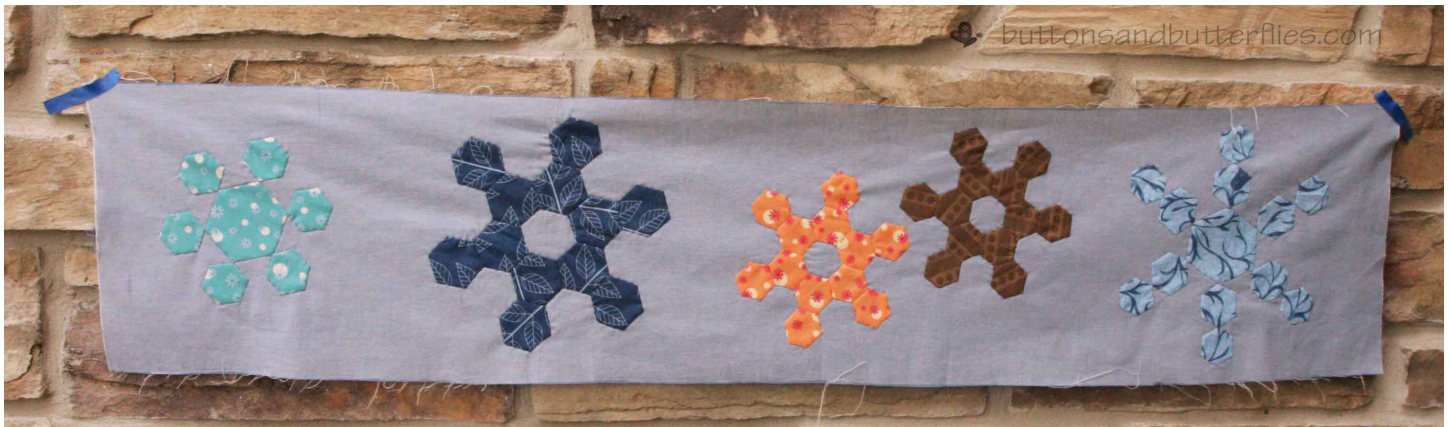




10" x 48" (unfinished 10 1/2" x 48 1/2")

Snowflake Hexagons



English Paper Piecing (EPP) is not only a classic, but recently become very popular in the Modern quilt circles too. The best thing about EPP is that it is a great way to keep your hands busy when you can't be in front of your sewing machine. There are many EPP basting methods, so please know that this method might be different than others you have seen before.

This row is unique in this Round Robin in that it is not made up of blocks, but cut from a solid piece of fabric. Each applied snowflake is made up of different sizes of hexagons to make different shapes...because every snowflake should be unique, right? This row is also a great scrap buster if you already have some funny shaped pieces from previous rows/blocks for the round robin.

Supplies needed:

- 10 1/2" x 48 1/2" piece of background fabric-5 different fabrics. No larger than 1/8 yd or fat quarter each.
- Card stock
- Printer
- Scissors/needle/thread

Steps:

Note: Please read through all the steps carefully before you begin!!

1. First print the four .pdfs that are attached using cardstock. One of the four you will print twice (marked on that particular .pdf) to make a total of five snowflakes.

- Snowflake #1
- Snowflake #2
- Snowflake #3&4 (print this page twice)
- Snowflake #5

2. Cut each hexagon from the .pdfs for each snowflake just inside the lines. I suggest you keep your snowflake hexagons in a plastic baggie with your intended fabrics to ensure you don't confuse each snowflake.



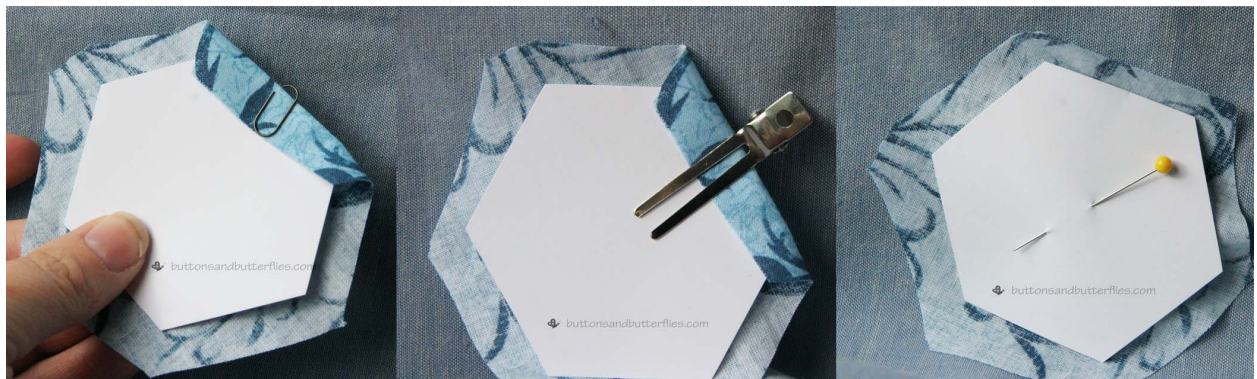
3. Choose your five snowflake fabrics. I have been inspired to use brighter colors than normal thanks to all of the other great Winter Wonderland rows I have seen on Flickr. I am taking my inspiration from a family photo I have hanging in my home. (*note this layout is not the final layout...I changed my mind during the process)



4. Cut each piece of fabric for your hexagons with roughly 1/4"-3/8" seam allowances around all six sides. Not necessary to be exact, but avoid a seam allowances less than 1/4". It can make things trickier.



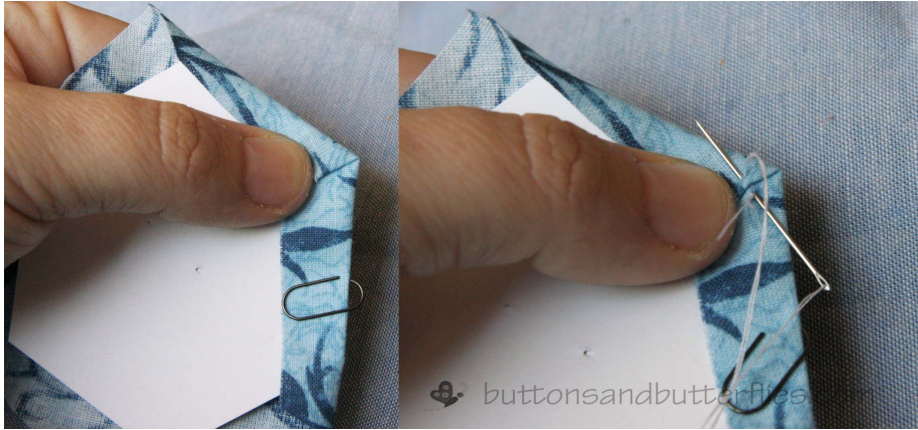
5. Secure one side of the hexagon to the cardstock template.



You can use just about anything! Paperclips. Hair clips from your curler set. Clover binding clips. Or pin in the center. My favorite is a tiny paper clip set that I found in the scrapbook aisle.

The paperclip/pin is just to hold it in place. The important thing to know is that as you work your way around the hexagon, you will keep pressure on the flap to get a nice edge. This is why the cardstock is important because it is stiff and will not crumble or bend while basting.

6. Baste the fabric around your hexagons.



Start at the first corner and secure it with a quick stitch.



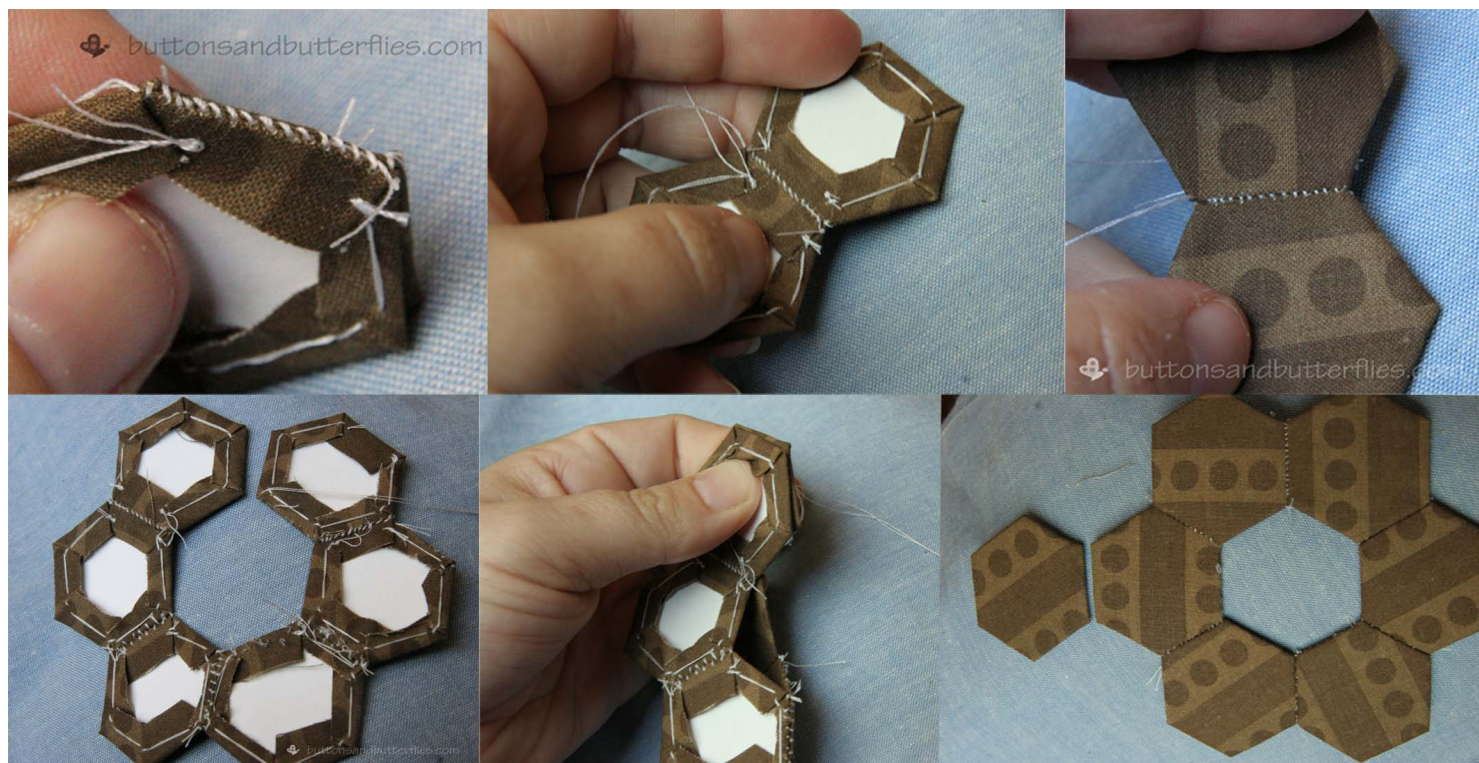
Travel your thread to the next corner and do another quick stitch. It is okay for the thread to show because it will be all hidden on the back. Travel all the corners until you reach the last with the clip on it.

9. At the last fold, undo the clip and fold the last corner under and make a stitch and knot it.

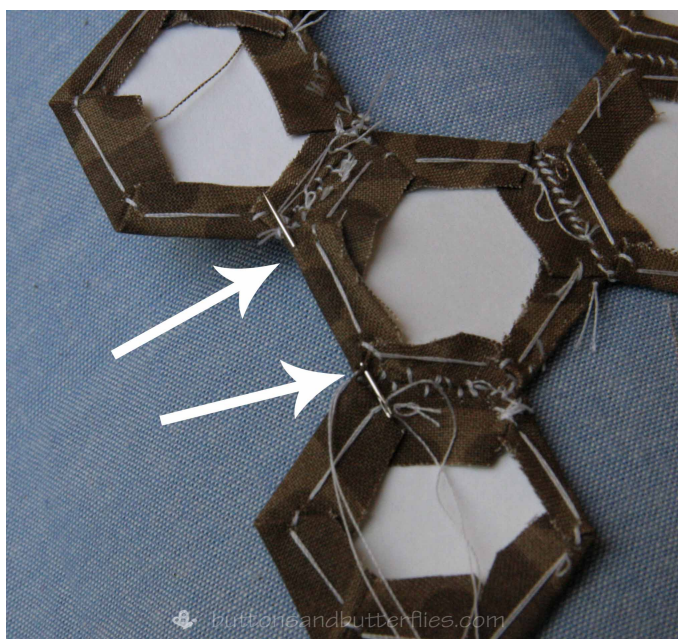


Complete all of your hexagons for all five snowflakes.

10. Stitch each hexagon to each other using a whipstitch to create the snowflake design that I have provided on the .pdf.

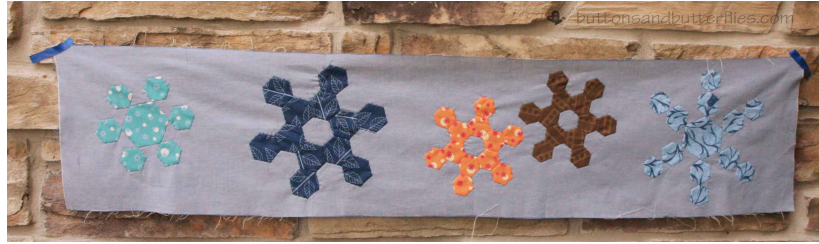


I used white thread so you could see it, but I suggest you use a thread color that complements your fabric. Even the tightest stitches can sometimes show through when you pull the hexagons apart, as you can see above in the top right photo.



I also recommend traveling under the various seam allowances “flaps” if you have to go from one to another instead of tying off on one hexagon and then re-knotting and moving to another.

11. Layout your snowflakes. Keep the shapes of the different snowflakes and your fabric color choices in mind. Use this photo as a guide for placement.



12. Pop out the paper piece templates by slipping the end of your snips under one of the basted sides and wiggle it out.



If your seam allowances are larger than $\frac{3}{8}$ ", this could be a potential problem. One possible way to avoid it is to punch holes in the center of your hexagons when you cut them out initially.

13. Pin your snowflakes hexagons to the background.

14. Stitch your snowflakes to the background with needle-turn, or blanket-stitch by hand, or use a machine blanket stitch setting on your domestic sewing machine.



It is definitely a personal choice and I am always game to do any style, but for this project, I preferred needle-turn.

Your row is all set for the first four rows!

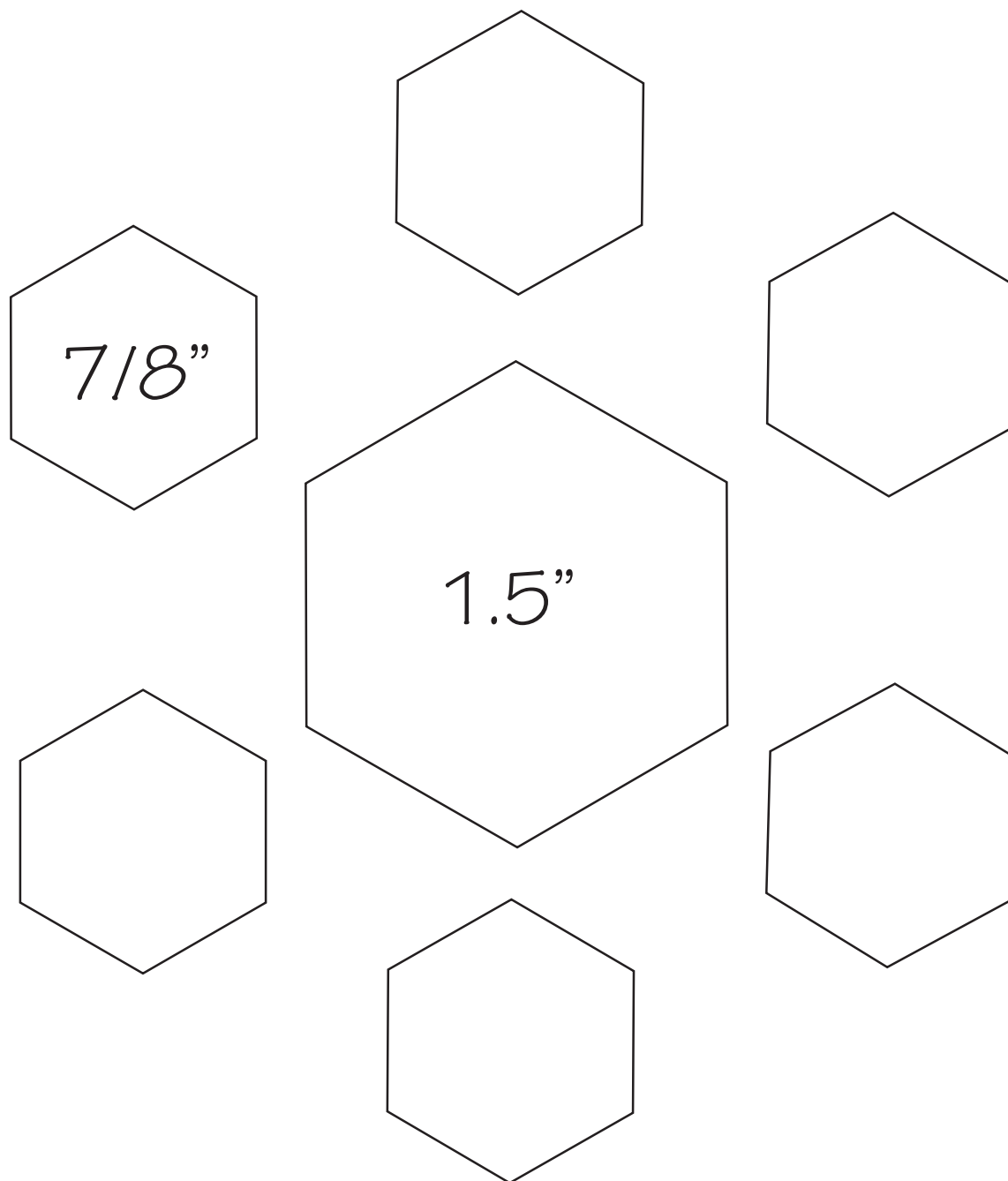
I hope you enjoyed this process. You can find another detailed tutorial on English Paper Piecing with a hoop project at my blog at www.buttonsandbutterflies.com . I also have other block and quilt project tutorials, including my Spiders and Webs quilt at the Moda Bake Shop. In the very near future, I will have my longarm quilting services website open and available to everyone and will post links on my blog! Right now, I have a few friends that are my guinea pigs helping work out the business ends of things!

If you have any questions or just want to chat? I am at boysbuttonsandbutterflies@gmail.com .

Make sure you continue to scroll down to access the four snowflake patterns . *(Print to scale. Hexagons are marked with sizes, so be sure to verify after you print that the size is correct. Hexagons are measured by the length of each sides, not the entire width or length)*

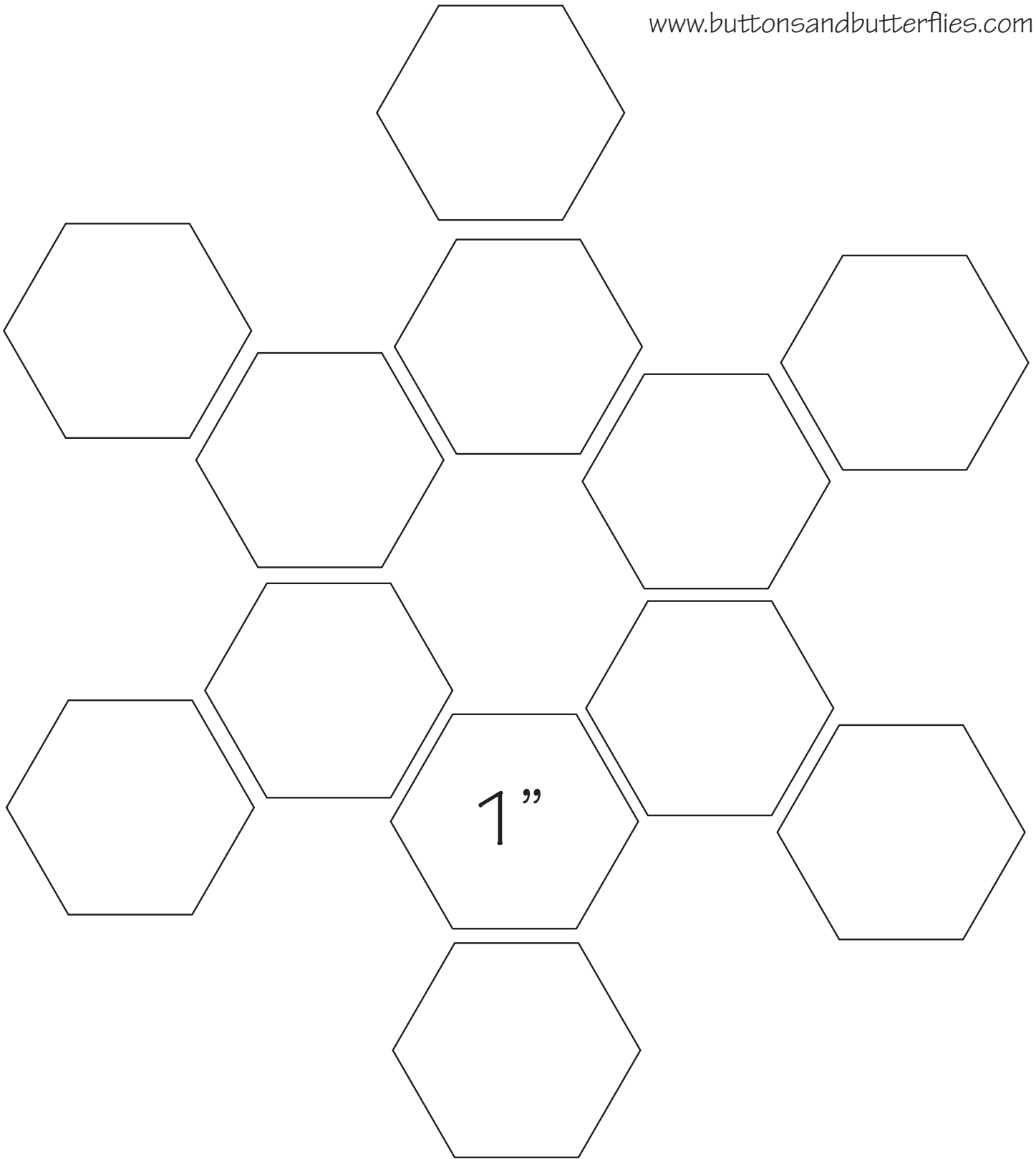
Have fun!





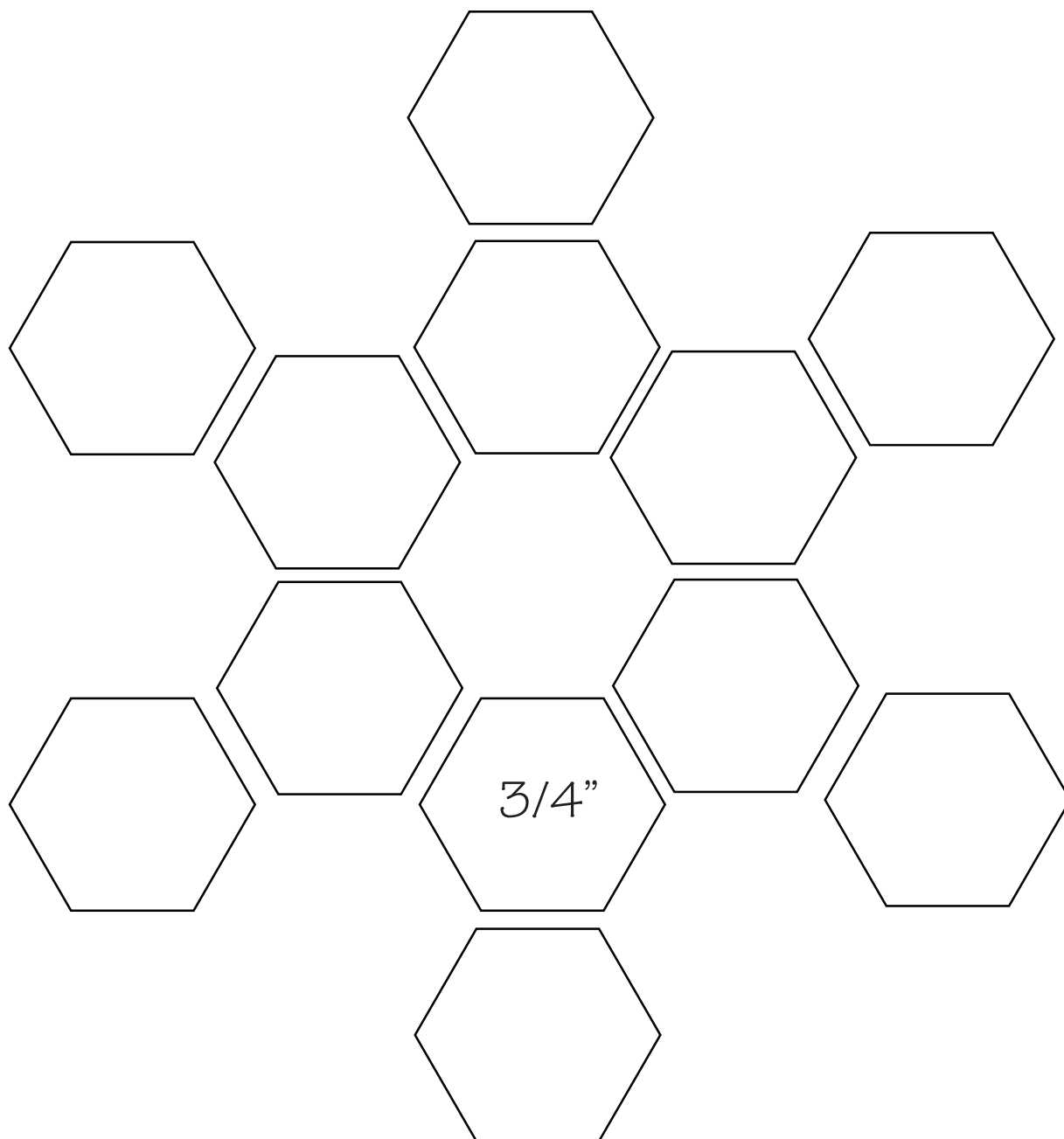
Winter Wonderland Round Robin

Snowflake #1



Winter Wonderland Round Robin

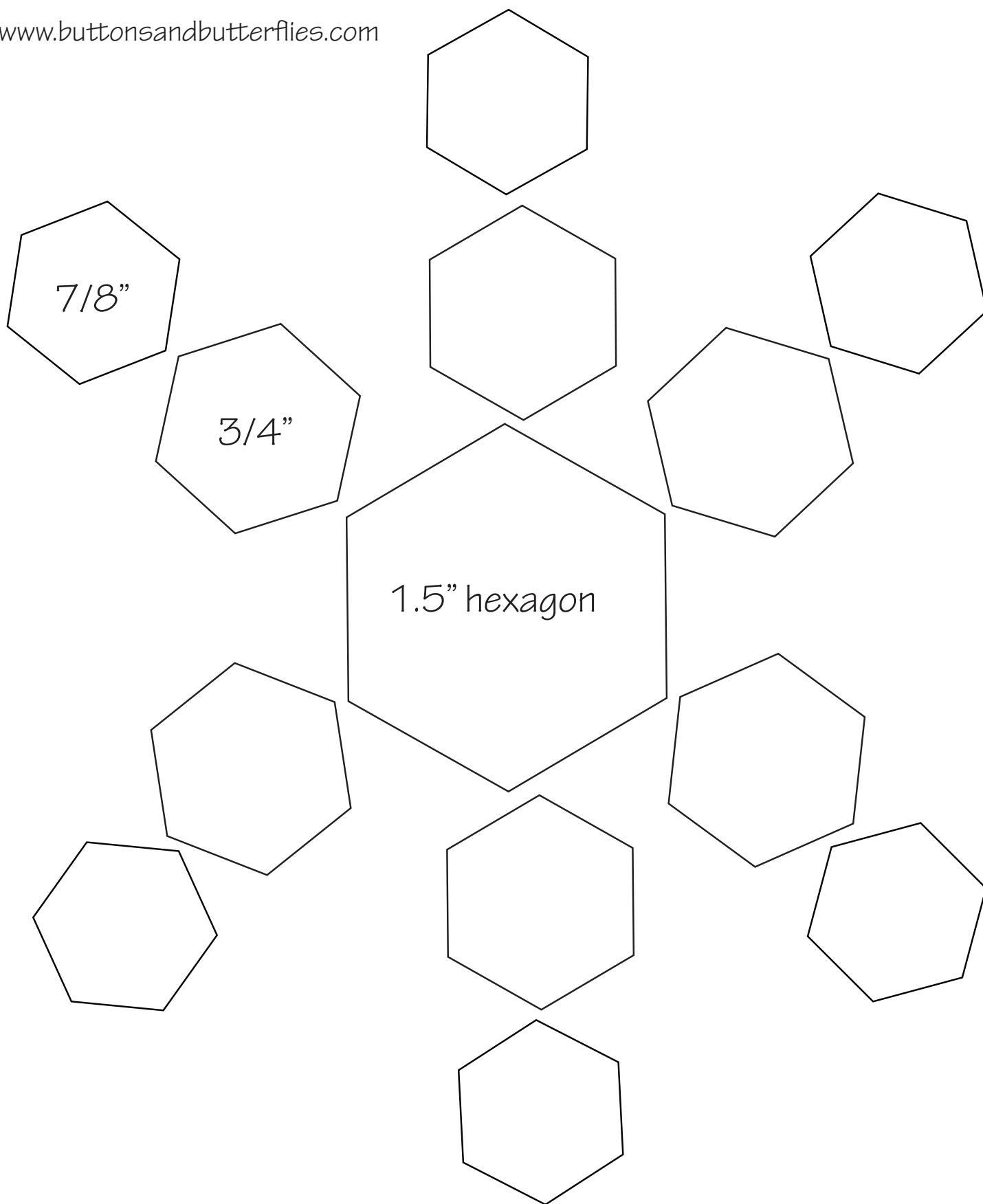
Snowflake #2



Winter Wonderland Round Robin

Snowflakes # 3 and #4 (print two copies)

www.buttonsandbutterflies.com



Winter Wonderland Round Robin

Snowflake # 5