



Robin Ruth Design Strip-Pieced Mariner's Compass Basics Technique Class

Skill Level - Intermediate

Students should have experience piecing and be prepared to move along at a fairly quick pace in class. Good rotary cutting skills and accurate sewing are a plus for this class.

Class Description

Have you ever wanted to make a Mariner's Compass block but were too intimidated? Not a fan of paper piecing or using tedious templates? You'll love this class for learning how to make 16-point compass blocks using Robin Ruth Design's rulers and strip-piecing method! Join Robin for this technique class to learn the compass basics as you make a Skinny Robin or Fat Robin Compass block - your choice!

We will make a 14" OctaCompass block in class using my OctaCompass No Circle Finishing method, and use my faced appliqué method for the putting in the center.

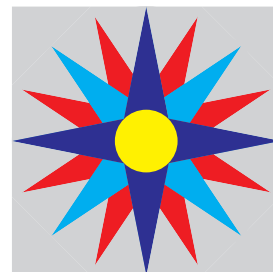
Robin will also share other info for traditional round finishing, creative ideas and samples of compass projects, and tons of tips to help you be successful!

There are supplemental video tutorials and projects for this block that students can also access before and after class.

14" 16-Point Skinny Robin OctaCompass Block



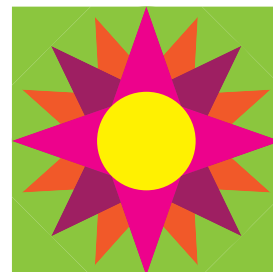
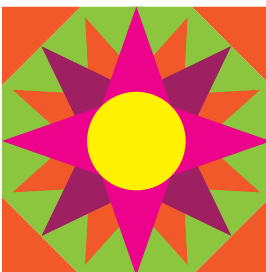
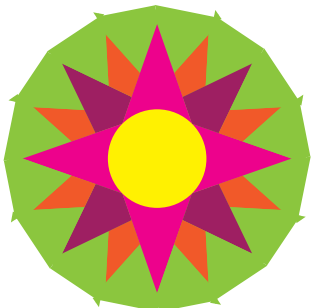
Contrasting Corner Triangles*



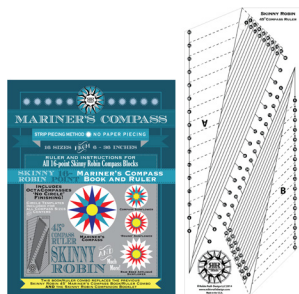
Corner Triangles Same Color as Background Strip*

OR

14" 16-Point Fat Robin OctaCompass Block



*Tip: If you make the corner triangles (the 5½" squares listed on the supply list) the same color as your Background fabric strip, your points will 'float' into the background and you won't see the octagon shape.

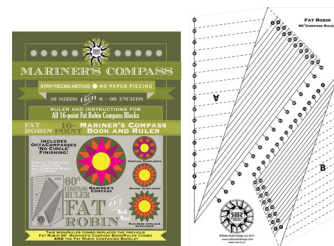


**Skinny Robin
\$49.95**

**For class you will need either the
Skinny Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass
Book & Ruler Combo**

OR

**Fat Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass
Book & Ruler Combo**



**Fat Robin
\$49.95**

***You can wait for class to purchase your above ruler combo.
All the instructions you need to prepare for class
are contained in this Supply List.***

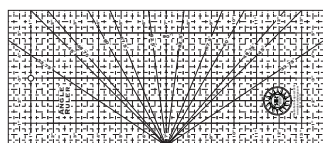
Please do not purchase my products on Amazon as I do not sell on Amazon. Even though it may say Robin Ruth Design, these are third party sellers and I cannot guarantee what you will receive.

Supply List

Students get to choose which kind of compass they will make - Skinny Robin (pictured below left) or Fat Robin (pictured below right). We will make a 14" OctaCompass block, finish the center using my faced appliqué technique, and then finish it into a 14½" square ready to go into any project. This is a technique class and an introduction to my strip-piecing method.

Checklist

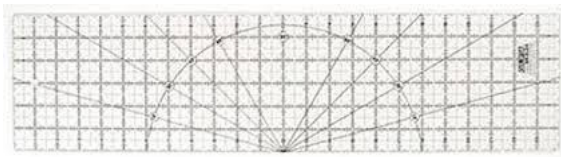
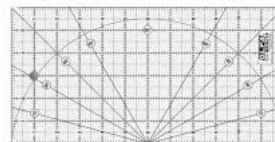
- ☐ Skinny Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass Book/Ruler OR Fat Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass Book/Ruler
- ☐ Regular sewing supplies (sewing machine, cutting mat and rotary cutter, thread, scissors, pins, ironing station - if allowed)
- ☐ Straight edge ruler with 45° angle for Skinny Robin and 60° angle for Fat Robin. Most straight edge rulers come with these angles located on the ends of the ruler. These rulers will work but it will be a little easier if you have a ruler with the angles in the middle. Try my Angle Ruler of Olfa makes one that you might already have. Rulers with the angles on the end will still work, but sometimes a little more difficult to use.



Robin Ruth Design
Angle Ruler
6"x14" \$22.95

(purchase optional but highly recommended)

Olfa Rulers
6"x12"
6"x24"



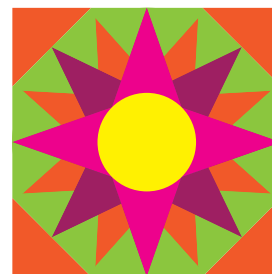
- ☐ Freezer paper square (an exact 14½"x14½" square)
- ☐ Freezer paper circle center template - trace either the Skinny or Fat Center Template found on Page 3 of this supply list for your block
- ☐ Please have the following cut for class. **Full width** fabric strips (42") in high contrast fabrics - **feel free to choose your fabrics** - the colors listed below are so you can see where the strips will end up in your block. This is a good way to use up some leftover strips from another project.



14" Skinny Robin OctaCompass

- Background fabric (gray) 2 strips x 4"
- Point 1 fabric (red) 2 strips x 2"
- Point 2 fabric (light blue) 1 strip x 2½"
- Point 3 fabric (navy) 1 strip x 3"
- Two 4½" squares for center (yellow)
- Two 5½" squares (red) for corner triangles to finish block

*Note that this strip width is for an **OctaCompass** finish and taken from the OctaCompass table in the fourth chapter on Page 4.



14" Fat Robin OctaCompass

- Background fabric (lime green) 2 strips** x 4"
- Point 1 fabric (orange) 2 strips** x 2½"
- Point 2 fabric (purple) 1 strip x 3¼"
- Point 3 fabric (pink) 1 strip x 4½"
- Two 6" squares for center (yellow)
- Two 5½" squares (orange) for corner triangles to finish block
- (**having you cut an extra strip just in case)

Homework

So we can get off to a running start, please sew your Background and Point 1 strips together **following the instructions found on Page 4 of this Supply list** (or, if you already have your instruction book, from the **Mariner's Compass Chapter** - the first chapter - of your Skinny Robin or Fat Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass as shown in **Step 3 only**.) You will offset your strips and then sew the strips together using a true (not scant- will talk more about this in class and note that this first seam has no bearing on the success of your block) quarter inch seam. **Please wait to press your strip sets until class.**

A few tips for a successful class!

This class is jam-packed with information and moves along at a quick pace. You should have piecing experience for working with various triangles projects, angles, and bias before taking this class. Accurate rotary cutting and consistent sewing skills are a must. This technique is not difficult, but different than traditional square and triangle projects, so having a little more experience is helpful.

-Please **be ready to sew** at the advertised time.

-Have all of your strips, squares, and freezer paper templates cut **before** class, and do the **Homework** listed on the Supply List.

-For this first block, try to choose some high contrast fabrics so that your points will really pop. I recommend that your Background Strip contrast with all three of your Point 1, Point 2, and Point 3 strips. Note on this Supply List that I use color to help you see where your fabrics will end up in your block. I don't recommend using black or a very dark fabric for this first block as it will make it more difficult to see the lines on your rulers. You can also use my web app (see info below) to help you figure out colors.

-Make sure your **machine is in good working order**. Sew a couple of seams and make sure everything is working properly before class. Don't forget to make sure you have a **full bobbin**.

-Please take some time before class to make sure you have the proper machine set up to make **accurate ¼" seams - I recommend a true ¼" seam rather than a scant**. To get accurate sized blocks, it is imperative that you sew with an accurate ¼" seam allowance and it will save you much time and energy if you already have this figured out. I will also work with you during class to make sure your seams will be correct for you to achieve accurate finished blocks.

-I **encourage** you to go to my website at www.robinruthdesign.com and watch some of the video tutorials to get yourself more familiar with the techniques. You can see some video shorts (animated overviews of the process) at my Intro Video tab, and real time video tutorials (sit with me and we make a block together in real time) at my Video Tutorials tab. **You can watch my video tutorials if you want to see videos of Step 3 and Step 4 for your homework. Cue up the Skinny Robin Compass Video at :58 to 4:34 and Fat Robin Compass Video from 1:00 to 4:37.**

-All of my videos are accessible on my **FREE Web App** - type **app.robinruthdesign.com** into any computer or mobile device browser for access to all my blocks, videos, a block design feature, and a strips calculator.

www.robinruthdesign.com

Scale = 2"

Please print this page at
full size - do not scale.

3.29" Center Template
for Skinny Robin
OctaCompass Block

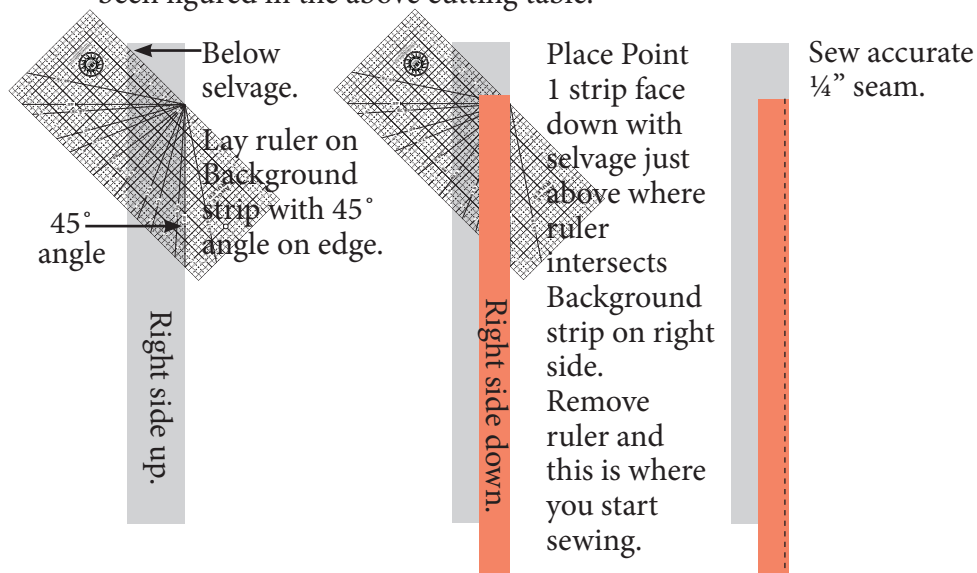
5.02" Center Template
for Fat Robin
OctaCompass Block

Cut these two
circle templates
out of freezer
paper for class.

Instructions below found in the Skinny Robin and Fat Robin books on Page 4 of the Mariner's Compass (1st) chapter.
The instructions below are shown so you won't need to have your book/ ruler combo until class.

Homework Instructions for Skinny Robin

- ③ Sew **Point 1** strip(s) onto the **Background** strip(s), right sides together, offsetting by 45°, and using a ¼" seam allowance. Offsetting the strips allows you to get more units out of a strip set, and the amount that has been figured in the above cutting table.



Homework Instructions for Fat Robin

- ③ Sew **Point 1** strip(s) onto the **Background** strip(s), right sides together, offsetting by 60°, and using a ¼" seam allowance. Offsetting the strips allows you to get more units out of a strip set, and the amount that has been figured in the above cutting table.

