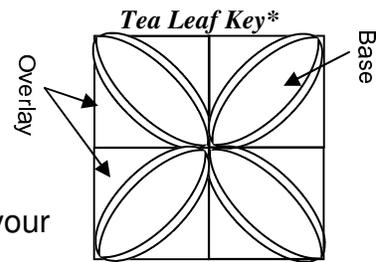


TEA LEAF TIPS



1. Press overlays accurately; folds that are not diagonal from corner to corner will result in inaccurate blocks.
2. Your base block determines the block size and is therefore your reference for your 1/4" seam. Overlays that extend past your base can be trimmed to match the base. Your mantra: the "Base is the Boss"!
3. Block assembly—stack your subassemblies and don't study your color combinations for a "scrappy" look—remember that there will be a "leaf" between the overlays!
4. You can use temporary adhesive to hold the overlays to the bases or you can use long flat head (flower head) pins if you are using the 5" blocks in the center of each side.
5. Try "Peeling" the overlays back **before quilting**—this will enable you to concentrate on the top only—just be careful not to stretch your quilt top as you do this.
6. I use a "Purple Thang" or a stiletto when I am opening my Tea Leaves and stitching those curves. My fingers are too big to turn those overlays!
7. If I can't decide on a thread color to use when stitching the leaves open, I know I can always use clear monofilament!
8. Try using an open toe embroidery foot or your walking foot when stitching open your overlays.
9. Because Tea Leaves add curves to your project, consider using simple, straight quilting for subtle emphasis—you can create channels, checkerboards, etc.!

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