

Quilt Design Software

EQ | Illustrator | Photoshop

Basic information about user interface and usability.

How do the programs compare to each other?

What are the limitations?

What are the strengths?

How is each program best utilized for quilt design?

How could each type of software benefit the hobbyist quilter?

User interface and usability.

EQ

1. Worktable
2. Ribbon
3. Sidebar

DESIGN QUILTS



Design a quilt from scratch



Start with a Quick Quilt project



Open an existing project

DRAW BLOCKS



Design a block from scratch



Search for block patterns

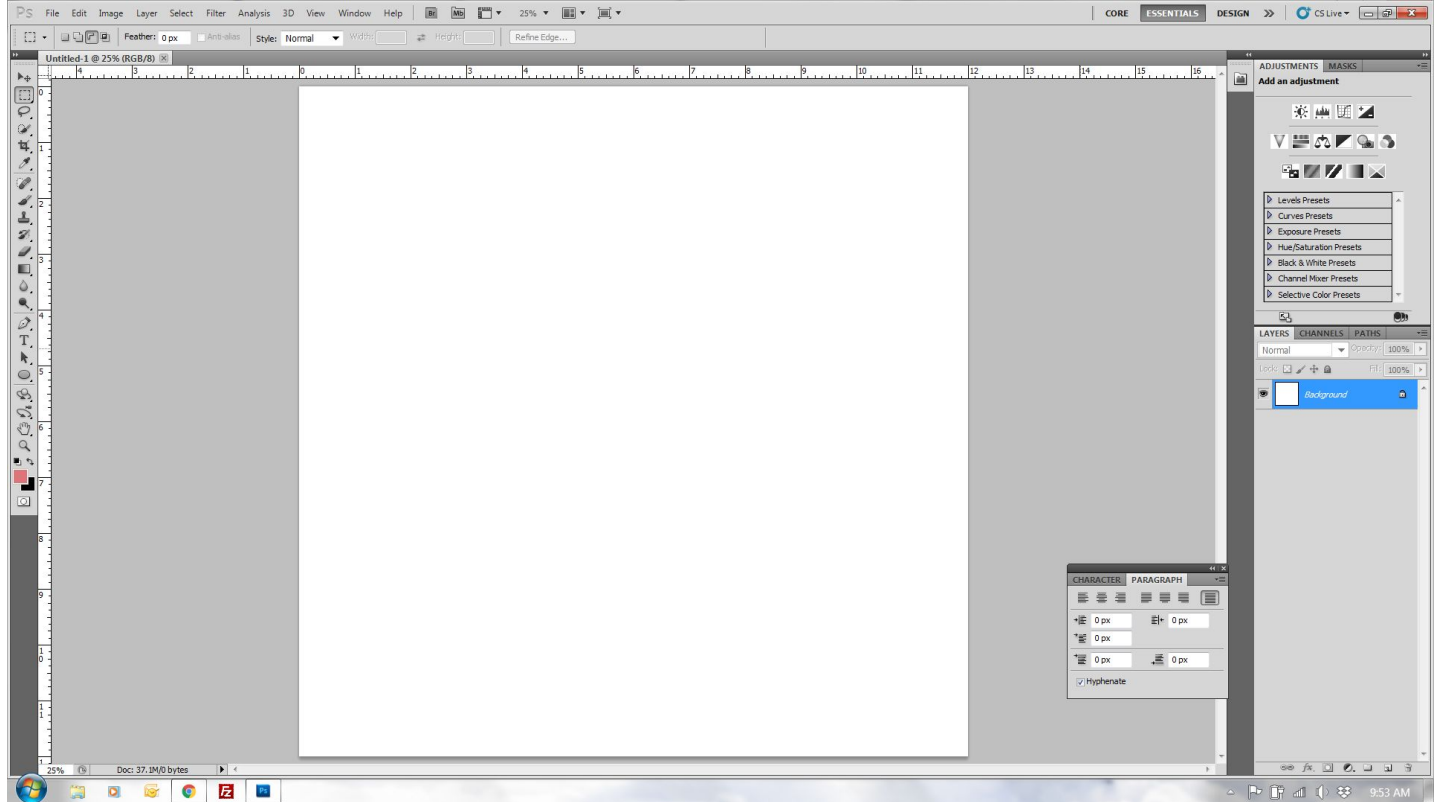
The screenshot displays the EQ software interface. At the top, a ribbon contains tabs for 'NEW QUILT', 'LAYOUT', 'BORDERS', 'DESIGN', and 'PRINT & EXPORT'. The 'DESIGN' tab is active, showing icons for 'Block Tools', 'Fabric Tools', 'Auto Borders', 'Photo Tools', 'Text Tools', 'Embroidery Tools', and 'Thread Tools'. To the right of the ribbon, three worktable options are visible: 'Quilt Worktable' (selected), 'Block Worktable', and 'Image Worktable'. On the left, the 'SKETCHBOOK BLOCKS' sidebar is open, featuring a 'Block Tools' section with icons for 'Set Block', 'Erase Block', 'Rotate', 'Flip', 'Adjust', 'Symmetry', 'Eyedropper', and 'Open Library'. Below this is a 'Tips' section with text: 'This tool works best with a horizontal layout without sashing.' and 'Each click of the mouse will automatically rotate and flip all the blocks in the quilt.' The main workspace shows a quilt design with a repeating pattern of dark blue diamonds and squares on a light background, enclosed in a dashed border.

Photoshop

Toolbars

Grids

Layers



Illustrator

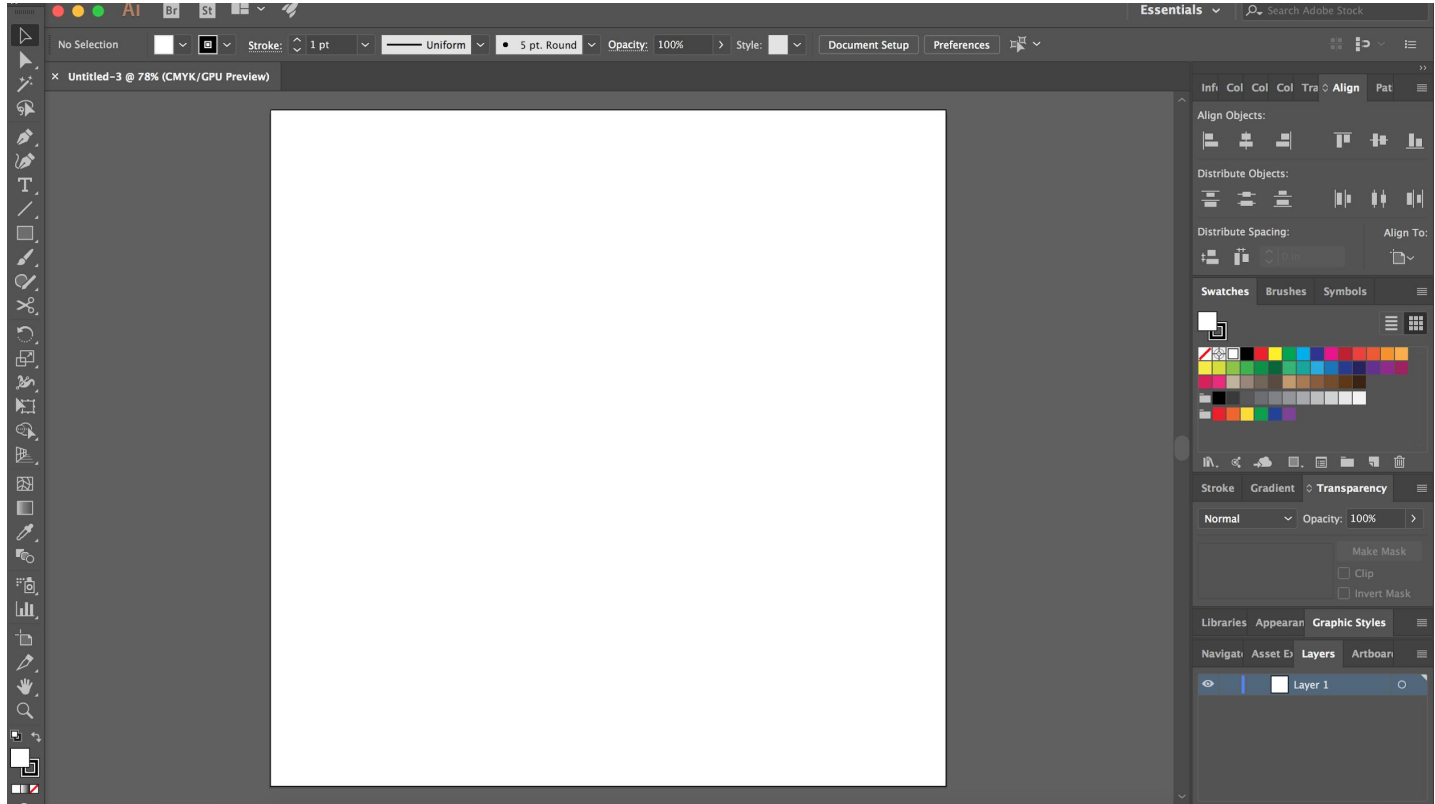
Toolbars

Grids

Layers

Shape

Tools



Comparison between programs:

Quilt math & Drafting a single quilt block

Duplicating the quilt block into a full quilt

Pattern creation and software output

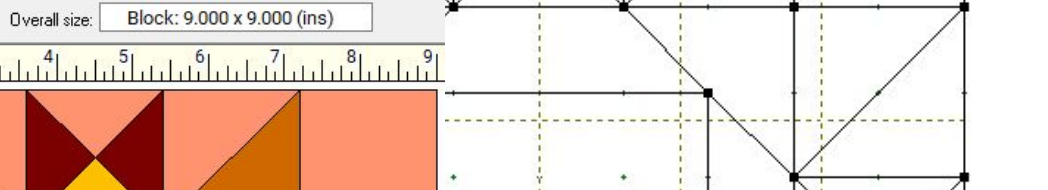
Color and fabric representation

Freeform design - not block based

Quilt math & Drafting a single quilt block

EQ

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|-------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Block Width: | 9.000 | Snaps Horizontal: | 10 | Graph Paper Cells: | | Horizontal: | 6 | Snapping Options: | |
| Block Height: | 9.000 | Snaps Vertical: | 10 | | | Vertical: | 6 | | |



A ruler at the top shows inches from 0 to 11. Below it is a grid with dashed lines. A square block is outlined from 0 to 9 inches on both axes. The block is divided into a 3x3 grid of 9 smaller squares. The central square is further divided into four triangles by its diagonals. The top-left and bottom-right triangles are dark red, while the top-right and bottom-left triangles are light brown.

SKETCHBOOK FABRICS & COLORS

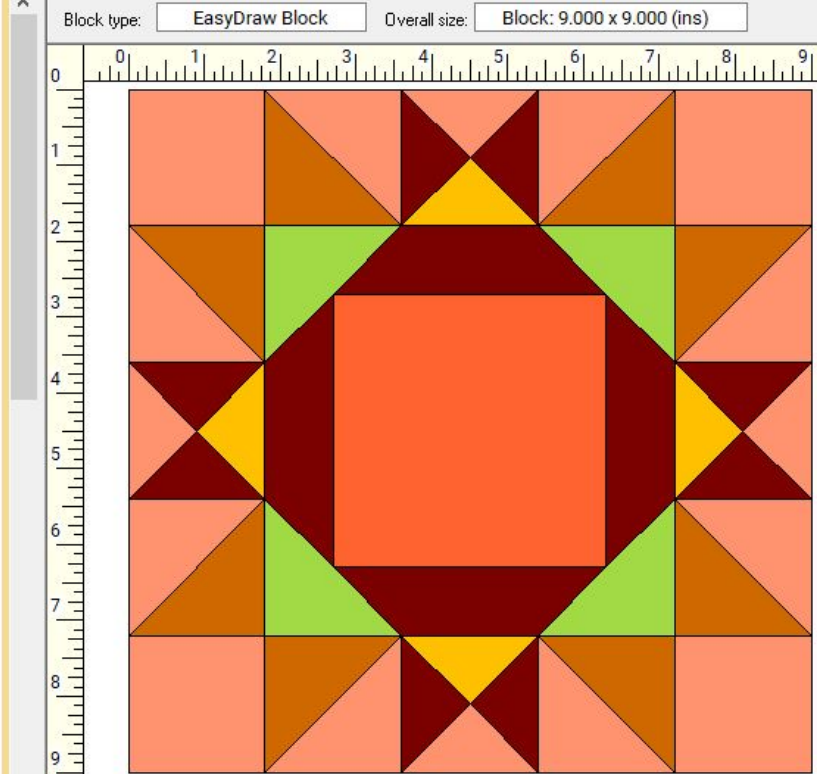
Fabric Tools

| | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Select | Paintbrush | Spraycan |
| Select & Spray | Eyedropper | Fussy Cut |
| Open Library | | |

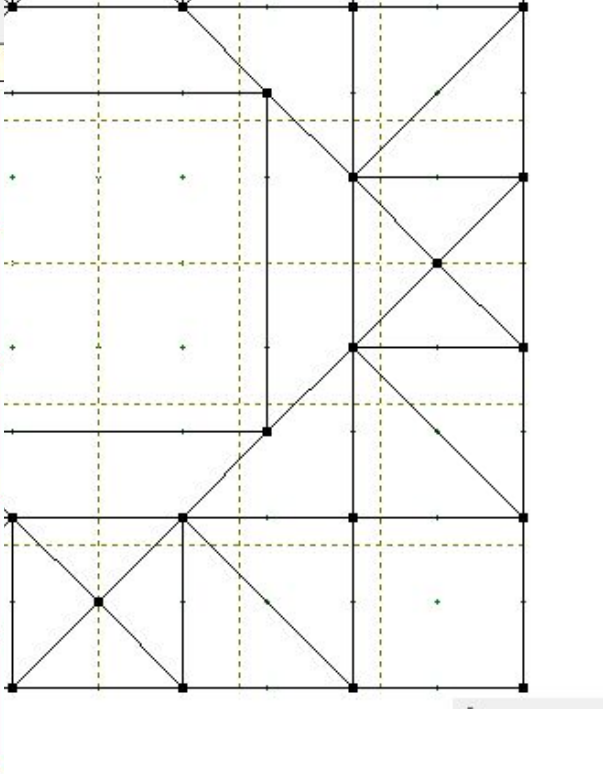


| | | | | | |
|---------|--------|-----|--|--|--|
| Fabrics | Colors | ... | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Block type: EasyDraw Block Overall size: Block: 9.000 x 9.000 (ins)



A ruler at the top shows inches from 0 to 9. Below it is a grid with dashed lines. A square block is outlined from 0 to 9 inches on both axes. The block is filled with a colorful quilt pattern. The central square is a solid orange color. It is surrounded by a ring of dark red triangles pointing towards the center. The next ring consists of light green triangles pointing towards the center, followed by a ring of light brown triangles pointing towards the center. The outermost ring consists of light orange squares. The pattern is symmetrical and repeats every 3 units.



A ruler at the top shows inches from 0 to 11. Below it is a grid with dashed lines. A square block is outlined from 0 to 9 inches on both axes. The block is divided into a 3x3 grid of 9 smaller squares. The central square is further divided into four triangles by its diagonals. The top-left and bottom-right triangles are dark red, while the top-right and bottom-left triangles are light brown.

- No math required for **designing** blocks

EQ

- You should eventually think of this – if you block has 4 divisions it would be easiest when it comes time to make your quilt to have the final block be divisible by 4
- The final size of your block does not matter. You can put it in the quilt however you want

The image shows a screenshot of a quilt design software interface. A 7x7 grid is displayed on graph paper with a ruler at the top and left. A 4x4 block is highlighted in orange, with a small square in the center also highlighted. The software settings are visible at the bottom, including:

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------|---|--------------------|--|-------------|---|-------------------|--|--|
| Block Width: | 7.000 | Snaps Horizontal: | 4 | Graph Paper Cells: | | Horizontal: | 6 | Snapping Options: | | |
| Block Height: | 7.000 | Snaps Vertical: | 4 | | | Vertical: | 6 | | | |

Photoshop

You have to do all the quilt math before drawing a block or design. You can only use Photoshop to illustrate what is already in your head.

Drafting a single block

Define the new document size as the finished quilt block size

Add grid lines to help determine seam location and points needed for drawing any angles

Use the line tool to draw seam lines as needed



New

Name: Untitled-1

Preset: Custom

Size: [dropdown]

Width: 12 inches

Height: 12 inches

Resolution: 300 pixels/inch

Color Mode: RGB Color 8 bit

Background Contents: White

Advanced

Image Size: 37.1M

Buttons: OK, Cancel, Save Preset..., Delete Preset..., Device Central...

ALBUMBUILDER

Album Builder v3.9.2
PROFIT BY DESIGN

Create Album New Canvas
Save and Prev Save and Next
Save and Final Reset
Add a Spread Go to Spread

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Ninja Layout
Browse Templates
Fill Opening Fill From Bridge
Re-Fill Image Number Masks
Zoom Image Adjust Opening Relock

Enhance Images

Apply Actions Apply Filter
Pop Out Images
Return Images Save/Replace Orig

Enhance Design

Photoshop Control
Mat Album Export
Custom Buttons
Designs and Templates

ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment
No document open

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

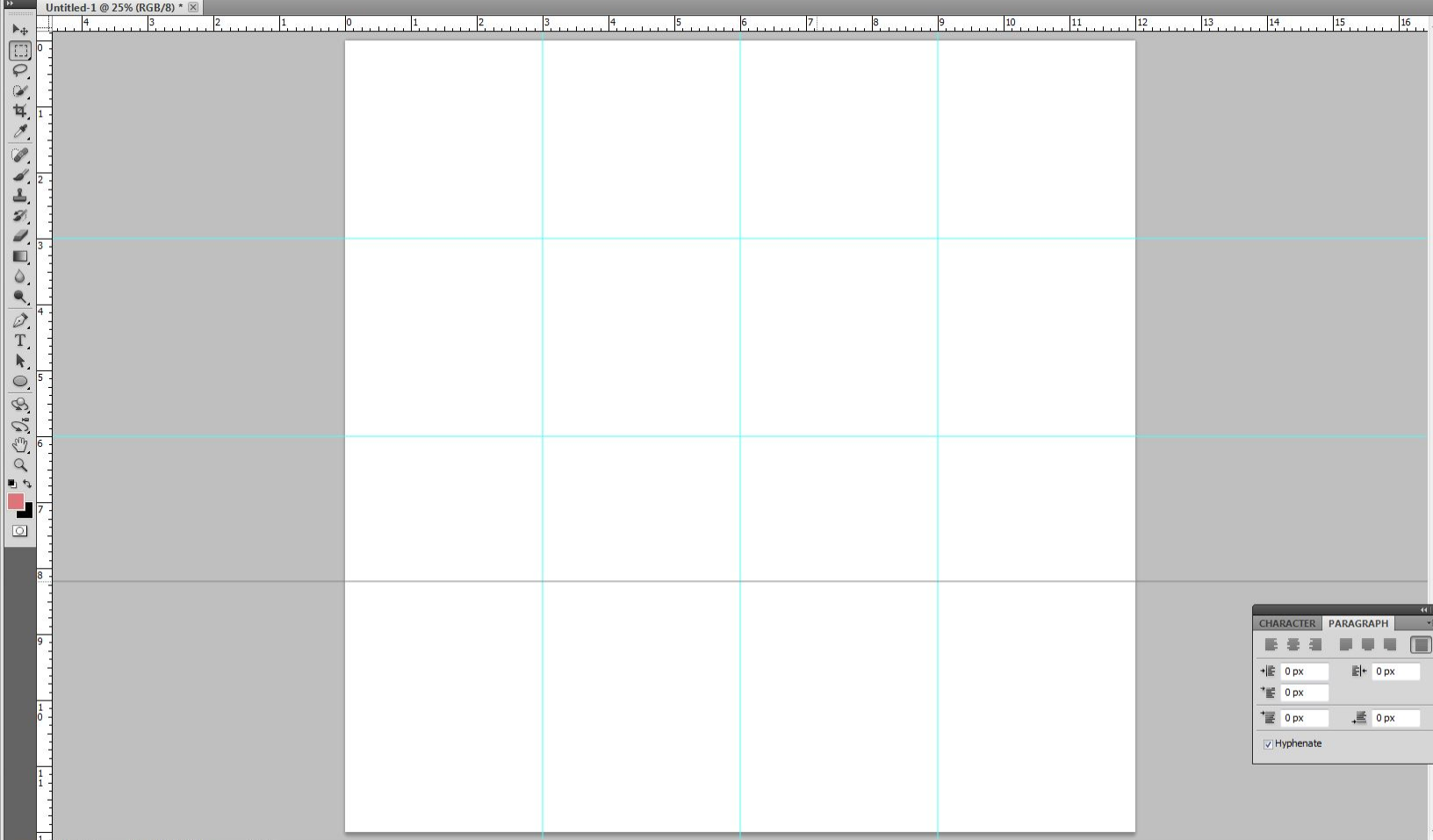
Normal Opacity: [dropdown]
Lock: [dropdown] [dropdown] [dropdown] [dropdown] File: [dropdown]

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

Paragraph icons: [dropdown] [dropdown] [dropdown] [dropdown] [dropdown]

+ [dropdown] 0 px [dropdown] 0 px
+ [dropdown] 0 px
+ [dropdown] 0 px [dropdown] 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels
- Curves
- Exposure
- Hue/Saturation
- Black & White
- Channel Mixer
- Selective Color

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock Fill: 100%

- Background

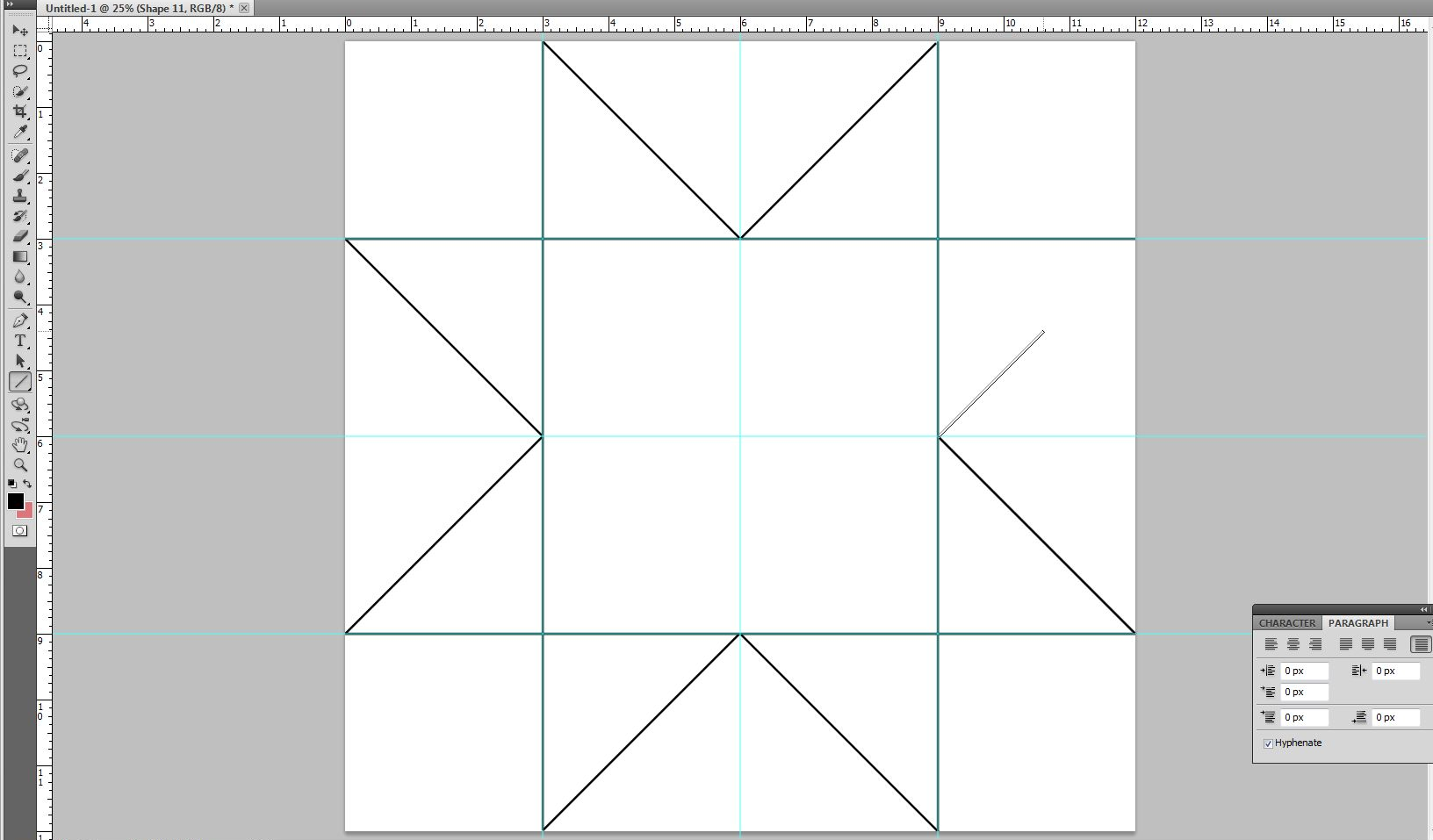
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 11
- Shape 10
- Shape 9
- Shape 8
- Shape 7
- Shape 6
- Shape 5
- Shape 4
- Shape 3
- Shape 2
- Shape 1
- Background

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate

Illustrator

Illustrator shape tools allow you to easily make blocks and specify the size. The only math required is accounting for seam allowances.

Drafting a single block

Define the new document size as the finished quilt block size

Add the different shape components for your block

You will need to create your own half square triangle shape. However, once you have, you can easily copy and paste it as needed.









New Document

Recent | Saved | Mobile | Web | Print | Film & Video | Art & Illustration

Let's start something new.

Start with your own document settings, pre-formatted [document presets](#) or explore some of our helpful [templates](#) and starter files.

YOUR RECENT ITEMS (20)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  Letter 11 x 8.5 in |  [Custom] 24 x 20 in |  [Custom] 22 x 14 in |  [Custom] 800 x 800 px |
|  Letter 11 x 8.5 in |  [Custom] 24 x 20 in |  [Custom] 22 x 14 in |  [Custom] 800 x 800 px |

PRESET DETAILS

Untitled-2

Width: 12 Inches

Height: 12

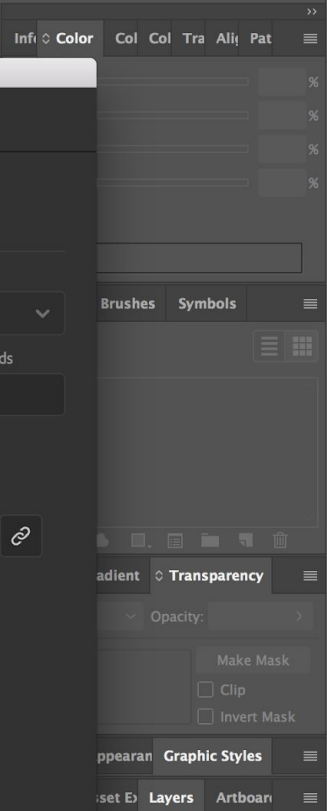
Orientation: Portrait

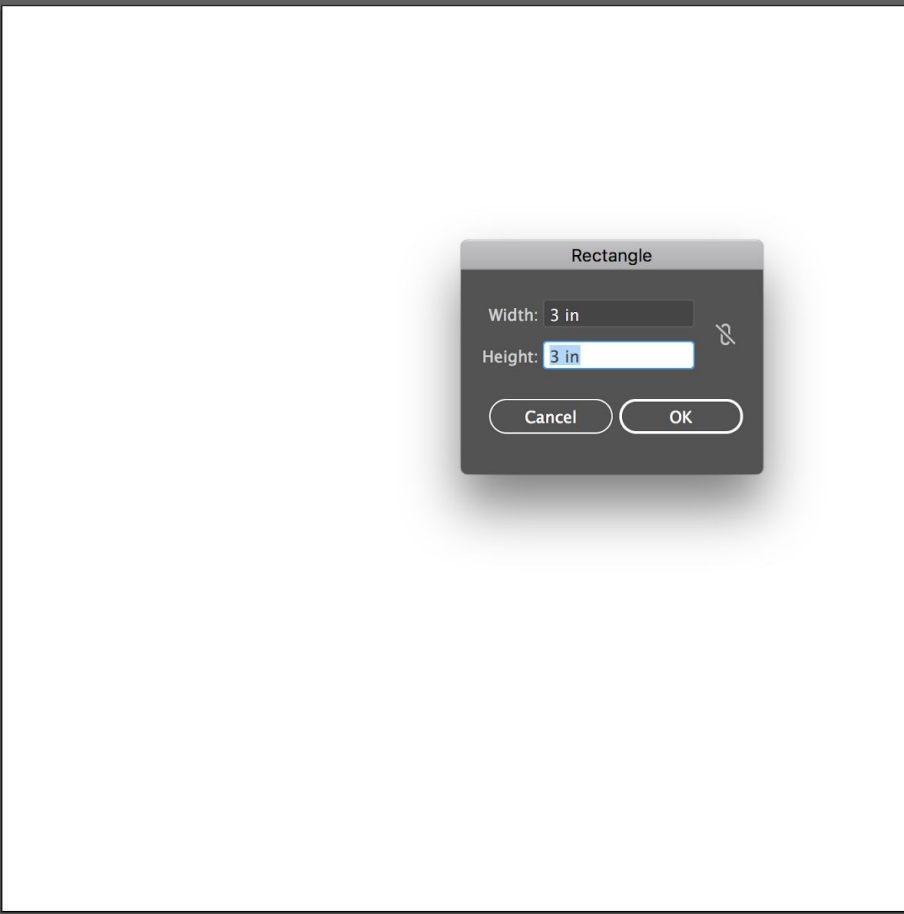
Artboards: 1

Bleed: Top 0, Bottom 0, Left 0, Right 0

Color Mode: CMYK Color

More Settings





Rectangle

Width: 3 in

Height: 3 in

Cancel OK

Color

| | |
|---|-----|
| C | 0 % |
| M | 0 % |
| Y | 0 % |
| K | 0 % |

Swatches

Stroke Gradient Transparency

Normal Opacity: 100%

Make Mask

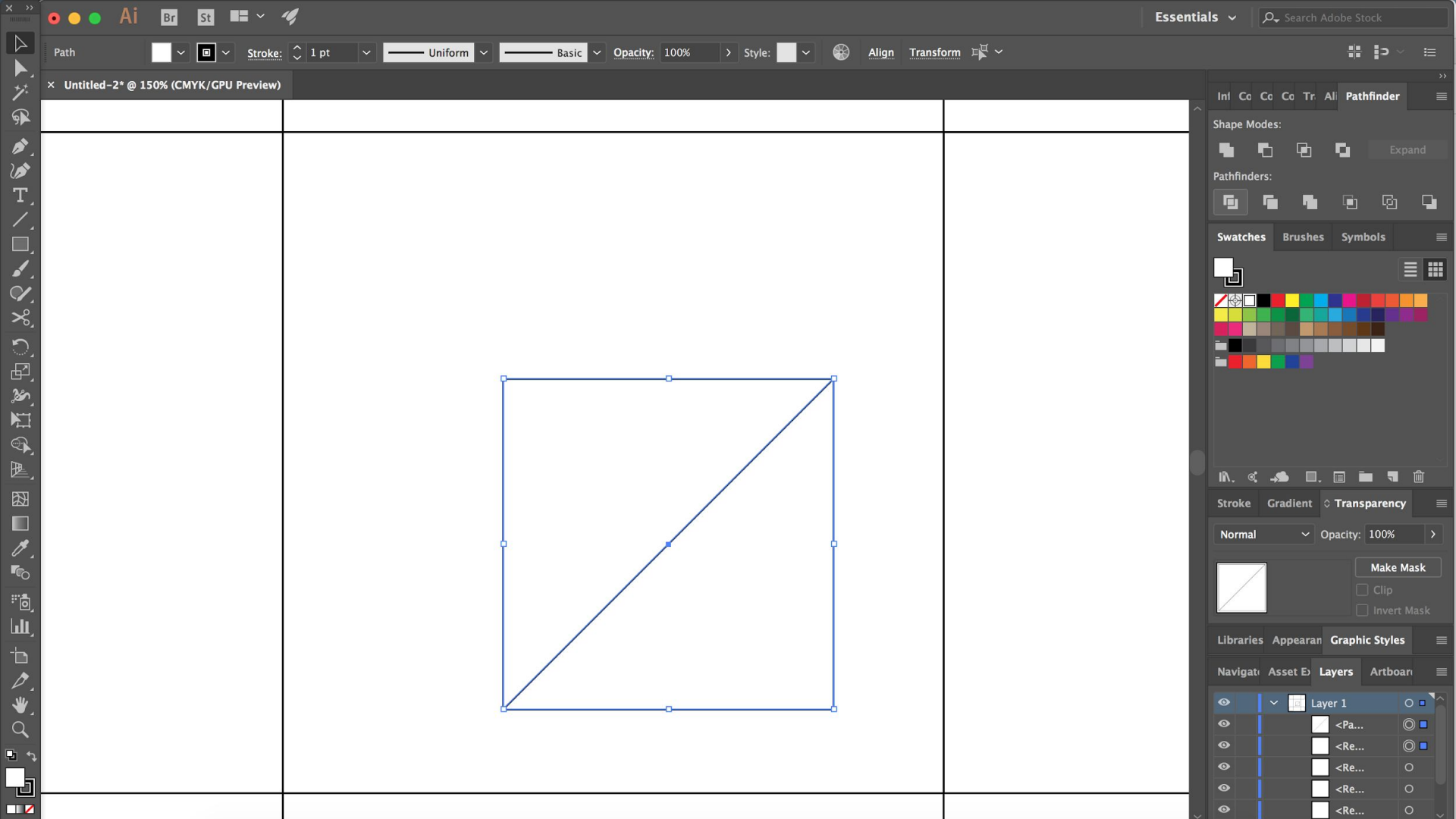
Clip

Invert Mask

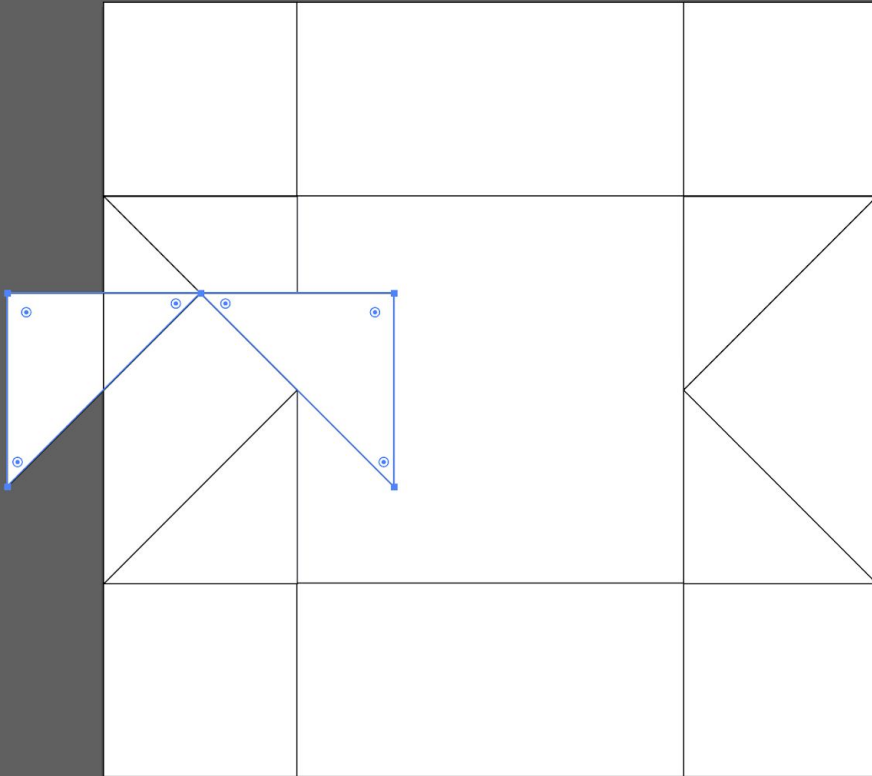
Libraries Appearance Graphic Styles

Navigati Asset E Layers Artboar

Layer 1



Untitled-2* @ 66.67% (CMYK/GPU Preview)



Pathfinder

Shape Modes: Expand

Pathfinders:

Swatches



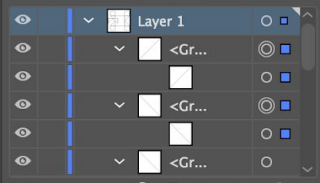
Transparency

Normal Opacity: 100%

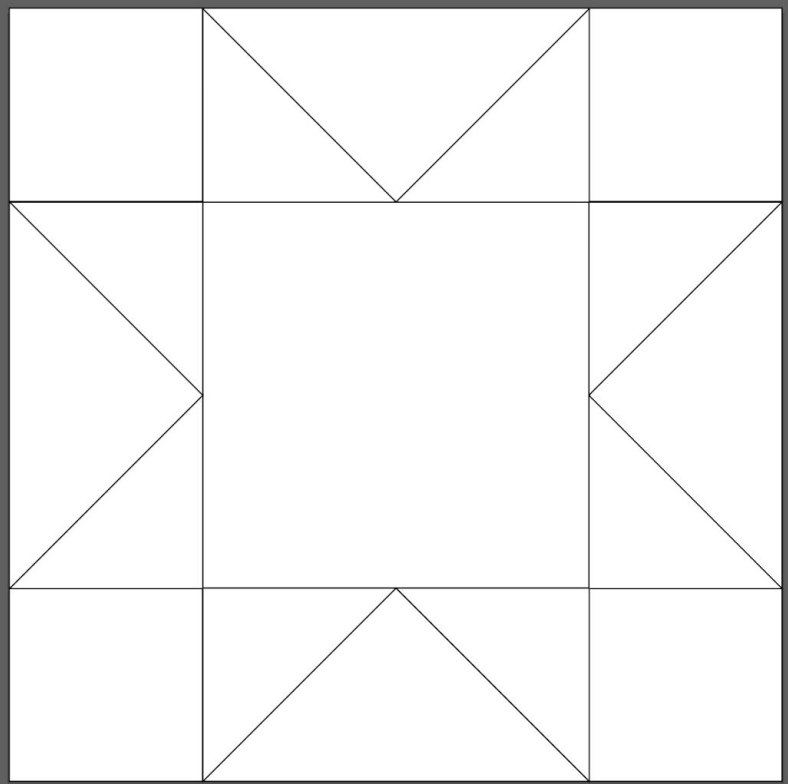
Make Mask Clip Invert Mask

Graphic Styles

Layers



x Untitled-2* @ 66.67% (CMYK/GPU Preview)



Inl Co Co Co Tr. All Pathfinder

Shape Modes: Expand

Pathfinders:

Swatches Brushes Symbols



Stroke Gradient Transparency

Normal Opacity: 100% Make Mask Clip Invert Mask

Libraries Appearance Graphic Styles

Navigati Asset E Layers Artboard

| Visibility | Layer Name | Opacity | Thumbnail |
|------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| ✓ | Layer 1 | 100% | |
| ✓ | <Gr... | 100% | |
| ✓ | <Gr... | 100% | |
| ✓ | <Gr... | 100% | |
| ✓ | <Gr... | 100% | |

Duplicating the quilt block into a full quilt

EQ

Create a grid

NEW QUILT LAYOUT BORDERS DESIGN PRINT & EXPORT

Horizontal On-Point Variable Point Baby Blocks Variable Blocks Horizontal Strip Vertical Strip

HORIZONTAL LAYOUT

Size of quilt's center layout:
64.000 x 72.000

NUMBER OF BLOCKS

| | | |
|------------|---|-----|
| Horizontal | 8 | ◀ ▶ |
| Vertical | 9 | ◀ ▶ |

FINISHED SIZE OF BLOCKS

Keep width and height equal

Width: 8.000

Height: 8.000

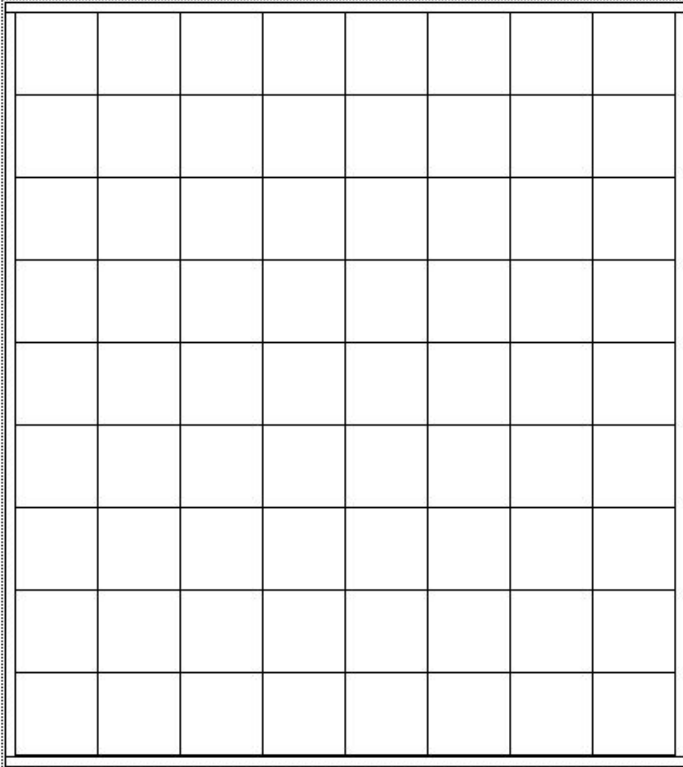
FINISHED SIZE OF SASHING

Include sash border

Keep width and height equal

Width: 0.000

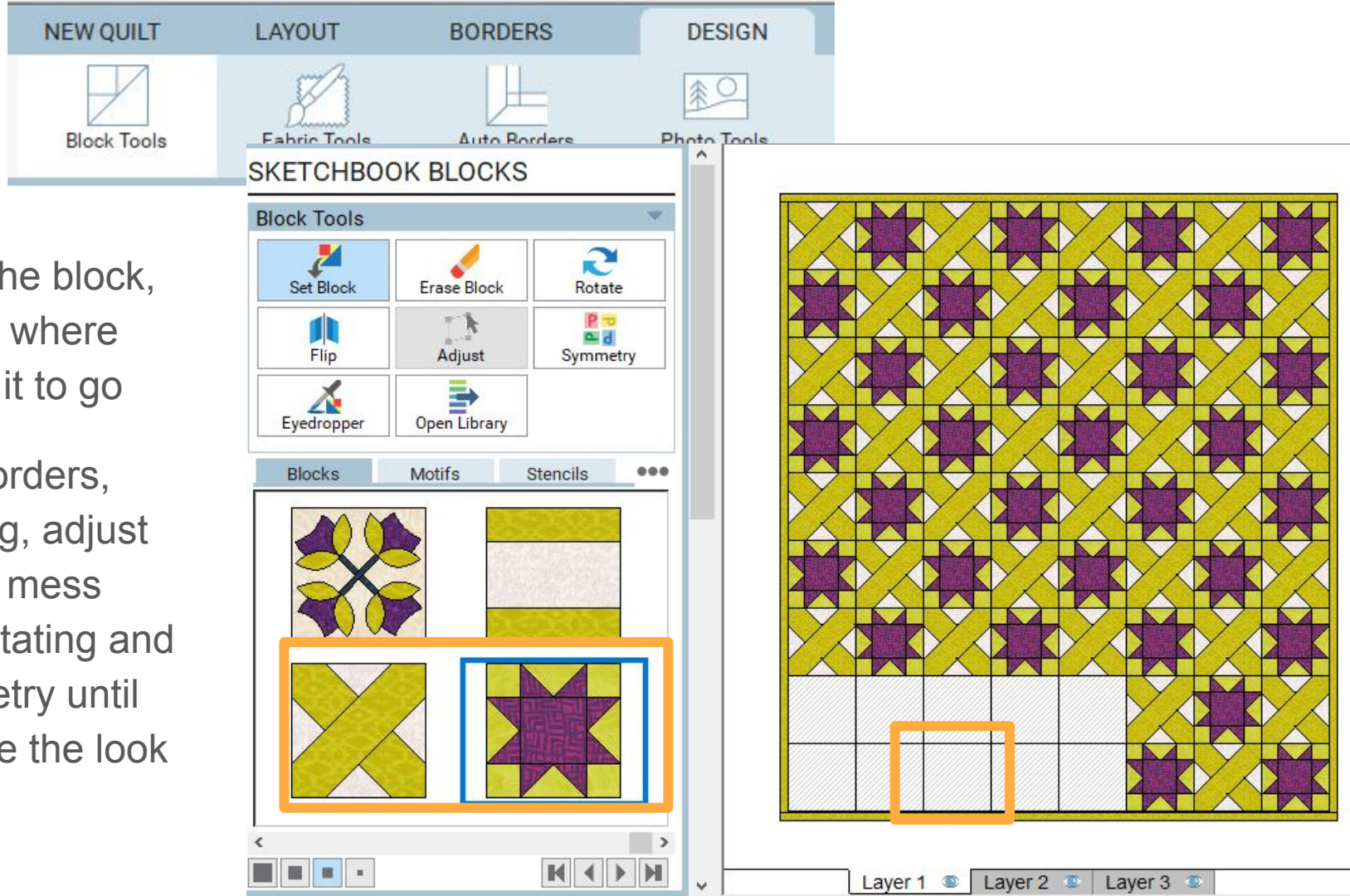
Height: 0.000



EQ

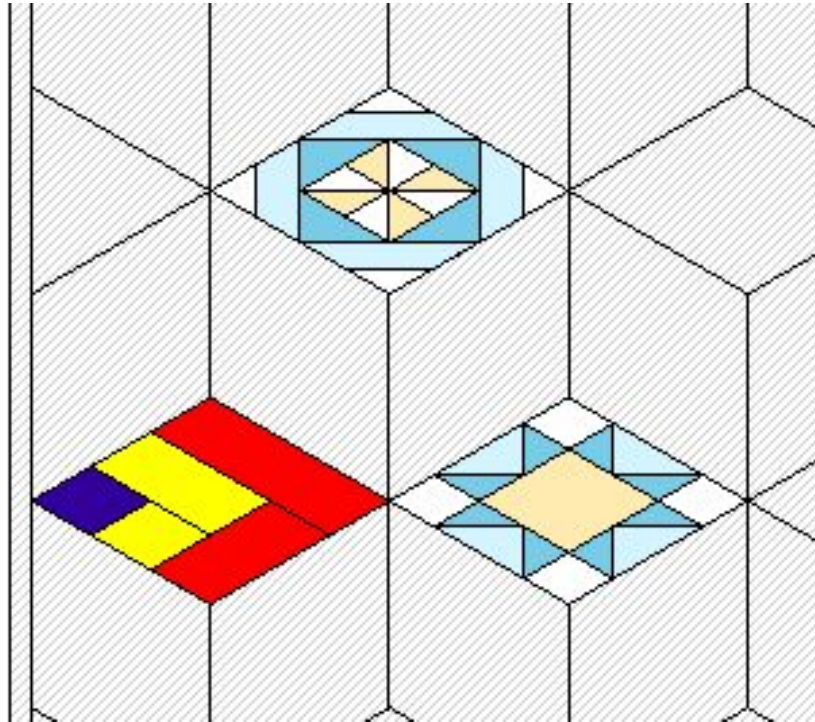
Click on the block,
then click where
you want it to go

- Add borders, sashing, adjust sizing, mess with rotating and symmetry until you like the look



EQ

It will let you put a block into any shape!



Photoshop

Duplicating a block into a full quilt

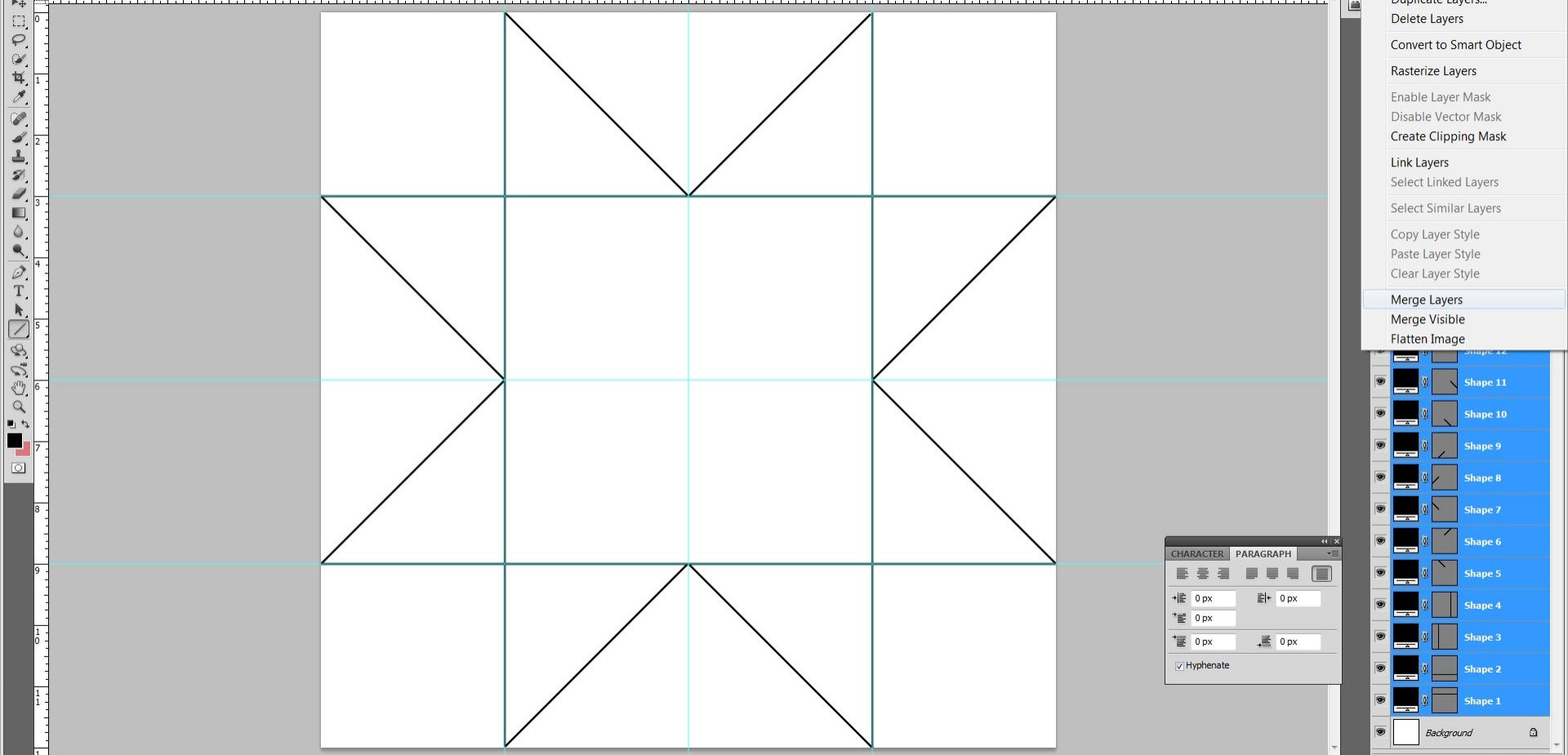
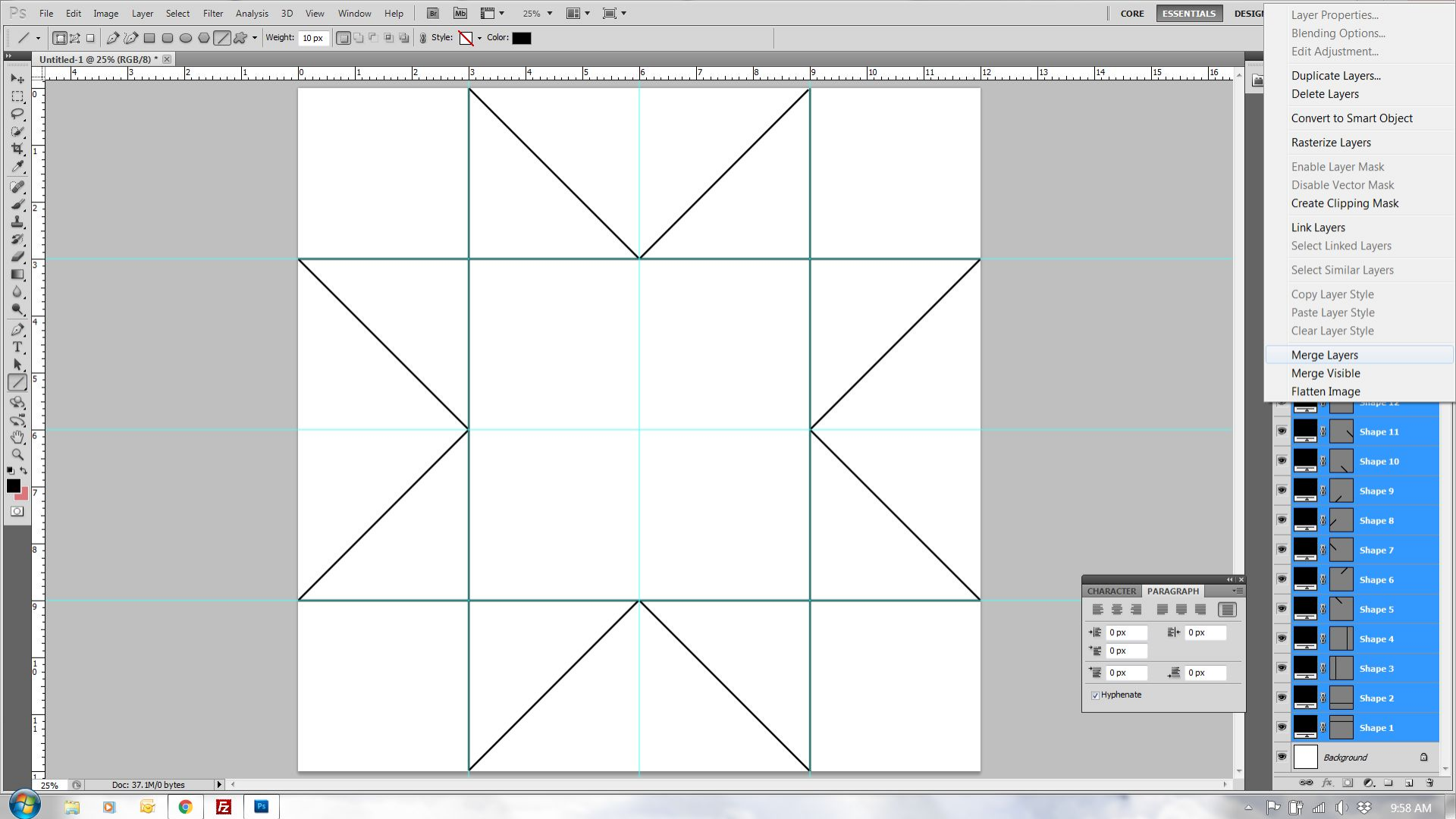
Select all layers/shapes and merge or lock together

Enlarge the canvas size

Right click to duplicate layers

Use move tool to unstack the new layers

Continue to duplicate the block layers until enough blocks are made



- Layer Properties...
- Blending Options...
- Edit Adjustment...
- Duplicate Layers...
- Delete Layers
- Convert to Smart Object
- Rasterize Layers
- Enable Layer Mask
- Disable Vector Mask
- Create Clipping Mask
- Link Layers
- Select Linked Layers
- Select Similar Layers
- Copy Layer Style
- Paste Layer Style
- Clear Layer Style
- Merge Layers
- Merge Visible
- Flatten Image

- Shape 11
- Shape 10
- Shape 9
- Shape 8
- Shape 7
- Shape 6
- Shape 5
- Shape 4
- Shape 3
- Shape 2
- Shape 1
- Background

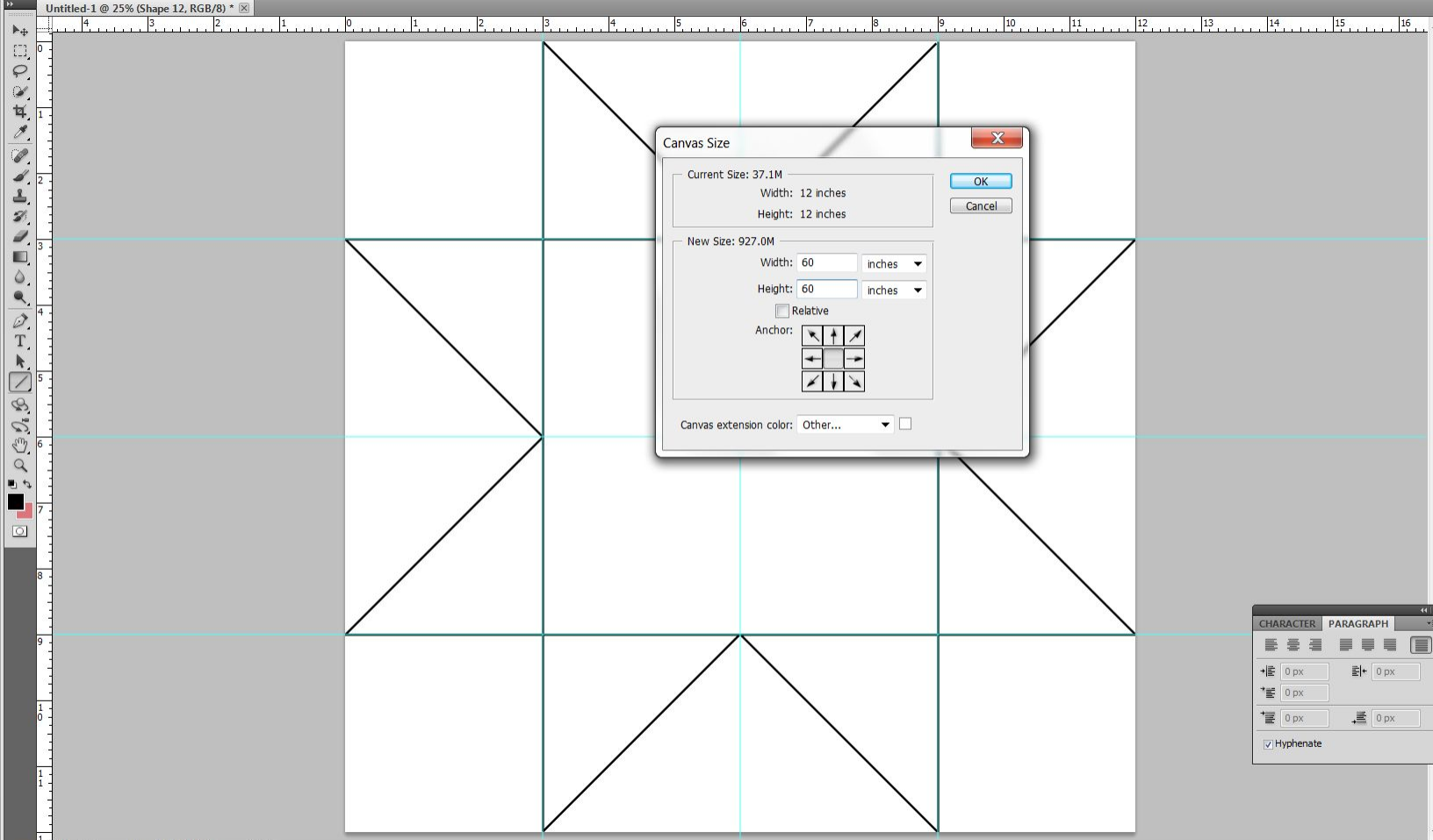
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



Canvas Size

Current Size: 37.1M
 Width: 12 inches
 Height: 12 inches

New Size: 927.0M
 Width: 60 inches
 Height: 60 inches
 Relative

Anchor: [Grid of 8 directional arrows]

Canvas extension color: Other...

OK Cancel

ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

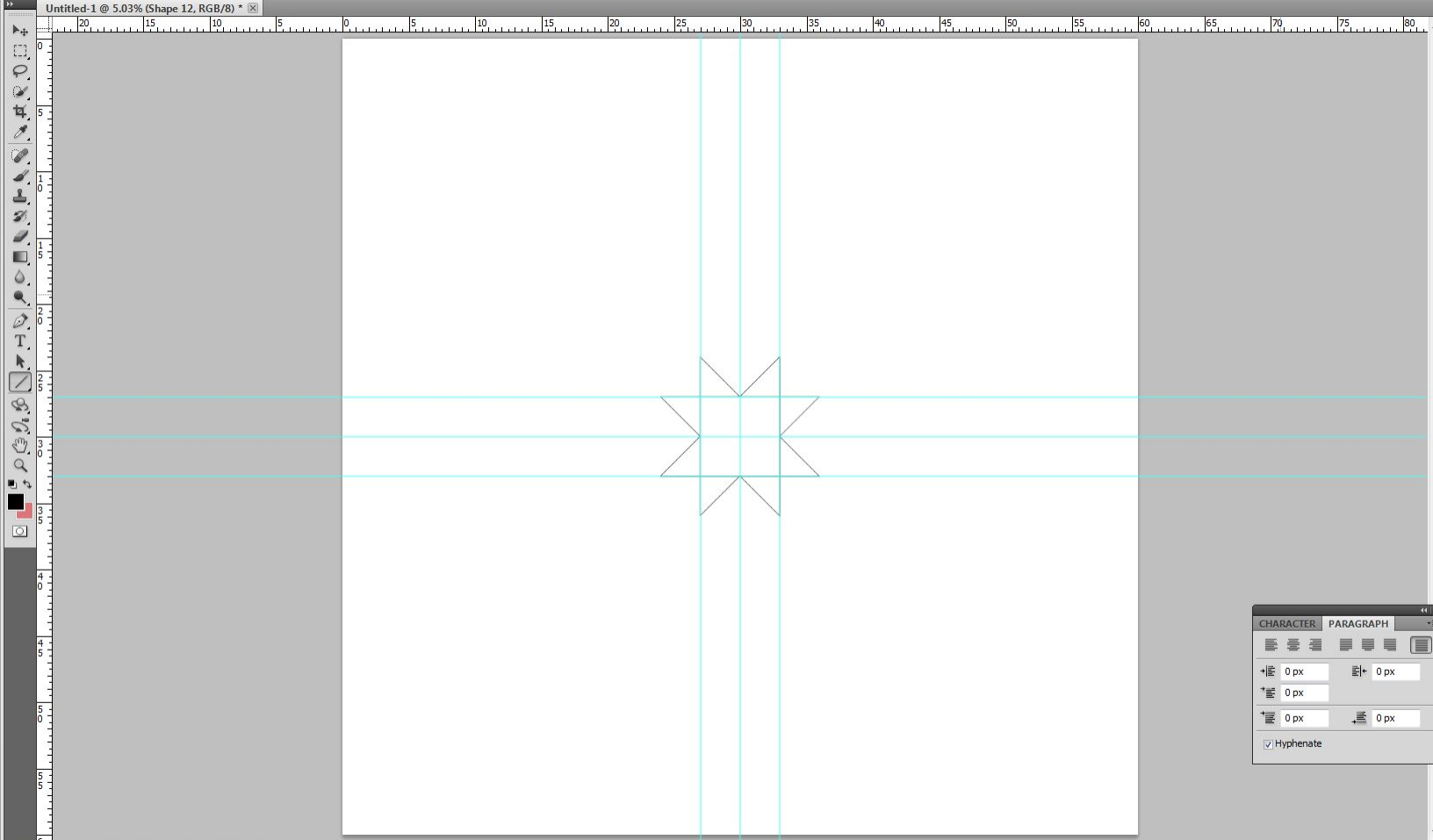
Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 12
- Background

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

Line and Paragraph Spacing: 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 12
- Background

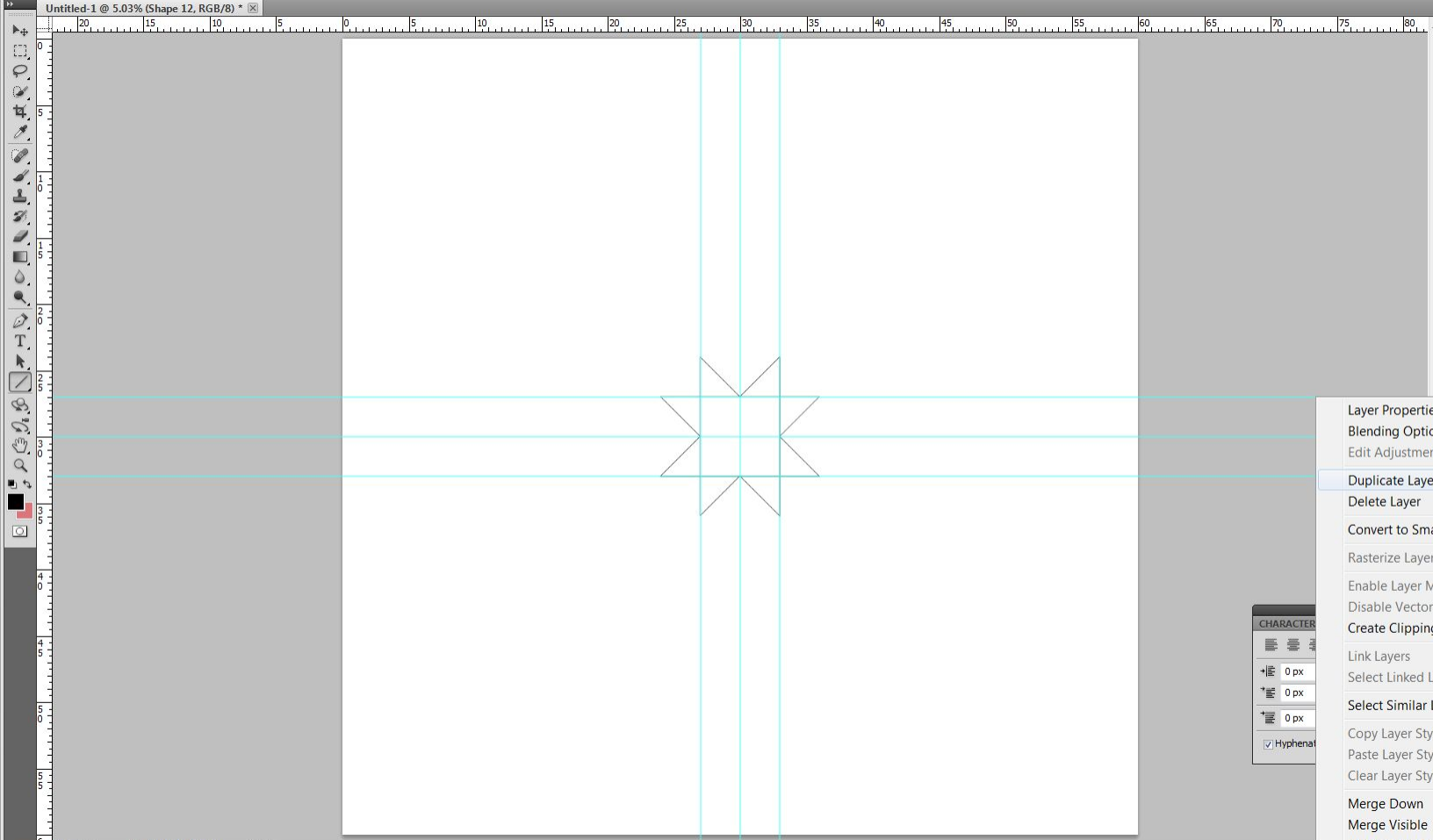
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

Shape 12

background

- Layer Properties...
- Blending Options...
- Edit Adjustment...
- Duplicate Layer...**
- Delete Layer
- Convert to Smart Object
- Rasterize Layer
- Enable Layer Mask
- Disable Vector Mask
- Create Clipping Mask
- Link Layers
- Select Linked Layers
- Select Similar Layers
- Copy Layer Style
- Paste Layer Style
- Clear Layer Style
- Merge Down
- Merge Visible
- Flatten Image

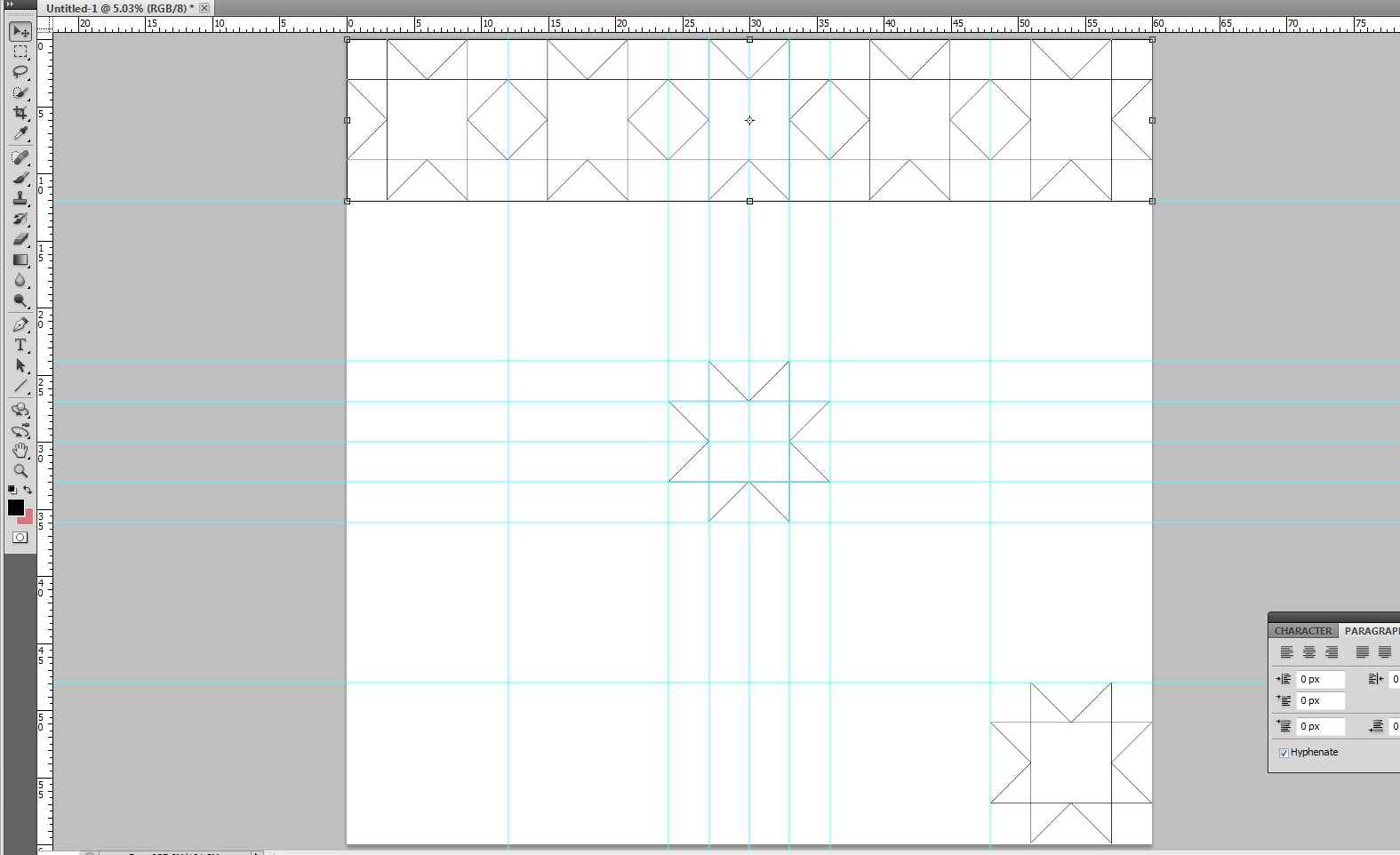
CHARACTER

+ 0 px

+ 0 px

+ 0 px

Hyphenate



- Layer Properties...
- Blending Options...
- Edit Adjustment...
- Duplicate Layers...**
- Delete Layers
- Convert to Smart Object
- Rasterize Layers
- Enable Layer Mask
- Disable Vector Mask
- Create Clipping Mask
- Link Layers
- Select Linked Layers
- Select Similar Layers
- Copy Layer Style
- Paste Layer Style
- Clear Layer Style
- Merge Layers
- Merge Visible
- Flatten Image

- Shape 12 copy 6
- Shape 12 copy 5
- Shape 12 copy 4
- Shape 12 copy 3
- Shape 12
- Background

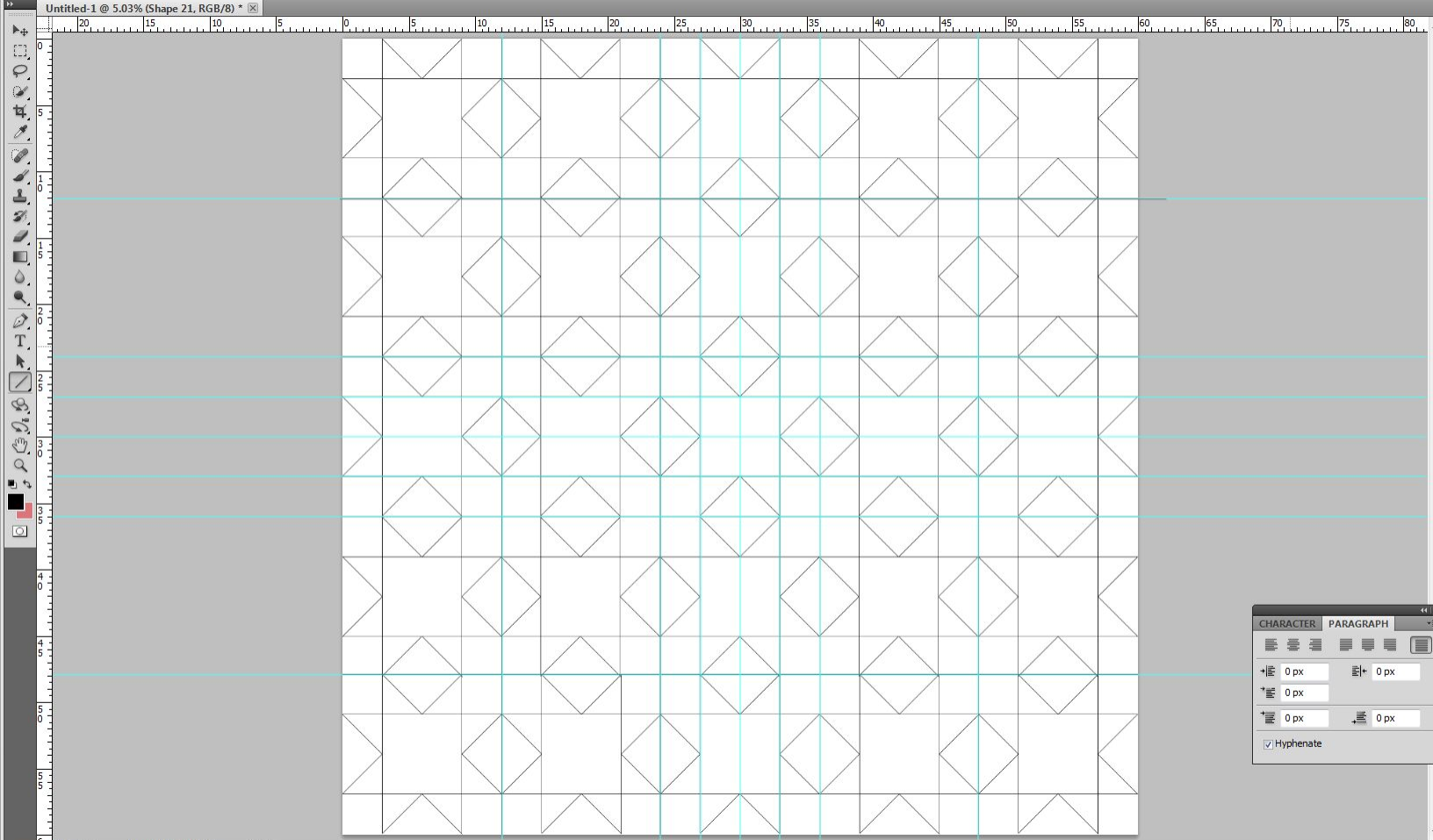
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 12 copy 7
- Shape 12 copy
- Shape 12 copy 2
- Shape 12 copy 6
- Shape 12 copy 5
- Shape 12 copy 4
- Shape 12 copy 3
- Shape 12 copy 24
- Shape 12 copy 23
- Shape 12 copy 22
- Shape 12 copy 21
- Shape 12
- Shape 21

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

Hyphenate

Illustrator

Duplicating a block into a full quilt

Select all and group together

Enlarge the art board size

Copy and paste or option click to drag another layer

Document Setup

General Type

Units: Inches Edit Artboards

Bleed: Top: 0 in Bottom: 0 in Left: 0 in Right: 0 in [Link]

Show Images In Outline Mode

Highlight Substituted Glyphs

Transparency and Overprint Options

Grid Size: Medium

Grid Colors: Light

Simulate Colored Paper

Preset: [Medium Resolution] Custom...

Discard White Overprint in Output

Cancel OK

Shape Modes: Expand

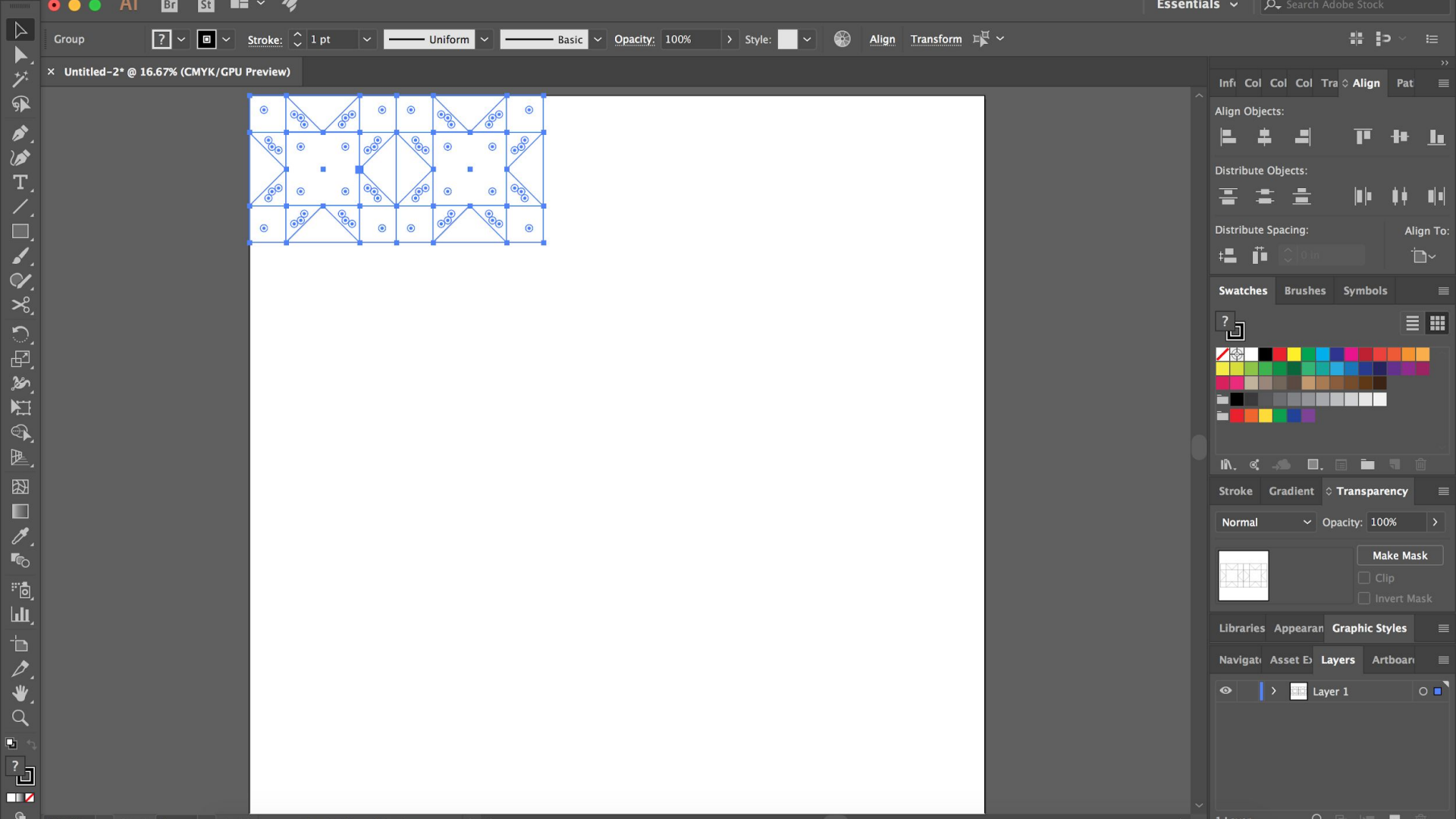
Pathfinders: [Icons]



Normal Opacity: 100%

Make Mask
 Clip
 Invert Mask

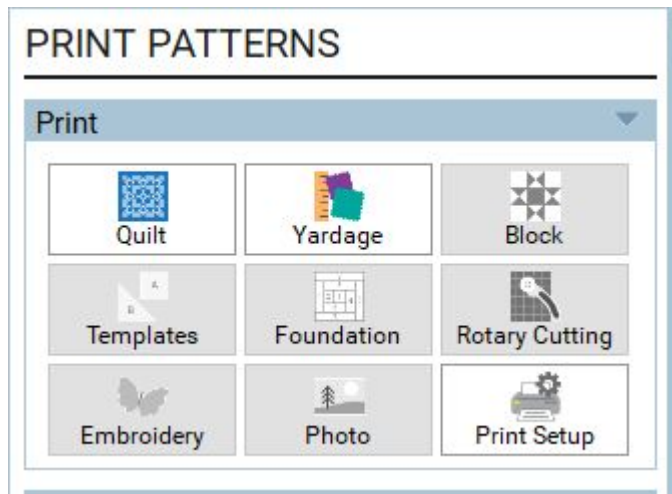
Layer 1



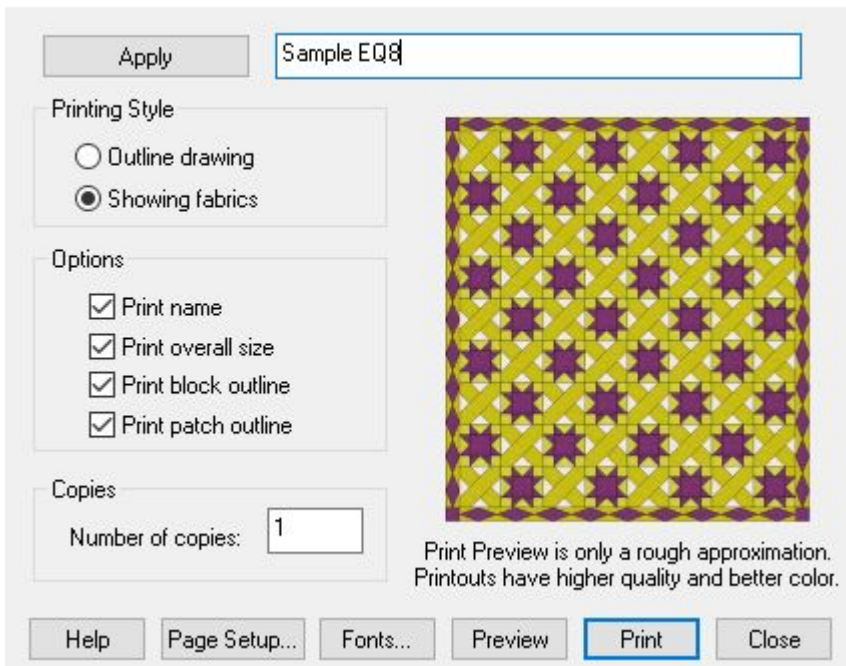
Output or pattern creation

EQ

Print & Export

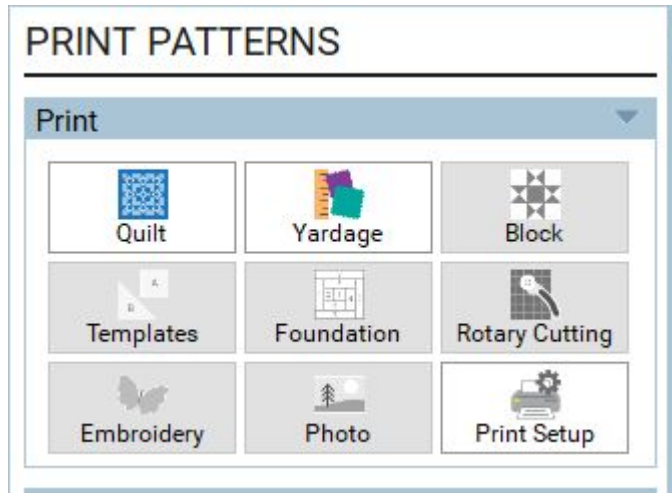


Print Quilt



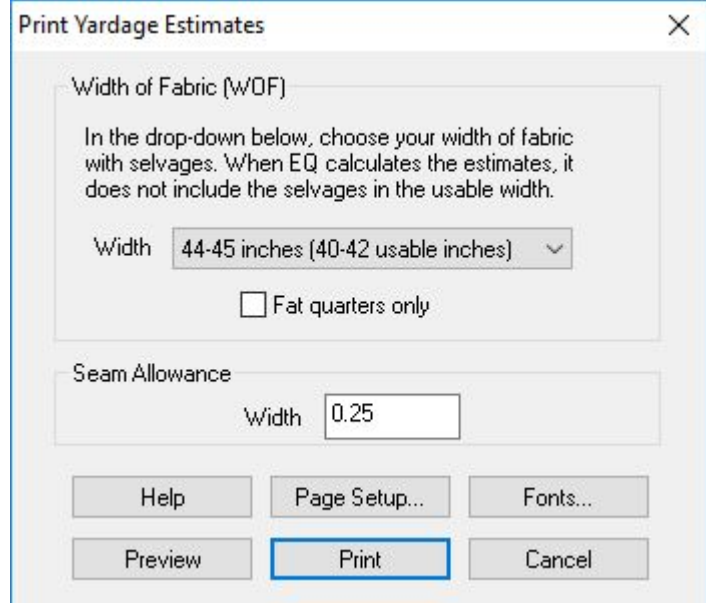
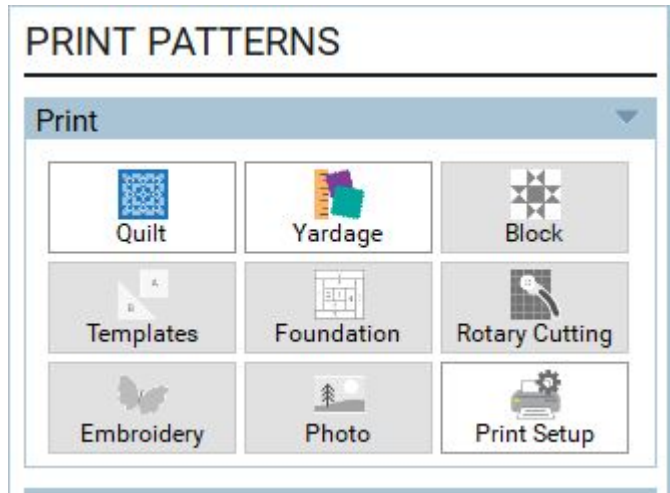
EQ


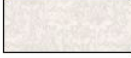


Print & Export



EQ

Print & Export - Yardage




| Fabric width 44-45 inches | Number of patches | Yardage estimate | Fabric name SKU |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|--|
|  | 197 | 3 + 7/8 | Indah Hand-Dyed Batiks by Hoffman 121-PINEAPPLE-496 |
|  | 144 | 3/4 | True Colors by Tula Pink PWTC029-SILVE |
|  | 287 | 1 + 1/2 | Tucker Prairie by One Canoe Two 36008-19-SALTGRASS |
|  | 368 | 2 | Improv by Andover Fabrics 7848-P |

EQ

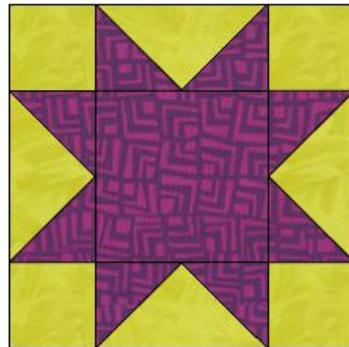
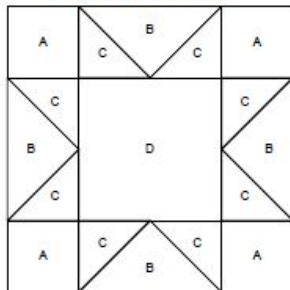
Print & Export

Print

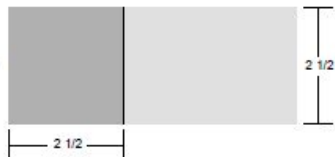
| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  Quilt |  Yardage |  Block |
|  Templates |  Foundation |  Rotary Cutting |
|  Embroidery |  Photo |  Print Setup |

Unnamed

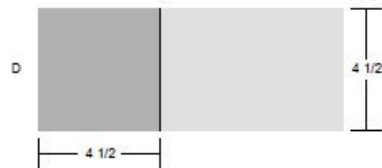
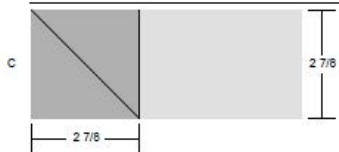
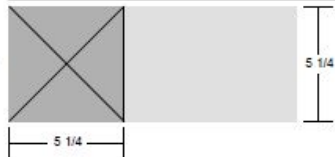
Key Block (31/100 actual size)



Cutting Diagrams

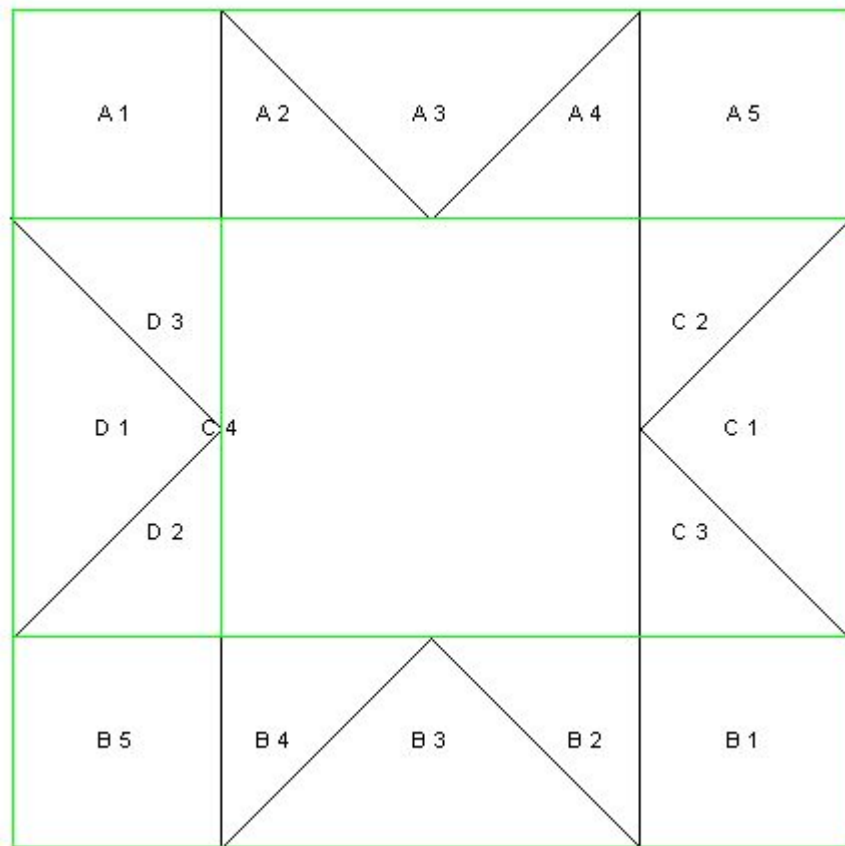
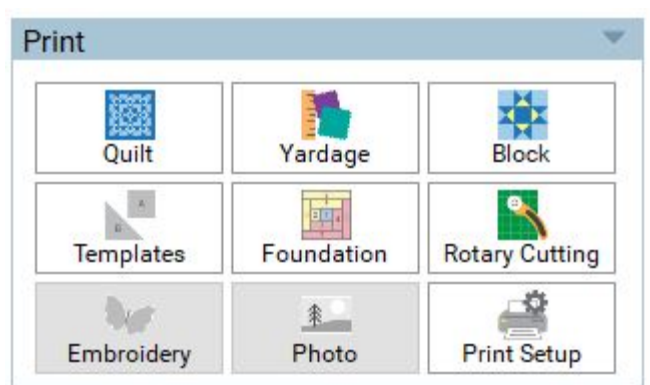


Patch Count



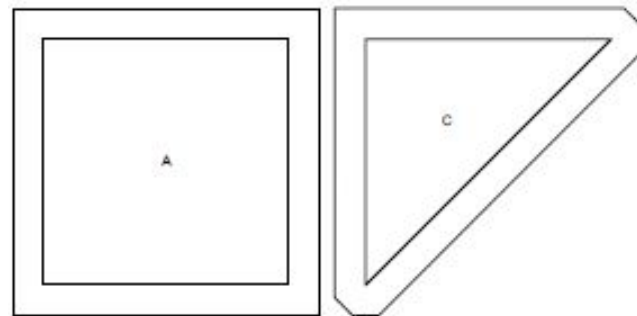
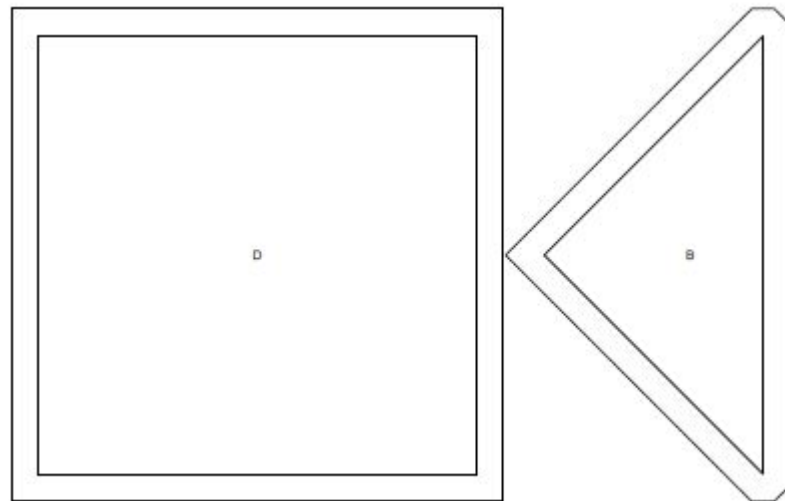
EQ

Print & Export



EQ

Print & Export



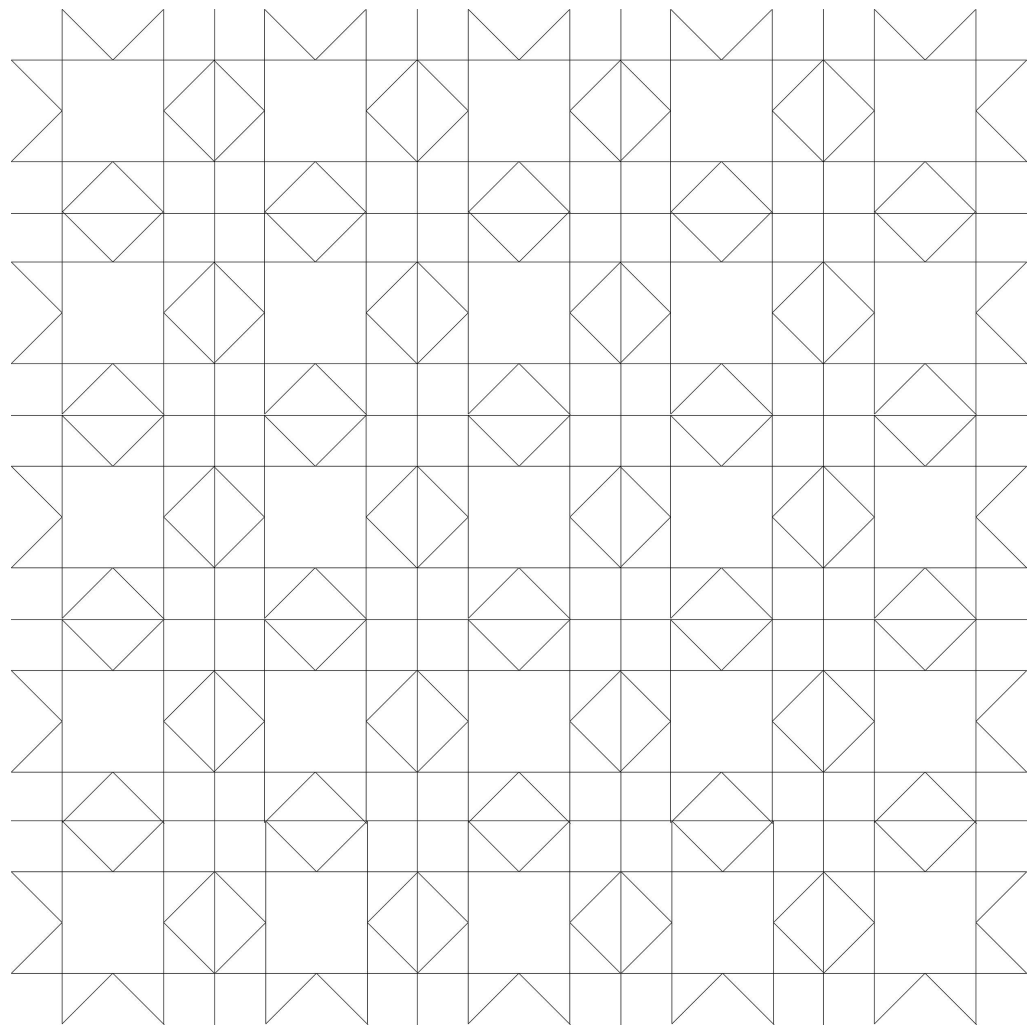
Photoshop

Output or pattern creation

All quilt math needs to be done by the user

There is no output of anything beyond the visual representation of the quilt

The image could be used as a pattern but any cutting/quilt math or quantities would need to be described by the user



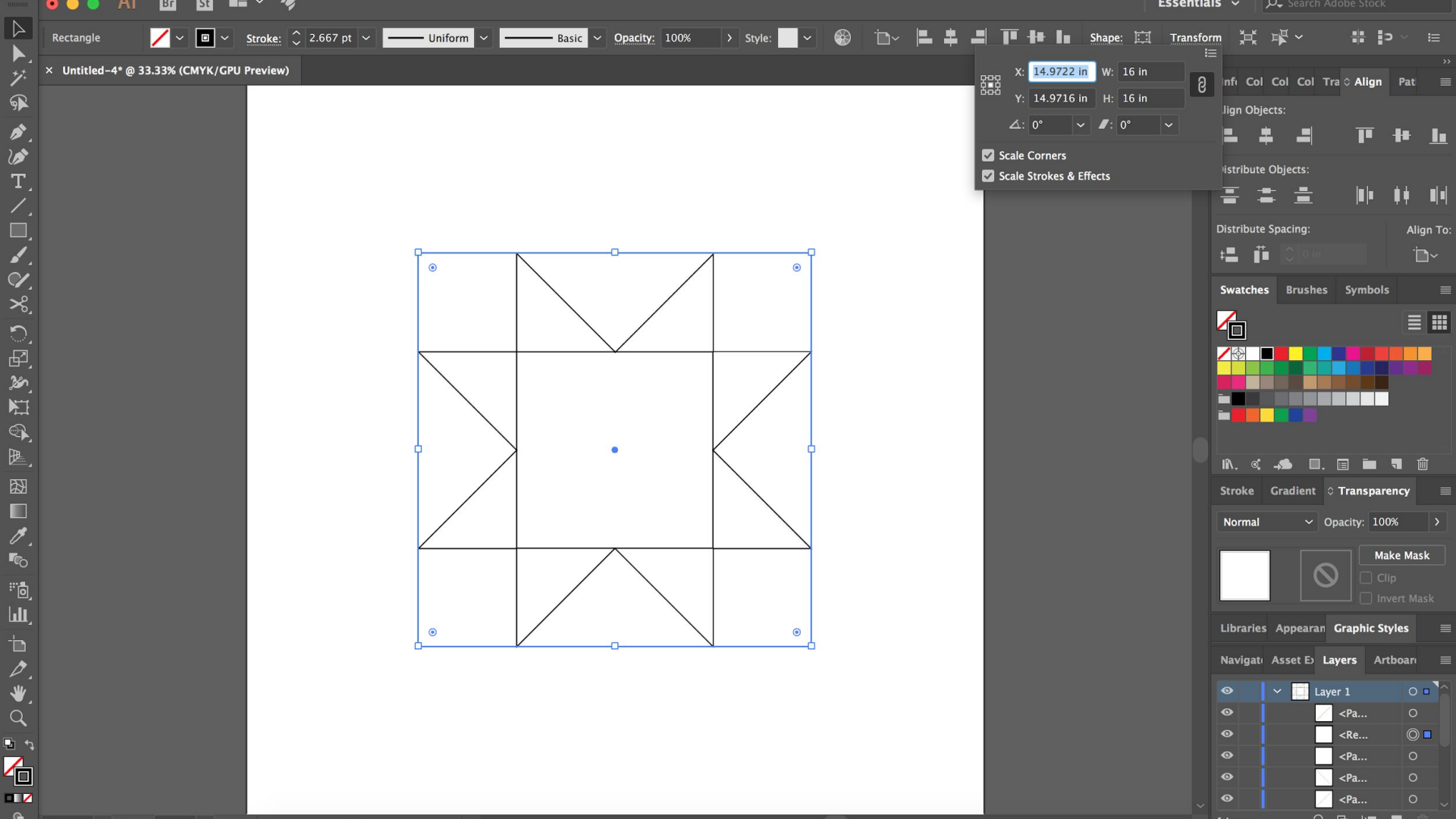
Illustrator

Output or pattern creation

Illustrator does allow you to easily resize a quilt block and check the size of the components. You will need to do the math for seam allowances

There is no output of anything beyond the visual representation of the quilt

The image could be used as a pattern but any cutting/quilt math or quantities would need to be described by the user



Rectangle



Stroke: 2.667 pt



Uniform



Basic



Opacity: 100%



Style: [Style]



Shape: [Shape]



Transform



Align



Pat



Align Objects



Distribute Objects



Distribute Spacing



Align To



Swatches



Untitled-4* @ 33.33% (CMYK/GPU Preview)

X: 14.9722 in W: 16 in

Y: 14.9716 in H: 16 in

∠: 0°

/: 0°

Scale Corners

Scale Strokes & Effects

Distribute Spacing

Align To

Swatches

Brushes

Symbols



Stroke

Gradient

Transparency

Normal

Opacity: 100%



Make Mask

Clip

Invert Mask

Libraries

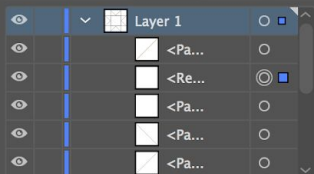
Graphic Styles

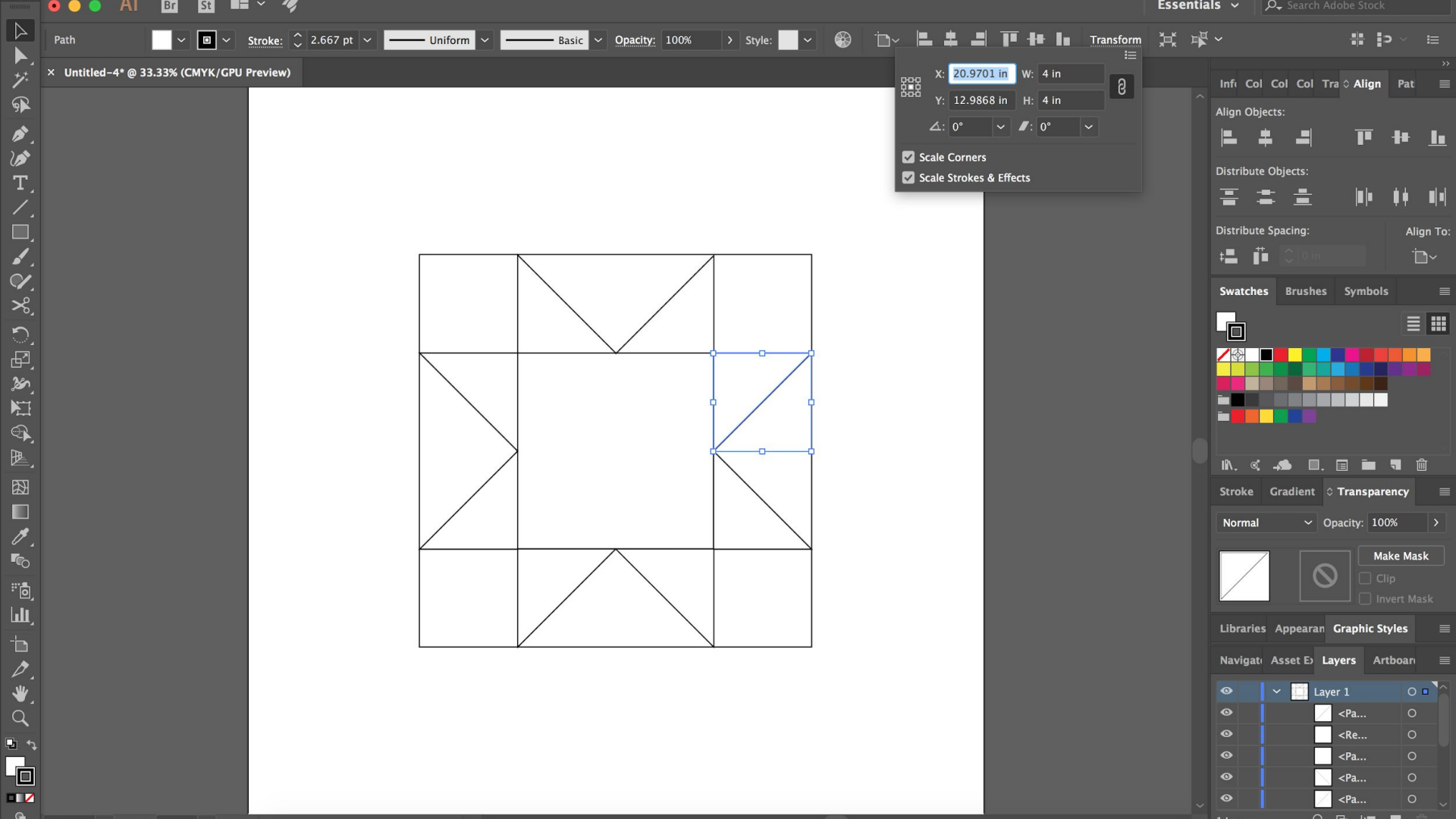
Navigate

Asset E

Layers

Artboard

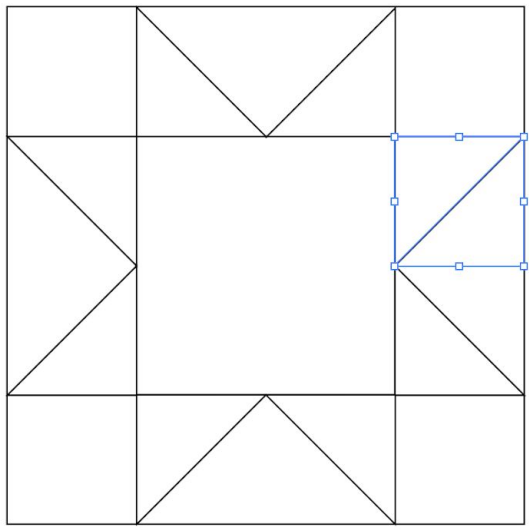




Path Stroke: 2.667 pt Uniform Basic Opacity: 100% Style: Transform

Untitled-4* @ 33.33% (CMYK/GPU Preview)

Transform Panel: X: 20.9701 in W: 4 in Y: 12.9868 in H: 4 in Δ: 0° ▽ / ▽ 0° Scale Corners Scale Strokes & Effects



Infr Col Col Col Tra Align Pat

Align Objects:

Distribute Objects:

Distribute Spacing: Align To:

Swatches Brushes Symbols



Stroke Gradient Transparency

Normal Opacity: 100%

Make Mask Clip Invert Mask

Libraries Appearan Graphic Styles

Navigat Asset E Layers Artboard

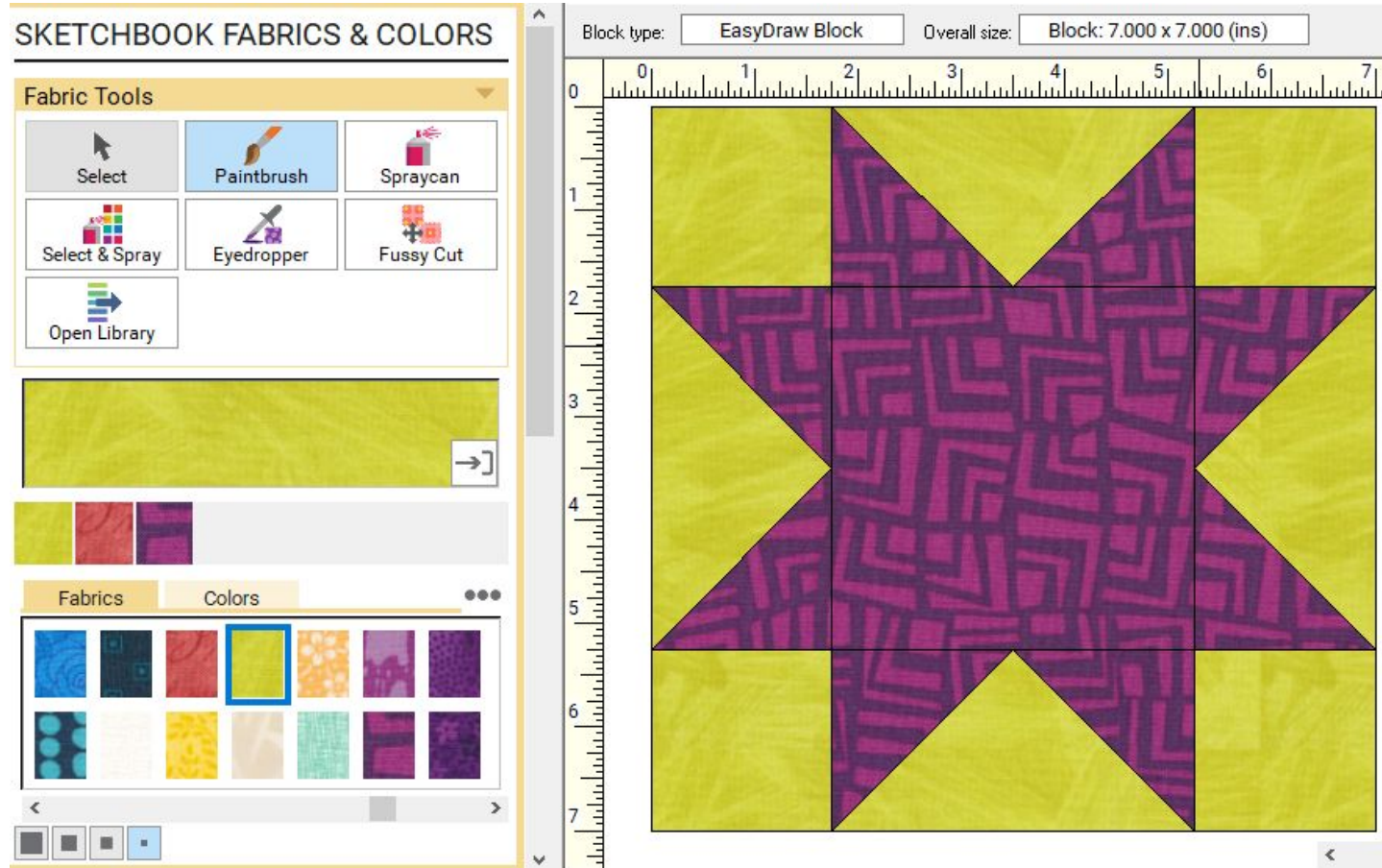
Layers panel showing a list of objects with visibility and lock icons.

Color and fabric representation

EQ

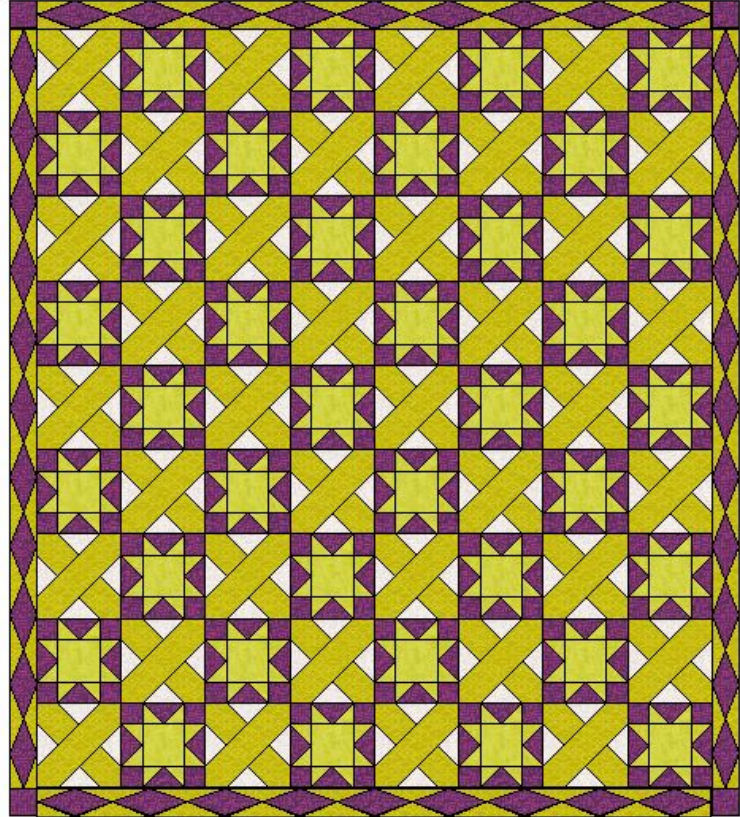
Add color/fabrics to your block

- You can edit this later in the quilt
- EQ is easiest if you color blocks and add those to the quilt



EQ

Modify block colors to see
what it looks like



Swap Colors

EQ

SKETCHBOOK FABRICS & COLORS

Fabric Tools



Paintbrush



Spraycan



Swap Color



Eyedropper



Fussy Cut



Rotate Fabric



Randomize

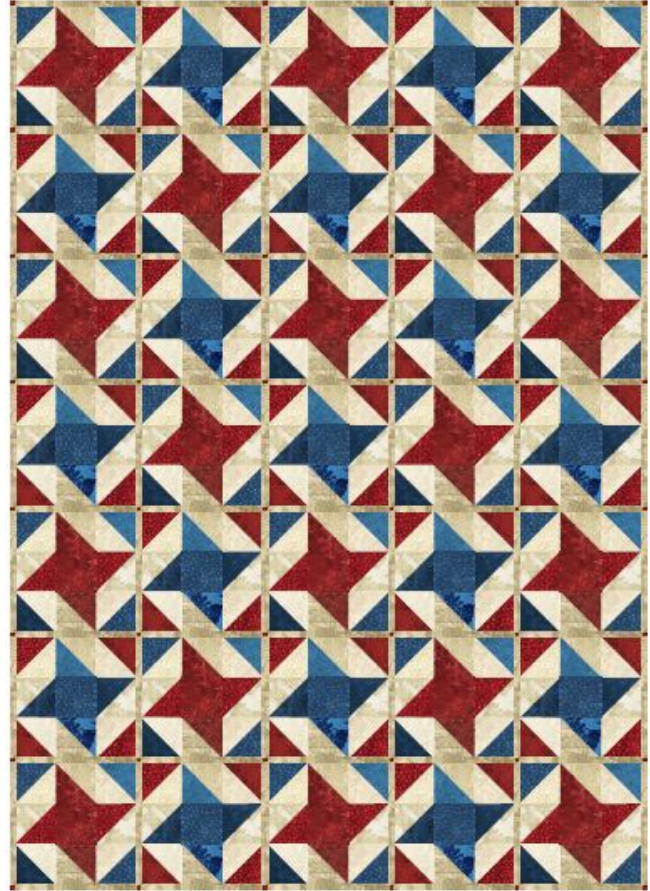
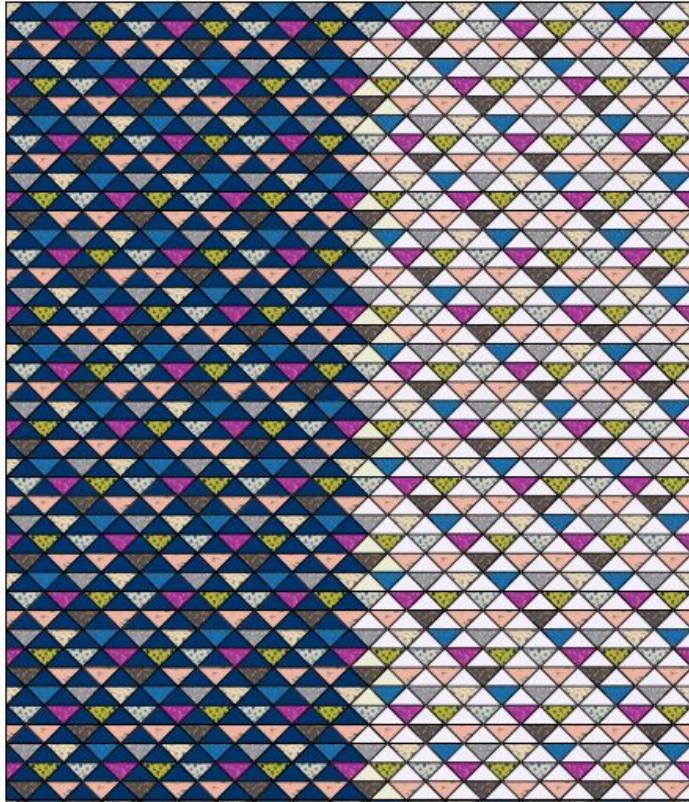


Open Library



Download specific fabric lines

EQ



Photoshop

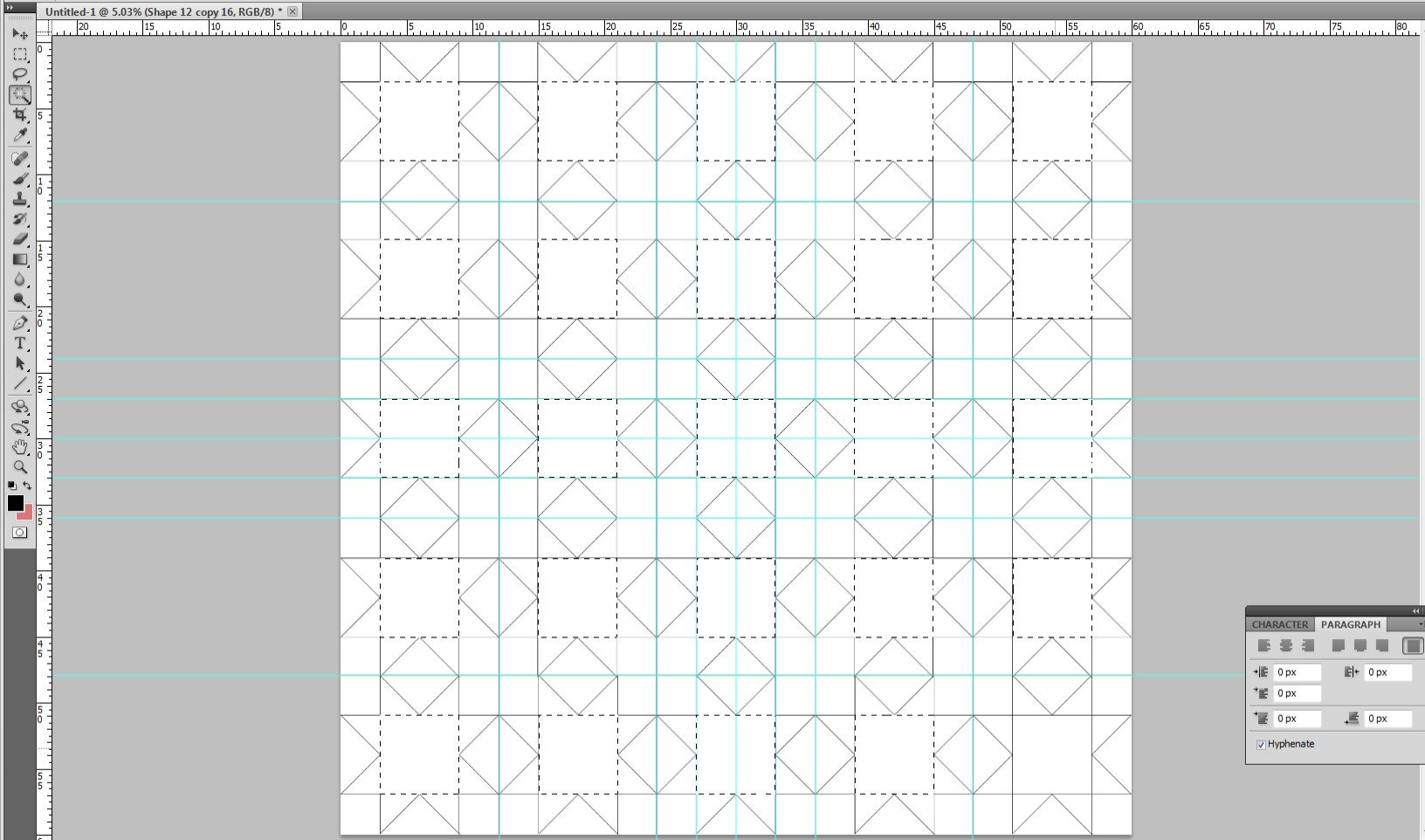
Color and fabric representation

It is easiest to use a solid color fill to represent any fabric

A color fill can be created on a new layer in order to more easily change colors in the future

Fabric could be scanned (or borrowed from the internet) and inserted into a layer to show a pattern on fabric

Additional layers with images can bog down a photoshop file, especially when duplicating the layer into a full quilt



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 12 copy 16
- color 1
- Background

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

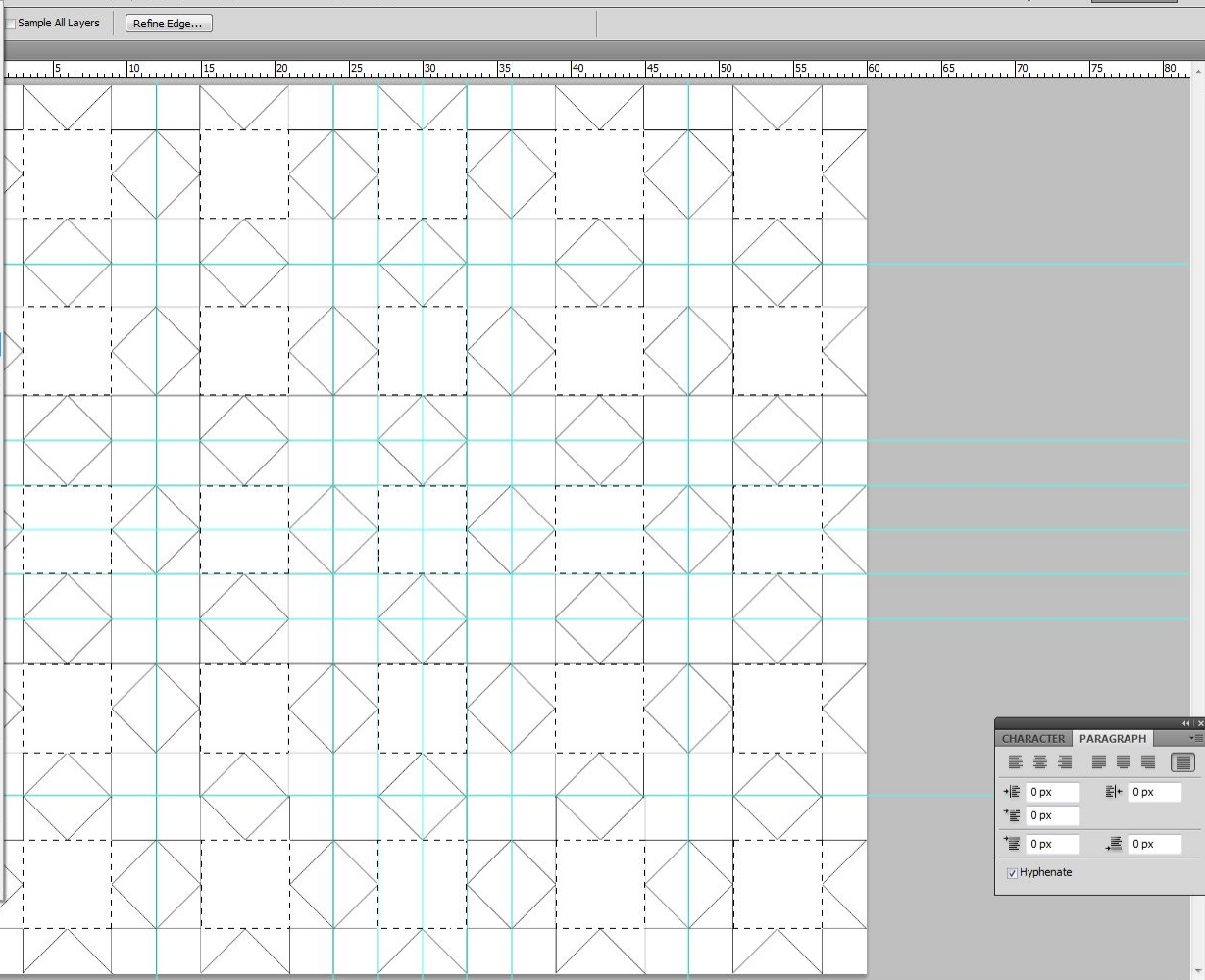
+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate

- Undo Magic Wand Ctrl+Z
- Step Forward Shift+Ctrl+Z
- Step Backward Alt+Ctrl+Z
- Fade... Shift+Ctrl+F
- Cut Ctrl+X
- Copy Ctrl+C
- Copy Merged Shift+Ctrl+C
- Paste Ctrl+V
- Paste Special
- Clear
- Check Spelling...
- Find and Replace Text...
- Fill... Shift+F5**
- Stroke...
- Content-Aware Scale Alt+Shift+Ctrl+C
- Puppet Warp
- Free Transform Ctrl+T
- Transform
- Auto-Align Layers...
- Auto-Blend Layers...
- Define Brush Preset...
- Define Pattern...
- Define Custom Shape...
- Purge
- Adobe PDF Presets...
- Preset Manager...
- Remote Connections...
- Color Settings... Shift+Ctrl+K
- Assign Profile...
- Convert to Profile...
- Keyboard Shortcuts... Alt+Shift+Ctrl+K
- Menus... Alt+Shift+Ctrl+M
- Preferences



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Shape 12 copy 16
- color 1
- Background

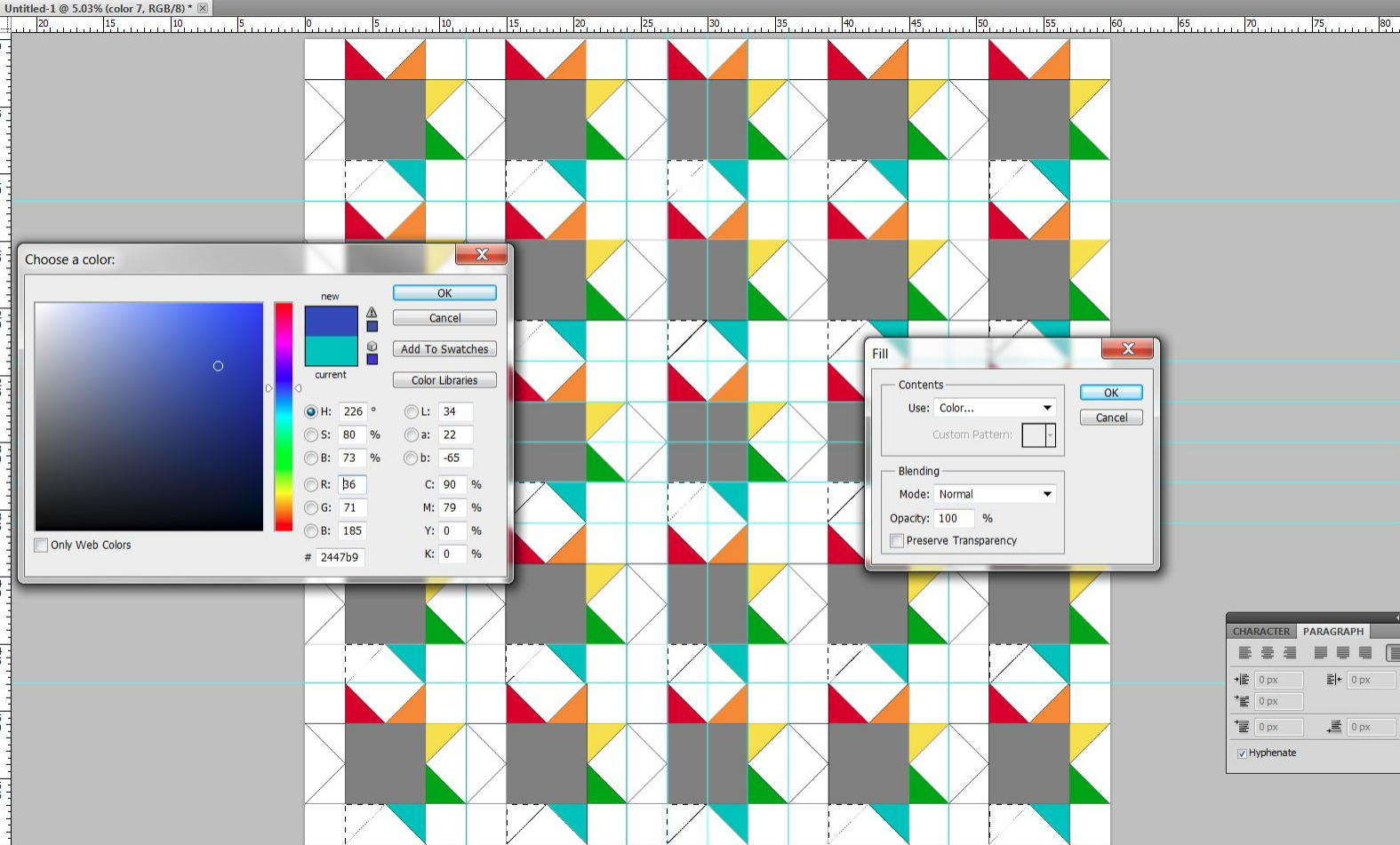
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



Choose a color:

new

current

H: 226 ° L: 34
 S: 80 % a: 22
 B: 73 % b: -65
 R: 36 C: 90 %
 G: 71 M: 79 %
 B: 185 Y: 0 %
 K: 0 %

2447b9

Only Web Colors

Fill

Contents

Use: Color...

Custom Pattern: []

Blending

Mode: Normal

Opacity: 100 %

Preserve Transparency

Add an adjustment

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: [] [] [] Fill: 100%

- color 7
- color 6
- color 5
- color 4
- color 3
- color 2
- color 1
- Shape 12 copy 16
- Background

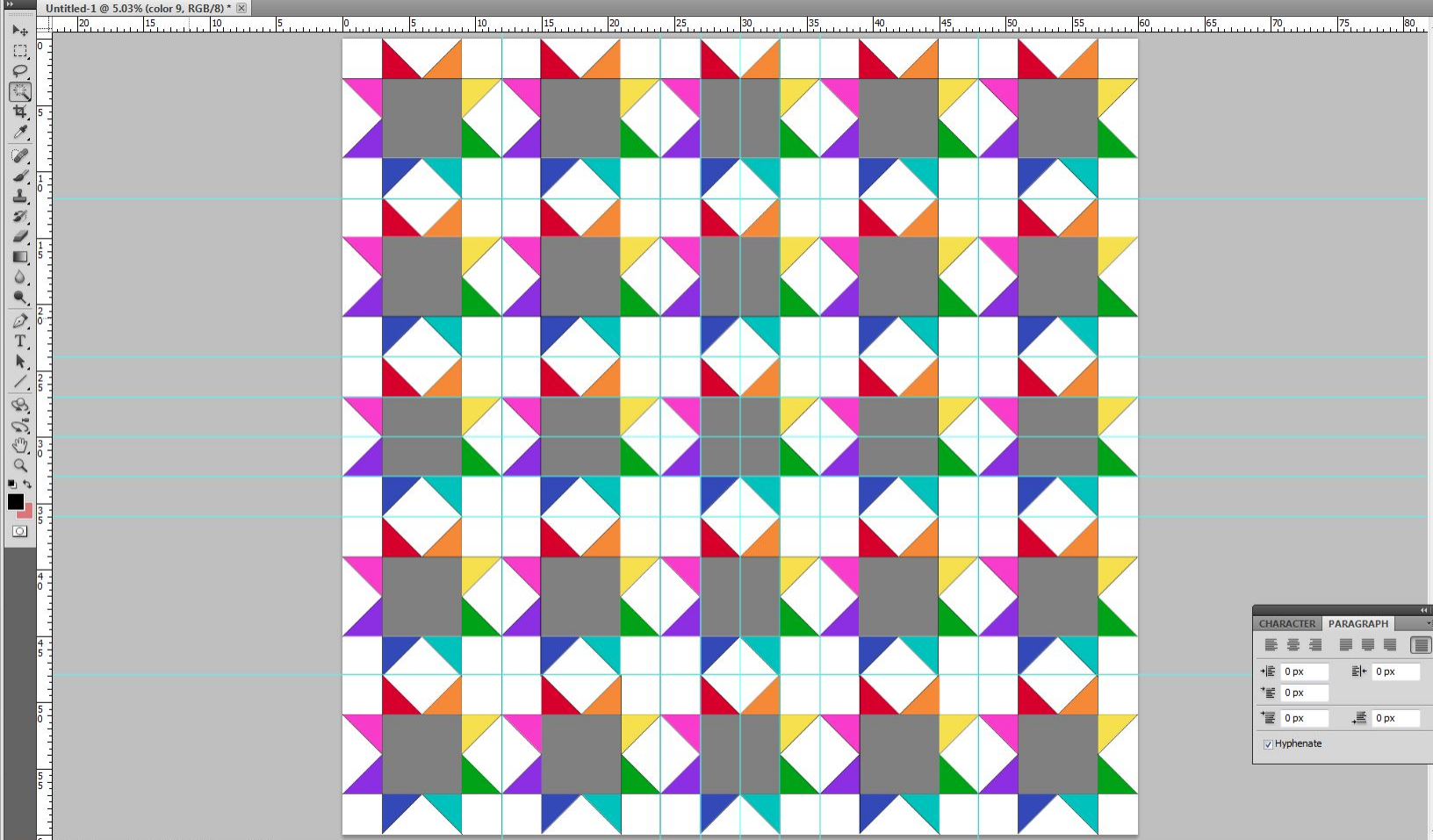
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ [] 0 px [] 0 px

+ [] 0 px [] 0 px

+ [] 0 px [] 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- color 9
- color 8
- color 7
- color 6
- color 5
- color 4
- color 3
- color 2
- color 1
- Shape 12 copy 16
- Background

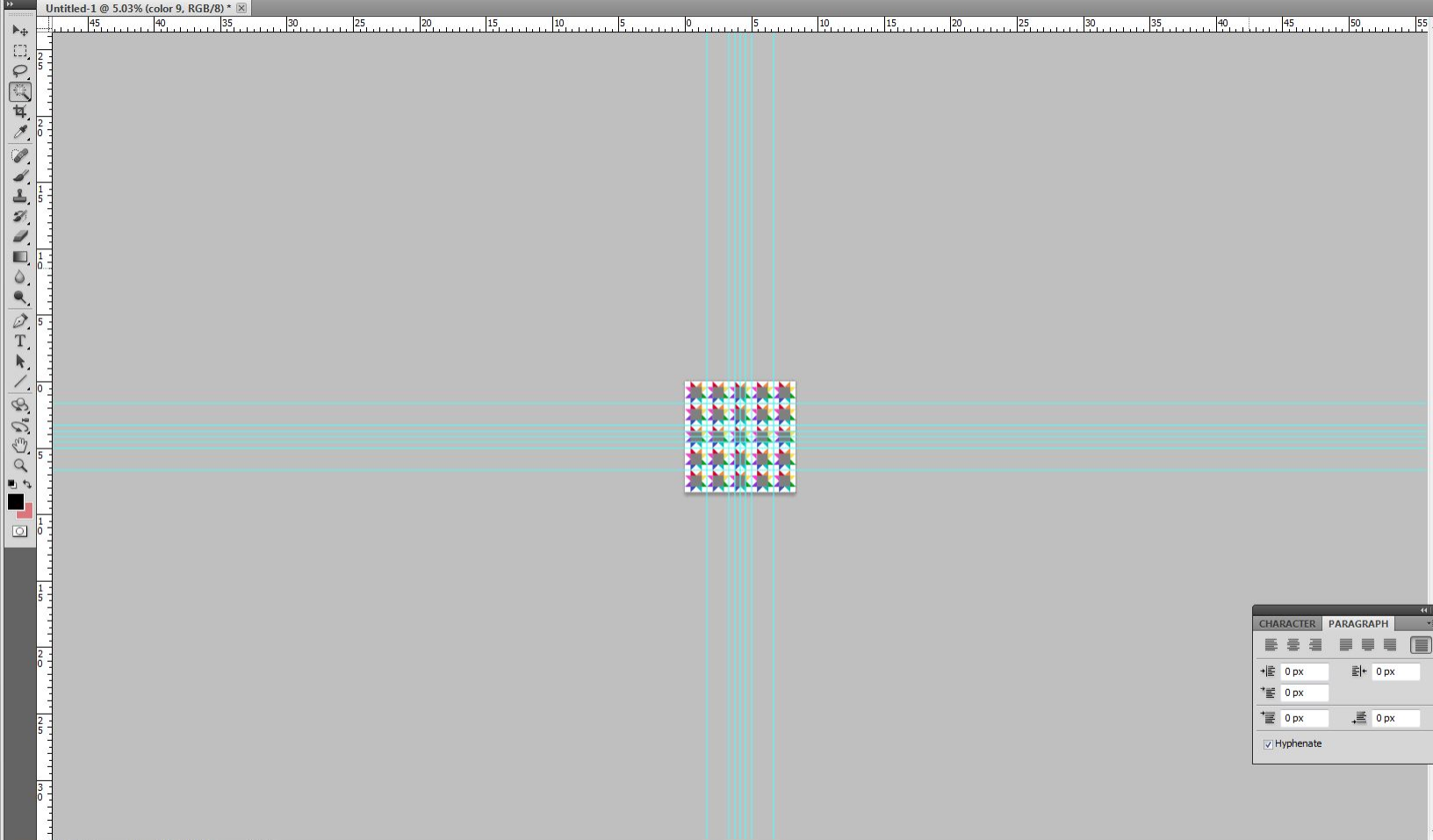
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels
- Curves
- Exposure
- Hue/Saturation
- Black & White
- Channel Mixer
- Selective Color

Levels Presets

- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- color 9
- color 8
- color 7
- color 6
- color 5
- color 4
- color 3
- color 2
- color 1
- Shape 12 copy 16
- Background

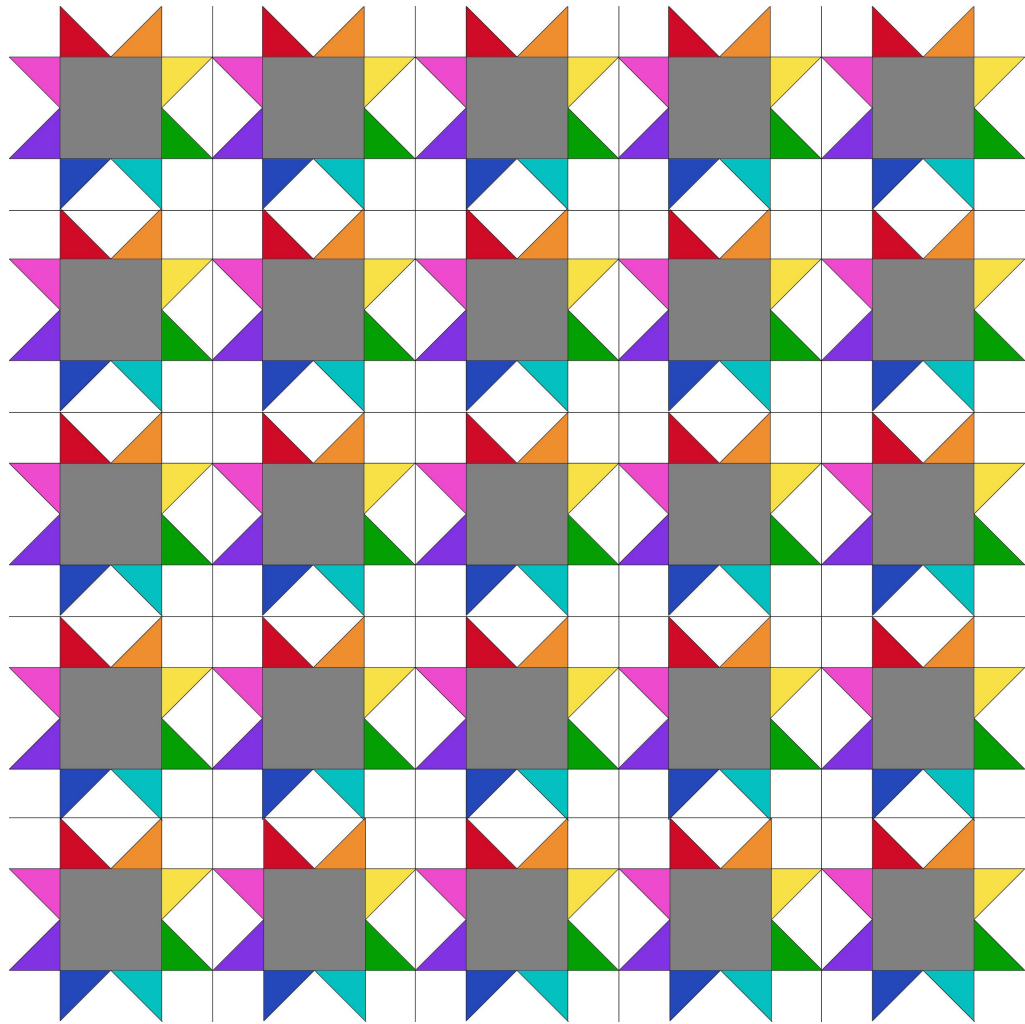
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

Hyphenate



Illustrator

Color and fabric representation

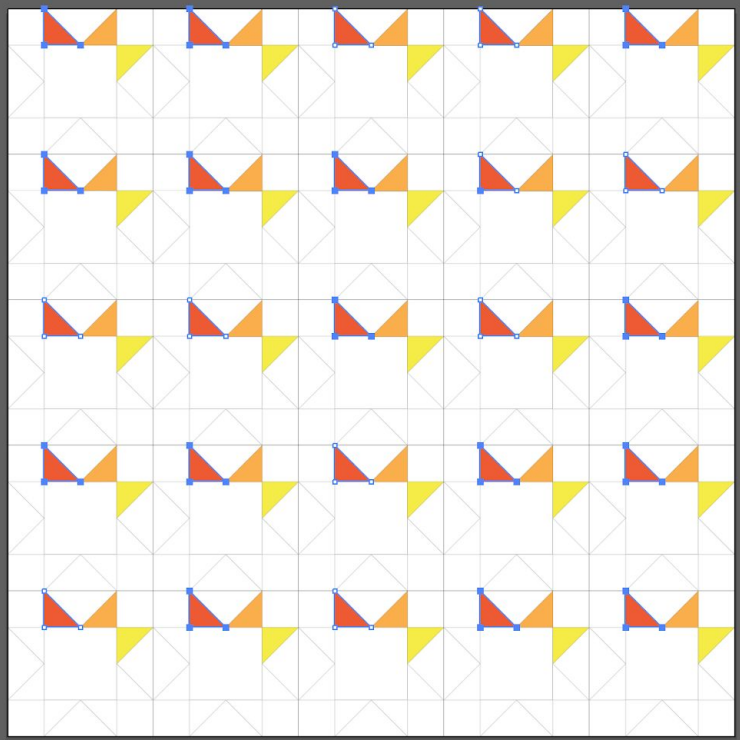
It is easiest to use a solid color fill to represent any fabric

You can easily select multiple shapes and change the color all at once

Fabric could be scanned (or borrowed from the internet) and inserted into a layer to show a pattern on fabric

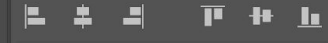
Additional layers with images can bog down an Illustrator file, especially when duplicating the layer into a full quilt

Untitled-2* @ 12.5% (CMYK/GPU Preview)

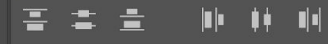


Align Pat

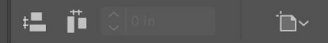
Align Anchor Points:



Distribute Anchor Points:



Distribute Spacing: Align To:

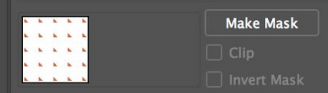


Swatches Brushes Symbols



Stroke Gradient Transparency

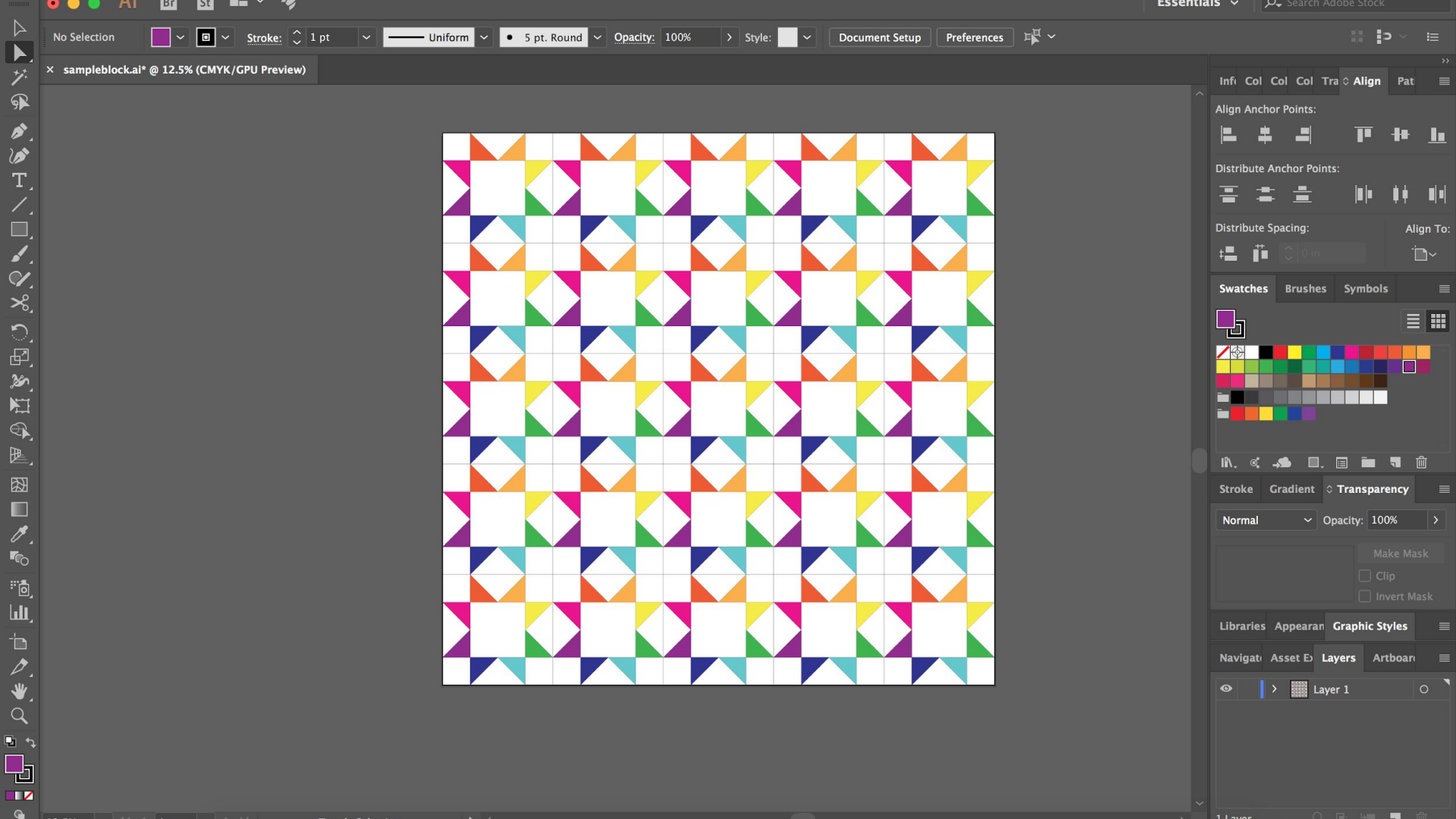
Normal Opacity: 100%



Graphic Styles

Layers Artboard

Layer 1





Freeform design - not block based



West Elm quilt - Louise Gray

EQ

Drag and drop blocks.
Resize and move around

This function is practically
useless



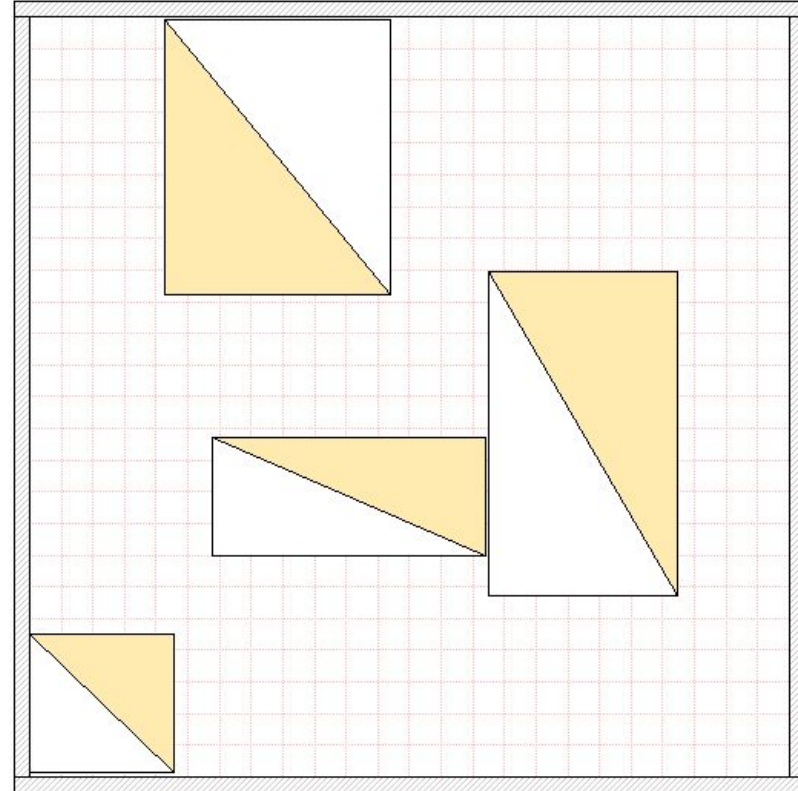
SKETCHBOOK BLOCKS

Block Tools

| | | |
|------------|--------------|----------|
| Set Block | Erase Block | Rotate |
| Flip | Adjust | Symmetry |
| Eyedropper | Open Library | |

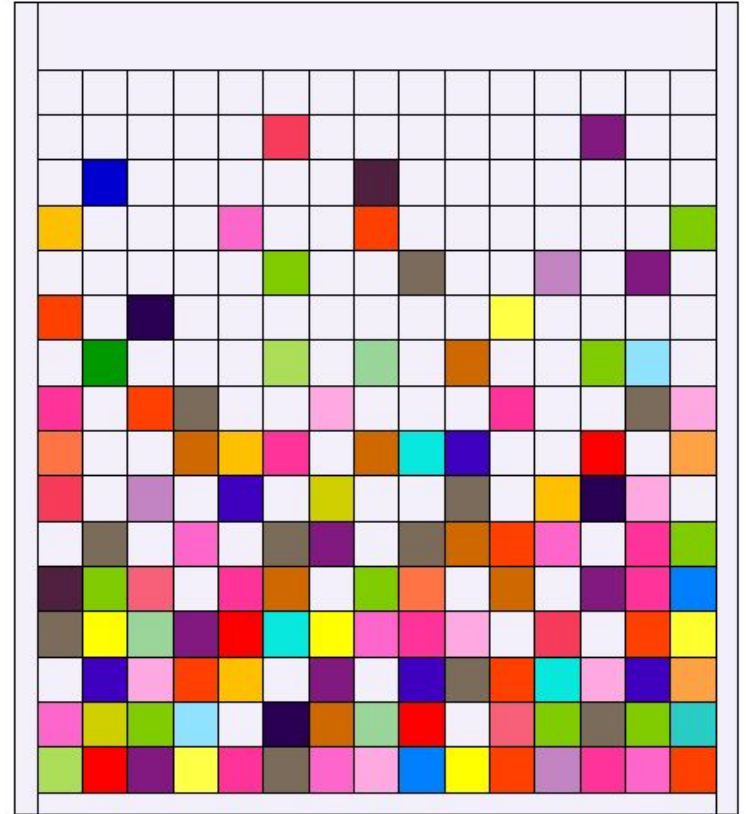
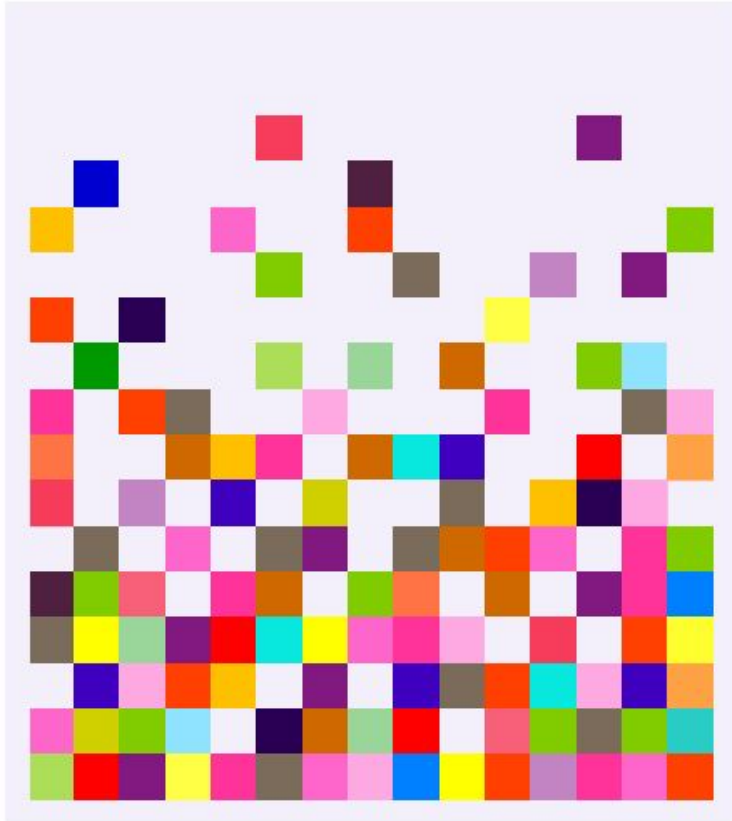
Tips

- Click on a block in the quilt, sashing or border to rotate it 90 degrees with each click.
- Use CTRL+click (Command+click on Mac) to rotate all the blocks on Layer 1 with one click.
- Use ALT+click (Option+click on Mac) to rotate alternating blocks on Layers 1 with one click.
- The speed keys mentioned above, do not function on a custom quilt layout or on Layers 2 or 3.
- This tool can be used on all layers of any type of quilt. It can also be used on embroidery set on Layer 3 as well.



EQ

Print unlined for validating design – Print lined to see layout



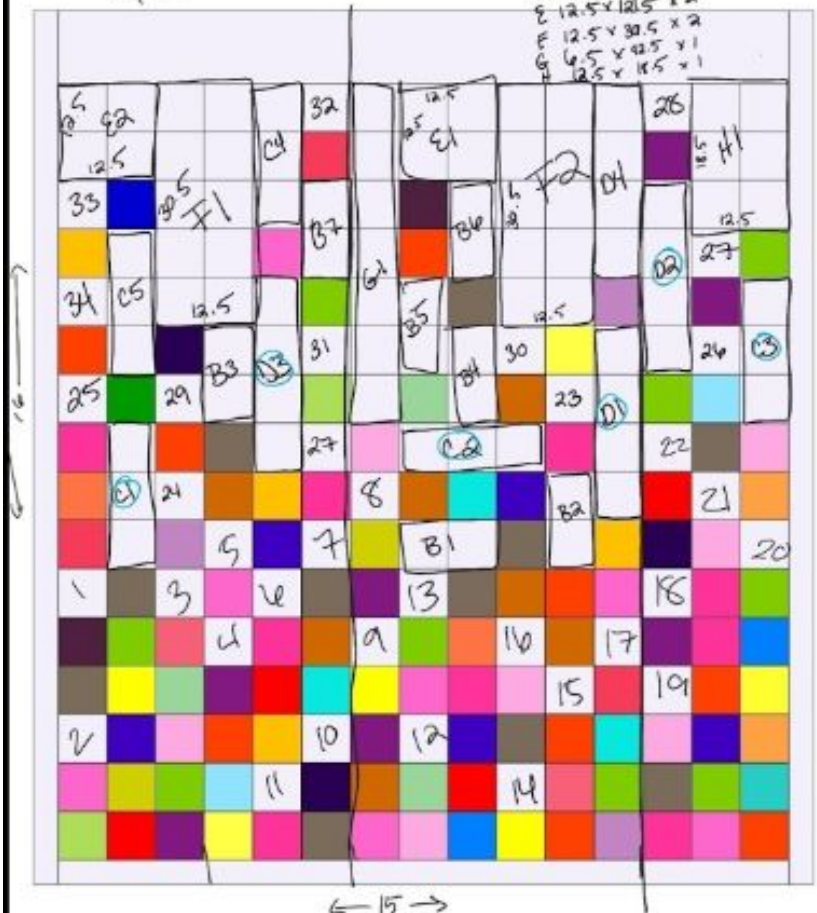
EQ

ABCDEFG
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

100 Blocks Tetris_Lined

Overall Size: 30.00 by 100.00 inches

- A 6.5 x 6.5 x 33
- B 6.5 x 12.5 x 7
- C 6.5 x 18.5 x 5-3-2
- D 6.5 x 24.5 x 4-3-1
- E 12.5 x 12.5 x 2
- F 12.5 x 30.5 x 2
- G 6.5 x 42.5 x 1
- H 12.5 x 18.5 x 1

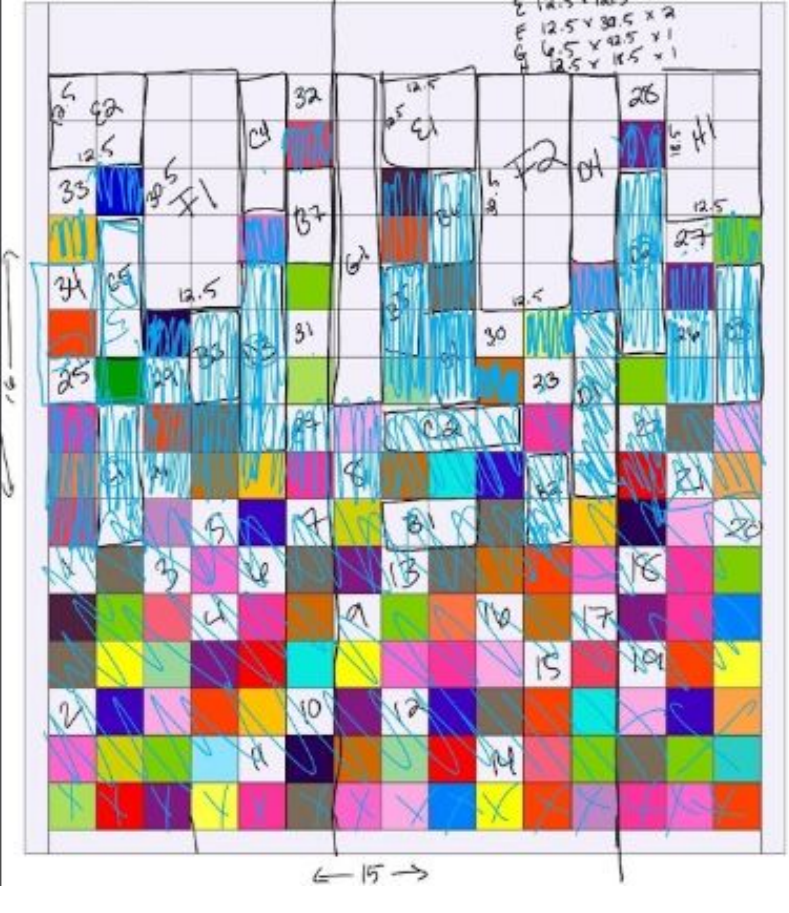


ABCDEFG
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

100 Blocks Tetris_Lined

Overall Size: 30.00 by 100.00 inches

- A 6.5 x 6.5 x 33
- B 6.5 x 12.5 x 7
- C 6.5 x 18.5 x 5-3-2
- D 6.5 x 24.5 x 4-3-1
- E 12.5 x 12.5 x 2
- F 12.5 x 30.5 x 2
- G 6.5 x 42.5 x 1
- H 12.5 x 18.5 x 1



EQ

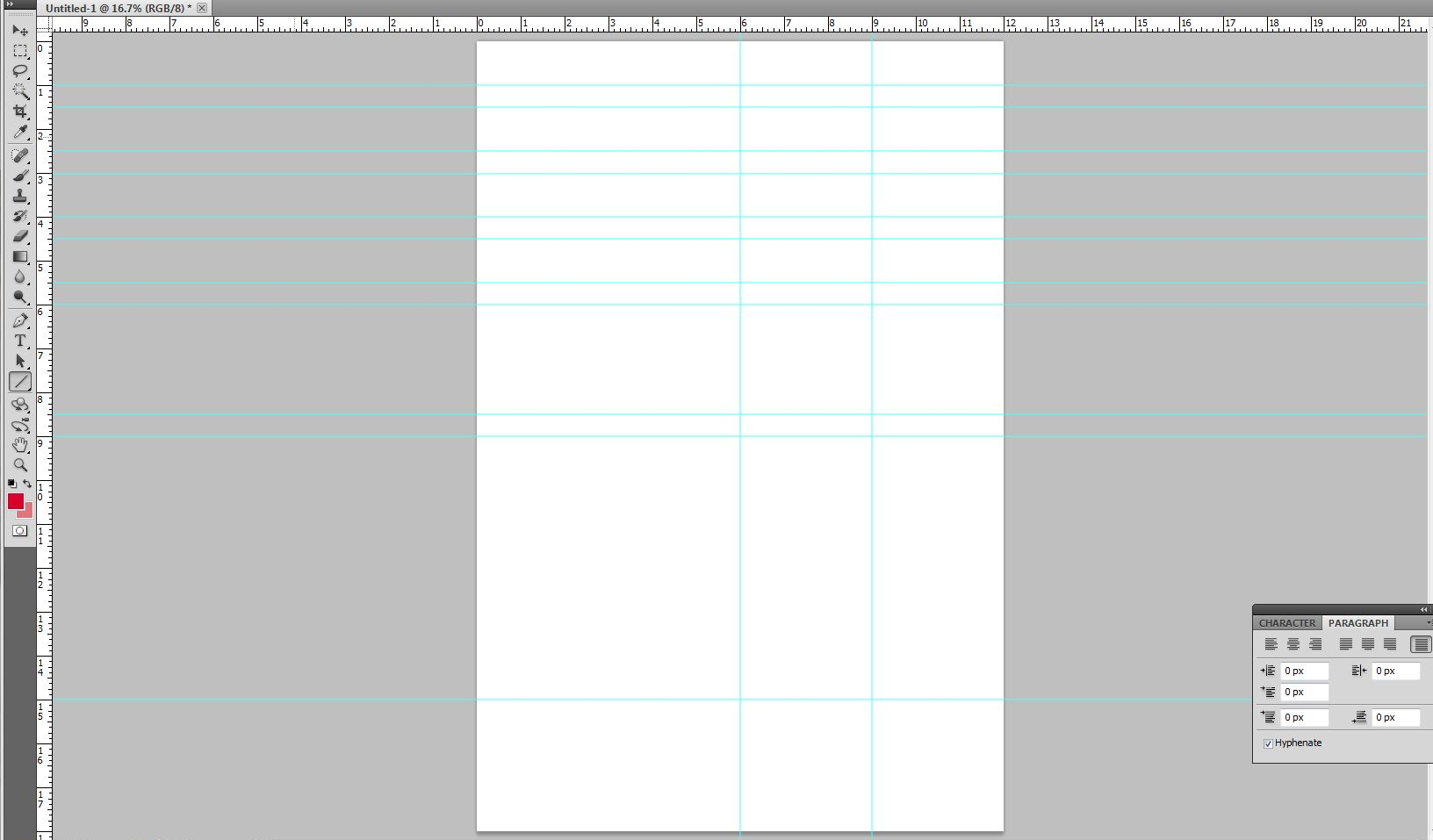


Photoshop

Freeform design - not block based

There is not a good way to majorly control the design of anything that is freeform (curves, etc.). If using Adobe software you should turn to Illustrator for this type of design.

You can design a quilt with straight lines if you use grids to find angles.



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

Background

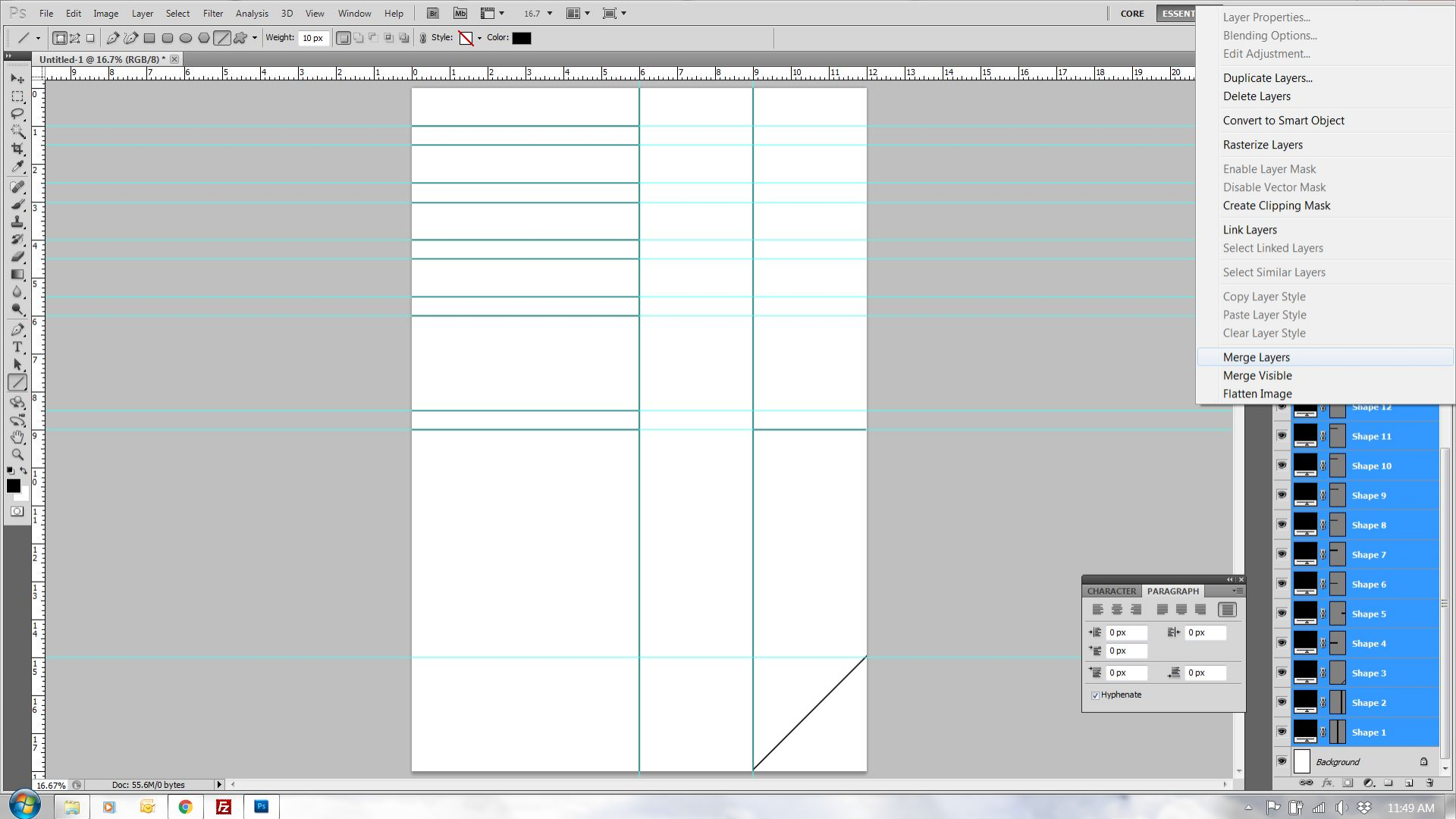
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px + 0 px

+ 0 px + 0 px

+ 0 px + 0 px

Hyphenate



Layer Properties...

Blending Options...

Edit Adjustment...

Duplicate Layers...

Delete Layers

Convert to Smart Object

Rasterize Layers

Enable Layer Mask

Disable Vector Mask

Create Clipping Mask

Link Layers

Select Linked Layers

Select Similar Layers

Copy Layer Style

Paste Layer Style

Clear Layer Style

Merge Layers

Merge Visible

Flatten Image

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

Hyphenate

Shape 12

Shape 11

Shape 10

Shape 9

Shape 8

Shape 7

Shape 6

Shape 5

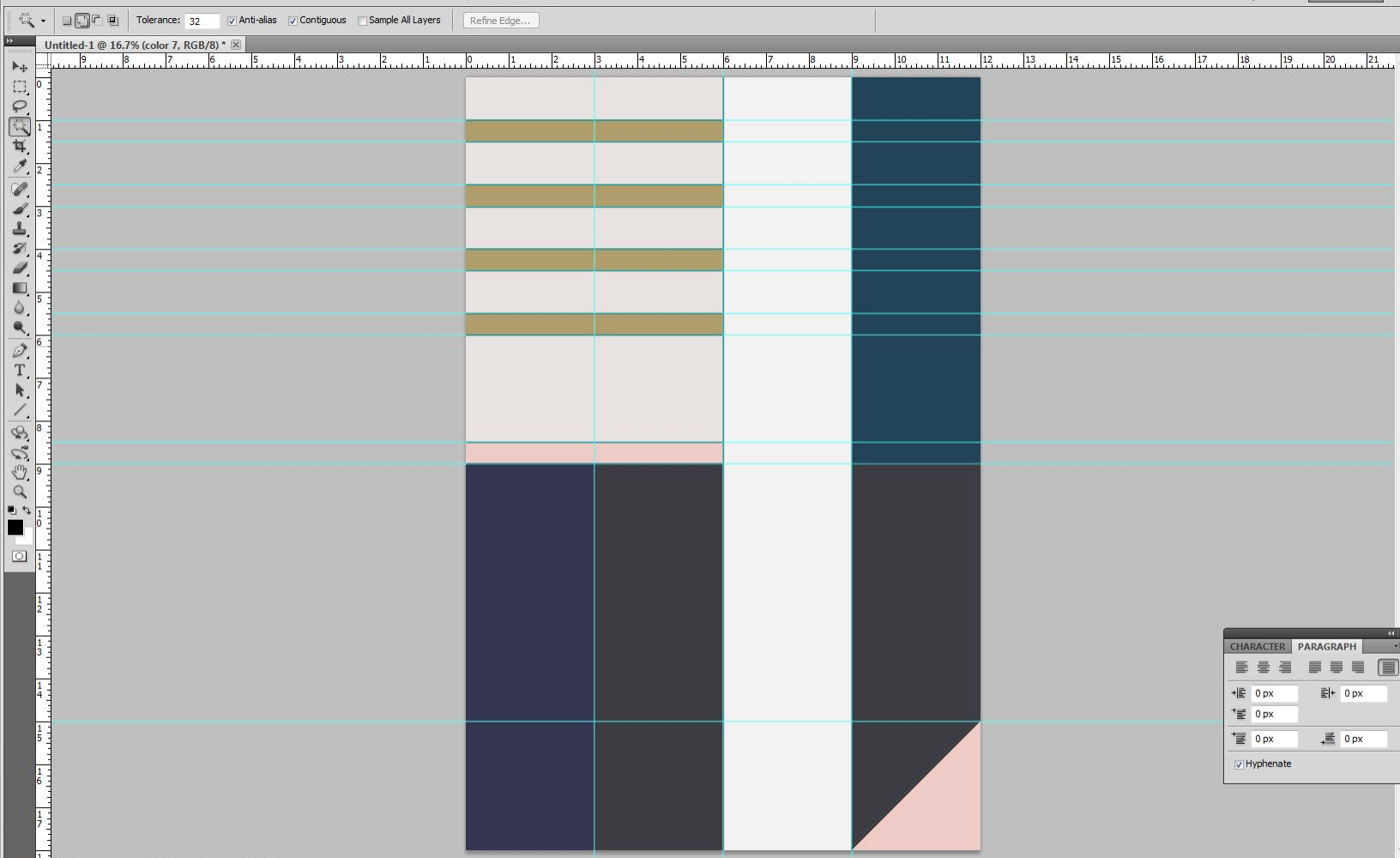
Shape 4

Shape 3

Shape 2

Shape 1

Background



ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- color 7
- color 6
- color 5
- color 4
- color 3
- color 2
- color 1
- Shape 16
- Background

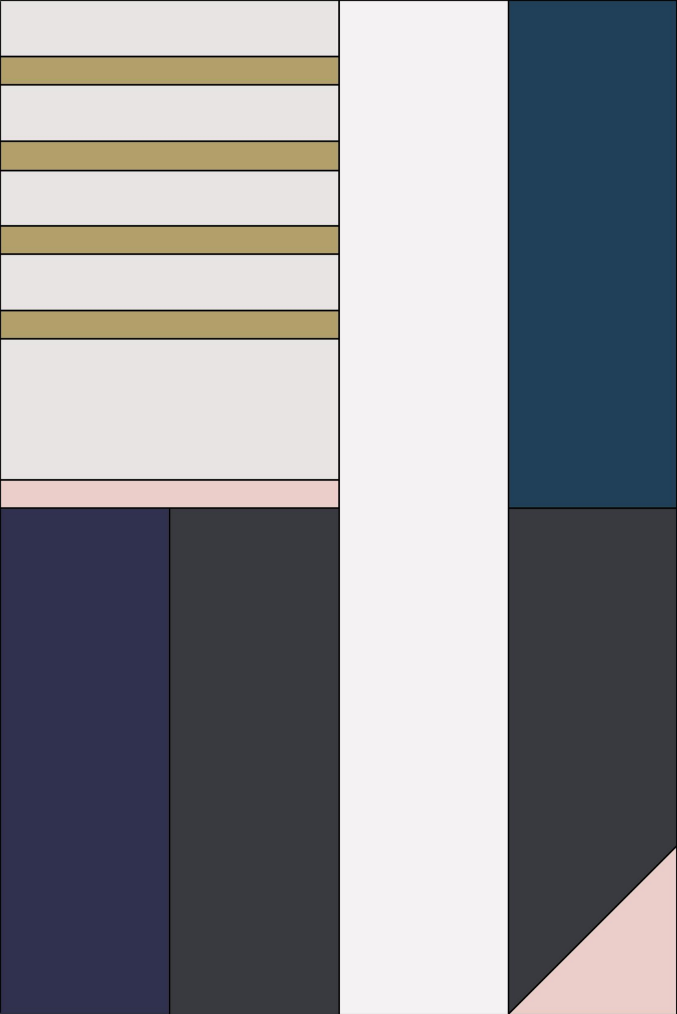
CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

+ 0 px 0 px

Hyphenate



Illustrator

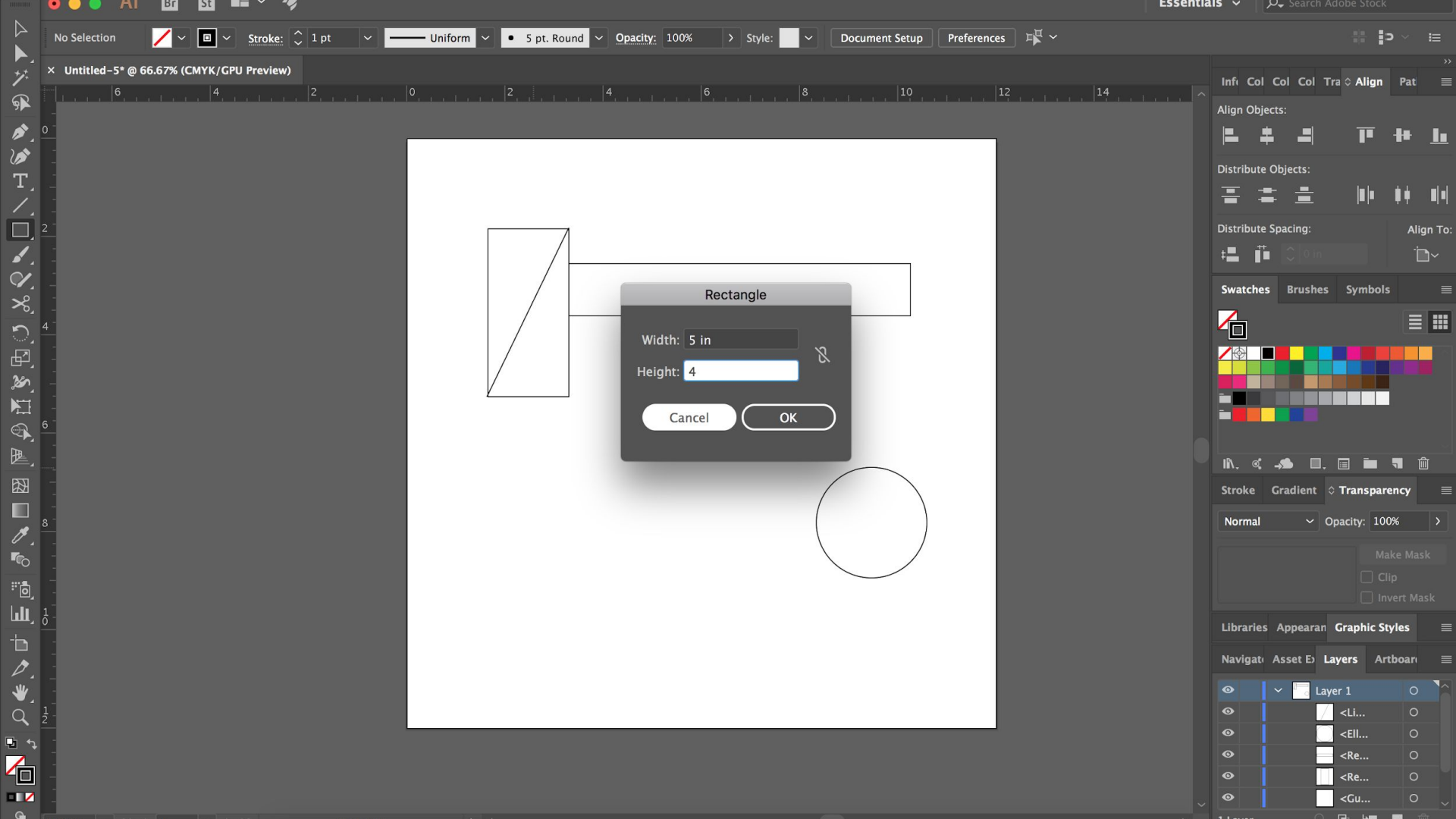
Freeform design - not block based

The shape tool in Illustrator allows you to easily make geometric shapes. Vector shapes can easily be scaled and stretched.

You can click and drag to create a shape, or you can manually enter dimensions

If you want to work with curves or circles, Illustrator is a great option.





No Selection | Stroke: 1 pt | Uniform | 5 pt. Round | Opacity: 100% | Style: | Document Setup | Preferences

Untitled-5* @ 66.67% (CMYK/GPU Preview)

Rectangle

Width: 5 in

Height: 4

Cancel OK

Infl Col Col Col Tra Align Pat

Align Objects:

Distribute Objects:

Distribute Spacing: Align To:

Swatches Brushes Symbols

Stroke Gradient Transparency

Normal Opacity: 100%

Libraries Appearance Graphic Styles

Navigat Asset E Layers Artboard

| Visibility | Layer Name | Thumbnail | Opacity |
|------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| ✓ | Layer 1 | | ○ |
| ✓ | <LI... | | ○ |
| ✓ | <Ell... | | ○ |
| ✓ | <Re... | | ○ |
| ✓ | <Re... | | ○ |
| ✓ | <Gu... | | ○ |

Best use of each program for quilt design.

EQ

This is a quilt designing software – so it's pretty good for designing quilts

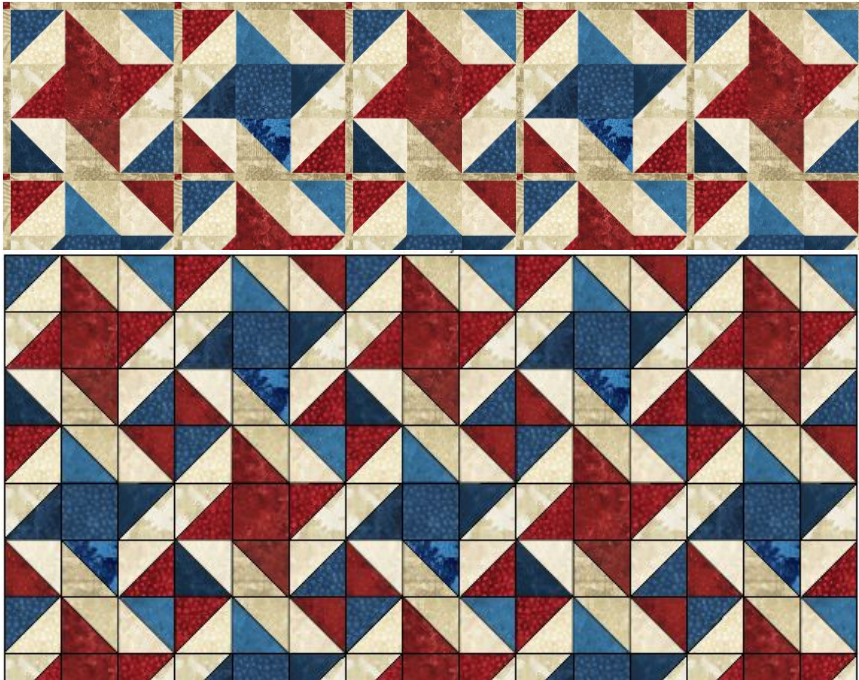
- Design block based quilts
- Determine sizes of blocks and total quilt
- Try out borders, sashing, etc.
- Add a border to a current quilt (determine if small border is needed)

Not great for freeform

EQ

Best for

- Block layouts
- Should I make by background dark or light?
- Do I want sashing?
- What kind of interesting border can I do?
- Will I need to add a smaller border to make this work?



EQ

- If you need a quick quilt – they have a ton already designed for you

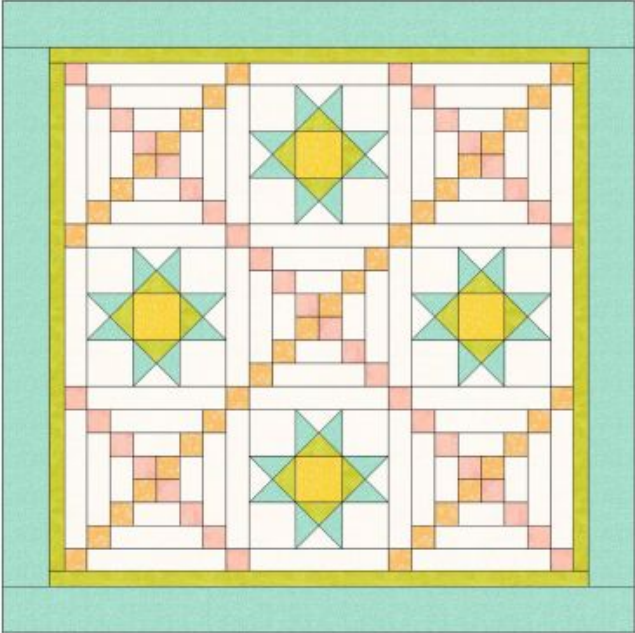
Create a new project Open an existing project Start with a Quick Quilt project

Select a project name below, then use the arrow buttons to view quilts in that project. Click OK to open.

Quick Quilt Projects

- Easy Quilts.TP8
- Log Cabin Quilts.TP8
- Medallion Quilts.TP8
- New York Beauty.TP8
- One Patch Quilts.TP8
- Quilt Labels.TP8
- Quilts with Sashing.TP8
- Storm at Sea.TP8
- Strip Quilts.TP8
- Table Runners.TP8
- T-Shirt Quilts.TP8

Preview of quilts in selected project.



Jump start your designing by opening a project with pre-designed quilts! Like any new project, it will be Untitled when you first open it, so be sure to save your new project.

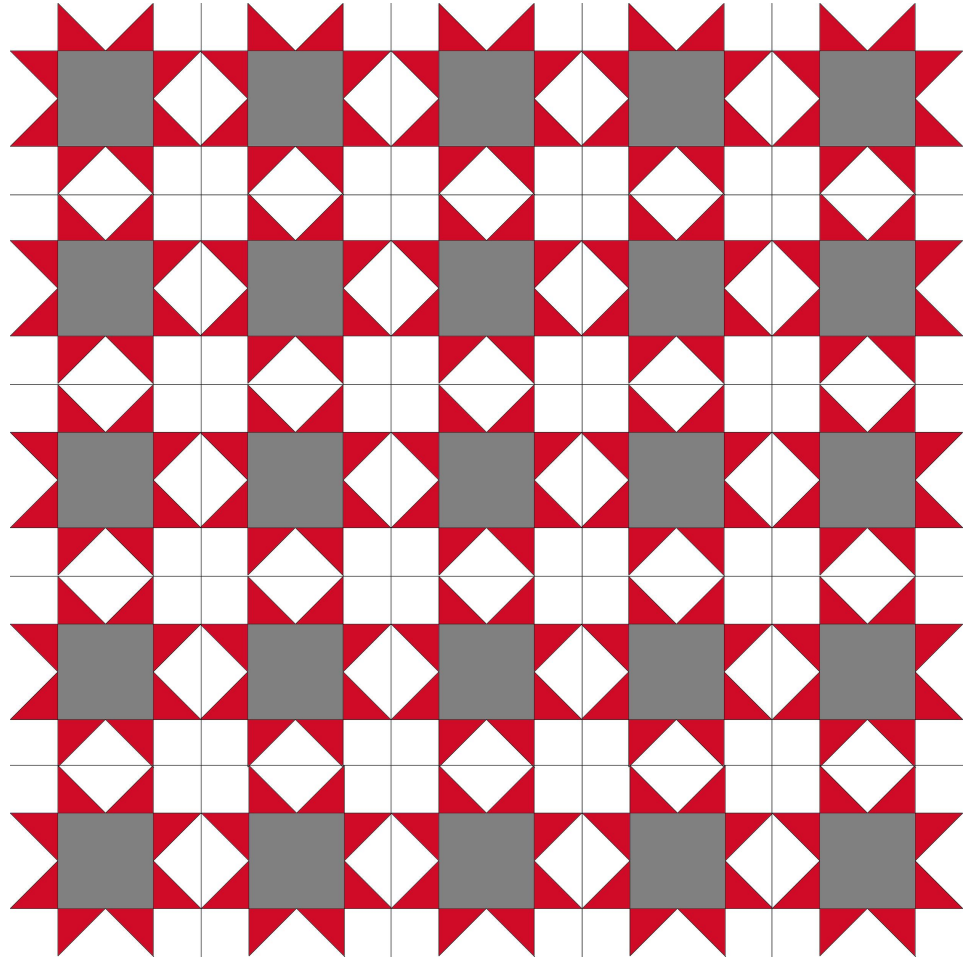
Navigation buttons: Home, Previous, Next, End

Photoshop

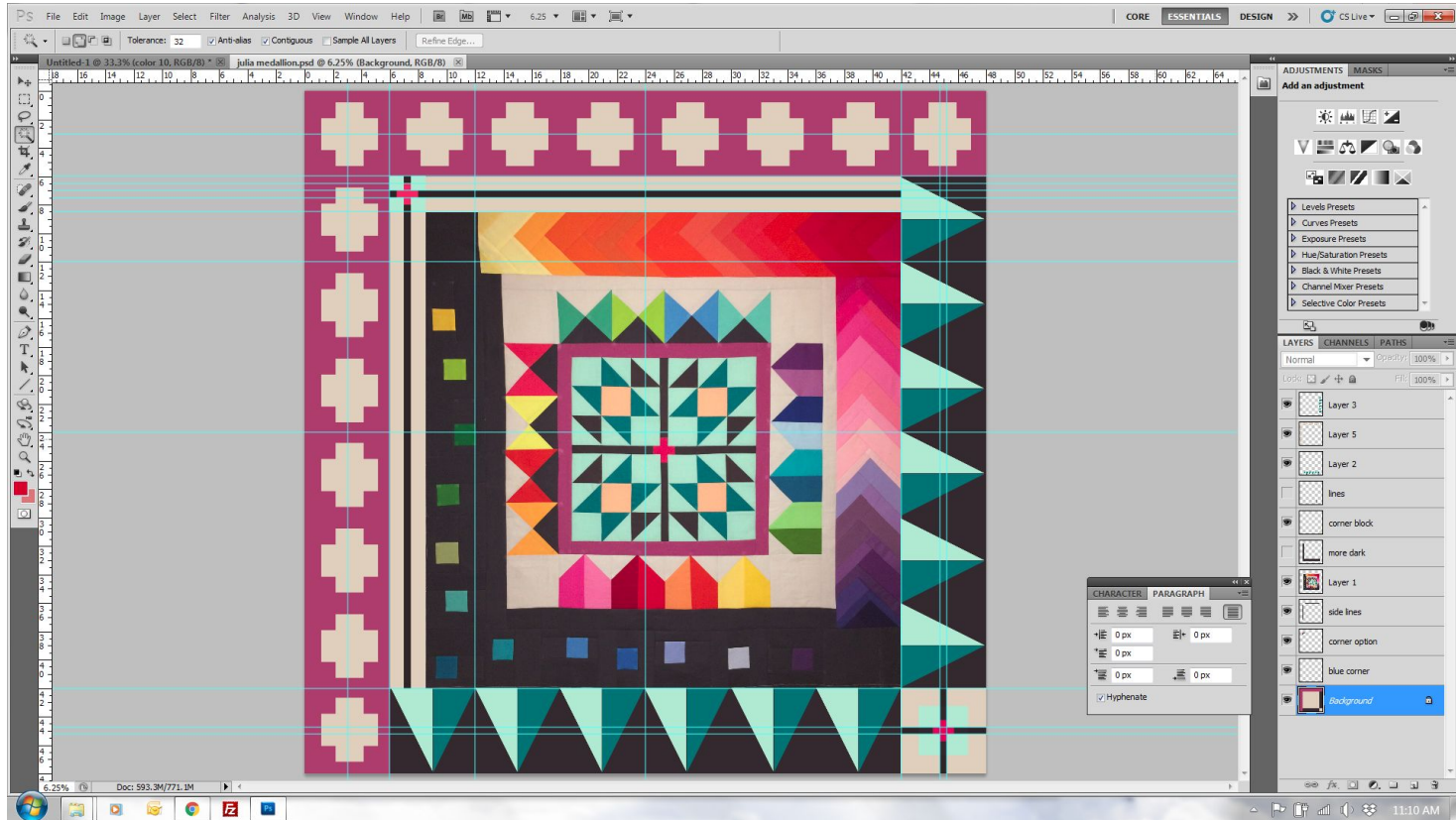
Summary

Photoshop is made mainly as a photo editor and can best be used to change the color, contrast, and appearance of an already existing photo/image. You can also draw simple line drawings and fill with solid colors.

-Quick visual representation of simple repetitive blocks when the math is already done.



-Additions to a quilt that already partially exists;
adding drawings to a photograph.





Photoshop drawing





ADJUSTMENTS MASKS

Add an adjustment

- Levels Presets
- Curves Presets
- Exposure Presets
- Hue/Saturation Presets
- Black & White Presets
- Channel Mixer Presets
- Selective Color Presets

LAYERS CHANNELS PATHS

Normal Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Layer 3
- quadrants
- Background

CHARACTER PARAGRAPH

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

+ 0 px - 0 px

Hyphenate



Photoshop drawing



Illustrator

Summary

Illustrator is a great option for quick visual representations of blocks

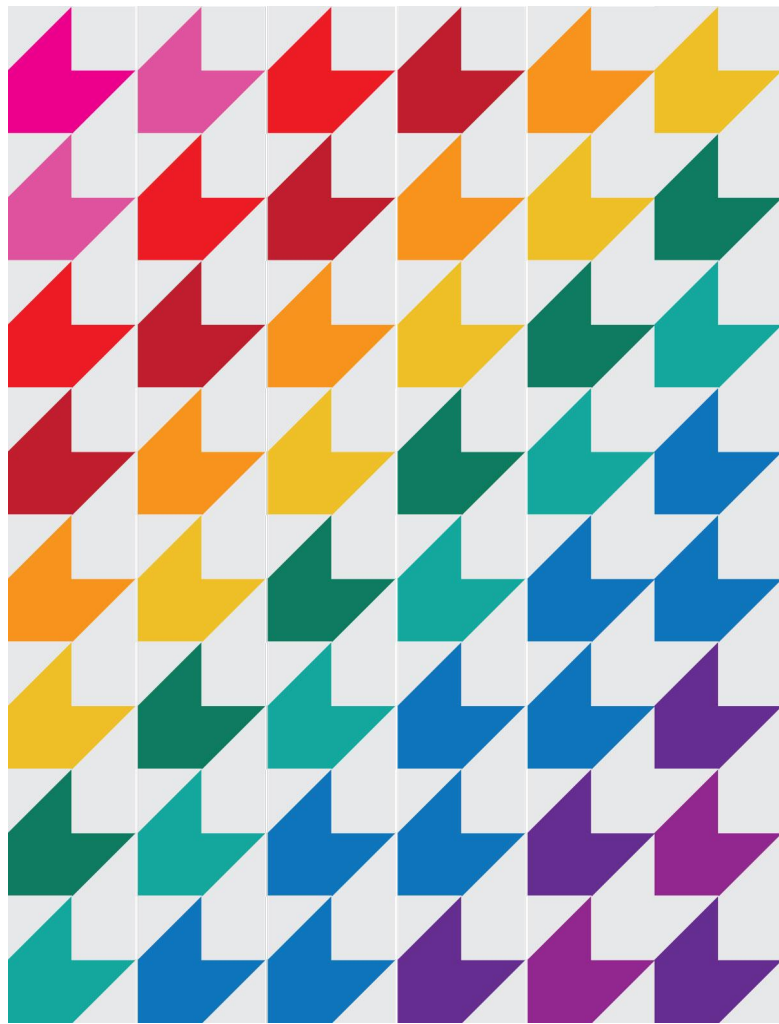
Illustrator does take out some of the math, but you will still need to figure out seam allowances

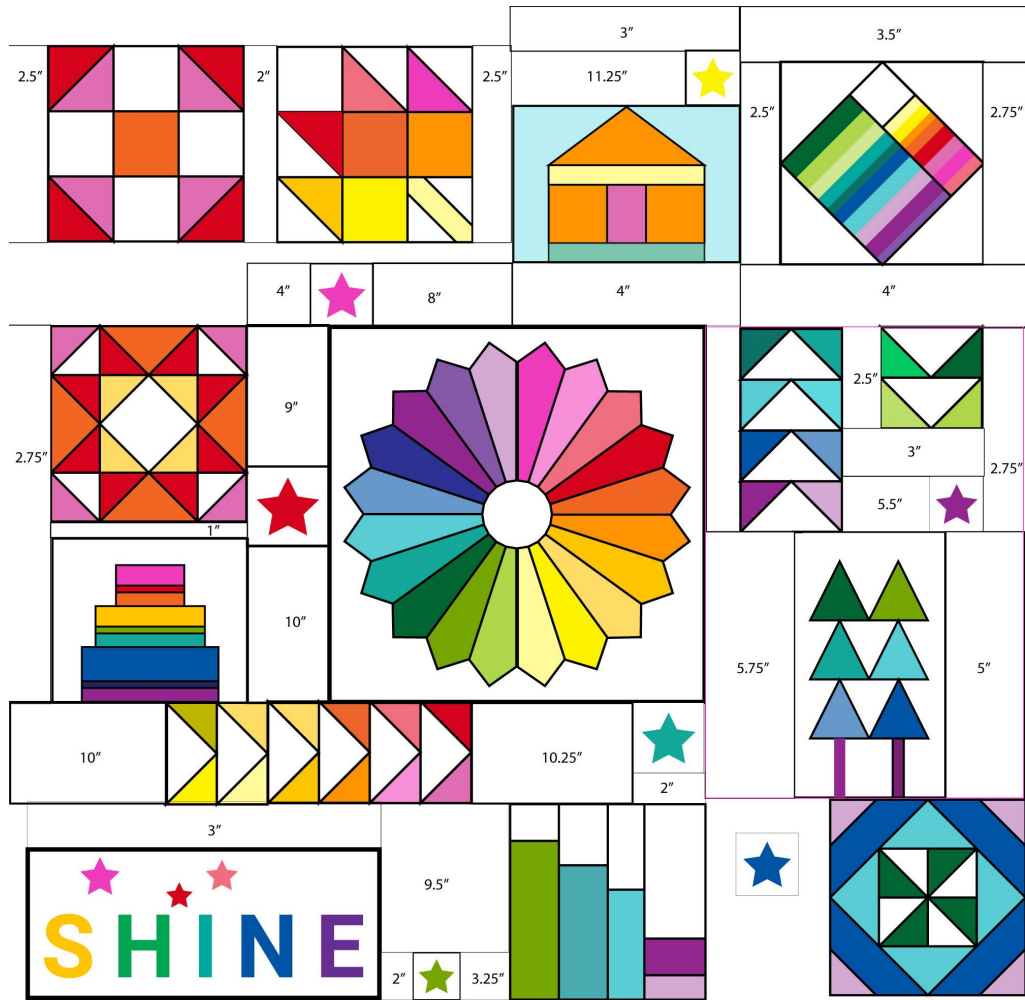
- It is great for figuring out how many blocks you will need to fill a quilt. You can easily change the sizes to get the finished quilt design

A great option for “playing” with designs. The shape tool allows you to easily create shapes, resize, recolor, and move items around. Curves are also easy to make and manipulate









What is your preferred method for quilt design?