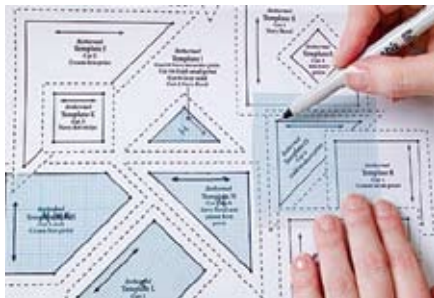
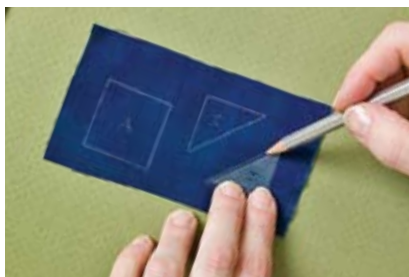


# HAND PIECING

**1** Using fine-line permanent marker, trace templates on see-through template plastic, **following stitching lines** and including letters and grain lines. Cut out directly on marked lines.



**2** Place plastic templates right side down on wrong side of appropriate fabric, aligning grain lines on templates with fabric grain line. Leave enough room between templates for  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances on all sides. Use mechanical pencil or fine-line fabric marking pencil to mark around edges of templates.



**3** Cut out fabric patches, adding  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances to all sides. Since you will be stitching on marked lines, the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances can be approximate.



**4** Place 2 fabric patches right sides together, aligning marked seam lines. Insert a pin straight through layered fabrics at each end of seam, and about every  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in between.



Check bottom fabric to be sure each pin pierces seam line.



With seam lines aligned, secure pins.



**5** Using an unknotted single strand of thread about 18" long, take a stitch and a backstitch on the seam line, beginning at marked corner (not fabric edge).



Make small, evenly spaced running stitches on the seam line, backstitching at end. Do **not** stitch into seam allowances. Trim thread.



**6** To sew a set-in seam (also called a Y seam or pivoted seam), pin and stitch the first seam, working **towards** the pivot corner and backstitching at beginning and end. Do **not** trim thread.



Align and pin the second seam, then pass needle through seam allowances from end of first seam to start of second seam.



Stitch second seam, backstitching at beginning and end.



Trim thread and press set-in patch open.

