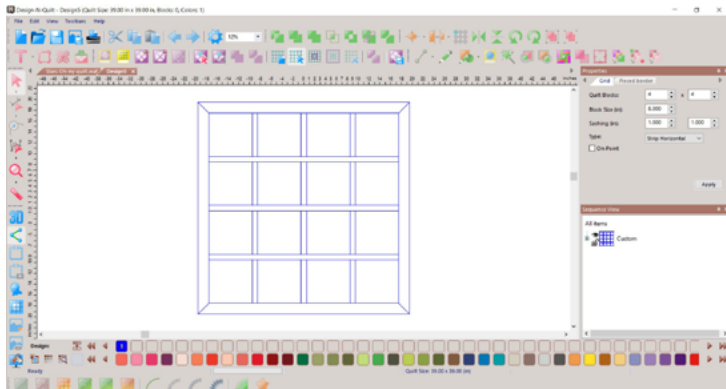


Lesson 2 Quilt Layout

Learn to Create a Quilt Layout.



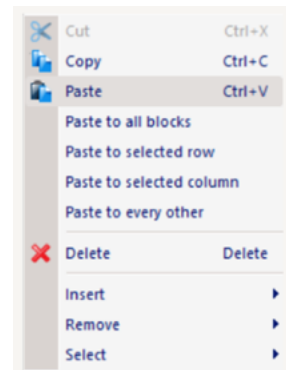
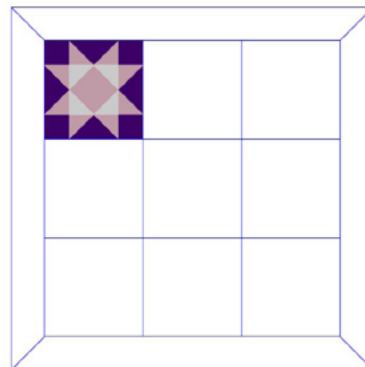
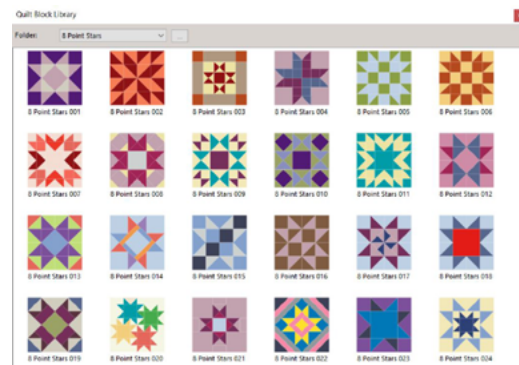
Select the create new **Quilt Layout Tool** and a new window will open with a default quilt layout.



Next adjust the settings in the Properties Box to be Quilt Blocks 3 x 3 with a 6" block size and set the sashing to be 0" so there will be no sashing.



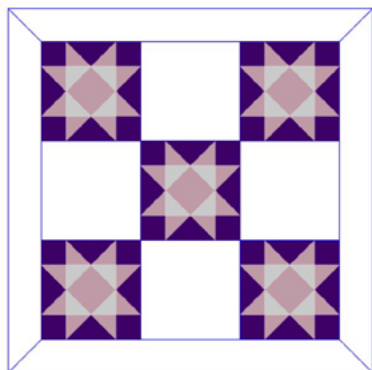
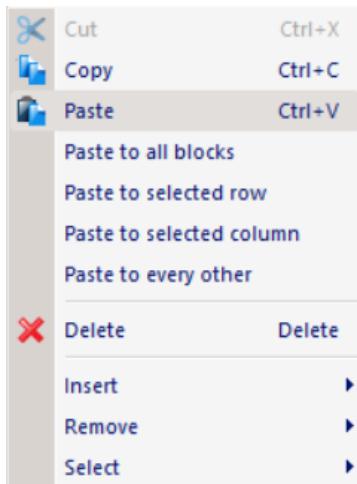
Use the **Quilt Layout Block Select Tool** and select the top left block. When you select the block, the **Quilt Block Library Tool** will become available, and you can select on that to open the browser window.



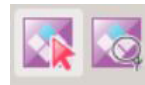
With the **Quilt Block Library Tool** open, you can select your block. In this example we choose the "8 Point Stars 001" block by first opening the pop up menu for the 8 Point block folder or category. Then click on the desired block and it is added to the quilt layout. Use the "Quilt Layout Block Select Tool" and now you can copy and paste the block to fill the quilt.



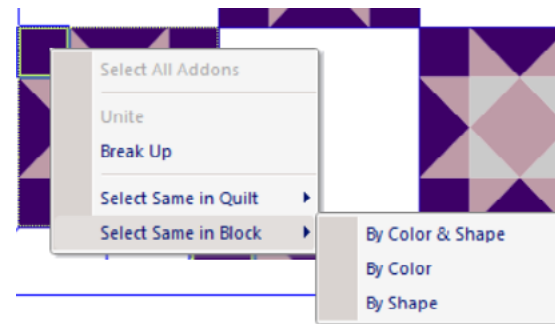
Copy the block and then click on the empty block space on the right and click **Paste**. You can also right click and get a pop up menu that has alternate options that will come in handy later such as "Paste to selected row" or "Paste to all blocks", etc.



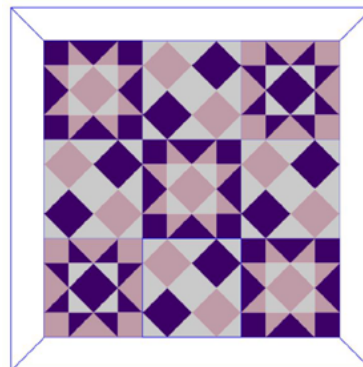
Paste the same block to all four corners plus the block in the center. Before we build the rest of the quilt lets adjust the colors of the top left and bottom right blocks. We will use the same colors but in different parts of the blocks for these two blocks.



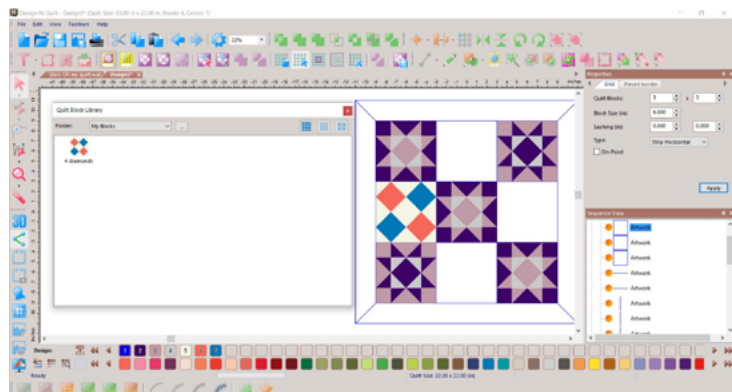
Use the **Piece Select Tool** to select one purple piece from the bottom left block. Right click on the piece and a menu will open with an option to **Select Same in Block** by color. That will select both the purple squares and triangles in just the one block. Now select a new color in the pallet to change the purple to be the pink. Next select the pink and use the same technique to re-color those pieces.



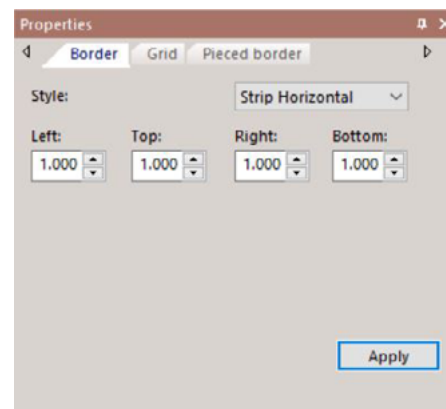
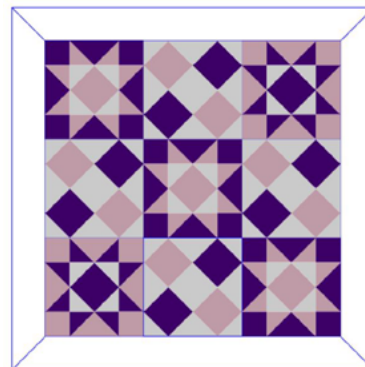
Re-color the bottom left block and then change back to the **Block Select Tool** to select and copy the newly colored block. Now select the top right and paste in the re-colored block.



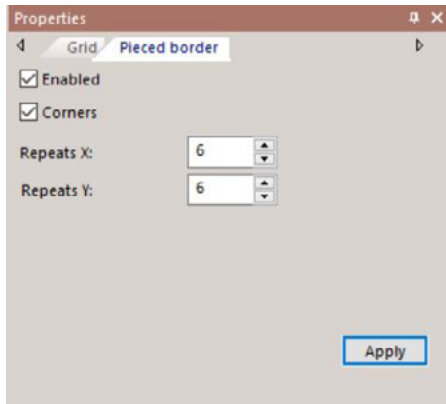
The next block we will add is the block we prepared in lesson 1. If you saved it to your “My Blocks Library” then you know where to find it now and if you saved it to a folder on your computer, you should go ahead and open the design again. To add the block from your My Block Library you need to use the **Block Select Tool** to click on an empty block space and then select on the Block Library tool. Navigate to the My Blocks category and select your block. If the design was not in the library and you have instead opened the design it will be in a separate design tab. In that case on the block you have opened you need to select and copy before you change to the Quilt Layout design and click to paste on an empty block space. You can easily copy and paste between design work tabs.



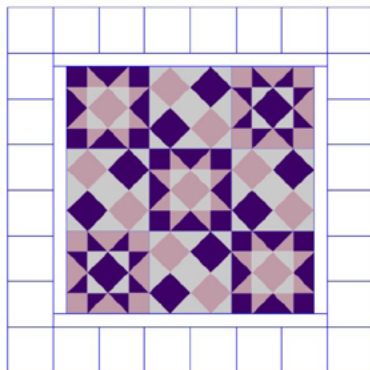
Once you have added the new block to the layout this is a good time to re-color the block to use the same colors as the star blocks. You can use the **Piece Select Tool** and click to re-color the pieces. Once you have the new block re-colored you can use the **Block Select Tool** to copy and paste the block to the rest of the empty spaces.



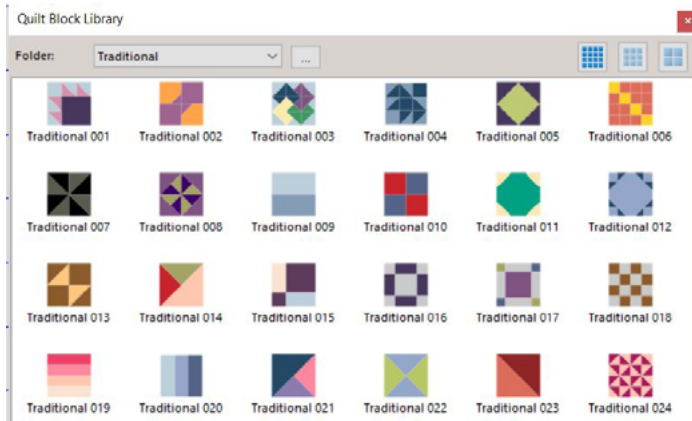
Use the **Block Select Tool** to click on one of the empty border pieces. Notice the new border tab in the properties area. Adjust the settings to be to be a horizontal strip border by selecting the style pop up and choosing “Strip Horizontal” and set to 1” on all sides.



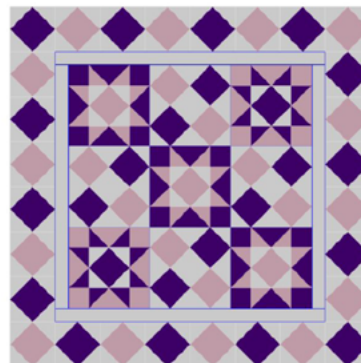
Look in the properties box for a tab where you can choose to **enable** a Pieced border. Here you can set the number of blocks in the Pieced border. Tip: 6 plus the corners equals 8 blocks on each side.



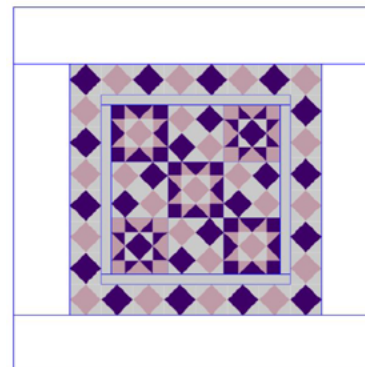
To add blocks to the Pieced border you use the **Block Select Tool** and select a block from the border. Now you can either copy and paste from another block window or you can use the **Block Library Tool** to select a block. The block we used in this quilt is from the library in the category for traditional blocks.



Look for number 005 and left-click on an empty block in the border. Now re-color the block to match the colors of the quilt. You can copy and paste the re-colored block to all of the pieced border blocks. Now you need to select the center piece from each block and change its color so they alternate pink and purple.



Use the **Add Outer Border Tool** to add a new border that goes on the outside of the pieced border. Use the **Block Select Tool** to select the new border and adjust the settings to be a horizontal strip border with 6" wide pieces. This is the area where we will be adding the appliqué flowers in our next lesson. You can go ahead and color the border pieces to match the quilt and save the layout. We will pick this project up at the end of lesson 3 adding the appliqué pieces.



Lesson 3 Appliqué

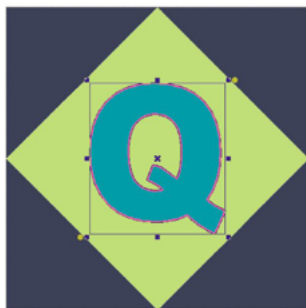
In this lesson we will learn to open and attach an appliqué shape to a quilt block or layout. We will also learn how to create a new appliqué shape with the drawing tool and you can even use a photo or clipart image as a background to trace and make a new custom appliqué shape.



Start by selecting the **Quilt Block Library** and choose a block from your library to which you might like to add an appliqué. Once the quilt block is open you can then select the button to open the **Custom Shape Library**.



A browser window opens up and you can choose a shape from the categories provided. Click on a shape to attach it to your quilt block.



4 pieces
Color 1: Cosmic Sky
Size (in): 4 1/2 x 4 1/2



1 piece
Color 2: Limon
Size (in): 6 1/8 x 6 1/8



(Addon)
1 piece
Color 3: Turquoise
Size (in): 4 1/8 x 4 1/8

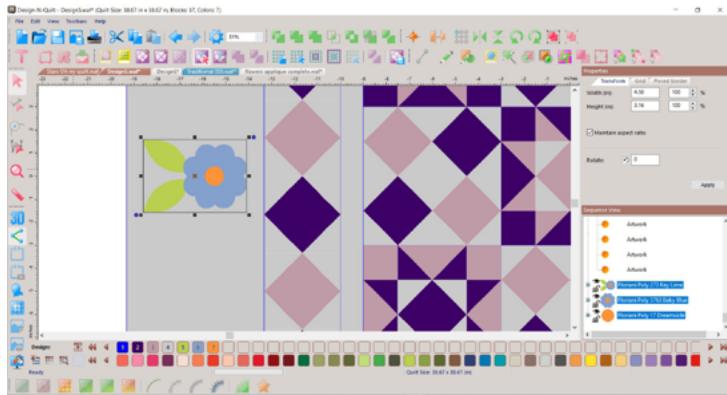
You can use the **Piece Select Tool** to move the location of the appliqué “add on” to anywhere on the block. Click in the color pallet at the bottom to select a color for your appliqué shape. The program will know that the appliqué is part of this block and its fabric will be added to the **Print Preview**. The program will provide you with a template to cut the appliqué shape with or without a seam allowance.



Addon - 1 piece - Color: Turquoise



You can also attach an appliqué shape to a border or sashing in a quilt layout. Open your **Quilt Layout** and use the **Block Select Tool** to choose a border or sashing to attach appliqué on to. When the border piece is selected the **Custom Shape Library** option will be available. Choose the appliqué shape from the browser window and click to attach the shape to the quilt layout. This is how we will add on the flowers and leaves to the quilt we are making from Lesson 1 and 2. Look for a category in the Custom Shape Library for **Alex Anderson Appliqué Shapes** and browse to find the flower and leaves for this quilt.



Use the **Piece Select Tool** to click and drag a box around appliqué shapes to select them and a box will appear around it. You can use the handles of that box to change the size of the appliqué piece. You can use copy and paste to duplicate the shape and position where you like them.



To complete the quilt, continue to attach the flowers and vines as you see them. You can change the color of your appliqué pieces by using the Piece Select tool and then click on the color in the pallet to assign new colors. We have included the completed quilt layout for this and all of Alex's Quilters Select quilts in the Quilt Library.

How to Create a New Custom Shape Artwork and How to Edit and Change the Shape Outline.



Choose the **New** button to start a new empty workspace. Notice how this workspace has a white tab instead of the blue tab you would get with quilt blocks or the brown tab you would get for quilt layouts. In this way, you can easily tell what design tab your artwork is - quilt, block, or layout.

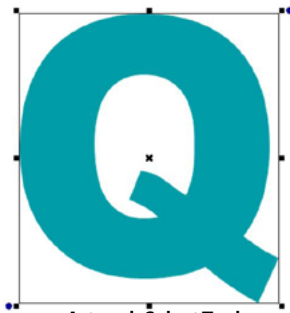


Select this button to open the **Custom Shape Library**. A browsing window will open and there is a menu of categories of artwork types for you to use. When you create your own custom shapes you can add them to the My Custom Shapes category with the option found in the File drop down menu. Choose a shape by clicking and the shape will open on screen.





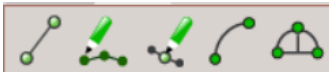
This is the **Artwork Select Tool** and the **Artwork Shaping Tool**. Use the select tool to click on a shape and notice that a box with handles surrounds the shape. You can use the corner handles to change the size of the shape. You can also use the **Transformation** tab in the properties box to type in a specific size for the appliqué shape. To edit or change the shape, you need to first select it and then select the **Shape Mode Tool**. Notice that the box around the shape goes away and now the actual shape has handles or points that you can use to edit and change the shape. Right click to add a new point to the shape. To delete a point, select it and select “delete” on your keyboard. Right click on a point to get a menu with options to smooth the line.



Artwork Select Tool



Artwork Shaping Tool

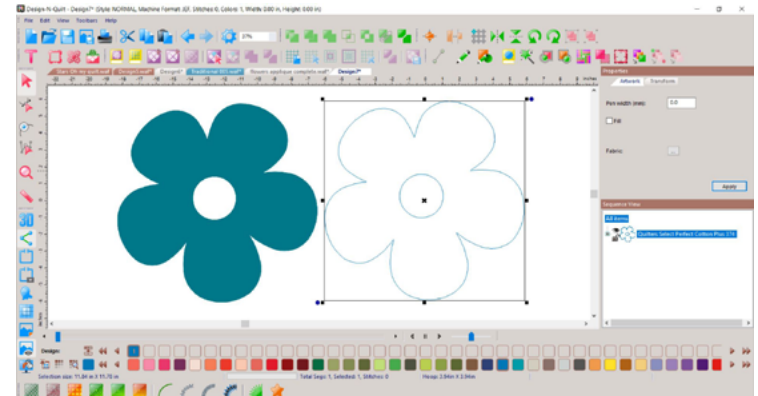


Use the **Drawing Tools** to create a new custom shape. Click to make points that outline the shape. Select the arrow beside the line tool to pop up and discover there are five drawing styles. First one is a **line mode** where you click to get a corner point and hold the control key

down to make curved points. The second tool is a **Freehand Tool** where you will click and drag to make your lines. The third tool is called **Bezier** and is a popular tool with graphic artists. The final two tools are called **Arch** and **Curve**. Try the different modes to see how they work.



Use the backdrop tool to add a JPG or BMP or PNG image to the workspace as a background. This will allow you to trace an image to make new appliqué shapes.



The flower on the left is a JPG image. We can use the **Magic Needle Tool** to auto trace the flower and make an appliqué shape that matches the JPG image. The Magic Needle is an auto tracing tool that will work best if you start with a good quality image that have enough resolution to produce a smooth line.

Lesson 4 Colors and Fabrics

In this lesson we will learn to color our quilts using solid colors or fabrics.



To get started open a quilt from your **Quilt Library** or use the **Open** button and browse your computer to find and open any quilt.



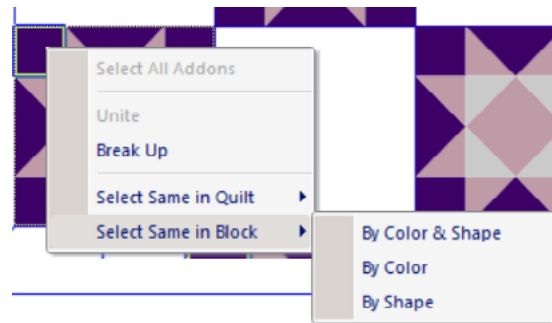
For a quilt layout you will need to use two different selecting tools to re-color the various parts. You would use the **Piece Select Tool** to click on any single piece of a block or appliqué. Once selected you can change the color by clicking on a color in the pallet at the bottom. To re-color the borders or sashing you need to use the blue **Block Select Tool** and then click on a color in the pallet below. Learning when to use the purple **Piece Select Tool** and the blue **Block Select Tool** is the key to re-coloring quilts.



Piece Select Tool



Block Select Tool



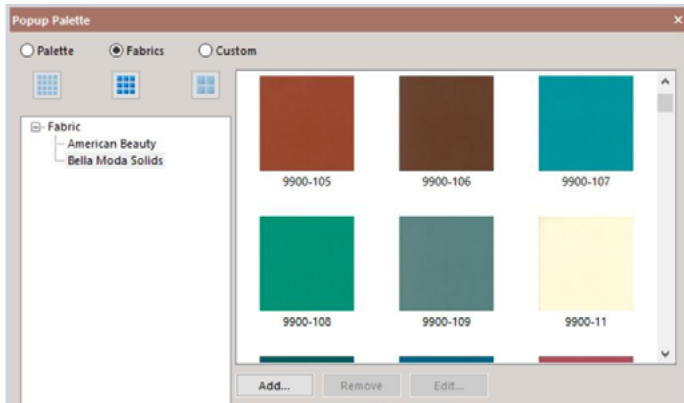
You can change the colors in just one block or the entire quilt. Use the **Piece Select Tool** to click on one of the white pieces in the center quilt. Now right click to get a menu of options such as **Select Same in Block** or **Select Same in Quilt**. If you choose Select Same in Quilt by color, it will select all of the white in the entire quilt and now with one click you can change the white to any new color. If you choose Select Same in Block by color, then it would only select the white in that one block. There are also options for Select Same in Quilt/Block by shape, color or both. In this way you can quickly re-color your entire project.



The bottom row is the full color palette and the top row is the colors that have been used in the quilt. Another popular way to re-color your quilt is to use drag and drop on the color palette. In this way you can swap an entire color in the quilt. You first click to select a color from the palette in the bottom row. Then click and drag the color and place the color on top of a color in the top row that you want to swap out. If you click and drag red over top of the color white in the top row of the palette bar then the color red will replace all of the white in the quilt.

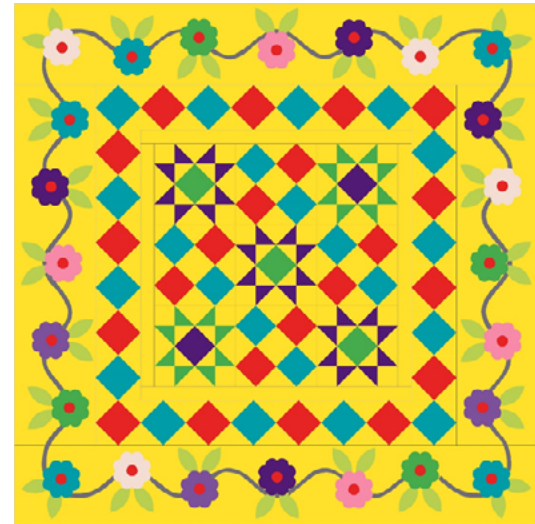


These are the tools at the left of the color palette bar. The tool on the left will open the pop up palette. The pop up pallet is larger and will allow you to see more colors at the same time. The pop up palette will also allow you to color your quilt with fabrics.



This is the pop up palette showing the fabric options. The program comes with some standard fabrics but you are encouraged to add your own choices to the library. You can right click on the Fabric menu on the left and choose to add a new category. Now select the new category and choose the Add button to get a browsing window for you to select and add your fabric. You can take photos of your actual fabric and email them to your computer and add them to the program or you can visit your favorite fabric supplier and download fabric images.

To add fabric to your block or quilt you can select the piece in the block and then select the fabric from the pop up library. If you like you can also pre-load some fabric on to the design palette so you can then close the pop up palette and the selected fabric will be available from the design palette at the bottom. To add fabric from the pop up palette to your design palette you can right click the fabric image and choose **Add to Palette** from the menu.



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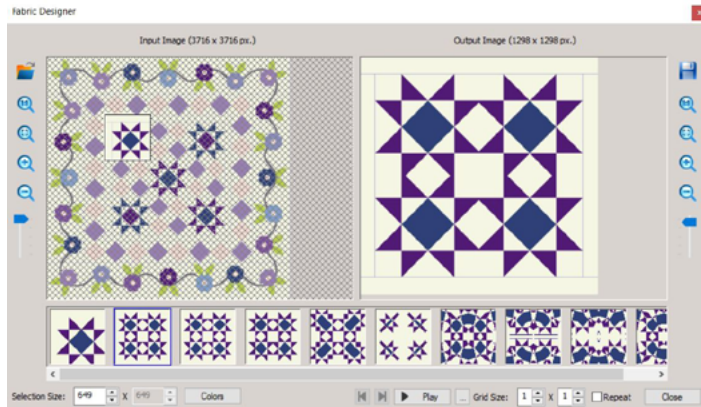


Lesson 5 Fabric Designing

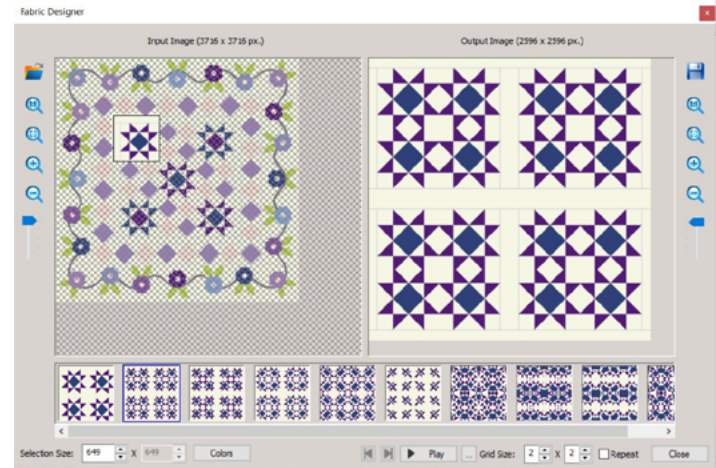
In this lesson you will learn to use the Fabric Designer tool to create new and interesting quilt blocks or printed fabrics.



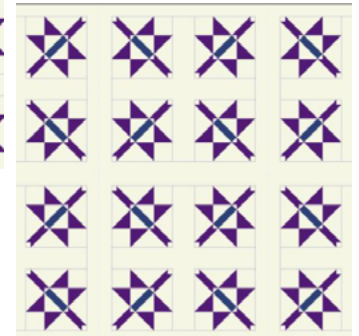
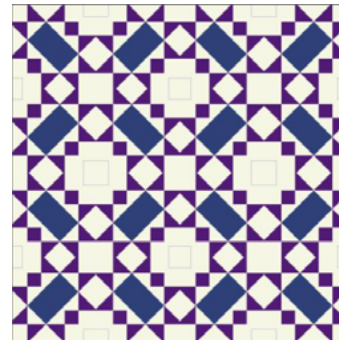
Select the **Fabric Designer Tool** to open a wizard with a left and right side.

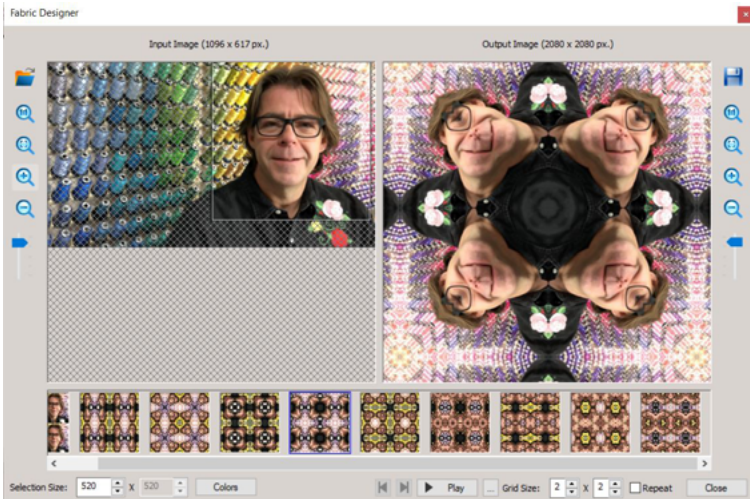


On the left at the top, there is an **Open** button. Use that to browse your computer and select an image as the input image. Your image will show on the left and there is a box you can move and resize in order to select part of your image that is made into a quilt block. The output image is shown on the right side and you can play with the box on the left to see the results on the right. In the example, we opened a JPG image of the Alex Stars Oh My Quilt and selected a small area with just one star. The result is on the right however below there are several variations from which you can choose.

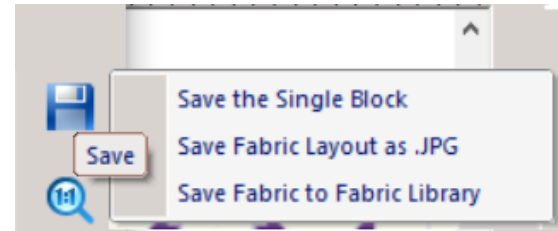
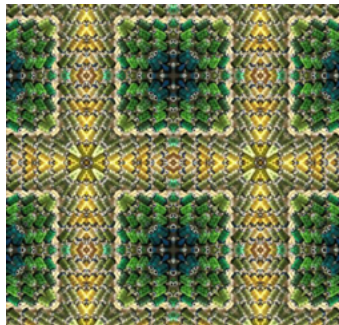
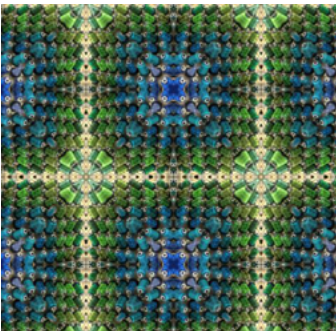


Try adjusting the settings below the output image to see what the single block would look like in a layout of 2x2 or larger. Use the zoom slider to see the full fabric swatch or just one block. At the bottom of the window there are several different variations of the block and you can click on each one to see the results on the right in the output image. Below are just a couple of the options produced.

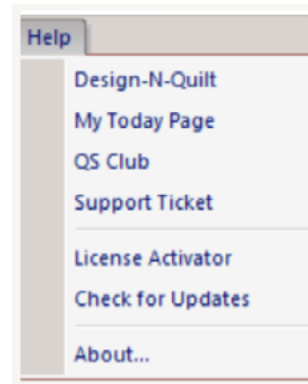




For some fun try using a photo of a person as your input image. Get ready to laugh out loud as you adjust the box and make that person into a fabric. In the photo above the face is funny to see twisted around but the thread wall background makes some fantastic looking images.

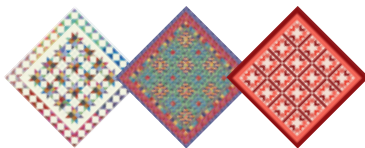


When you are happy with a design, choose the **Save** button on the right side of the wizard and a save menu opens with three options. The first will save an image of just one block. You can then use the image to design a new quilt block. The second option will save the output as a JPG image to get printed. You can adjust the number of multiples in the image and make a large image that is suitable for printing to make your own custom printed fabric. The third option will save the image into your fabric library to be used in coloring your blocks/quilts.



Choose the **Help** drop down menu at the top of your work space to find several important resources. The first option will open the **Design N Quilt Manual** with detailed information on how to use all of the tools and features. Next is the option to open the **Design N Quilt Today Page** where we will feature the latest news and videos. The next option is a **link to the QS Club or RNK Software Club** where you will find dozens of excellent videos to help you learn more. The next option is how to open a **Support Ticket** and get help from our software experts. We answer tickets as quickly as possible normally within one business day and we appreciate the opportunity to assist you. Another option under the help menu is the **Licence Activator** where you can also deactivate your software if you want to move it to a new computer. Select **About** to find out what version or build you have installed and then select **Check for Updates** to see if there is a newer build for you to download and install. For more help on how to download and install please see inside of your DVD case.





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