CURTAIN CUTIES

by Susa Glenn, courtesy
of Susa Glenn Designs

As featured in the Nov/Dec '12 issue of
Creative Machine Embroidery magazine.

To get the best results and the most enjoyment from these designs, please read the tutorials online at my web site. This link will take you there!

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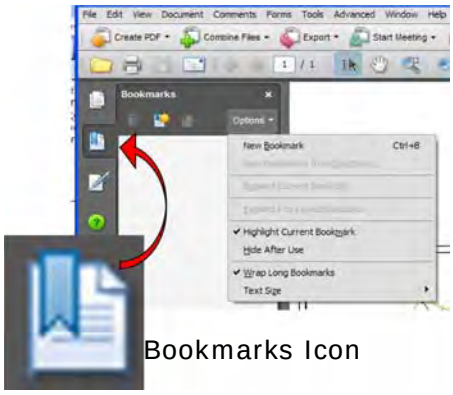
This square is exactly 6" X 6". Print this page on your printer to verify that your printer will print correctly to the exact size. Be sure to check both the height and the width because some printers will distort only one dimension.

Go to File > Print. At Print Range, choose CURRENT PAGE. At Paper Scaling, choose NONE. Click OK. Measure the square. If it does not measure 6" X 6", your printer is not printing to the exact size. This will cause problems with using the included templates because they will not print true to size. To solve this problem, use a printer that will pass this scaling test.

How to print placement templates:

1. To print only the page with the paper template of your choice, go to that template page. Go to "file" and click "print". Under "Print Range" choose "Current Page". Type in the number of copies that you want to print.
2. It is important to print the placement templates so that they print true to size. Under "Paper Scaling" choose "none". The template MUST print the actual size. Click "OK".



Bookmarks Icon

To navigate through this document easily, Use the Bookmarks located on the left of the screen. You may need to click on the Bookmarks icon to make the Bookmarks visible. Print your project's master layout (if one is included). Print the placement templates that are listed on the master layout (first page) . STEP AWAY FROM THE COMPUTER. Go back to your sewing room AND LET THE FUN BEGIN!

Down & Dirty Drama Drapes with Embroidered Tiebacks from Susa Glenn Designs

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www.susaglenndesigns.com

If your money and your time budget for your window dressing project are miniscule, here is a solution! Two windows can be dressed for about $100.00 and the whole project can easily be completed in one weekend. Total sewing and installation time is about three hours for the tiebacks and about three hours for two drapes.

A good rule of thumb when planning the drapery's width is to multiply the width of the window by 2 or 2.5. The length of the drape is personal preference, but normally longer (or taller) is better because it gives better proportion to the room. Drapes made from king sized flat sheets yield a length of about 102" (excluding the length of the clips) and a width of about 100". The finished size of the tieback that is used in this project is 24"X5.5" and can be lengthened easily if needed by cutting the pattern on the center line and inserting more paper before beginning the project.

In addition to a single color of embroidery thread and tear-away stabilizer for the machine embroidery work, you will need the following to make the pair of tiebacks: 28"X26" exterior fabric , 14"X26" of lining fabric, and 14"X26" of Pellon® Fusible Fleece. A pair of standard pillow cases yields enough fabric for the tie backs' exterior and the lining.

To make a single panel Down and Dirty Drama Drape (as shown above), you will need two contrasting flat king sized sheets (60% cotton/40% polyester is recommended - Walmart's Mainstays brand shown) and a pair of standard pillowcases (match either sheet to your liking).

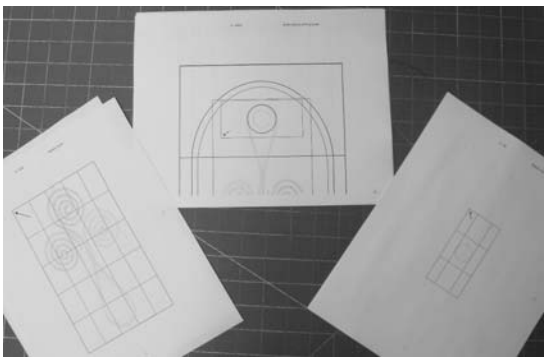
Drapery hardware shown: Walmart's Mainstays™ brand 5/8" Decorative Café Rod shown with Walmart's Mainstays™ Clip Rings. These clip rings have teeth and hold an impressive amount of weight without slipping.

Instructions for a Pair of Embroidered Tie Backs

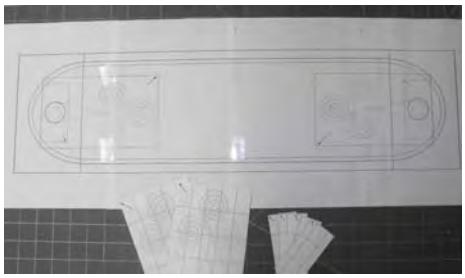
Fabric preparation: Wash the pair of pillow cases in hot water and dry on hot to shrink. Press with hot iron.
Cut the following from a pillowcase: four rectangles, each 7"X26" and 8 rectangles, each 7"X4.5".
From Pellon's Fusible Fleece cut two 6"X25" rectangles.

Prepare the fabric: Soak two of the 7"X26" rectangles in a solution of 50% liquid starch and 50% water. Squeeze out. Drip dry until barely damp (a hairdryer speeds this along). Press flat with hot iron until very crisp.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions and fuse the Fusible Fleece to the back side of the remaining two 7"X26" rectangles and set aside.

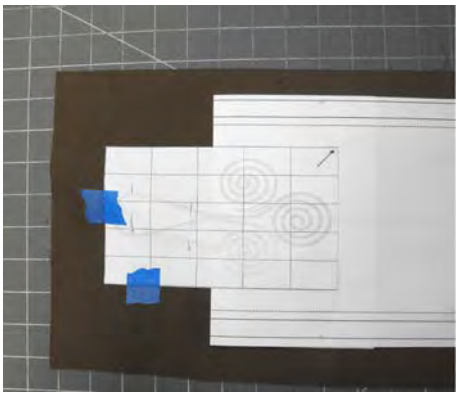


1. Print one copy of the master layout template , one copy of the Three Curls placement template, and 4 copies of the tieback hole template. These will be reused so do not discard until both tie backs are completed.

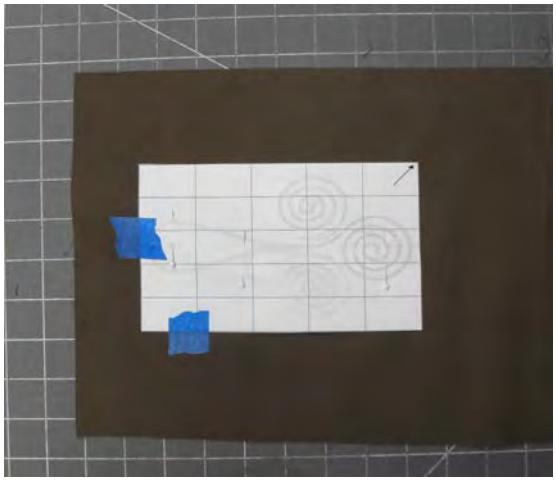


2. Assemble the master layout template / pattern and tape together. Cut out the placement templates along the basting rectangles. Multiple copies can be cut at once if stapled together (top and bottom) and then cut with a rotary cutter and mat.

3. Place the master layout/pattern in the center of one of the starched fabric rectangles and pin on the center line.



4. fold the end of the pattern to the back as shown above. Put the embroidery placement template on top, matching the orientation. Tape and pin in place as shown.



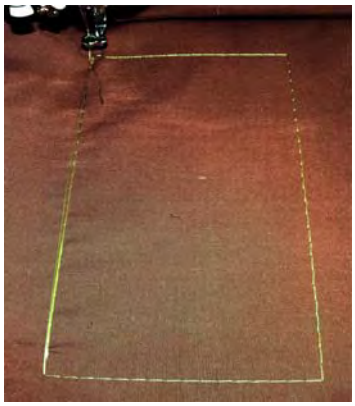
5. Remove the pattern. Add more pins to keep the two placement template securely aligned.

6. Hoop tear-away stabilizer in a hoop large enough for this design (4.17"X6.96"). Attach hoop to your embroidery machine. Thread the machine with the design's first color (see thread chart). Advance the stitching one stitch. The needle will move to the back left corner of the basting rectangle. Slide the fabric with the placement template into position. Wheel the needle into the fabric at the corner of the placement template. Visually straighten and stitch about 5 stitches. Stop.

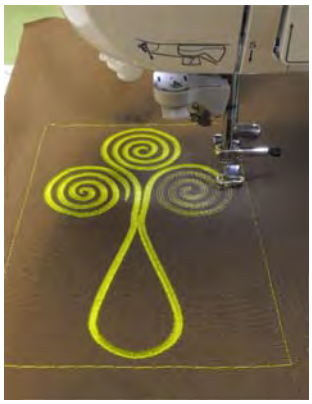
7. Advance the stitching to the next corner of the basting rectangle. Align the work so that the needle is at the exact corner of the template. Hold the alignment with your hand. Back the stitching up about 10 stitches. Stitch the 10 stitches. Stop.

8. Back the stitching up to your stopping place at the beginning of the basting rectangle. Finish stitching the first side of the basting rectangle. Stop.

9. Remove the placement template.

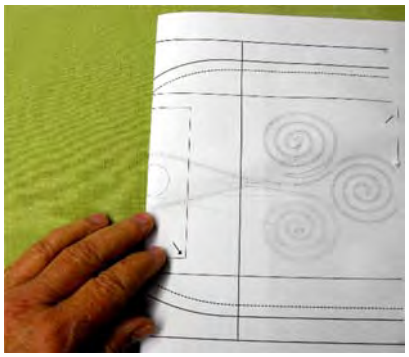


10. As you complete the stitching of the basting rectangle, smooth and flatten the fabric so that the fabric will be stitched flat to the hooped stabilizer.

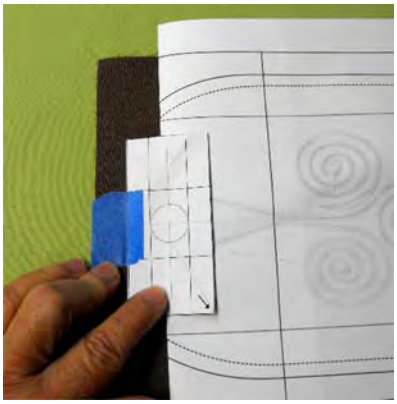


11. Stitch out the design. Repeat the process with the second tie back front.

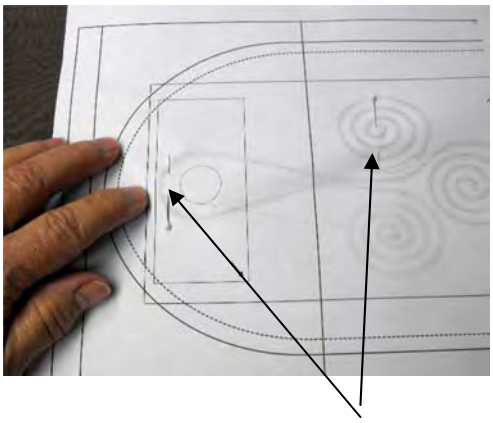
12. Remove the basting rectangles and the tear-away stabilizer. Remove the starch by hand washing. Dry until slightly damp. Place the work on top of several layers of a terry towel (embroidery side down). Smooth flat with your hands. Press the work flat. Encourage the fabric to stretch back to its original length (and width) as you press because the embroidery stitching causes it to draw up a little. Always press and slide the iron with the grain of the fabric. Do not distort it. Set aside.



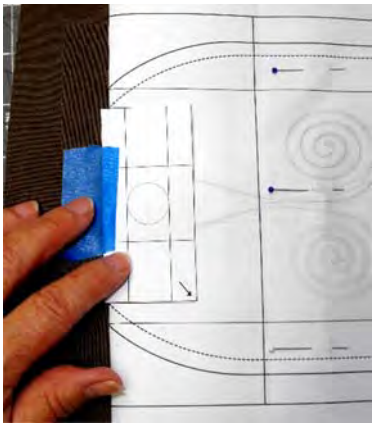
13. Place the pattern on one of the backs (with fleece bonded to it) and pin several places away from the ends. Fold the ends of the pattern to the back as in step 4. Overlay a 4.5″X7″ fabric piece as shown above.



14. Lift the pattern up and finish laying the 4.5″X7″ fabric in place. Overlay a tieback hole template as shown above. Tape and pin to secure. Repeat with the second end of the tieback. Remove the pattern.



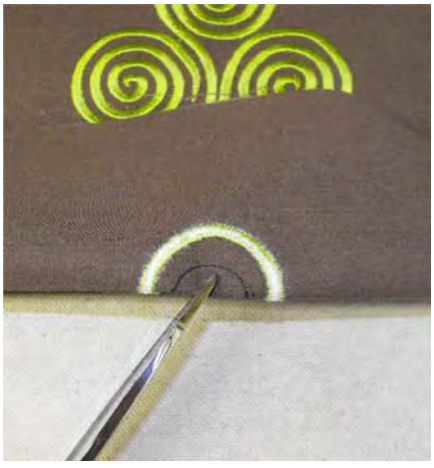
15. Replace the pattern onto the embroidered front fabric. Carefully align the printed design with the stitched design using two pins. Smooth pattern and pin in place.



16. Add the hole placement templates to the embroidered front fabric by repeating steps 13-14.

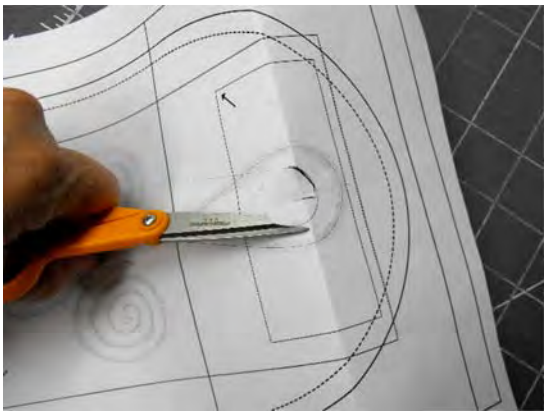
17. Remove the pattern from the front fabric. The work should look like this.

18. Use regular sewing thread that matches your exterior fabric for both your bobbin and your top thread. Follow the instructions in steps 8-13 and stitch all of the tieback holes.

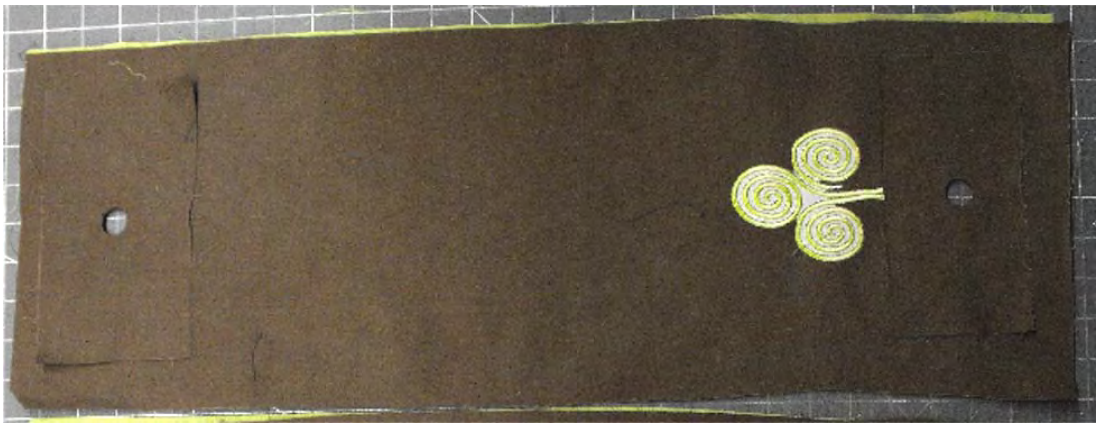


19. Remove all the basting rectangles and tear-away stabilizer. Fold each stitched circle area in half. Snip in center. Cut out center of circle (see above right - great job!). Snip to stitch line about every 3/16″ all around the circle so that it will turn cleanly.

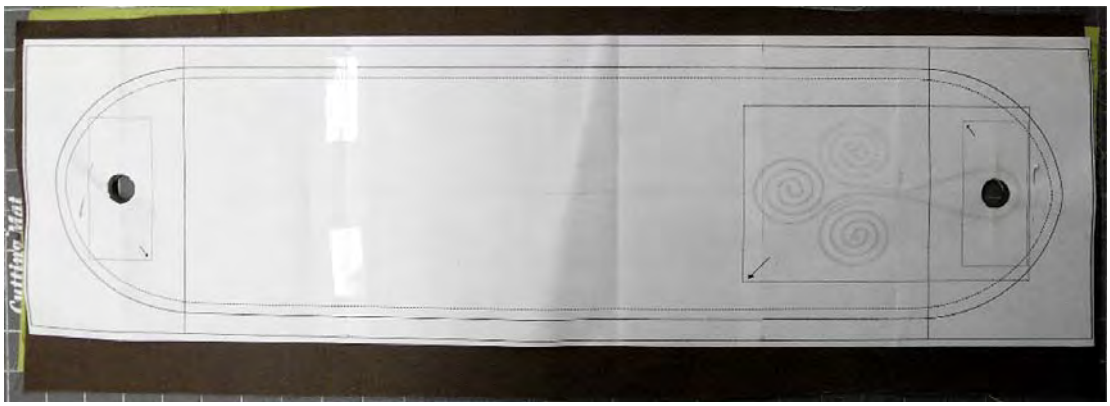
20. Pull the 4.5″X7″ fabric piece through the hole. Mist with water. Smooth flat with your hands. Press flat. Repeat with each hole.



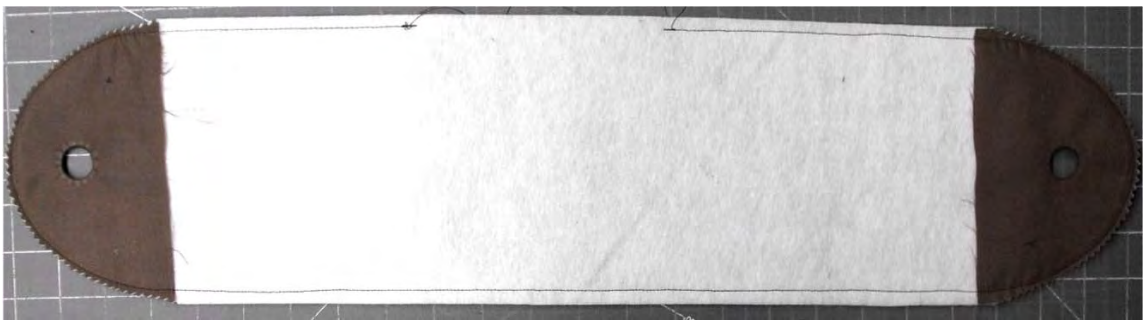
21. Carefully cut out the circles on the pattern.



22. Place the exterior fabric on top of the lining fabric (right sides together). Align the holes. If the distance between the holes of the exterior is slightly shorter (due to the embroidering process), split the difference so that the exterior is exactly centered on the lining and the holes align. Add pins to secure.

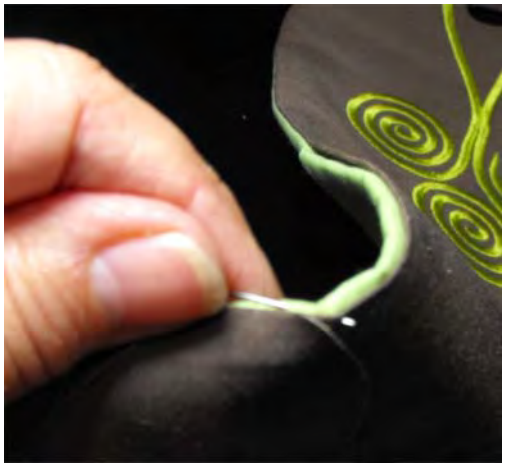


23. Place the pattern on top of the fabrics. Align the holes. Pin. Cut out the tieback shape.



24. Sew all around (1/4″ seam). Leave 5″ open along one side for turning right side out. Trim closely around the curves with pinking shears so that the curve will turn smoothly.

25. Turn right side out. Press carefully. Press the opening's seam allowance to the inside.



26. Hand sew the opening closed using a blind stitch.

Down & Dirty Drama Drapes Instructions

Fabric preparation: Wash and dry two king size flat sheets on hot to shrink. Smooth out, fold with the wide top band on one end and opposing bottom hem on the other end in preparation of cutting them off. Choose which sheet will be the lining and which will be the front.

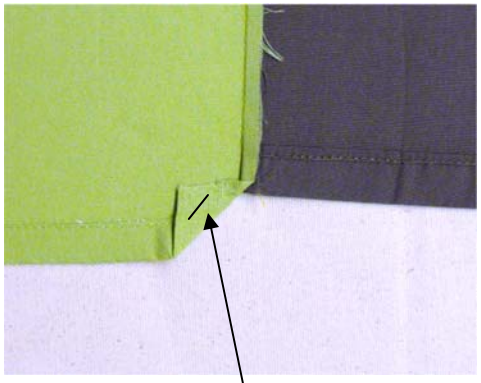
You will be cutting off the sheets' top wide bandings and the opposing sides' hems. These cut edges will become the drapery's sides.

1. Lay folded front sheet on cutting mat. Carefully align the edges of the folds, pin, and cut off the wide band that is at one end and the small hem that is at the opposite end. Use the folded cut front sheet to mark where to cut the folded lining sheet. Cut the folded lining sheet so that it is two inches shorter than the folded front sheet.

2. Unfold the sheets. Align the lining sheet cut edges with the front sheet cut edges so that there is 1" of the front sheet (hem edge) showing and place a pin or two as shown. Repeat with the other side.

3. Sew the side seams. Use a walking foot if your machine doesn't feed the top and bottom layers evenly. Begin each side seam at the pinned end (step 2). Keep fabric aligned with hands (or use more pins if desired). Use a consistent seam allowance (1/4" is shown above).

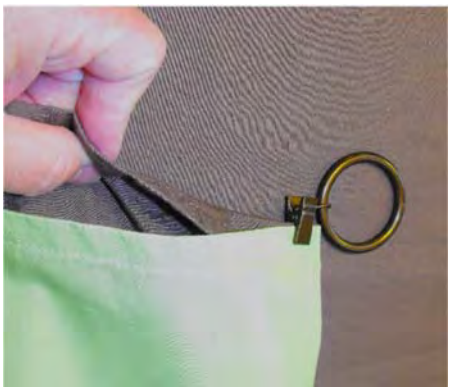
4. Press seams toward the lining fabric.



5. Fold the lower corners of the front fabric's lower hem and sew a little stitching here to secure.

6. This photo shows the lining side of the lower corners when the project is turned right side out and both layers are smoothed flat. The lining was cut two inches narrower than the front so it does not extend to the folded edge.

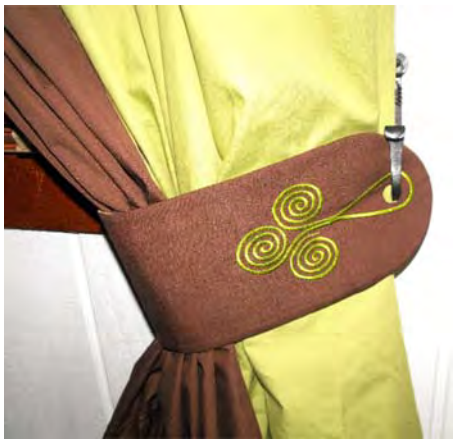
7. Meanwhile, the top edge of these drapes has just run wild and looks terrible. Blame it on the sheet factory; it couldn't possibly be your sewing expertise. Not to worry; there is an easy solution! Turn the drapery right side out. Organize, smooth and flatten.



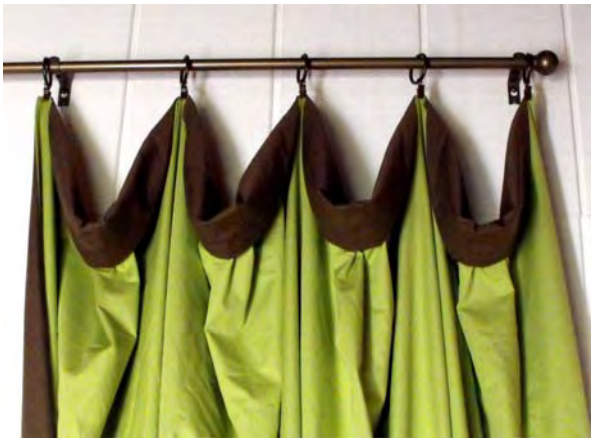
8. Fold the drape in half to find the center of the top edge and mark with a pin. Fold the extra lining fabric to the inside (see above) and add a drapery Clip Ring to each end and to the exact center of the top edge.

9.Add two more Clip Rings evenly spaced (equals five Clip Rings in all). Notice that the top edges of the two fabrics are not sewn together. The extra width of the front sheet is divided equally between the two sides.

10. Sweet talk someone who is good at ladder work to install the drapery rods at the desired height (length of drapery + length of Clip Ring).



11. Continue sweet talk and get a hook installed for each tie back. Wrap tie back around drape and hook through the holes as shown.



12. Arrange top of the drapery. Fold the areas between the rings down towards the front of the drapery two to three inches as shown above. Arrange the rings so that they are equally spaced.

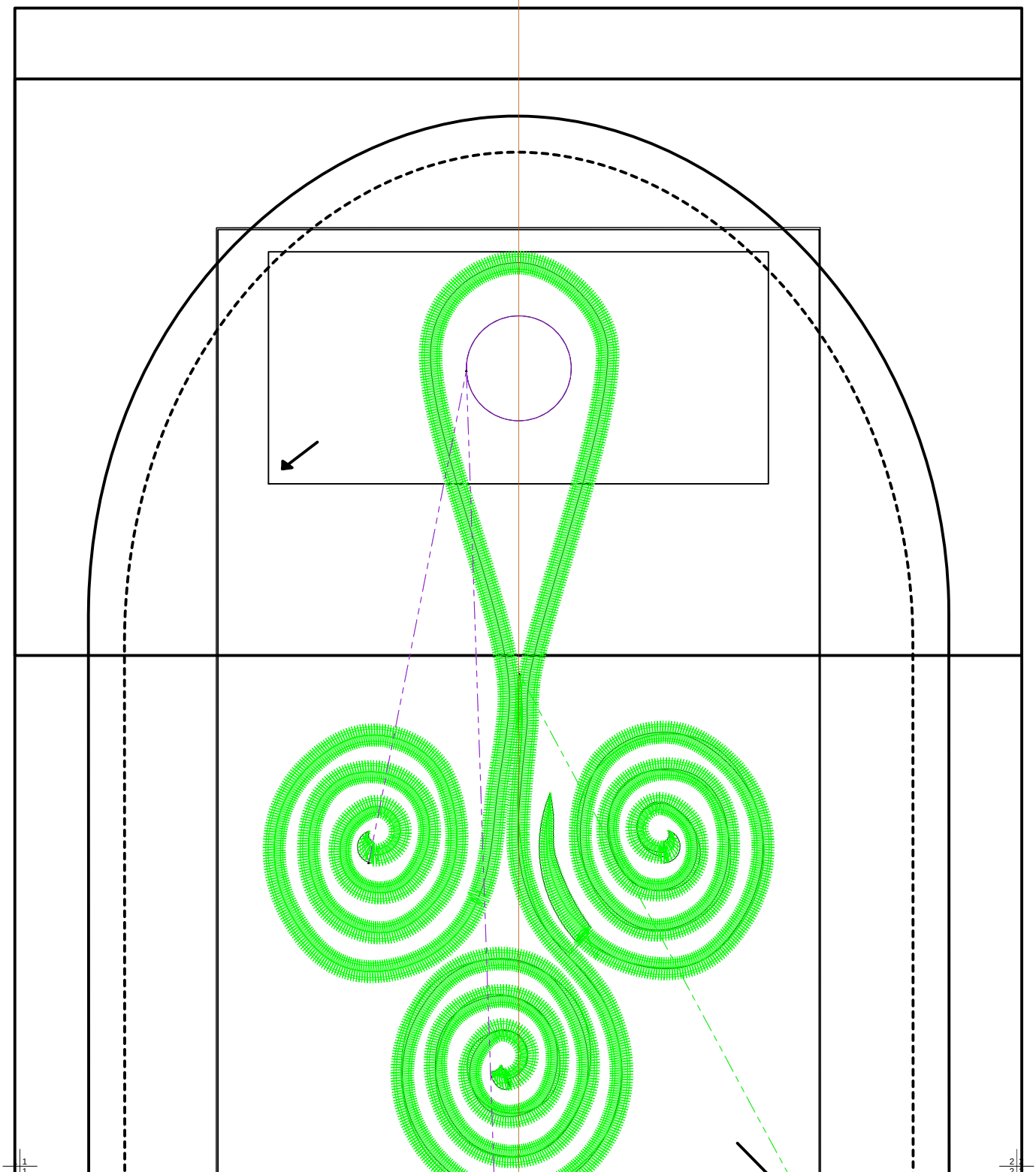
13. Arrange the sweep-back of the side of the drape so that the contrasting back fabric shows to your liking. Arrange the folds at the bottom of the drape to accentuate the fullness and lushness of this fabulous window treatment you created yourself without destroying your budget!

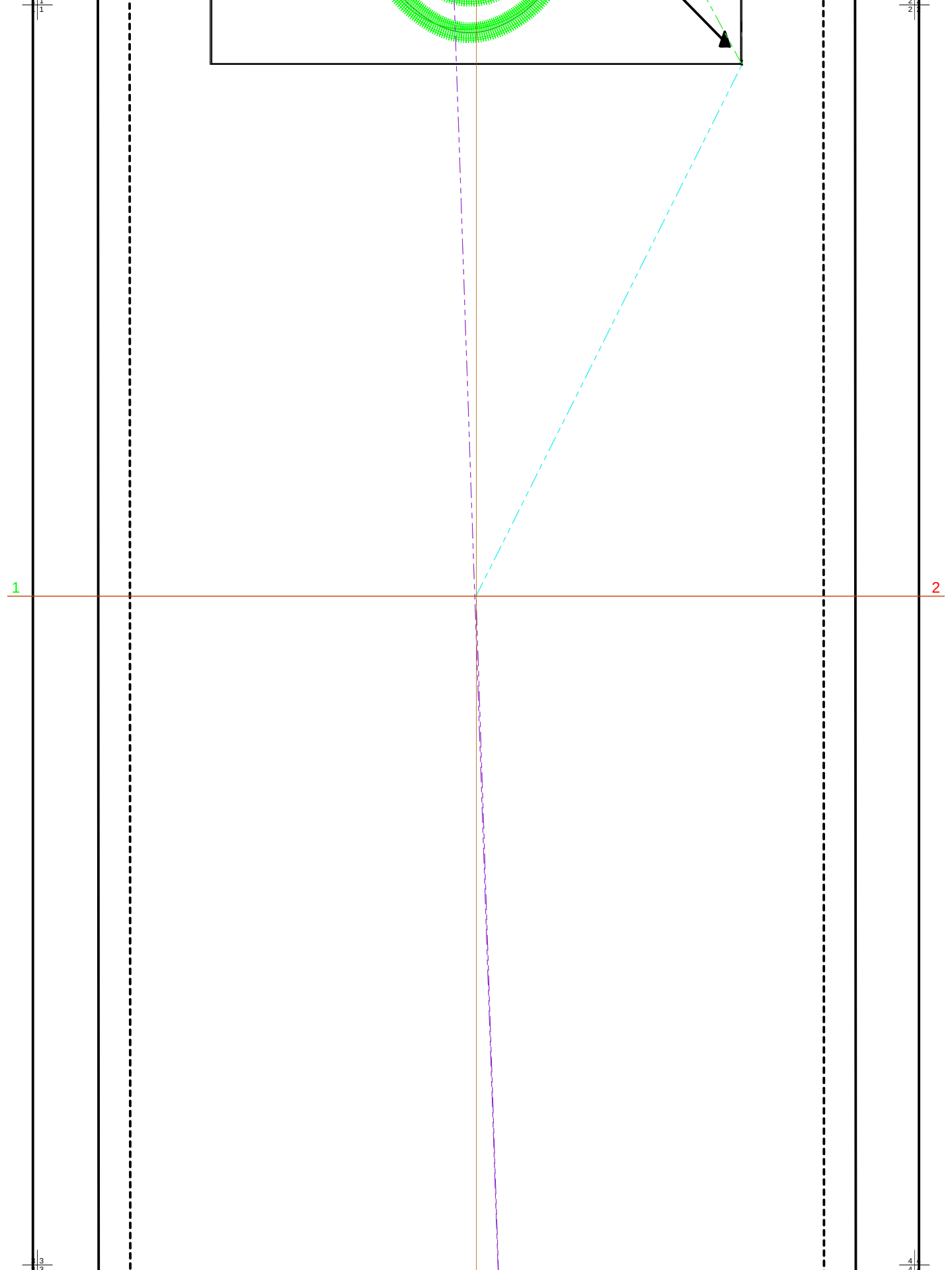
14. Stand back and admire the room.

15. Plan the dinner party!

1

Print one copy of the master layout template , one copy of the Three Curls placement template, and 4 copies of the tieback hole template. These will be reused so do not discard until both tie backs are completed.

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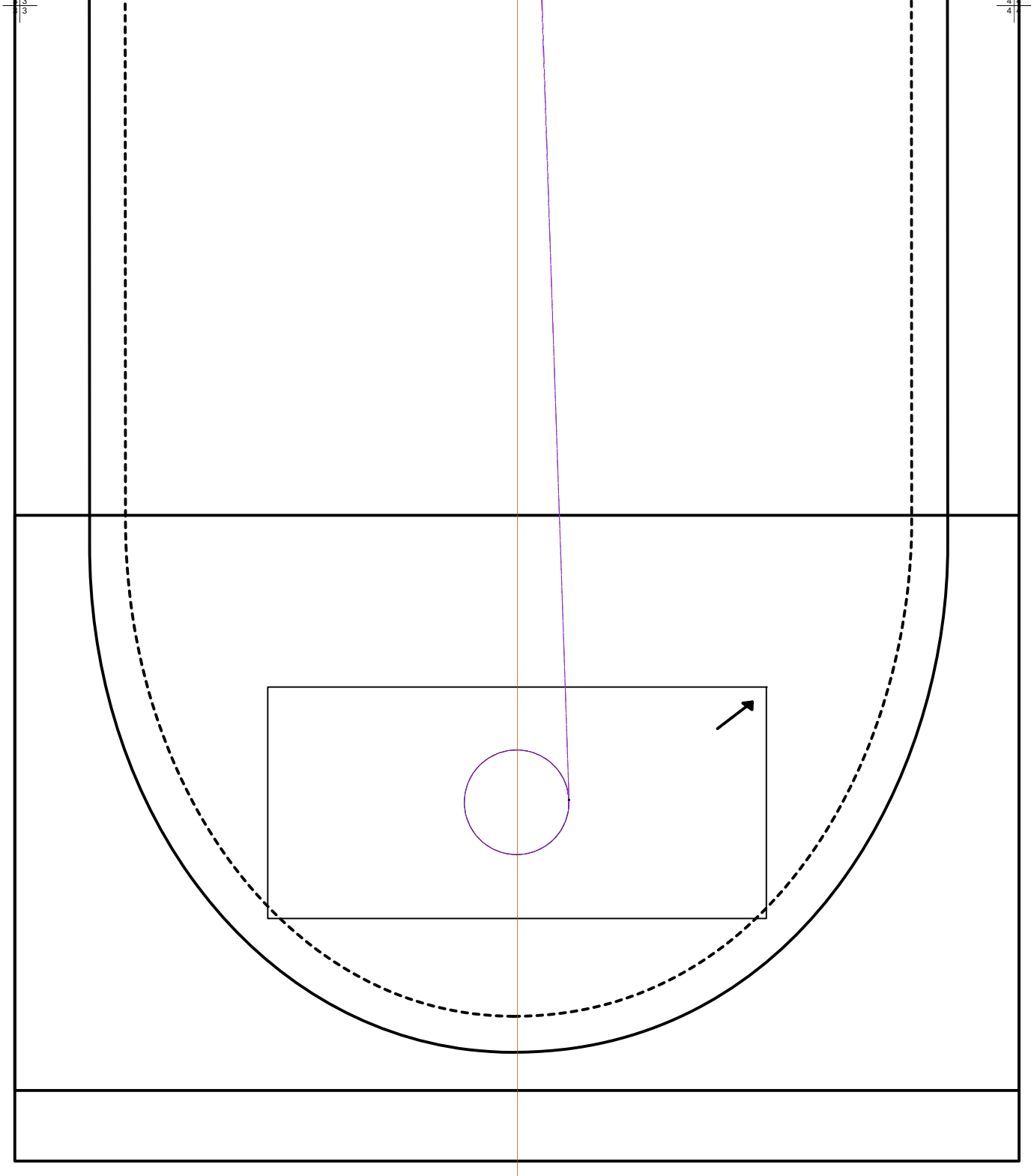

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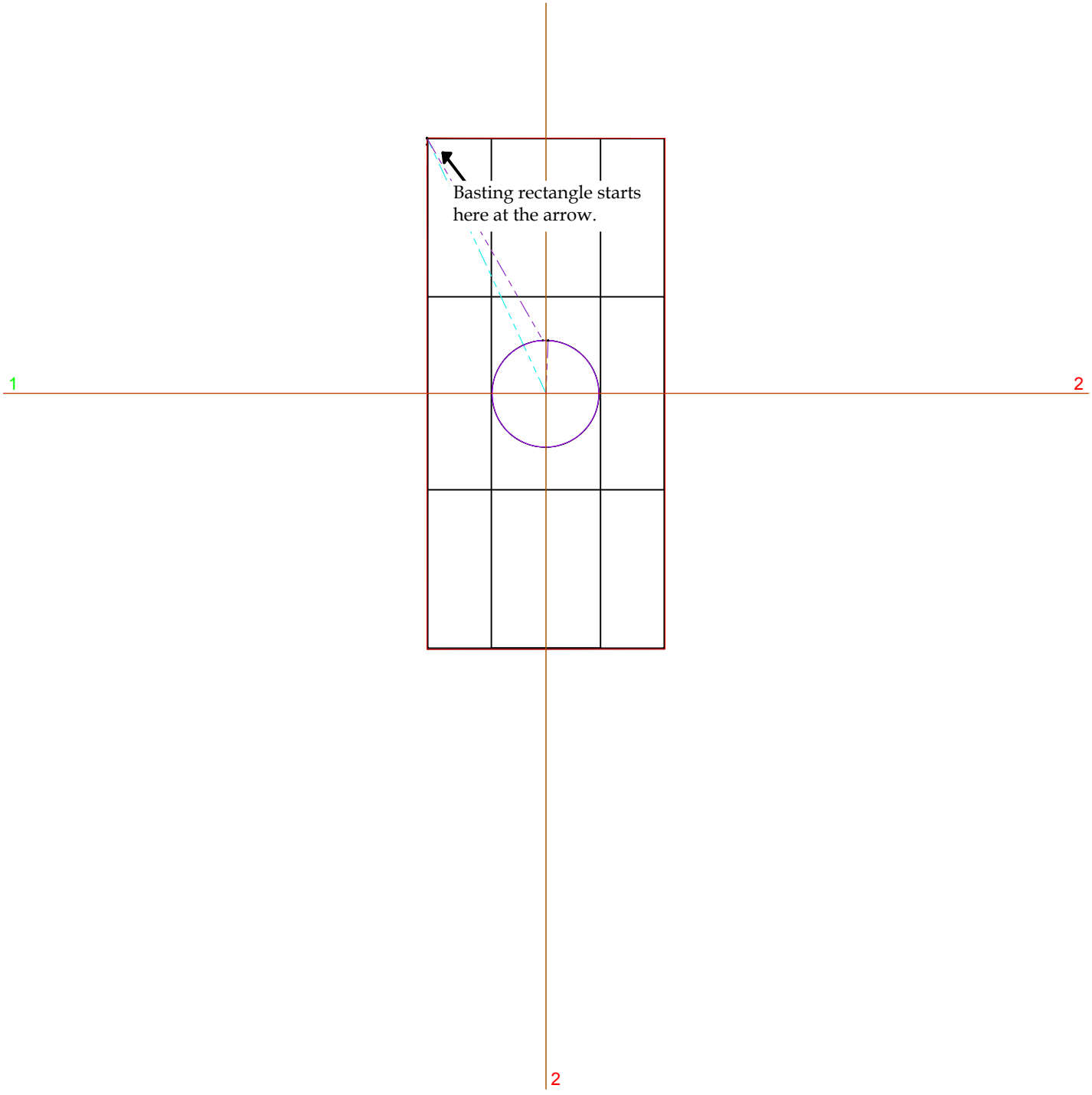
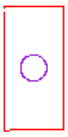
3. IT WILL MAKE YOUR WORK MUCH EASIER IF YOU WRITE ON EACH TEMPLATE THE NAME OF THE EMBROIDERY DESIGN BEFORE YOU CUT OUT THE PLACEMENT TEMPLATE!





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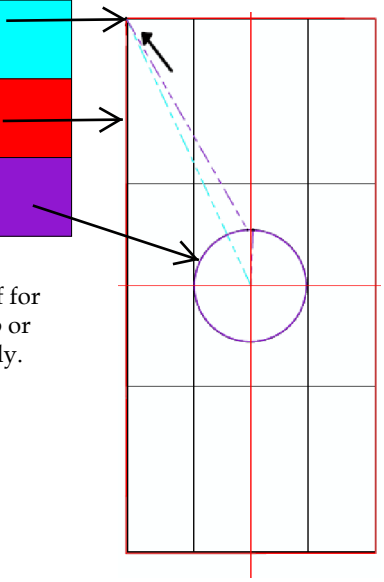
Date: 3 Mar, 2012	Colors: 3	Min Stitch: 0.9 mm	Copyright 2012
Printed: 3 Mar, 2012	Color changes: 2	Max Jump: 7.0 mm	Susa Glenn
H: 3.48 in	Stops: 3	Total Bobbin: 1.06ft	Fredericksburg, TX, USA
W: 1.62 in	Left: 20.6 mm		All Rights Reserved
	Right: 20.6 mm		
	Up: 44.2 mm		
	Down: 44.2 mm		
	EndX: 0.00 in		
	EndY: 0.00 in		

Colorway			
Fabric Color			
Stop	Color	Stitches	
1	2	9	5 Cyan Default
2	1	46	3 Red Default
3	3	78	5 medium redviolet



Basting rectangle and positioning stitches have been digitized in different colors from the design so that if for some reason unknown to me you want skip this step or delete in your digitizing software you can do so easily.

First color is always the positioning stitch for placing your template (read the Tutorials - see first page for link).
Second color is the basting rectangle. ***Start your stitching with the third color*** (your design color) and stitch the basting rectangle that attaches the project to the hooped stabilizer PLUS the first color in the design. There will be a large jump stitch from the basting rectangle to the design that should be trimmed after several stitches are made in the design.

The basting rectangle has been designed to be easily removed after stitching out the design.

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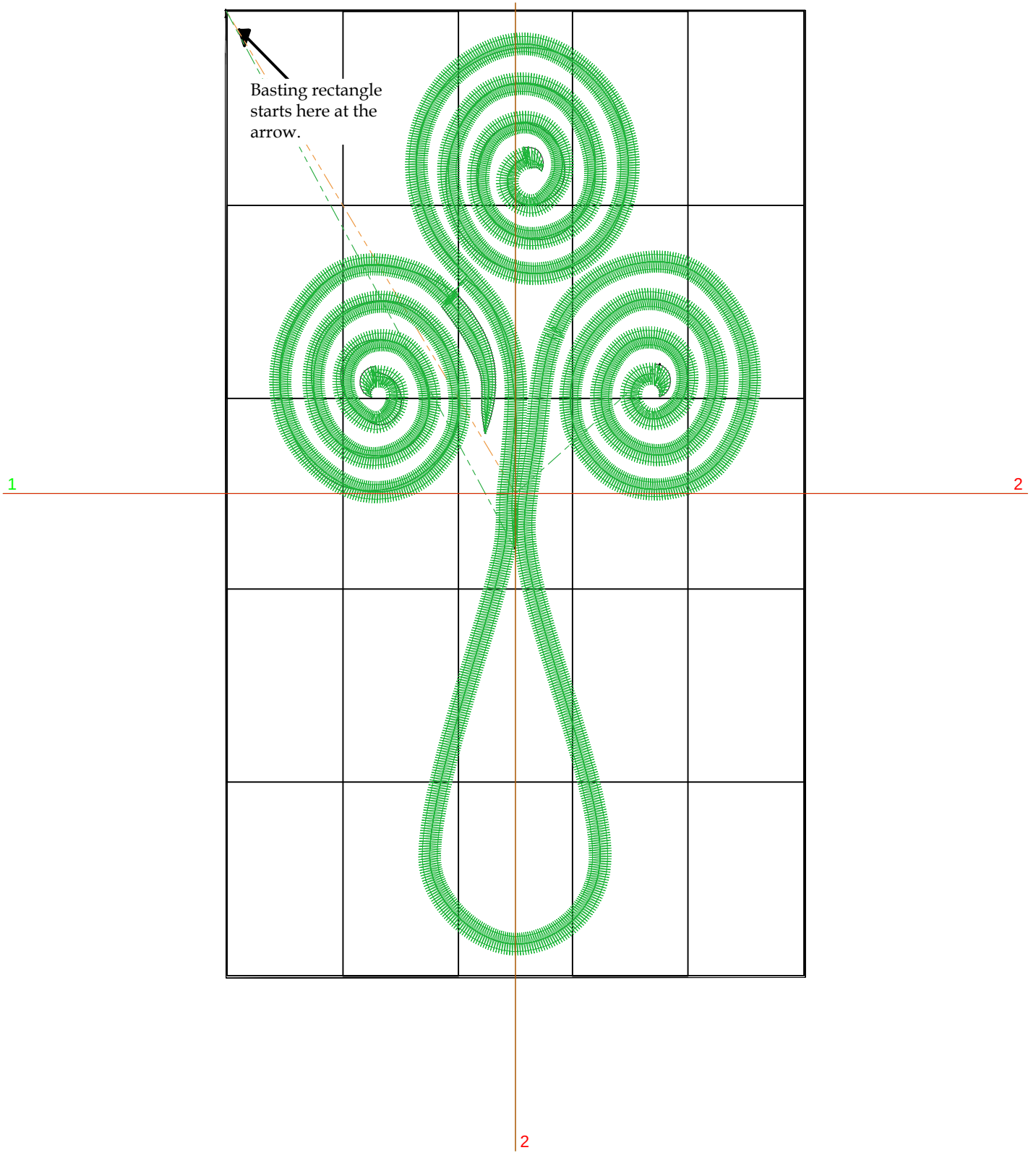

	Filename : tieback_3curl Date: 7 Mar, 2012 Printed: 7 Mar, 2012 H: 6.97 in W: 4.18 in	Stitches: 7255 Colors: 3 Color changes: 2 Stops: 3 Left: 53.1 mm Right: 53.1 mm Up: 88.4 mm Down: 88.6 mm EndX: 0.00 in EndY: 0.00 in	Max Stitch: 6.8 mm Min Stitch: 0.5 mm Max Jump: 6.8 mm Total Bobbin: 64.07ft	Tieback 3 Curls: Copyright 2012 Susa Glenn Fredericksburg, TX, USA All Rights Reserved

Colorway			yelloworange-bluegreen-redviolet
Fabric Color			
Stop	Color	Stitches	
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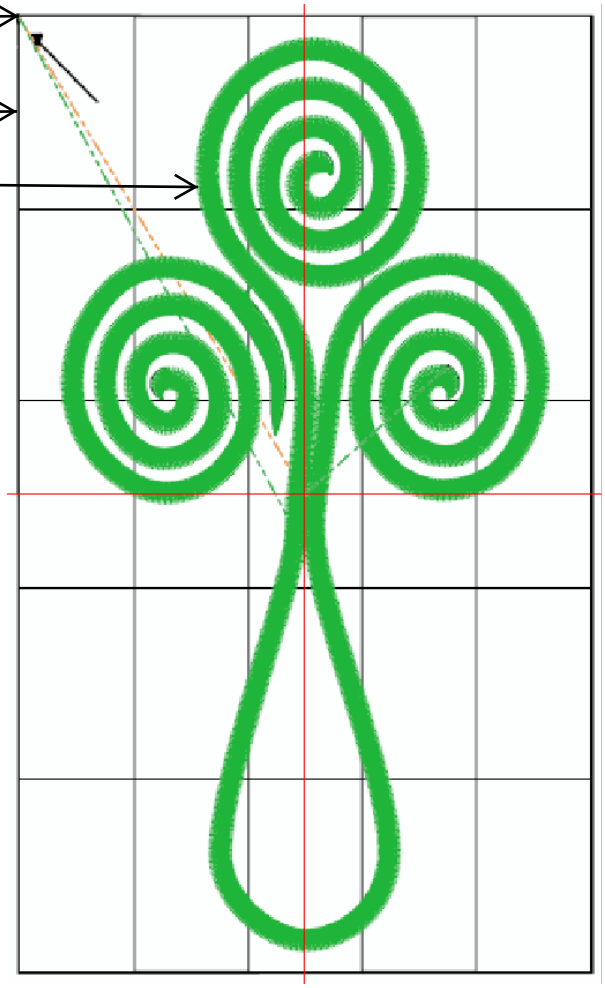
2	3	94	8 Black Default
3	2	7144	2578 Harvest Green R-A 122 Super Strength Rayon



Basting rectangle and positioning stitches have been digitized in different colors from the design so that if for some reason unknown to me you want skip this step or delete in your digitizing software you can do so easily.

First color is always the positioning stitch for placing your template (read the Tutorials - see first page for link).
Second color is the basting rectangle. ***Start your stitching with the third color*** (your design color) and stitch the basting rectangle that attaches the project to the hooped stabilizer PLUS the first color in the design. There will be a large jump stitch from the basting rectangle to the design that should be trimmed after several stitches are made in the design.

The basting rectangle has been designed to be easily removed after stitching out the design.