

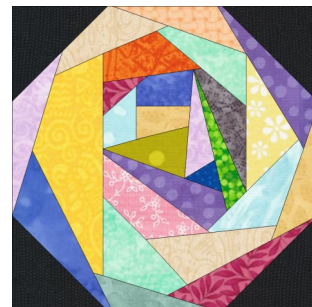
Cupboard to Creativity

February 2026

Bob's Foundation Octagon Block

Hi Everyone,

This month to continue with the idea of "Add something New", I have pulled out of a drawer a piece of work that had been made by an elderly friend, Bob. I have had this in the cupboard for so long, it is time I worked on it, and as I have not made a foundation octagon style block, it meets the challenge.



I will use what I can from Bob's work, and will possibly add more blocks that I have created, or modify and create a new top altogether.

I have created a block in EQ similar to the one Bob has used, and I have the pattern page attached. I have also simplified the centre as an alternate option if you want less pieces, or of course you can create your own design.

You can copy the design and use it to create as many foundation blocks as you wish.

This design is a 6" block finished, Bob's was 8" and 4", so you can enlarge or reduce to suit your chosen project.

What I have noticed on Bob's work is that he used the Add $\frac{1}{8}$ " ruler to create the blocks, but some of his seams have pulled away — this could be due to overhandling of the work, or because the stitches were not reduced when creating the blocks. To prevent this happening, you can use the Add $\frac{1}{4}$ " ruler and have the larger seams, or you may prefer to transfer the foundation design onto a backing fabric, and have that remain in the block for extra support, rather than removing the papers.

These styles of block are really wonderful to use up small pieces, and I find it quite relaxing to sit with a big bag of scraps, simply work my way through the bag randomly picking the fabrics, whilst listening to music in the background.

You may use multi coloured theme for your blocks as Bob did and finish the corners with a black, or you may prefer to work with a more limited colour palette still using lots of different fabrics — that is entirely up to you.

For your project you can create a layout that is very basic, mix this block with others or try and create a more modern quilt to add another "New" element to your work.

I will see where I get to for the end of Feb report.

Have fun everyone,

Chat soon

Jan P

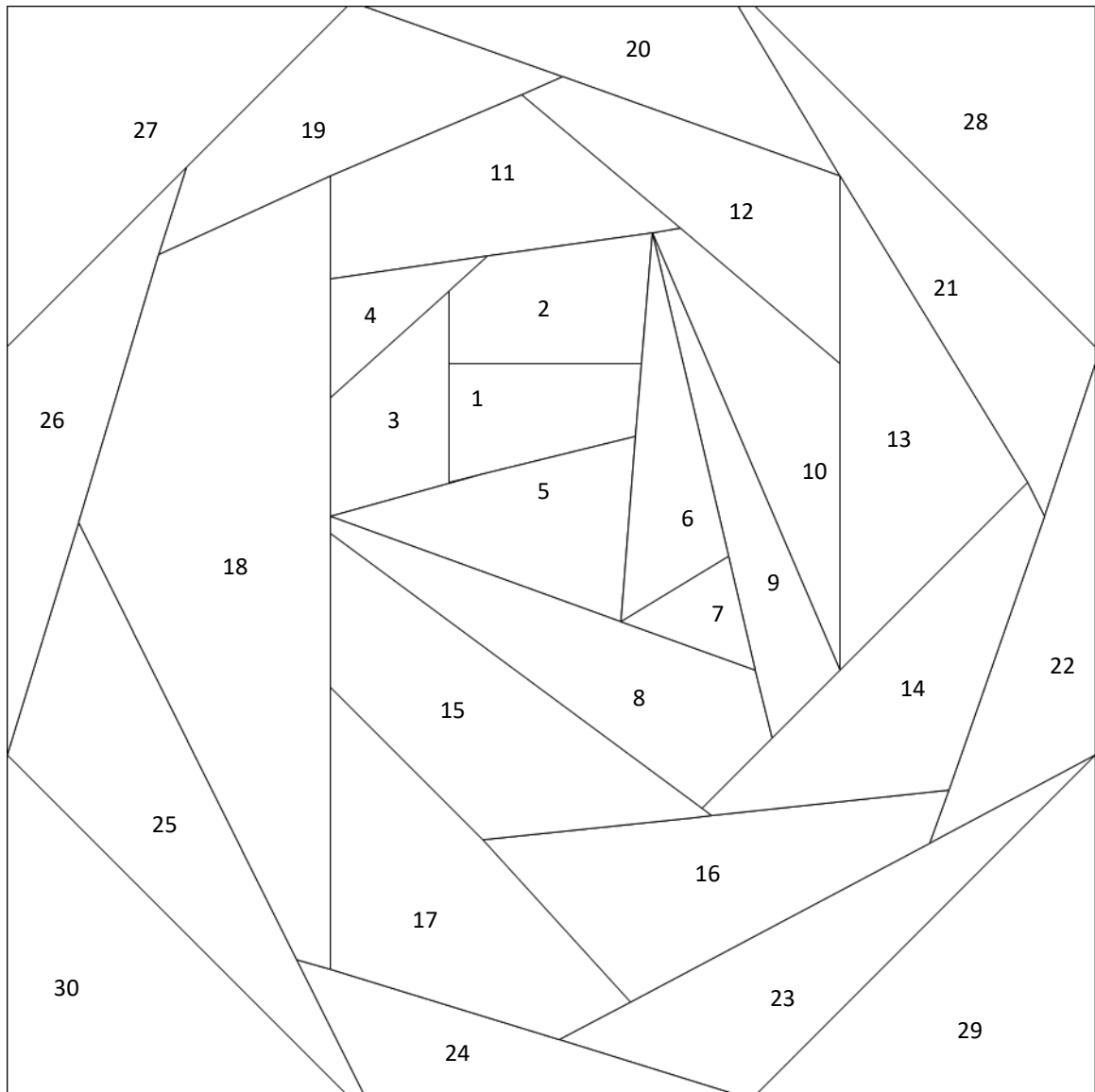
Bob's work



Foundation Page for Bob's Block: 6" finished block

This pattern requires a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance to be added to the outside edge—
 If enlarging or reducing the block, add the seam allowance to the new size and create your master copy.

Now copy as many of those as you need.



This pattern is designed as a 6" finished block

For a 4" block copy at 66.6%

For an 8" block copy at 134%

For a 9" block copy at 150%

For a 12" block copy at 200%

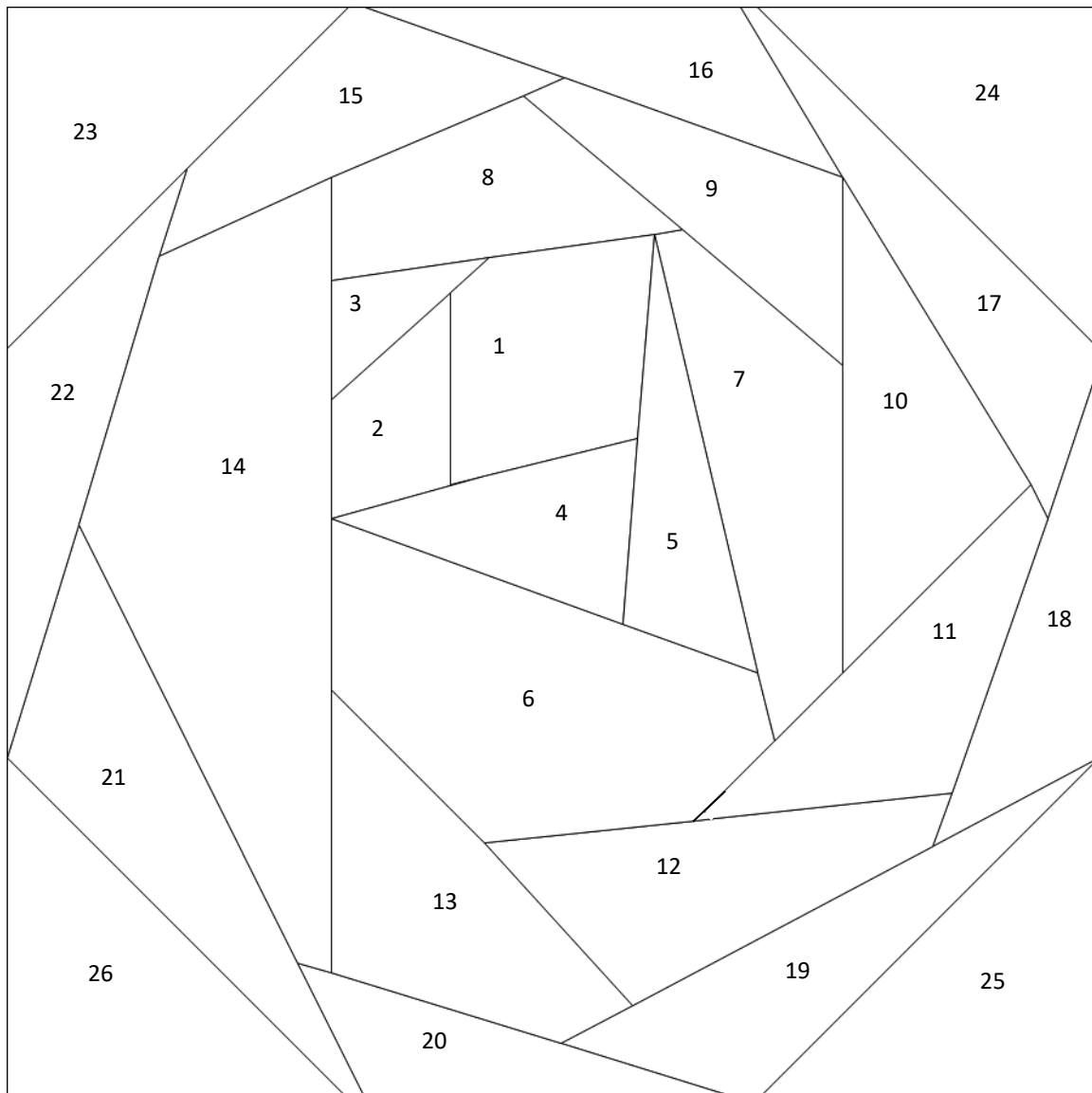
Bob's Foundation Octagon—Simplified centre

6" Finished block

The only difference with this version, is a few lines from the centre of the original block have been eliminated to simplify the number of pieces needed (4 less pieces)

To change the size — refer to the previous page.

Add a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance to the block after adjusting sizes.



Have fun playing with octagons this month. Jan P.