

Robin Ruth Design Strip-Pieced Mariner's Compasses 5-Day Class Supply List

Class Description

Strip-Pieced 16-Point and 32-Point Mariner's Compasses and Compass Variations

Finally, the Mariner's Compass block is accessible to all quilters! Learn how to use these revolutionary new rulers and method for making strip pieced 16- and 32-point Mariner's Compass blocks **in 16 sizes** from 6" to 36". Students get to make their choice of "Skinny Robin" or "Fat Robin" Compasses and compass variations (we start by making a 12" block), and then learn techniques for finishing the centers and making your block into a square. Once students get this basic method down, they will also learn the techniques for making other 16-Point compass variations, Quarter and Half Compasses, and 32-Point Compass blocks and variations (blocks shown on the last page).

Students will learn tips and techniques for block finishing and for making compasses both large and small. We will also talk about fabric selection and ways to create your own creative mariner's compass project!

Required

Skinny Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass Ruler/Book Combo \$49.95 OR

the Fat Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass Ruler/Book Combo \$49.95

Optional and for loan during class 32-Point Mariner's Compass Ruler - \$34.95

Skinny Robin Mariner's Compass Book/Ruler OR Fat Robin Mariner's Compass Book/Ruler (can purchase the day of class). 32-Point Mariners Compass Book/Ruler combos to be loaned to try out when needed during class. Regular sewing supplies (sewing machine, cutting mat and rotary cutter, thread, scissors) Straight edge ruler with 45° angle for Skinny Robin and 60° angle for Fat Robin. It is best if the angle is towards the middle of the ruler. Try my new Angle Ruler or Olfa makes one that you might already have. Rulers with the angles on the end will still work, but sometimes are a little more difficult to use - can be unweildly. Olfa Rulers 6"x12" 6"x24"

Robin Ruth Design Angle Ruler 6"x14"

Pins
About 1½ yards of 18" freezer paper
Please have the following (fabric listed in box on next page) cut for class for Day 1 for making a 12"
OctaCompass block. Full width fabric strips (approx. 42") in high contrast fabrics - your choice. The
colors listed in parantheses are so you can see where they will appear in your blocks.
Extra Fabric - This method is based on using full width strips (42") of fabric. Shorter lengths can be
used, but may lead to using more fabric than if you have full width strips, and make the construction take
longer. We will start with a 12" 16-Point OctaCompass Block to learn the basic strip-piecing technique. I
recommend using high quality quilting cottons and, if using batiks, I recommend using all batik strips
and not mixing the batiks with regular cotton yardage, at least for your first block (we will talk about this
in class). Also, try not to use black, or very dark, fabric for your first block as it makes it a little harder to
see the ruler lines.



Skinny Robin OctaCompass

- -Background fabric (gray) 3½"* (bring 2 strips)
- -Point 1 fabric (red) 2" (bring 2 strips)
- -Point 2 fabric (light blue) 2¹/₄"
- -Point 3 fabric (dark blue) 2¾"
- -Two 4" squares for center (yellow)
- -Two 4¾" squares (light blue) for making triangles to finish



Fat Robin Octacompass

- -Background fabric (lime green) 31/2"*
- -Point 1 fabric (orange) 21/4"
- -Point 2 fabric (dark purple) 3"
- -Point 3 fabric (pink) 4"
- -Two 6" squares for center (yellow)
- -Two 4¾" squares (dark purple) for making triangles to finish

*Note that these strip widths are different than what are listed in the Skinny Robin or Fat Robin 16-Point Mariner's Compass Books for traditional finishing. This width is for an OctaCompass finish.

After making this first block, we will go on to make the other 16-Point Compass variations, Quarter and Half Compasses, and a 32-Point Compass block - in a variety of sizes. After that, you will have the freedom to make whichever blocks in whichever sizes you would like.

Strip widths will vary from 1¼" for a 6" block to 7¾" for a 36" block, and many sizes in between. I would suggest while learning the techniques for the many different styles of blocks, you make blocks between 12" and 18" which require strips in widths between 2" and 5½". I would also encourage you to try making a smaller block and a larger block as well, once you are feeling more confident.

All that being said, I would bring a variety of fabrics you like, preferably with some contrast, and make compasses that speak to you. Find your own true compass!

You will also need some larger pieces of fabric for finishing your blocks into squares. I recommend making the background squares at least 3" larger than the block. For example, for a 12" block (finished size) you would need a minimum 15" square. This square size allows for block trimming and gives a minimum 1" border around your finished compass.

A few tips for a successful class!

This class is jampacked with information and moves along at a quick pace. You should have several piecing projects under your belt before taking this class. This technique is not difficult, but different than traditional square and triangle projects, so having a little more experience is helpful. If you have good rotary cutting skills and can sew an accurate ¼" seam, you will have a great time!

- -Please get to class in time to set up and **be ready to sew** at the advertised time.
- -Have all of your strips and squares cut **before** class.
- -Make sure your machine is in **good working order**. Sew a couple of seams and make sure everything is working properly before you pack it up for class. Then sew a little again after you unpack at class to make sure all of your settings are correct. Don't forget to make sure you have a **full bobbin**.
- -Please take some time before you get to class to make sure you have the proper machine set up to make **accurate ¼" seams**. To get accurate sized blocks, it is imperative that you sew with an accurate ¼" seam allowance and it will save you much time and energy if you already have this figured out. I will also work with you during class to make sure your seams will help you achieve accurate finished blocks.
- -I **encourage** you to go to my website at www.robinruthdesign.com and watch some of the video tutorials to get yourself more familiar with the techniques. You can see some video shorts (animated overviews of the process) at my Intro Video tab, and real time video tutorials (sit with me and we make a block together in real time) at my Video Tutorials tab. All of these videos are also accessible on my FREE app search **Robin Ruth Design** at the App Store. Make sure to check out the design feature on my App click on any of the blocks and fill in the colors using the 85+ colors of Clothworks® AMB Solids to preview your blocks before committing them to fabric.

Product and Block Information

Students get to choose which type of compasses they will make - Skinny Robin (pictured left) or Fat Robin (pictured right). Students need to purchase either the Skinny Robin 16-Point Book/Ruler Combo or the Fat Robin 16-Point Book/Ruler Combo which can be purchased in class or on my website at www.robinruthdesign.com for \$49.95. (Note: I do not sell on any other websites - like Amazon. If you order from any of these other sites, you are not ordering from me.)

Purchase of the 32-Point Companion Ruler/Book Combos is optional and I will make them available for use in class to try out and also available for purchase if you choose. I will also have my Angle Ruler and all my patterns available for purchase in class as well.

Learn how to make all of these blocks in 16 sizes - even sizes from 6"-36"!

