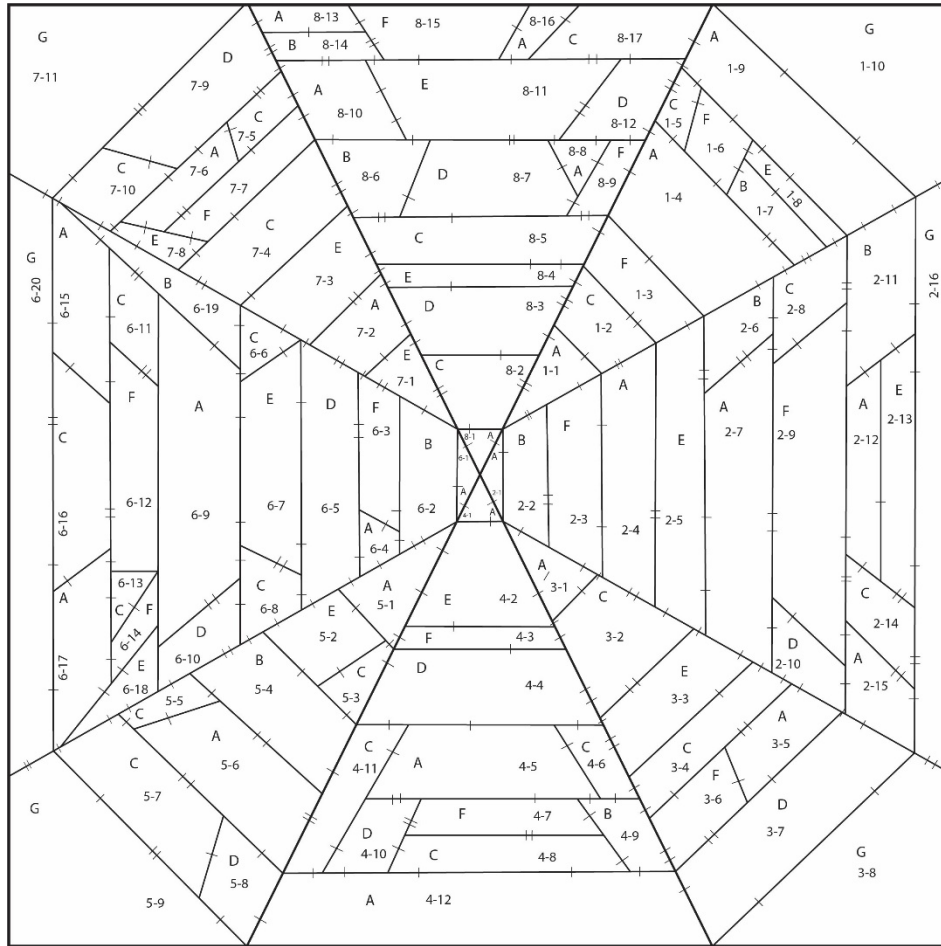


# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



Our *Diamonds & Drama Queens* pattern for June is inspired by the **Portuguese Diamond**, a spectacular 127-carat, octagonal-cut diamond owned by former Ziegfeld Follies girl and collector of husbands, Peggy Hopkins Joyce. Some claimed that Peggy's married lover, Walter Chrysler (the car guy), presented the gem to her during their affair.

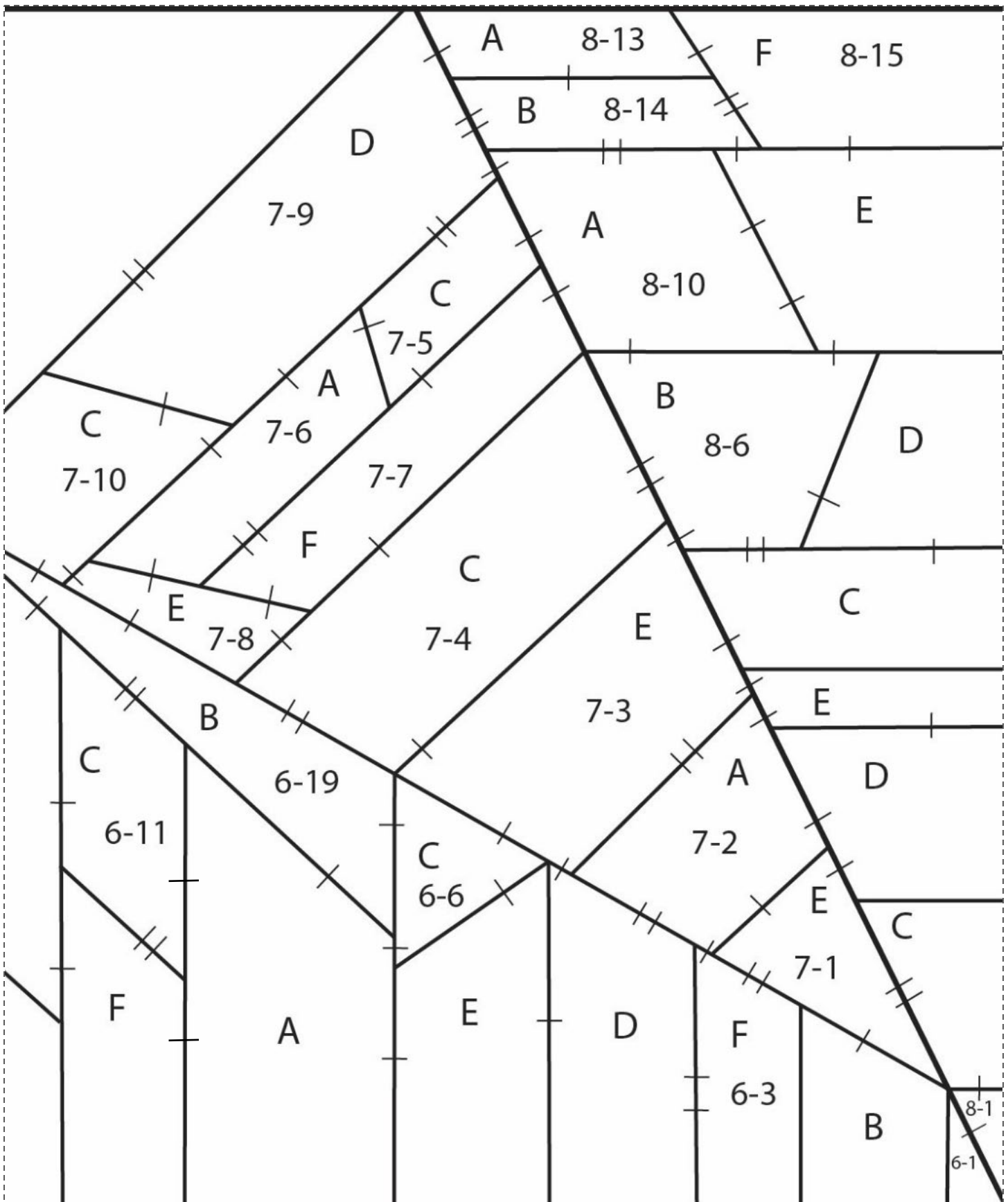
When Peggy sold the gem to Harry Winston in 1951, he concocted a story that suggested its mysterious haze was indicative of the finest Brazilian diamonds. He reasoned that since all the important colonial Brazilian diamonds had become the property of the Portuguese Crown, it was likely that this diamond was a former crown jewel.



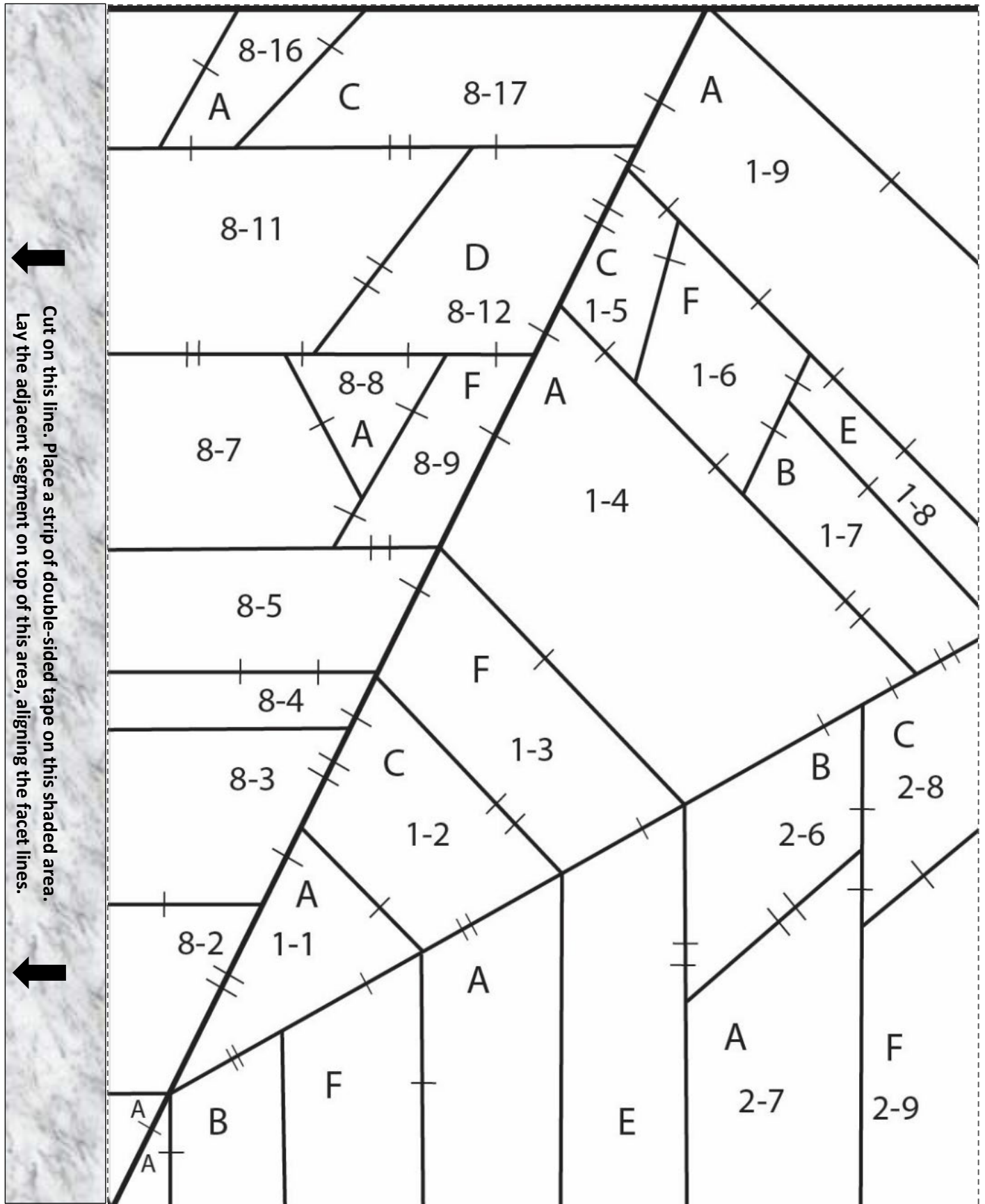
None of the stories above are true. In reality, the diamond was discovered in South Africa about 1910 and was acquired by the venerable jewelry house Black, Starr & Frost. Peggy bought the diamond for herself by exchanging it for a \$350,000 string of pearls and \$23,000 in cash – a total of about \$5.7 million in today's dollars.

The pattern above showcases the octagonal shape and step cuts radiating outward from the culet. To ensure lovely, straight facets, be sure to place the long edges parallel with the straight of grain. I admit this is a challenging pattern due to the small pieces, so I have some modifications for you to consider if you wish. They're in the instructions. Enjoy making June's gem!

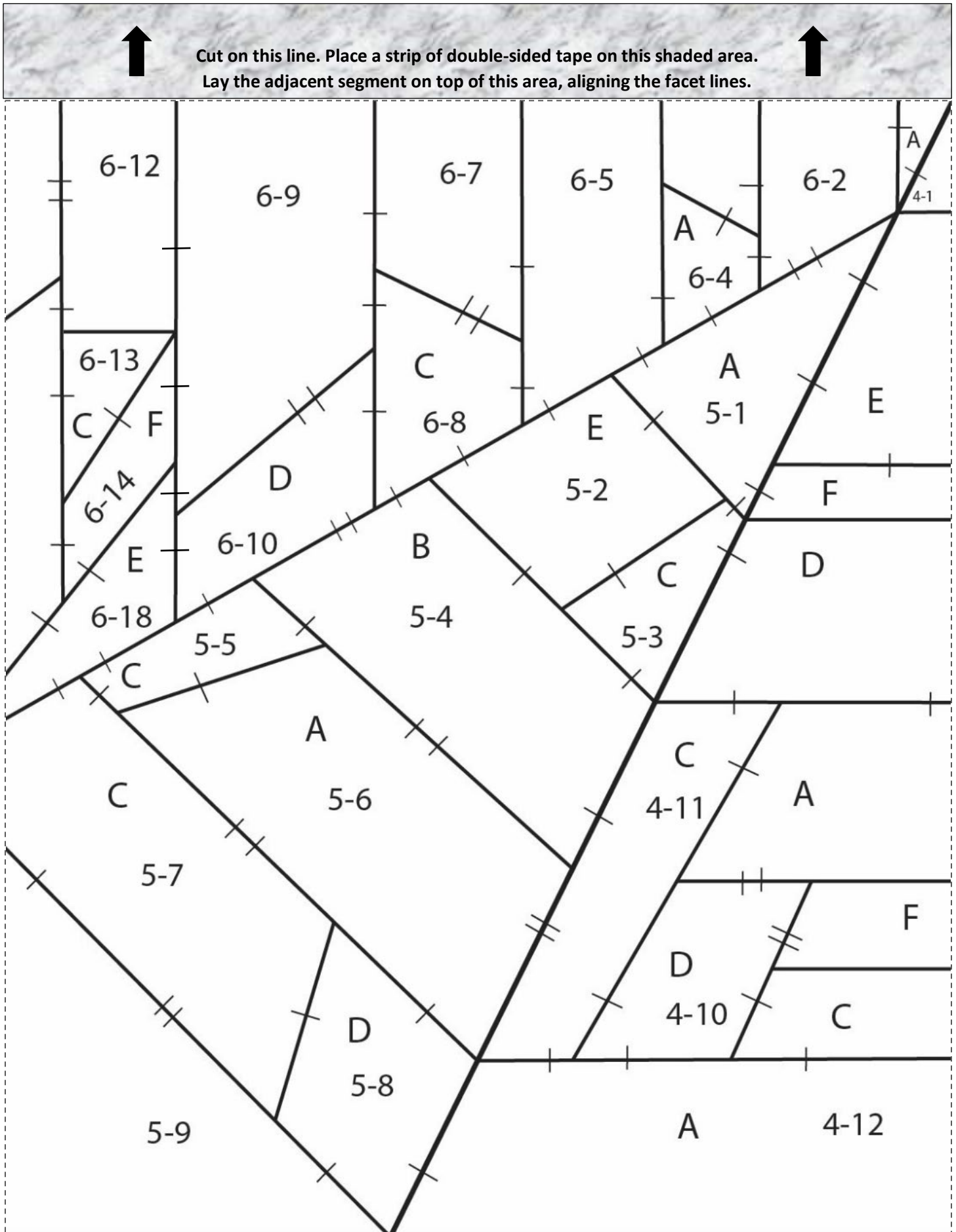
# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



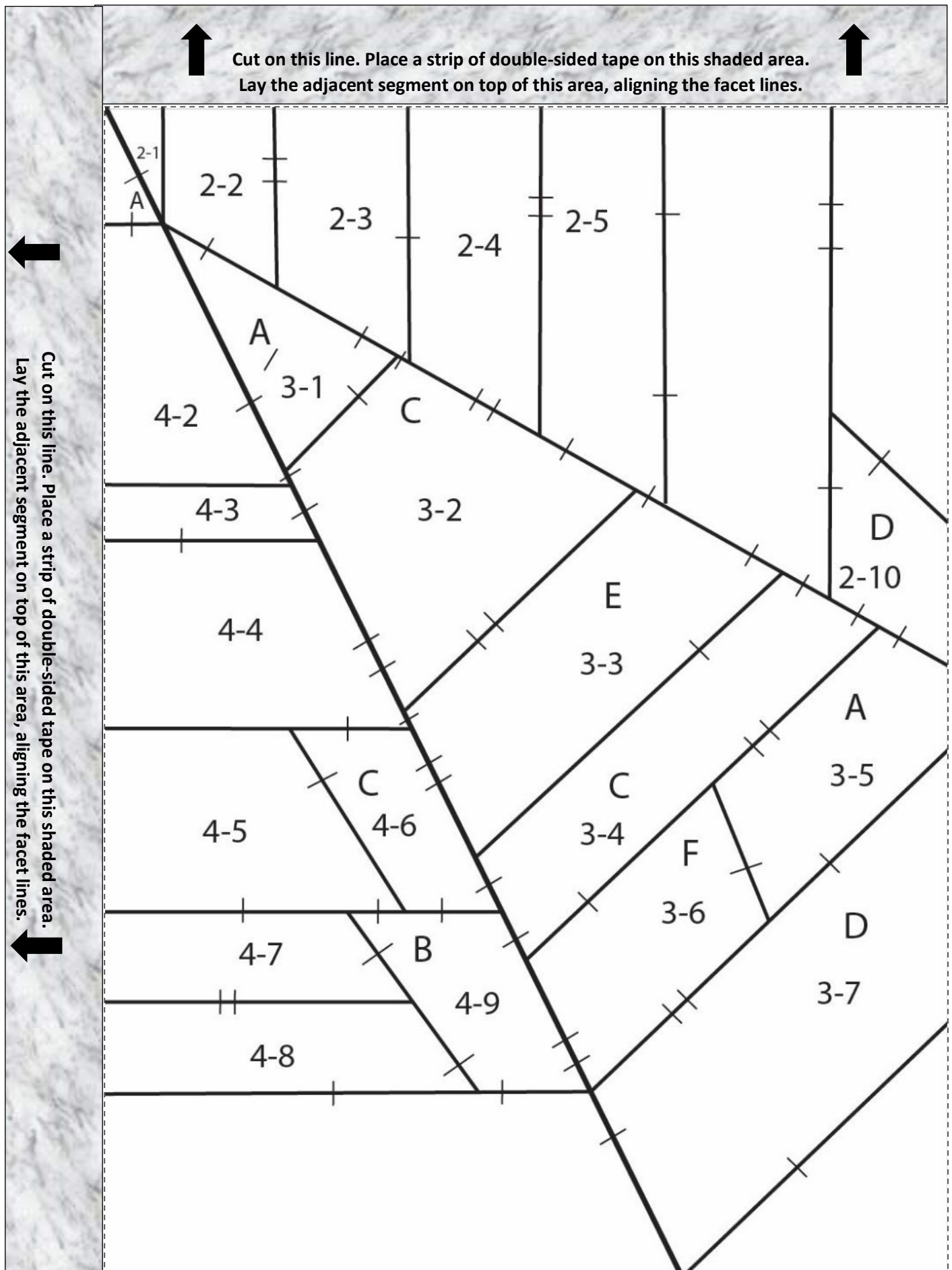
# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



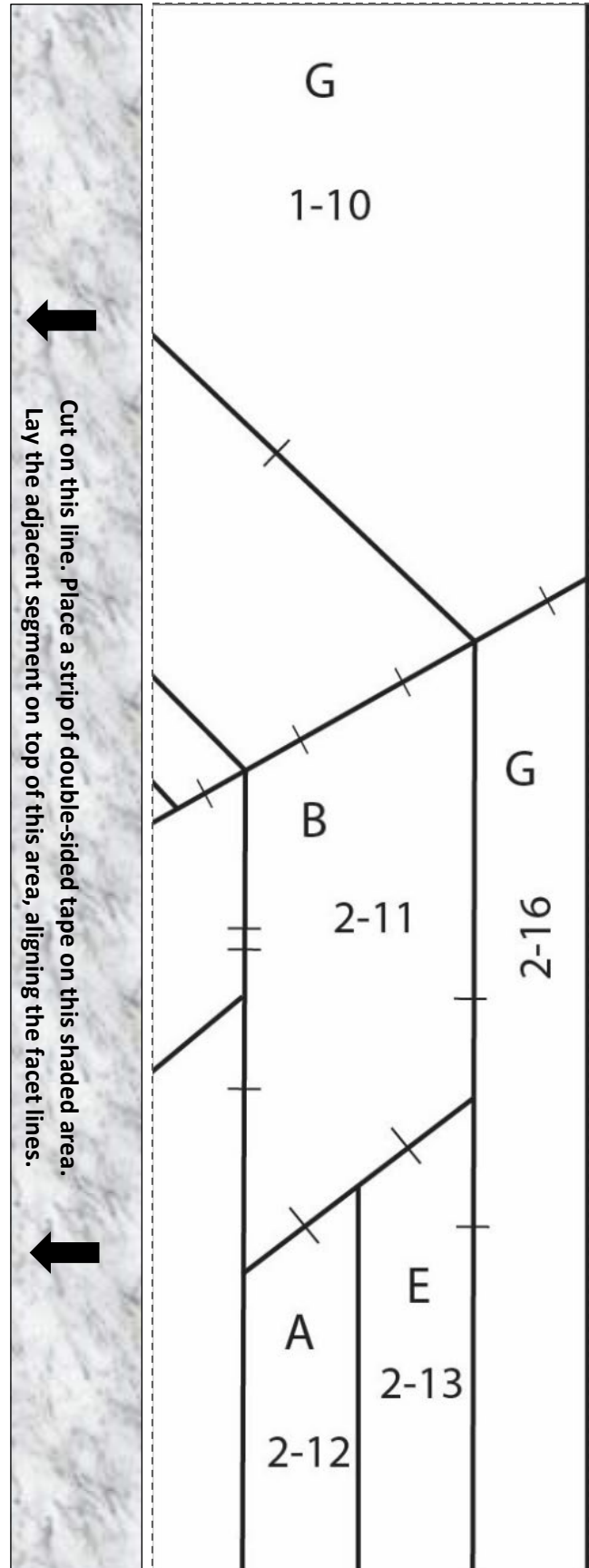
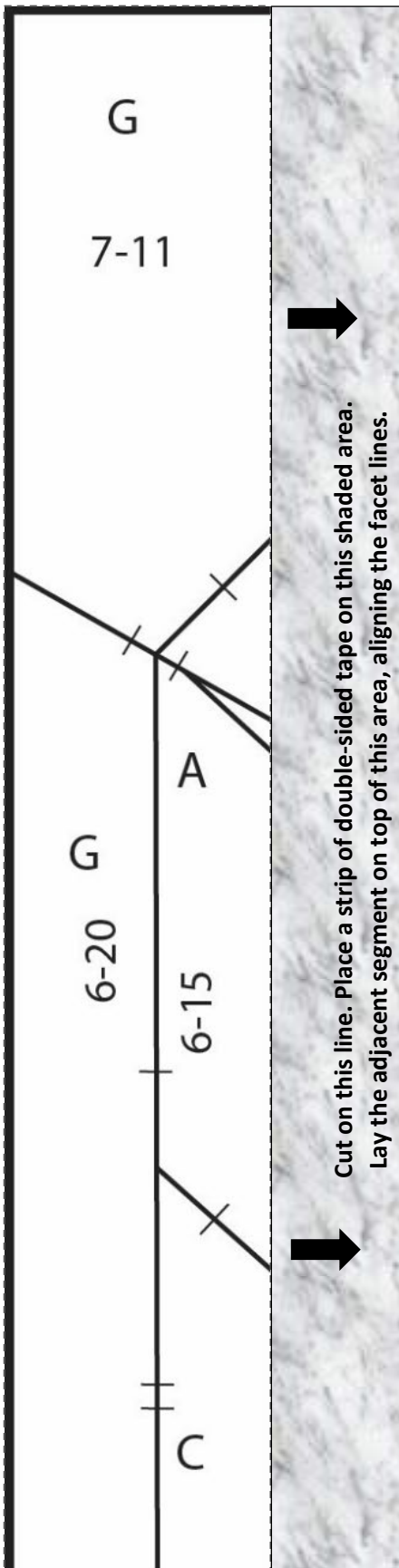
# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



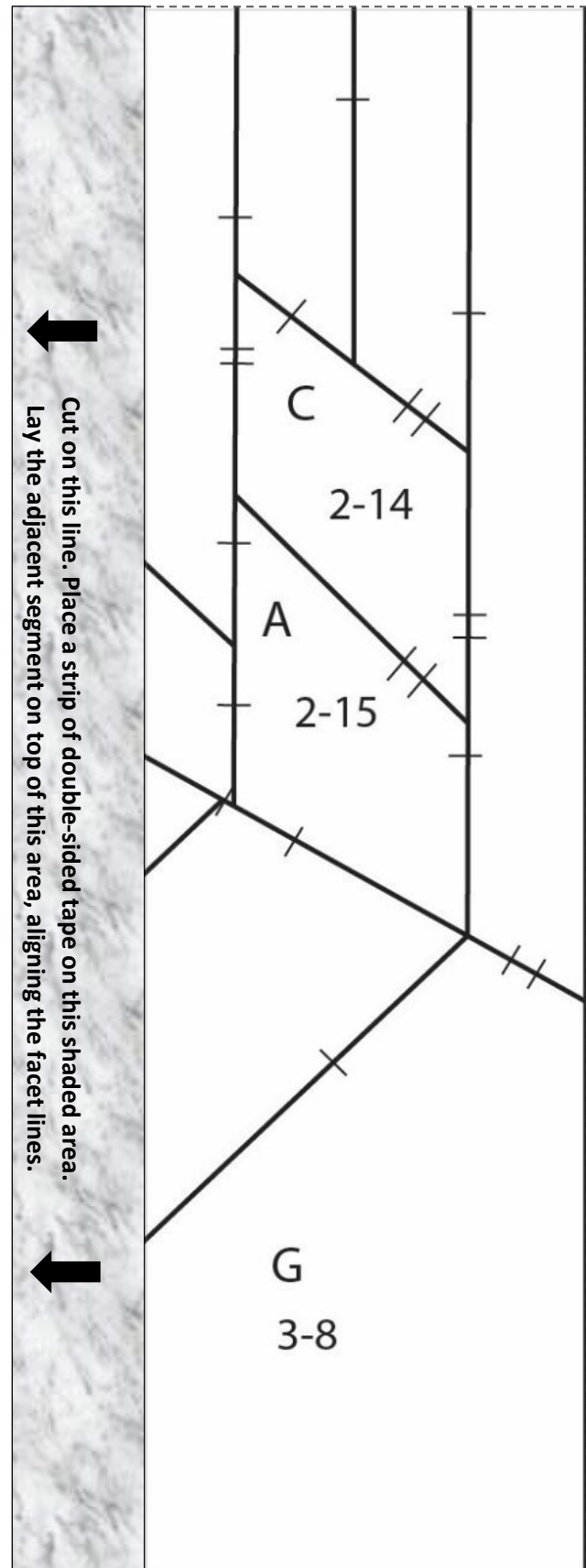
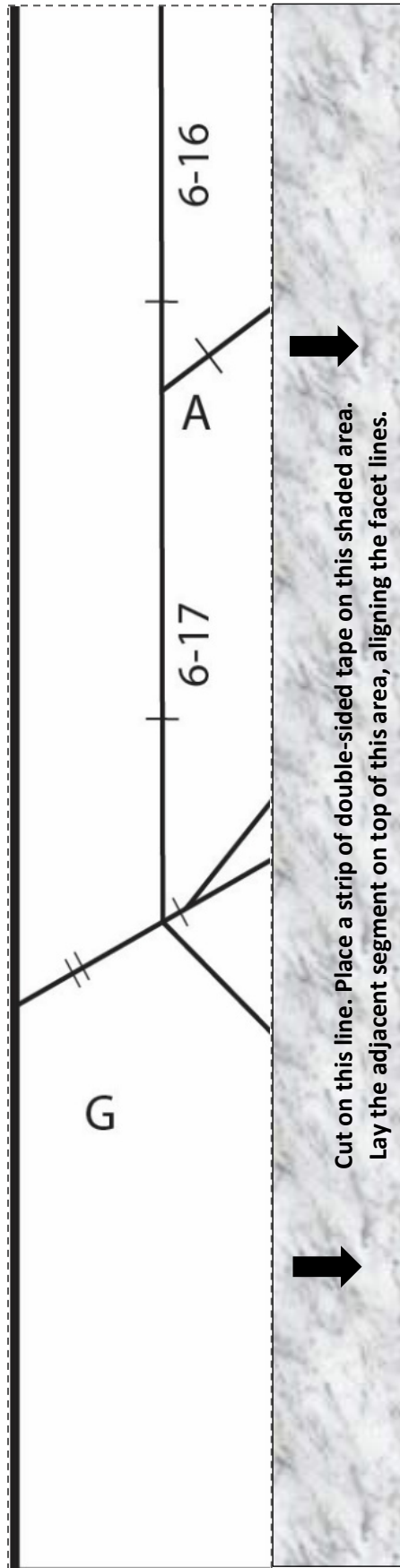
# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



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# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

## COLOR PLAY CHART

A - Lightest Light (or White)

E – Dark

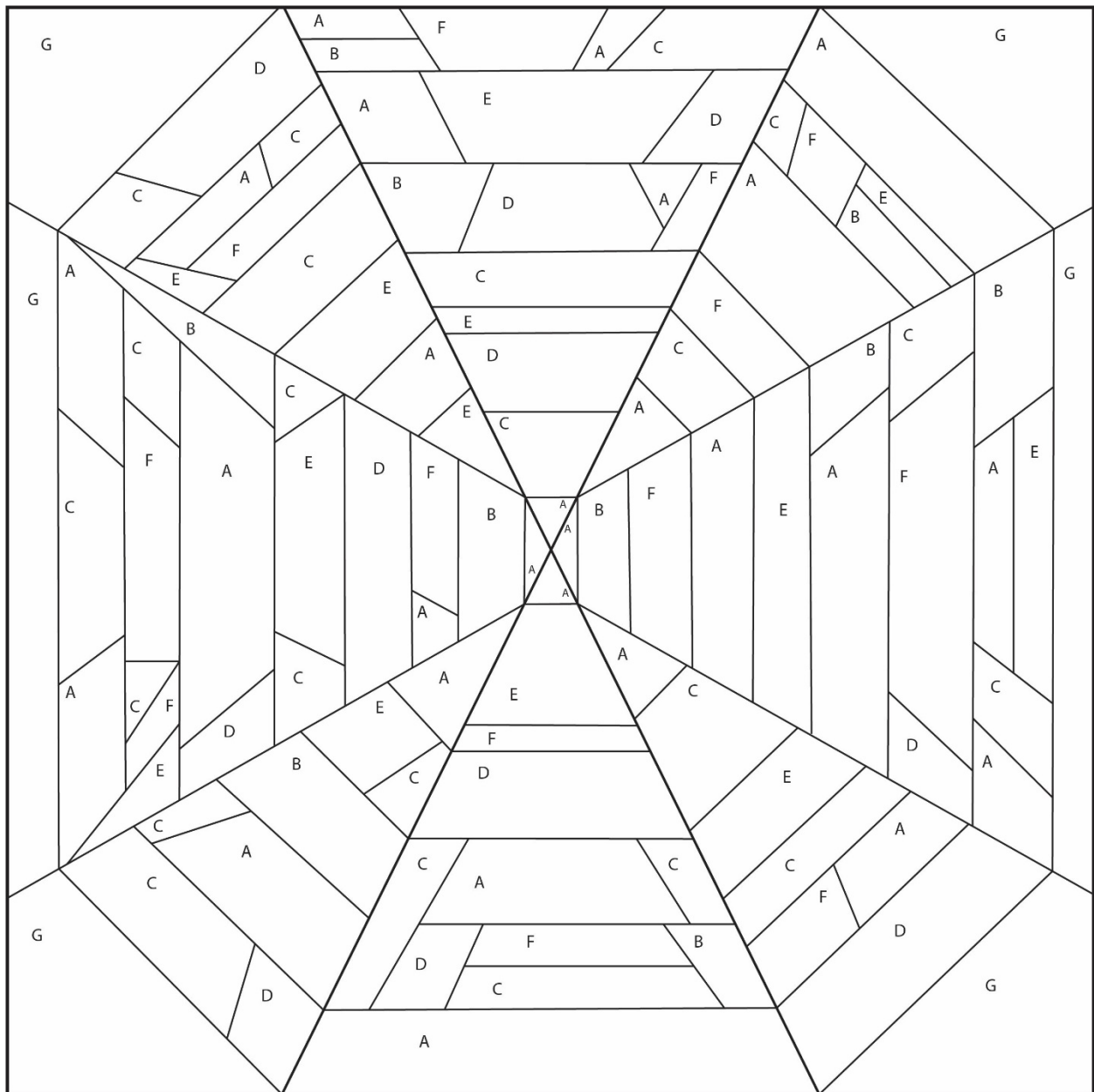
B – Light

F - Darkest Dark (or Black)

C –Medium-Light

G - Background

D – Medium-Dark



# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

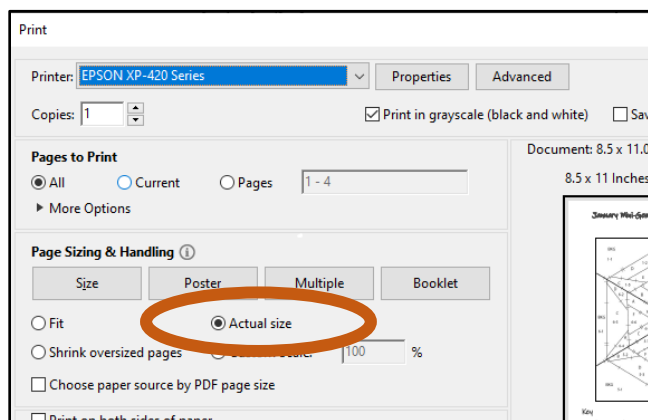
## SUPPLIES

- Freezer paper – You can purchase a roll of freezer paper from the grocery store (Reynold's Freeze Paper). Be sure that you're not purchasing wax paper or parchment paper. Neither of these products will work with this project. You can also purchase pre-cut sheets that are commercially available. One product is Quilter's Freezer Paper by C&T Publishing, available on Amazon.com.
- Double-sided tape (preferred for this pattern) or 1/4" Washi tape
- Highlighter pen
- Fabric marking chalk or pen
- 18" or 24" ruler with a 1/4" measurement
- Small ruler (12") with a 1/4" measurement
- 8 envelopes or plastic baggies to store your facets
- Domestic sewing machine and thread assortment (neutrals or colors that match your fabrics)
- Scissors and rotary cutting tools (cutters and mat) – We'll be cutting both paper and fabric, so if you prefer to use 2 rotary cutters (one with an old blade and one new one) that would be ideal.
- Iron and ironing pad (or board)
- Pins, clips, or fabric glue
- 7 Fabrics according to the colorway chart

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Preparation

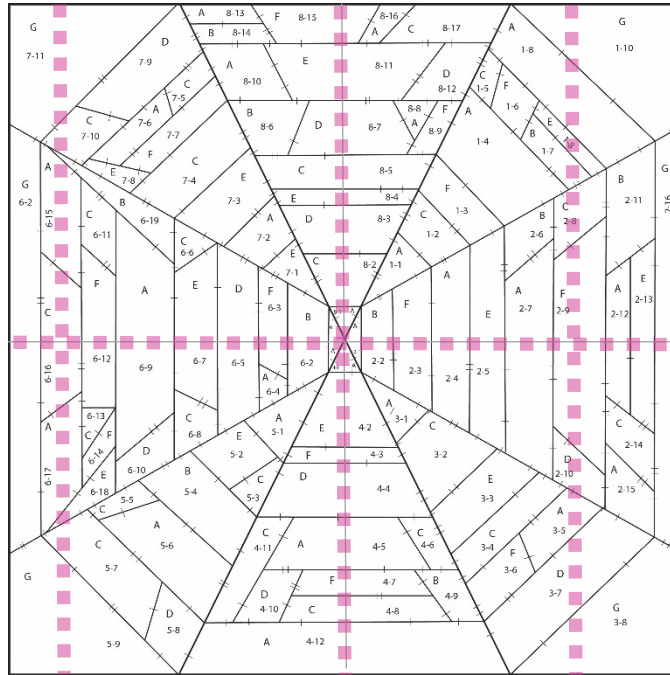
1. Print pages 2-7 of this document with the "Actual Size" print option selected onto a piece of 8.5" x 11" freezer paper. Printing "Actual Size" will ensure that your segments will print out so that your block will be exactly 18" square. This is the chart you will cut up.



2. Print pages 2-7 of this document onto regular paper using the "Actual Size" setting. This will be the copy you will pin or tape to your quilt room wall. It will be your KEY to help you put your block back together.

## PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

3. Assemble the freezer paper segments with double-sided tape or Washi tape, aligning the facet lines. Take one of your highlighter pens and mark the center vertical and horizontal line on which you assembled the segments. This will be your reminder to NOT cut apart facets on this line. If you do, you will be cutting apart facets that are meant to remain whole. Your taped-together freezer paper will look like this:



4. Identify 7 fabrics in a range of values to use in your block. On page 8, you'll find a pattern with just the color codes in place. You can use this to experiment with colorways. I've also provided a Colorway diagram featuring the pattern in five different colorways. I suggest you not use the same fabric for the background ("G") as you do for the "A" code. That's because several facets coded as "A" lie adjacent to the background ("G") fabric.
5. Attach a snippet of fabric next to each code of the corresponding value (i.e., light, medium, dark) OR label your fabric by writing the code on the selvedge edge or corner of the corresponding fabric.
6. Gather 8 business size envelopes or plastic baggies, because there are 8 sections to this pattern. You'll use 7 of them to store your facets by color code, but you'll need 8 to store the facets in each of the 8 sections.
7. In this pattern, we're going to eliminate the step in which you highlight the inside perimeter of the block and the section lines. Reason: you'll be placing the long straight edges of the facets – not the short edges that touch the edges of the sections -- on the straight of grain. One less step that you have to do!

# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

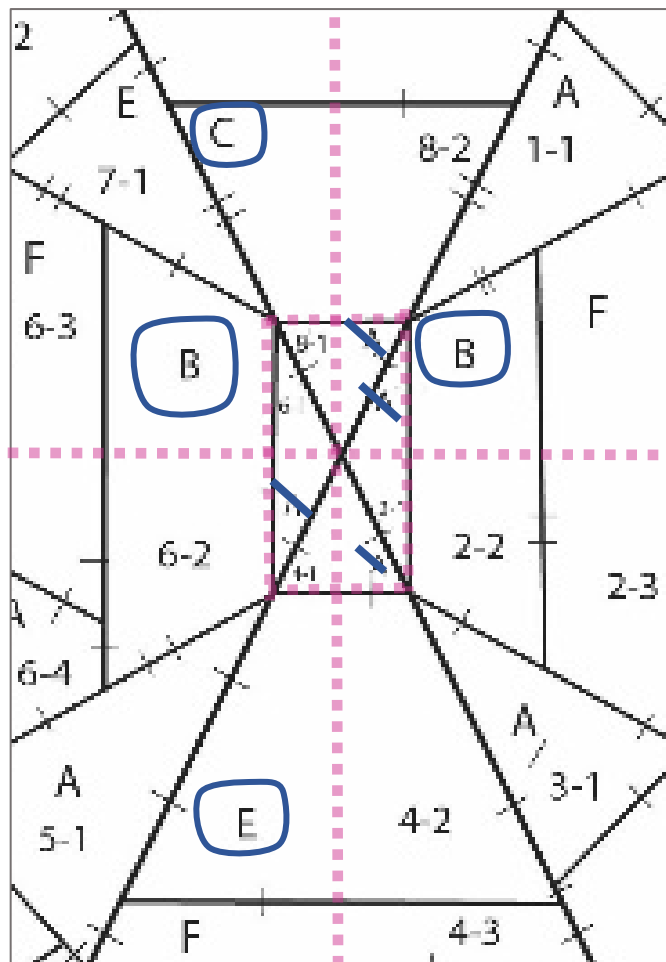
## Cutting Your Facets

**Modification:** I originally designed this pattern to include 4 tiny facets in the very center of the block that make up the culet. However, this makes for very, very tiny pieces that are difficult to handle – particularly in the smaller versions of this block. In addition to that, your double-sided tape or Washi tape are running right through them which can complicate handling.

If that sounds like a headache, here's a modification for you: combine the first facet of Sections 2, 4, 6 & 8 with their adjacent facets and cut them out as ONE piece. Use the second facet's color code for the new, larger piece. The tiny white culet will be transformed into a fabulous iron cross shape in the final pattern.

Here's what to do (and I show how to do this on the demo video, too):

- Using the highlighter, mark the facet line between 2-1 and 2-2, 4-1 and 4-2, 6-1 and 6-2, and 8-1 and 8-2. This is your visual clue NOT to cut on this line.
- Cross out the "A" color code on the first facet and circle the color code on the second facet.



## PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

8. With a ruler and rotary cutter, you reserve for cutting paper, cut apart the freezer paper template and sort facets into the envelopes or baggies by letter code.

**Note: If your ruler slips off the line a little bit, no problem! Just don't trim it up. Just be sure that you can still see any hashmarks on either side of the cut.**

9. Arrange facets on the RIGHT SIDE of the fabric that corresponds to their color code, allowing  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of space between each facet. Press with a hot iron, no steam.

If the freezer paper isn't adhering very well to the fabric, try heating the fabric first and then laying the freezer paper piece on top of it and press it down. (If you have lots of sizing or dye in your fabric, you may want to pre-wash your fabric. Extra chemicals sometimes prevent freezer paper from sticking to fabric.)

10. Once all your facets are ironed to the RIGHT SIDE of the fabric, relabel your envelopes or baggies with the numbers 1 through 8, corresponding to the 8 sections of the block.
11. Using a rotary cutter and small ruler, cut out each facet with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Take care to make these  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances as accurate and consistent as possible. Place the fabric facets in your envelopes or baggies by section number (i.e., 1 through 8).
12. Once all your facets are cut out and stored in their respective envelopes, remove the facets from the envelopes one by one and lay them out in numerical order to make sure that one hasn't accidentally wandered away. Remember: if you used the modification suggested above, facets #1 and #2 will be ONE piece.

### Piecing Your Gem

13. Arrange facets into their piecing order using the chart you put up on your quilt room wall as your guide.

**NOTE: I have created a "Piece Plan" that provides a step-by-step process to assemble the block. You'll find it at the end of this document.**

14. To piece your facets, place RIGHT SIDES together (freezer paper will be inside the fabric sandwich).
15. Peek inside the seam allowance and line up the hash marks on each side of the two pieces. Ensure that the corners of each facet line up together.

## PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

16. Pin carefully along the seam OR use a clip OR use a glue product to secure the 2 pieces together.
17. Identify the 1/4" seam guide on your machine's plate.
18. Position the pair of pinned facets under the presser foot so that the edge of your fabric sandwich is just a needle-width to the left of the 1/4" seam guide. This will prevent you from sewing into the freezer paper on the inside.
19. Stitch the seam line using a regular stitch length (i.e., 2.5). I backstitch at the beginning and the end only because it's been my habit to do so for 20 years. Some have said that's not a necessary step for them. Habits die hard!
20. Open the facets with both seams to one side. (Press to the darkest side OR the side that has the fewest intersecting seams.)
  - a. If there is a gap between the edges of your freezer paper, you can either re sew a little bit closer to the 1/4" seam guide OR you can pick up one of the templates and iron it next to the seam. Just be sure to trim the seam allowance down to 1/4".
  - b. If you have sewn into the freezer paper, give the two pieces a little tug to see if this frees the freezer paper. If you've really munched the freezer paper, consider ripping that section and re sewing. Gaps and tucks change the position of the hashmarks along the sides of the 2 facets, which makes it a bit confusing when trying to match it up to its adjoining unit. In the end, though, perfection is NOT a priority and, once you've removed all the paper from your gem, no one will know the difference!
21. Continue to stitch the facets together, retaining the freezer paper on the front of each piece.
22. If facets come loose, simply iron back on.

**TIP: If you want to remove the freezer paper after piecing major sections together, be sure to draw the hash marks onto the seam allowance before removing the freezer paper.**

23. The background pieces (all marked as the 18<sup>th</sup> piece) are the last to be sewn to the section. It's hard to piece curves with the freezer paper on the fabric, so you'll want to remove the freezer paper before easing the curved background piece to the curved edge of the gem.

## PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

However, before you do so, be sure to draw the hash marks onto the seam allowance **before removing the freezer paper**. Those hashmarks will be extremely helpful as you ease the two curves together.

24. Once the gem is complete, remove the remaining freezer paper pieces and store them in your envelopes or baggies by color code if you plan on using them again. You can typically get 2 uses out of regular freezer paper, but I know some people who can squeeze 3 and even 4 uses out of their freezer paper pieces!
25. If little bits of freezer paper are stuck in the seam line, use a pair of tweezers to remove. If they are stubborn, try using seam ripper to remove them by pushing the bit of paper from the front to the back side of the fabric. Use tweezers to pull from between the seams.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## PIECE PLAN FOR 'PEGGY'S SKATING RINK'

### Section 1

- Sew together 1-1, 1-2, 1-3 and 1-4 (to create Unit 1:4)
- Sew together 1-5 and 1-6 (to create Unit 5:6)
- Sew together 1-7 and 1-8 (to create Unit 7:8)
- Sew together Unit 5:6 and Unit 7:8 (to create Unit 5:8)
- Sew together 1-9 and 1-10 (to create Unit 9:10)
- Sew together Unit 1:4, Unit 5:8 and Unit 9:10  
(to complete Section 1)

### Section 2

- Sew together 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4 and 2-5 (to create Unit 1:5)
- Sew together 2-6 and 2-7 (to create Unit 6:7)
- Sew together 2-8, 2-9 and 2-10 (to create Unit 8:10)
- Sew together 2-12 and 2-13 (to create Unit 12:13)
- Sew together 2-11 and Unit 12:13 (to create Unit 11:13)
- Sew together 2-14 and 2-15 (to create Unit 14:15)
- Sew together Unit 11:13 and Unit 14:15 (to create Unit 11:15)
- Sew together 2-16 and Unit 11:15 (to create Unit 11:16)
- Sew together Unit 1:5, Unit 6:7, Unit 8:10, and Unit 11:16  
(to complete Section 2)

### Section 3

- Sew together 3-1, 3-2, 3-3 and 3-4 (to create Unit 1:4)
- Sew together 3-5 and 3-6 (to create Unit 5:6)
- Sew together 3-7 and 3-8 (to create Unit 7:8)
- Sew together Unit 1:4, Unit 5:6 and Unit 7:8  
(to complete Section 3)

## Section 4

- Sew together 4-1, 4-2, 4-3 and 4-4 (to create Unit 1:4)
- Sew together 4-5 and 4-6 (to create Unit 5:6)
- Sew together 4-7 and 4-8 (to create Unit 7:8)
- Sew together 4-9 to Unit 7:8 (to create Unit 7:9)
- Sew together Unit 7:9 and 4-10 (to create Unit 7:10)
- Sew together Unit 5:6 and Unit 7:10 (to create Unit 5:10)
- Sew together Unit 5:10 and 4-11 (to create Unit 5:11)
- Sew together Unit 1:4, Unit 5:11, and 4-12 (to complete Section 4)

## Section 5

- Sew together 5-2 and 5-3 (to create Unit 2:3)
- Sew together 5-1 and Unit 2:3 (to create Unit 1:3)
- Sew together 5-4 and Unit 1:3 (to create Unit 1:4)
- Sew together 5-5 and 5-6 (to create Unit 5:6)
- Sew together 5-7 and 5-8 (to create Unit 7:8)
- Sew together Unit 1:4, Unit 5:6, Unit 7:8 and 5-9 (to complete Section 5)

## Section 6

- Sew together 6-1 and 6-2 (to create Unit 1:2)
- Sew together 6-3 and 6-4 (to create Unit 3:4)
- Sew together Unit 1:2, Unit 3:5 and 6-5 (to create Unit 1:5)
- Sew together 6-6, 6-7 and 6-8 (to create Unit 6:8)
- Sew together 6-9 and 6-10 (to create Unit 9:10)
- Sew together 6-11, 6-12, 6-13 and 6-14 (to create Unit 11:14)
- Sew together 6-15, 6-16 and 6-17 (to create Unit 15:17)
- Sew together Unit 11:14 and Unit 15:17 (to create Unit 11:17)
- Sew together 6-18 and Unit 11:17 (to create Unit 11:18)
- Sew together Unit 9:10 and Unit 11:18 (to create Unit 9:18)

## PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)

- Sew together 6-19 and Unit 9:18 (to create Unit 9:19)
- Sew together Unit 1:5, Unit 6:8, Unit 9:19 and 6-20 (to complete Section 6)

### Section 7

- Sew together 7-1, 7-2, 7-3 and 7-4 (to create Unit 1:4)
- Sew together 7-5 and 7-6 (to create Unit 5:6)
- Sew together 7-7 and Unit 5:7 (to create Unit 5:7)
- Sew together Unit 5:7 and 7-8 (to create Unit 5:8)
- Sew together 7-9 and 7-10 (to create Unit 9:10)
- Sew together Unit 1:4, Unit 5:8, Unit 9:10 and 7-11 (to complete Section 7)

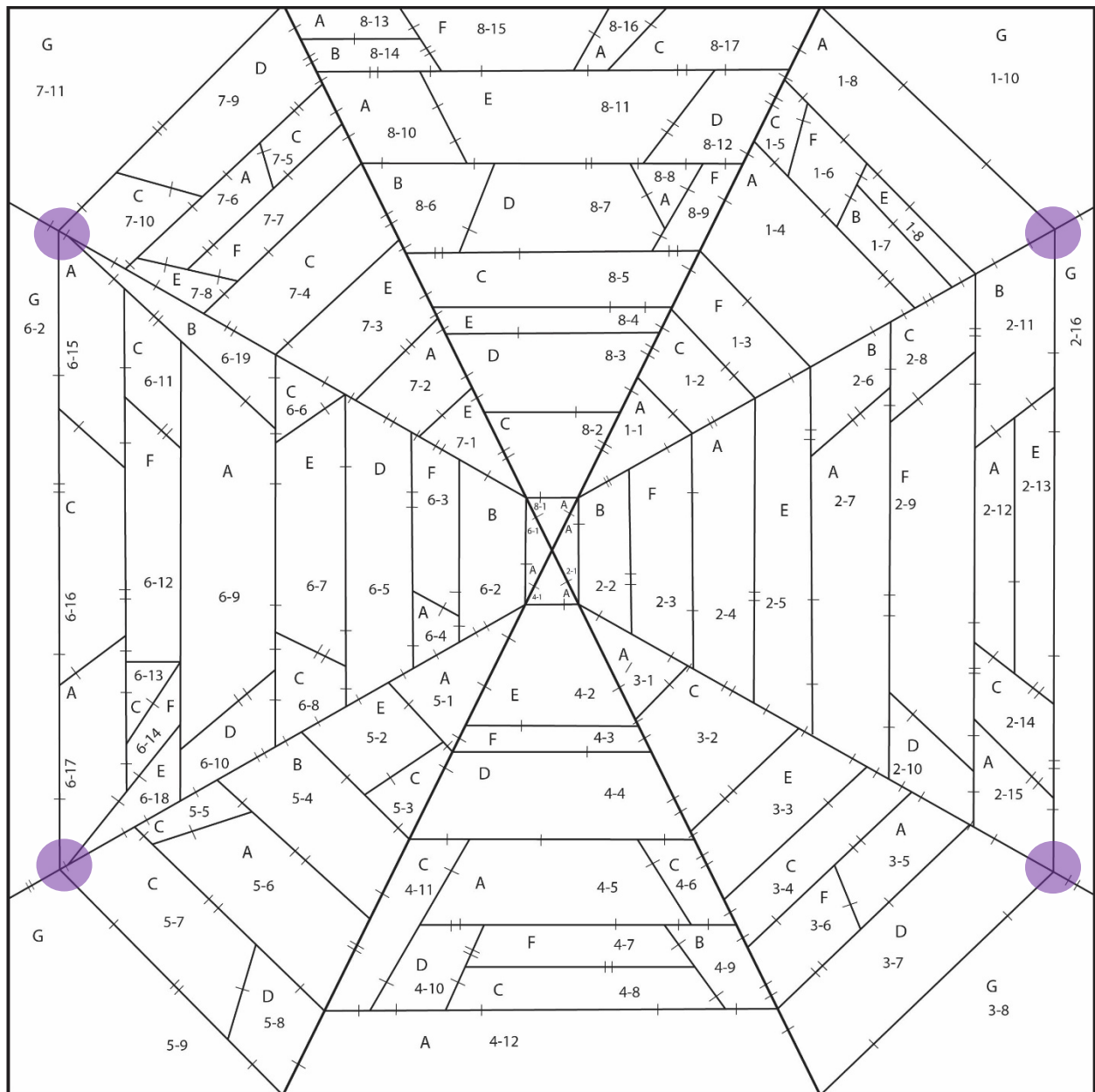
### Section 8

- Sew together 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5 (to create Unit 1:5)
- Sew together 8-6, 8-7 and 8-8 (to create Unit 6:8)
- Sew together Unit 6:8 and 8-9 (to create Unit 6:9)
- Sew together 8-10, 8-11 and 8-12 (to create Unit 10:12)
- Sew together 8-13 and 8-14 (to create Unit 13:14)
- Sew together 8-15, 8-16 and 8-17 (to create Unit 15:17)
- Sew together Unit 13:14 and Unit 15:17 (to create Unit 13:17)
- Sew together Unit 1:5, Unit 6:9, Unit 10:12 and Unit 13:17 (to complete Section 8)

### Putting Sections Together

- Sew together Sections 1, 2 and 3, taking care to match the edges of the gemstone at the highlighted points shown below.
- Sew together Section 4 to the combined Sections 1/2/3.
- Sew together Sections 5, 6 and 7, taking care to match the edges of the gemstone at the highlighted points shown below.
- Sew together Section 8 to the combined Sections 5/6/7.
- Sew the two halves together to complete your block.

# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)



# PEGGY'S SKATING RINK: DIAMOND & DRAMA QUEENS JUNE (18" PATTERN)