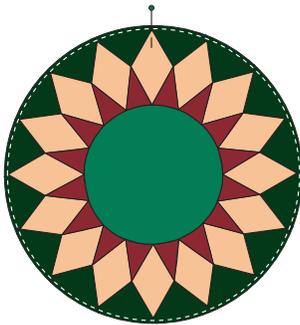


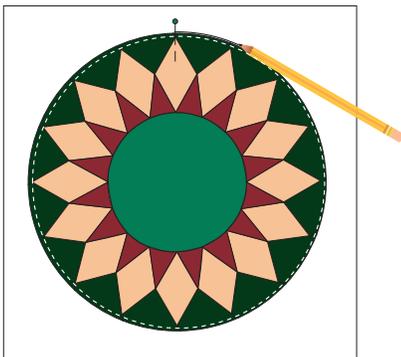
Eliminate Bulk by Reverse Appliquéing the Sunburst

The key to a perfect reverse appliquéed background is making an individual pattern for every Sunburst block. Finished blocks lie flat and have a nice “hand.” Make patterns with freezer paper.

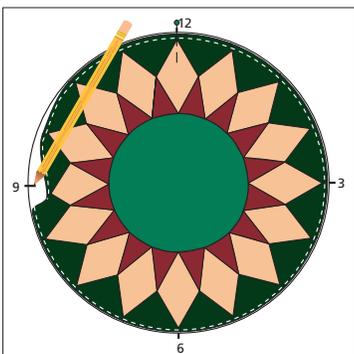
1. Stay stitch around the edge of the Sunburst block.
2. Identify one of the diamond points and mark it with a pin. This will be your 12:00 position.



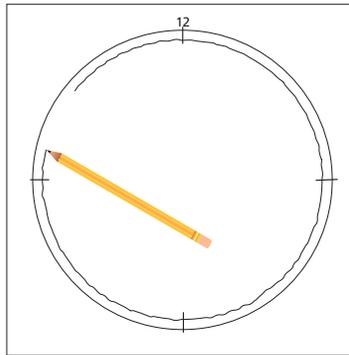
3. Place the block right side up on the unwaxed side of the freezer paper and draw a circle around the block, close to the edge.



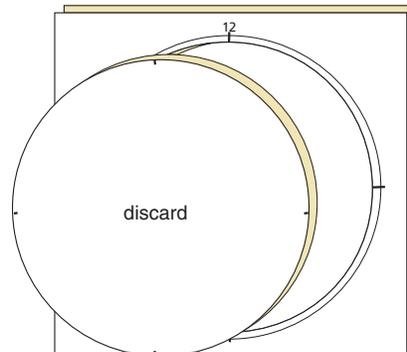
4. Mark short lines at 12, 3, 6 and 9 o'clock on the freezer paper.



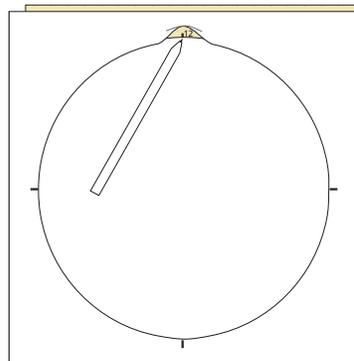
5. Remove the Sunburst block and roughly sketch a new circle $\frac{1}{2}$ " inside the first circle. Make sure the 12:00, 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 lines also cross this circle.



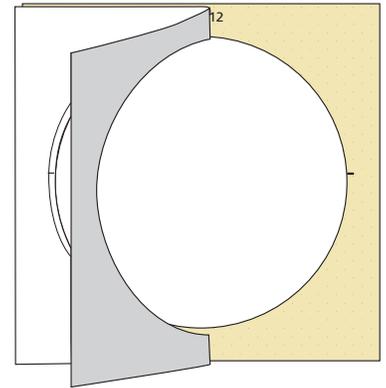
6. Press the freezer paper onto the right side of the background fabric.
7. Cut away the **smaller** circle of paper and background fabric. If using scissors, start by creasing and making a small cut, then release and put the scissors through the hole and cut around the circle to remove it.



8. Carefully lift the freezer paper at the 12:00 mark and, with a water erasable pen, draw a short line on the right side of the background



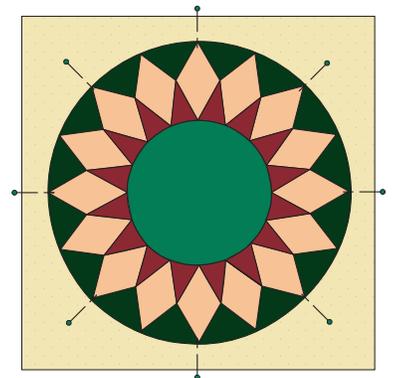
fabric. Write “12” in the seam allowance of that mark (close to the raw edge of the circle). Mark the 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 positions the same way.



9. Lift off the freezer paper.

Place the background fabric on top of the Sunburst circle (both face up). Align the diamond points with the 12:00, 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 marks on the background fabric.

10. Turn the background edge under $\frac{1}{4}$ " at the 12 mark and pin it in place so it just covers the stay-stitched line and doesn't nip off the tip of the diamond. Repeat on the other positions, and halfway between each of the four marks.



12. Begin stitching.

I found that when I appliqued by hand, I needed to turn under and baste the background edge in place. By machine, having the block flat on the sewing surface was like a third hand, and I could gently roll the edge under as I stitched with invisible thread and a tiny blanket stitch.

