

# FLOATING PRISMS

BY ALEXANDRA LEDGERWOOD

**FINISHED SIZE** 60" × 72"

## FABRIC

All fabrics are 45" wide.

- 4½ yd Kona<sup>®</sup> Cotton solid Slate for background fabric
- ¼ yd each of the following Kona<sup>®</sup> cotton solids
  - Cerise
  - Candy pink
  - Buttercup
  - Maize
  - Pink
  - Carnation
  - Peony
  - Bright Pink
  - Pomegranate
  - Berry
  - Orange
  - Ice Frappe
  - Lemon
  - Pear
  - Lime
  - Chartreuse
  - Corn Yellow
  - School Bus
  - Honey Dew
  - Papaya
  - Carrot
- ⅛ yd White Kona<sup>®</sup> cotton fabric
- 4½ yd Kona<sup>®</sup> cotton backing
- ½ yd Kona<sup>®</sup> cotton for binding fabric

## OTHER SUPPLIES

- 60" × 72" batting
- Rotary cutter, rigid acrylic ruler and self-healing mat
- Machine sewing thread for piecing
- Quilting thread
- Bent-arm safety pins or quilt-basting spray
- Walking foot or free motion foot for the sewing machine



## DIRECTIONS

All seam allowances are ¼" unless otherwise noted.

### CUT THE FABRIC

1. From the background fabric (Slate), cut the following:
  - 2 rectangles, 6½" × 36½"
  - 1 rectangle, 6½" × 21½"
  - 4 rectangles, 6½" × 18½"
  - 2 rectangles, 6½" × 15½"
  - 10 rectangles, 6½" × 12½"
  - 2 rectangles, 6½" × 9½"
  - 19 squares, 6½" × 6½"
  - 5 rectangles, 6½" × 3½"
2. Cut two pieces 76" × 45" for the backing fabric. Remove selvages.
3. Cut 6 strips 2" × 45" from binding fabric. Remove selvages.
4. From the prism fabrics using the template:
  - Cut the shapes, as needed, to roughly fit the templates.

**TIP:** It is a good idea to cut the rough shapes larger than you think you need. It is easy to trim away excess fabric after the shape is pieced, but it is difficult to rip out seams, due to the shortened stitch length of paper pieced blocks, should the piece end up being too small.

## PRINT THE PATTERNS

**TIP:** Shorten your stitch length to 1.5mm when paper piecing. The perforations made by the needle will make the paper easier to remove once your block is sewn.

5. Print out the following number of copies of the various templates:

- 7 copies of Block A
- 8 copies of Block B
- 6 copies of Block C
- 3 copies of Block D
- 2 copies of Block E
- 1 copies of Block F
- 5 copies of Block G
- 6 copies of Block H
- 3 copies of Block I
- 2 copies of Block J

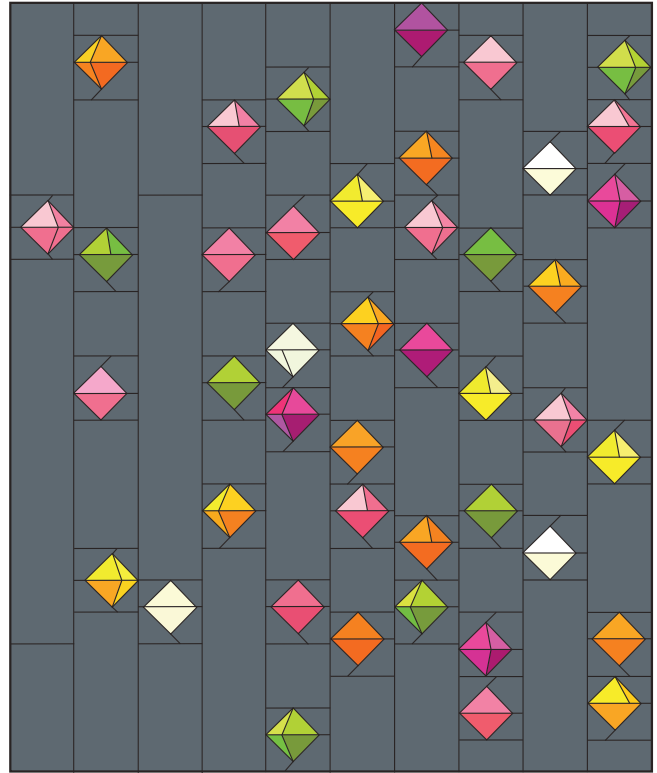
## PIECE THE PRISM BLOCKS

6. To create the quilt as shown, use the templates to piece the prisms in the following colors.

**TIP:** In some blocks you can add a color similar to the primary block color to create depth. For example, in a prism with four segments, use three shades of yellow with the lightest shade of orange, or use two dark shades of pink with the two lightest shades of purple. Group fabrics as you like. It may be helpful to color on the templates with crayons to designate fabric placement.)

- Block A: make 3 pink, 1 yellow, 2 green, 1 orange prisms
- Block B: make 2 pink, 3 green, 1 orange, 1 white, 1 purple prisms
- Block C: make 2 pink, 1 green, 3 orange prisms
- Block D: make 1 pink, 2 orange prisms
- Block E: make 1 pink, 1 yellow prisms
- Block F: make 1 white prism
- Block G: make 1 yellow, 3 green, 1 orange, 1 purple prisms
- Block H: make 3 pink, 2 white, 1 purple prisms
- Block I: make 3 yellow prisms
- Block J: make 2 purple prisms

**TIP:** To create the illusion of a light source shining on the prisms from the upper left, use the lightest values of fabrics on the top left side of the prisms and the darker values on the bottom and right of the block.



## ASSEMBLE THE QUILT TOP

7. Piece the columns vertically from top to bottom in the following manner:

### COLUMN 1

- 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 18\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in pink, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 36\frac{1}{2}''$ , and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$

### COLUMN 2

- 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ , block G in orange, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block C in green, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block H in pink, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in yellow, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 15\frac{1}{2}''$

### COLUMN 3

- 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 18\frac{1}{2}''$ , 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 36\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in white, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$

### COLUMN 4

- 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{2}''$ , block C in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block D in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in green, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block G in yellow, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 21\frac{1}{2}''$

### COLUMN 5

- 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in green, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block H in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block F in white, block G in purple, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in pink, and block G in green

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## COLUMN 6

— 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 15\frac{1}{2}''$ , block I in yellow, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in orange, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block D in orange, block C in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block D in orange, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{2}''$

## COLUMN 7

— Block H in purple, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block C in orange, block A in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in purple, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block C in orange, block G in green, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ .

## COLUMN 8

— 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in pink, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in green, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block I in yellow, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in green, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block J in purple, block H in pink, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ .

## COLUMN 9

— 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block H in white, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block C in orange, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in pink, 1 square  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$ , block H in white, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 18\frac{1}{2}''$ .

## COLUMN 10

— 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ , block A in green, block E in pink, block J in purple, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 18\frac{1}{2}''$ , block I in yellow, 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12\frac{1}{2}''$ , block B in orange, block E in yellow, and 1 rectangle  $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$ .

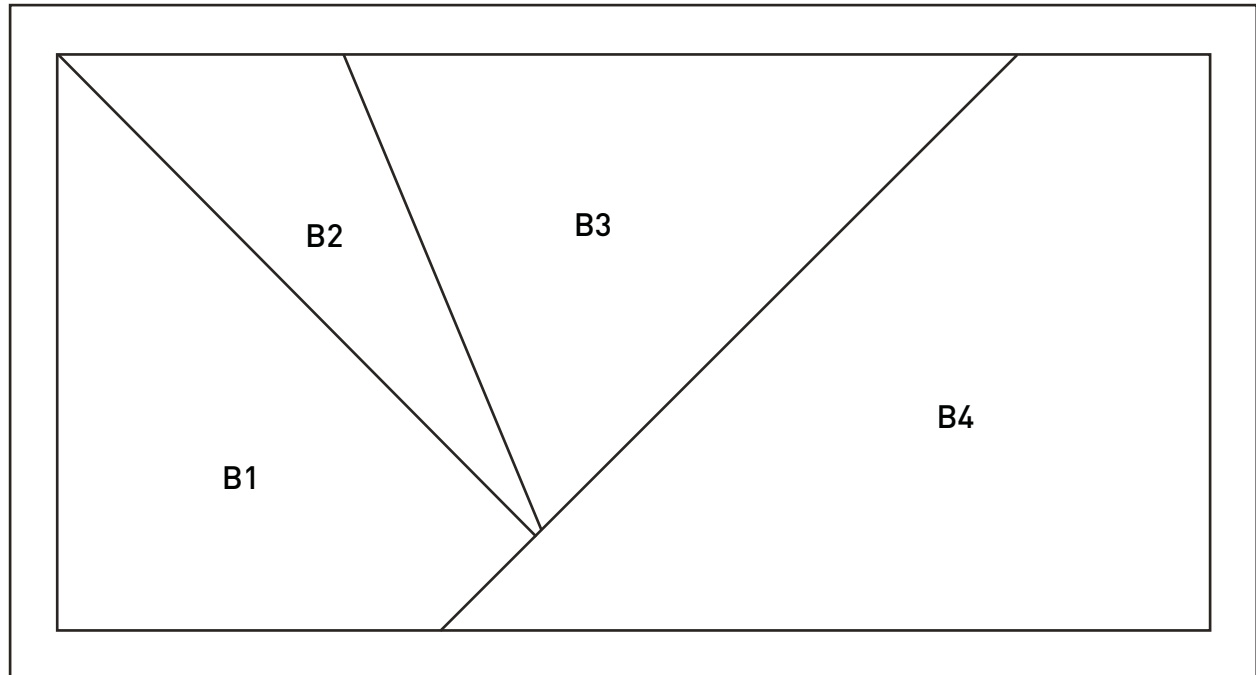
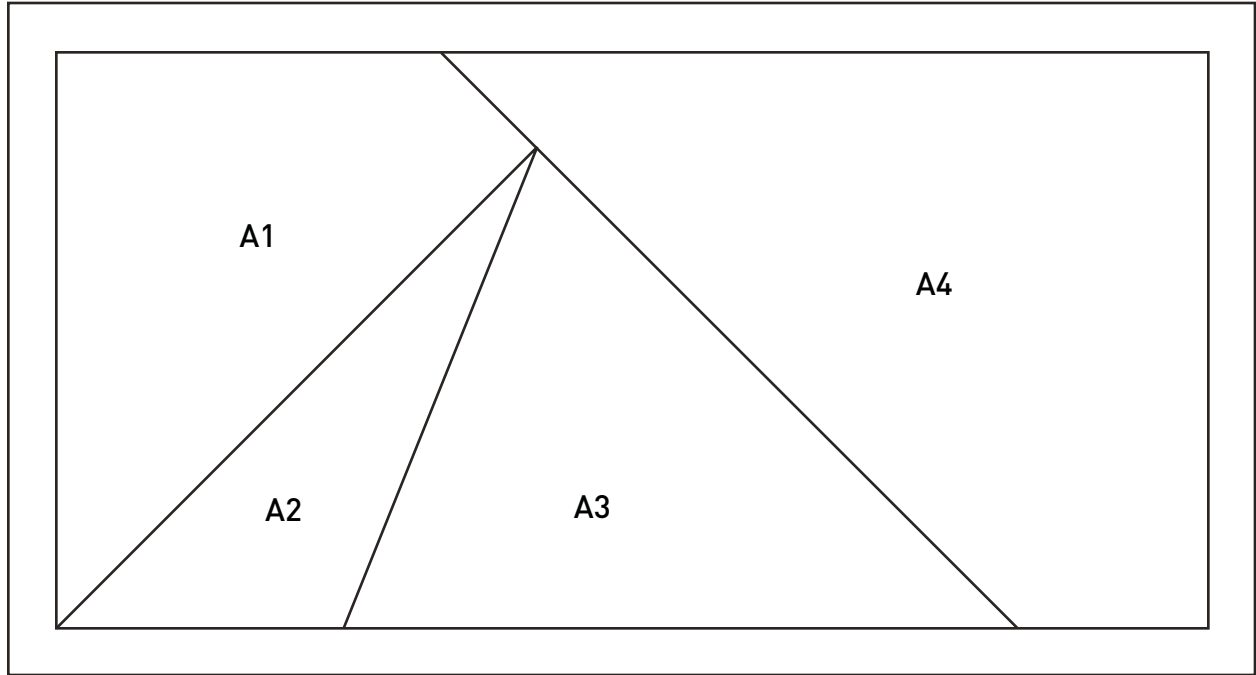
8. Sew the columns together in number order, beginning with Column 1 on the left. Join columns, all the way through Column 10, which will be on the on the right side of the quilt top.

## PREPARE FOR QUILTING

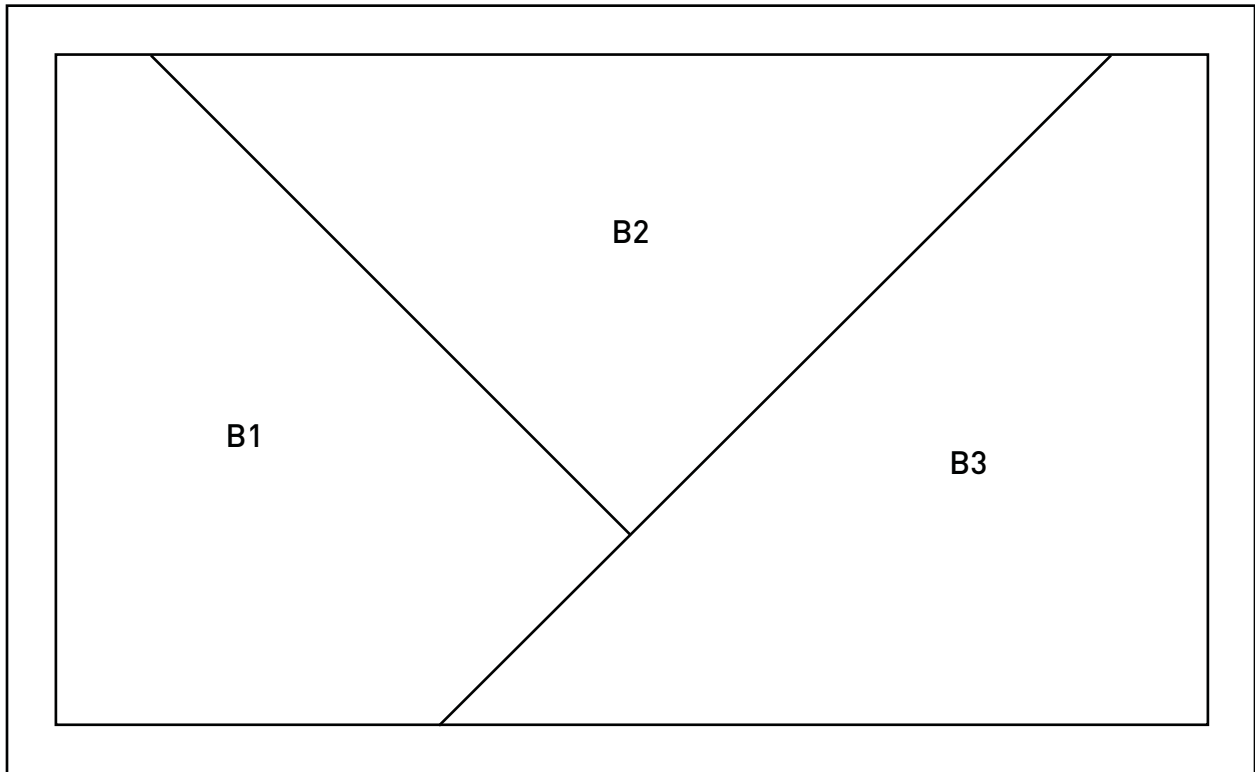
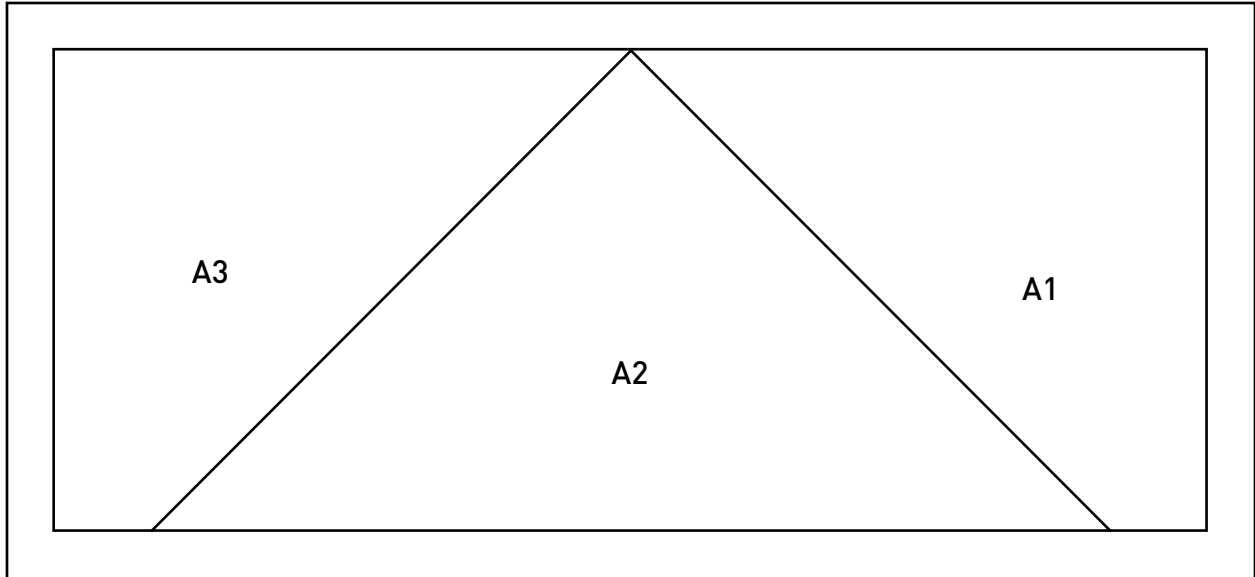
9. Cut the backing fabric and remove the selvages. Pin backing pieces right sides together along the long edges. Stitch and press the seam allowance open. Trim to be 1" larger than the finished quilt top.
10. With the backing wrong side up, center the batting on top, then center the quilt top onto the batting to create a quilt sandwich. Baste the three layers together with safety pins or basting spray. If using safety pins, pin in rows, spacing pins no more than 6" apart.

## QUILT AND FINISH

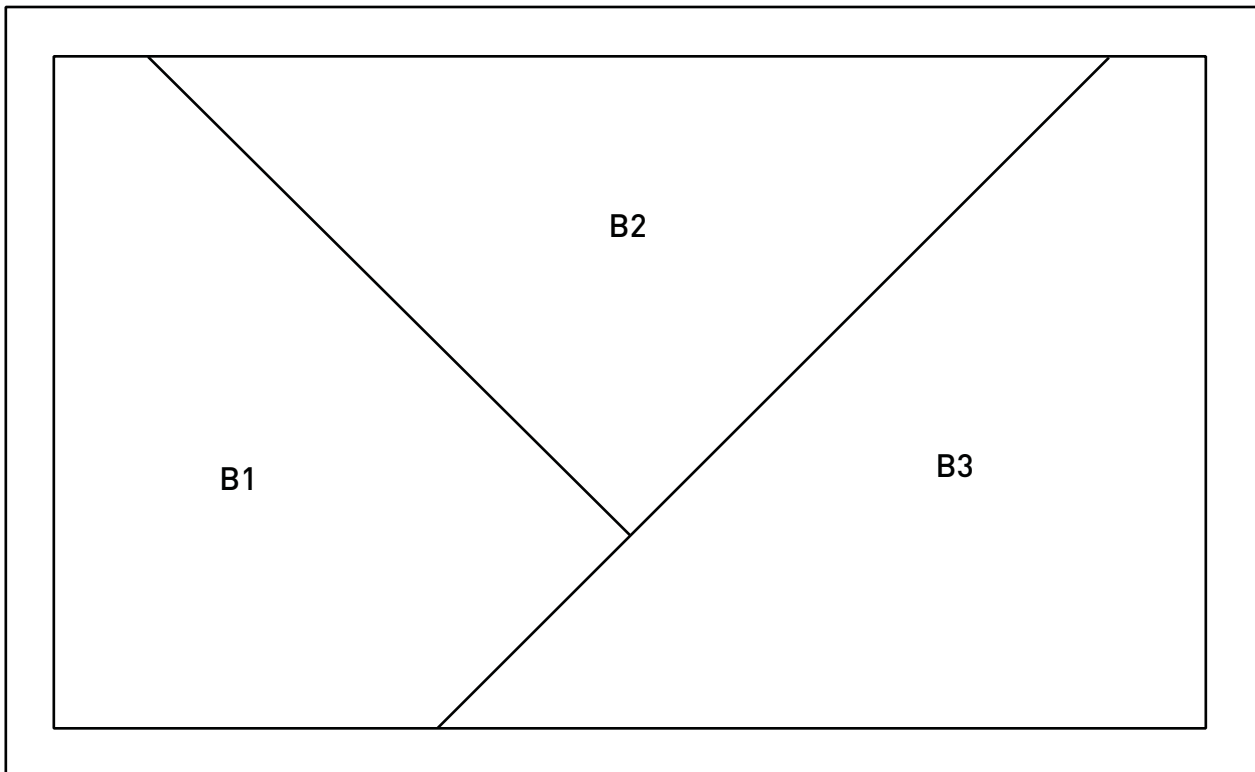
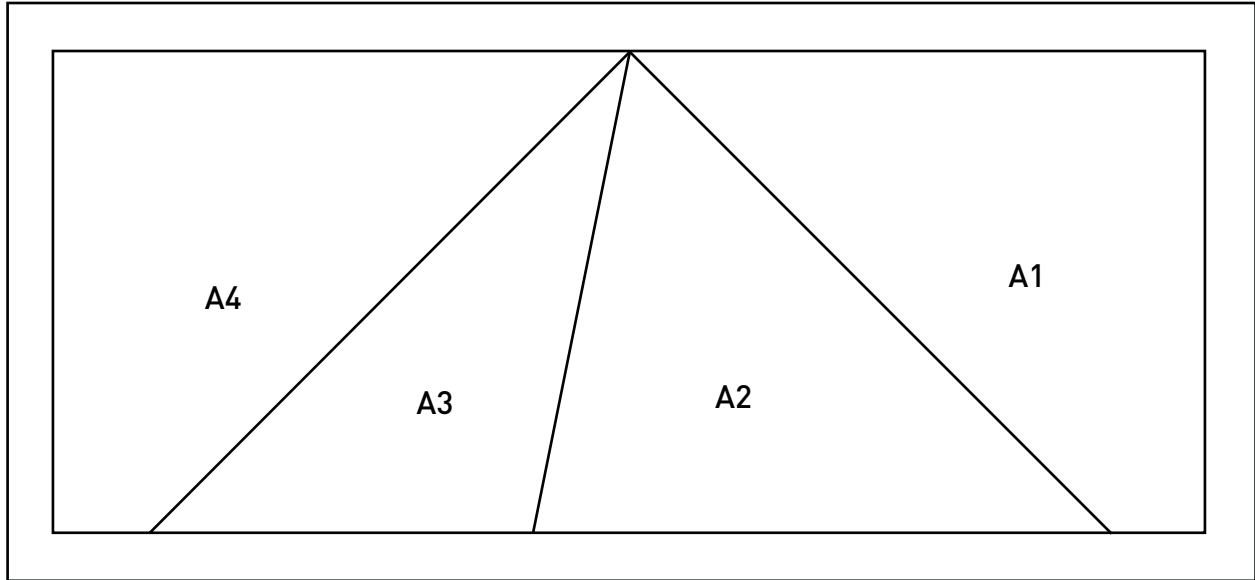
11. Use a sewing machine to quilt was desired. You can use a walking foot or set the machine for free motion and use a free motion quilting foot and coordinating thread to quilt straight lines in each prism, at angled echoes of the edges of each segment. In the Slate background, use grey thread to create free motion swirls, pebbles and paisley shapes.
12. Bind the quilt's outer edges.



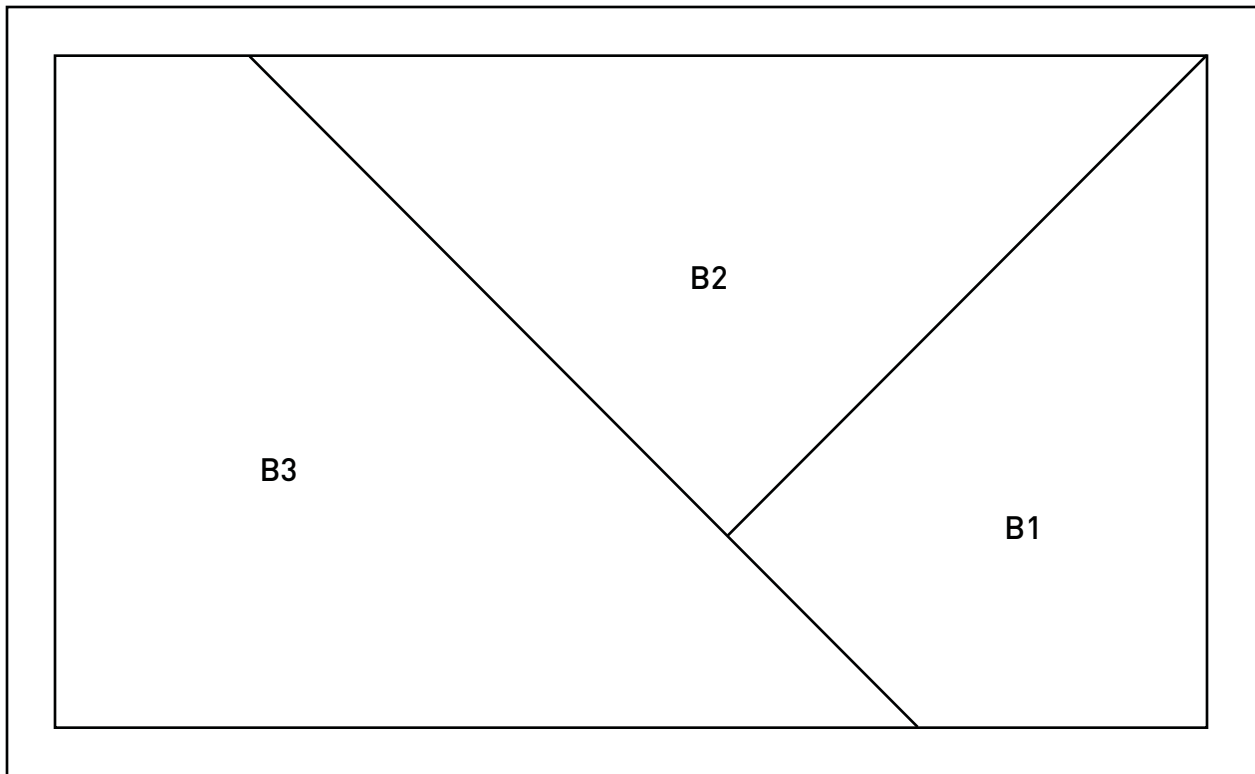
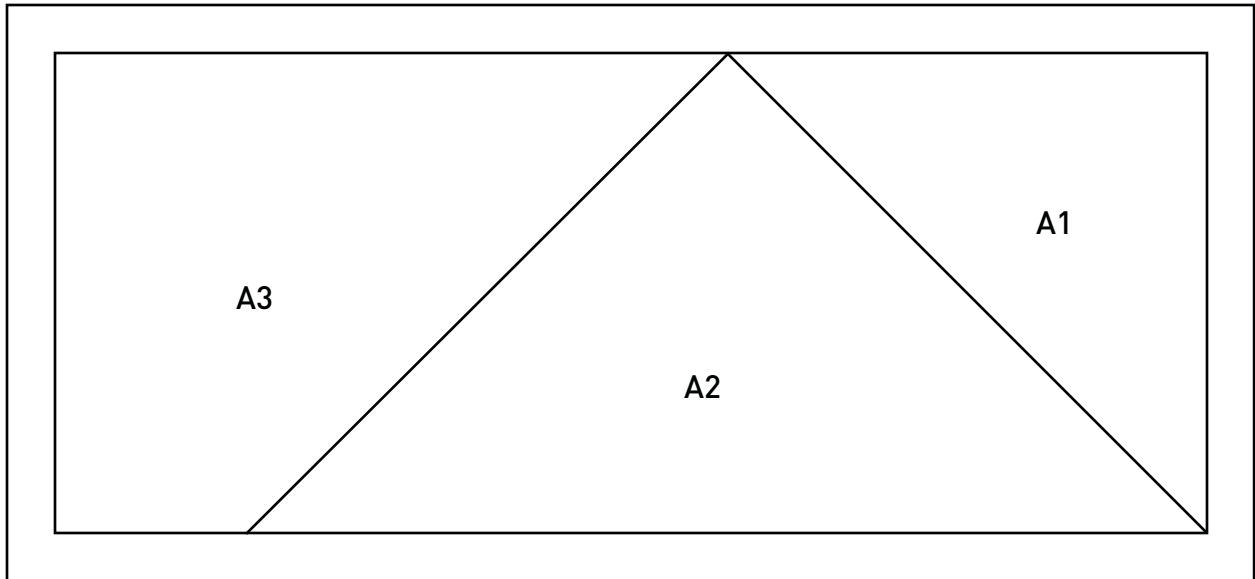
Block A



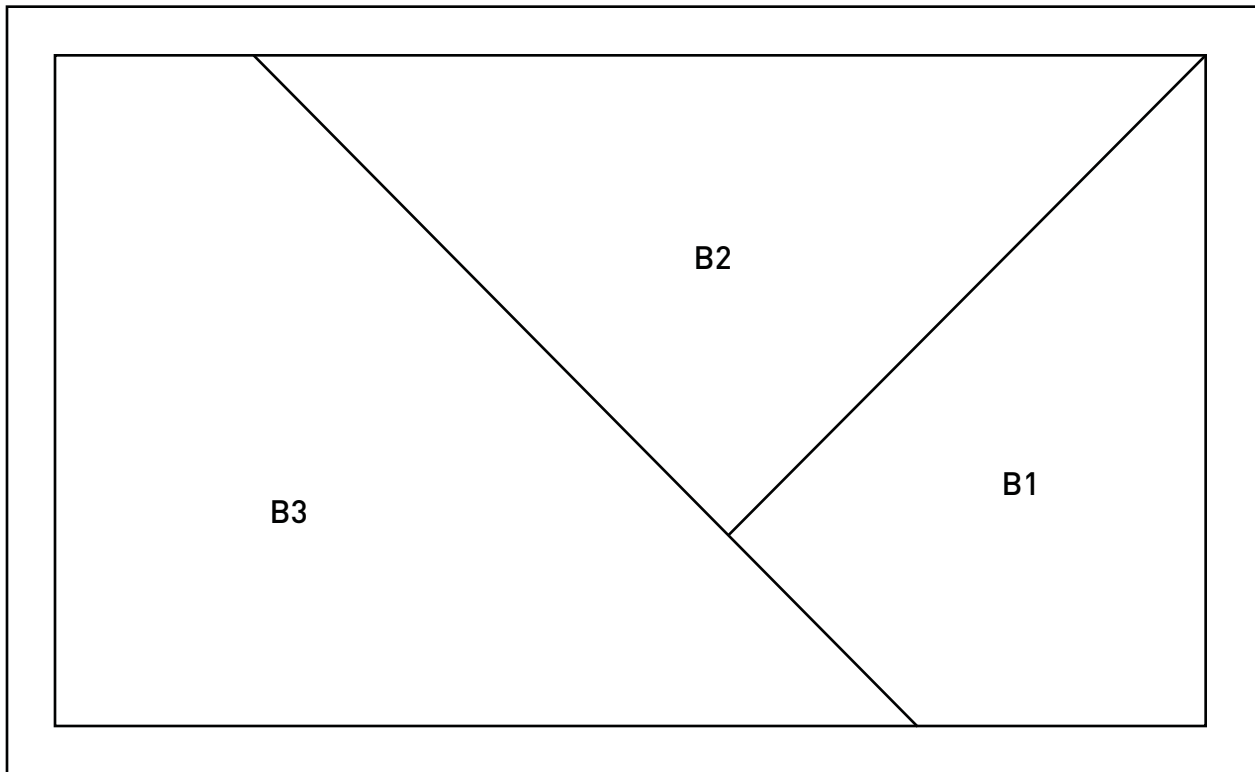
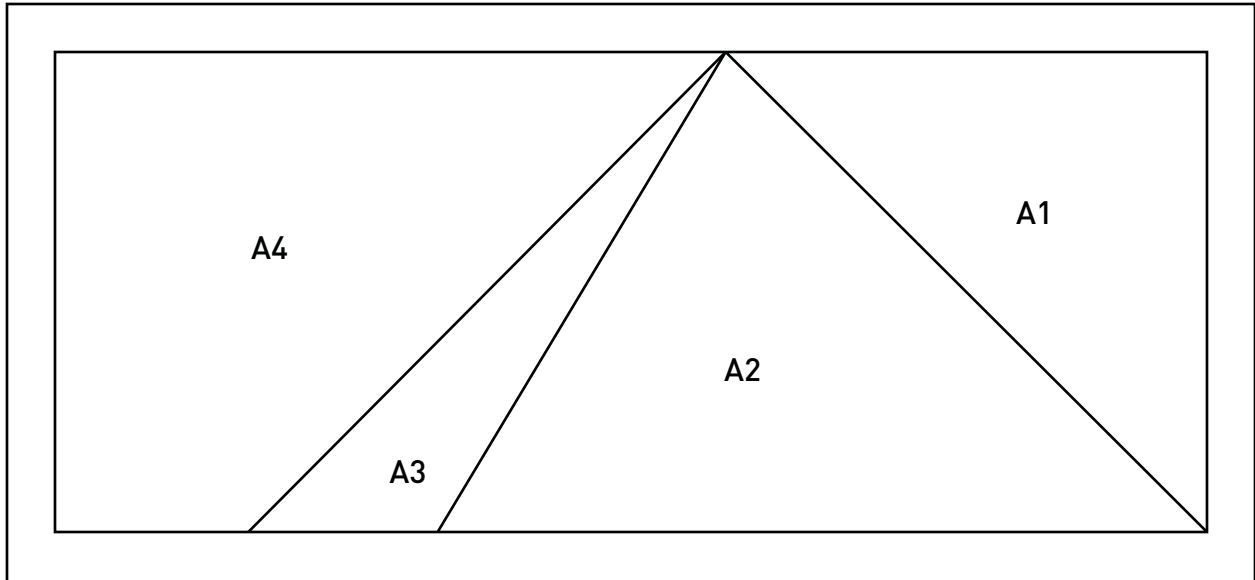
Block B



Block C

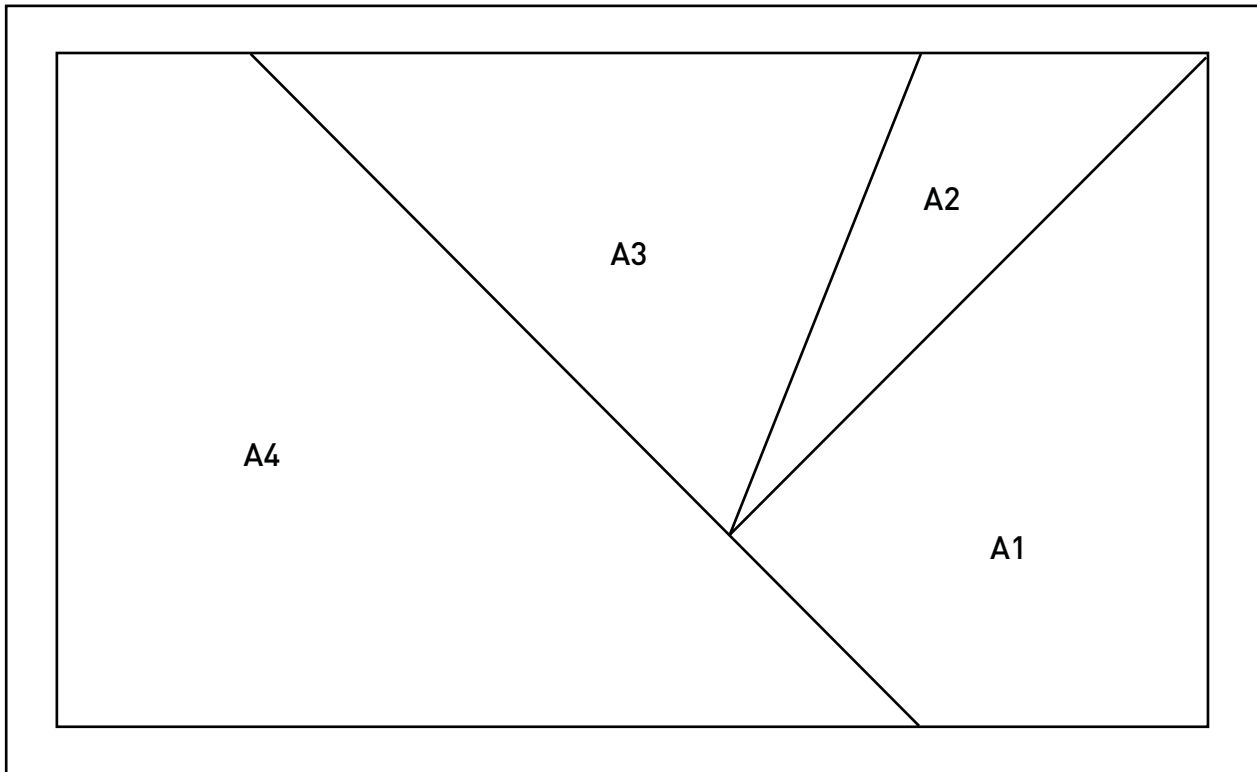
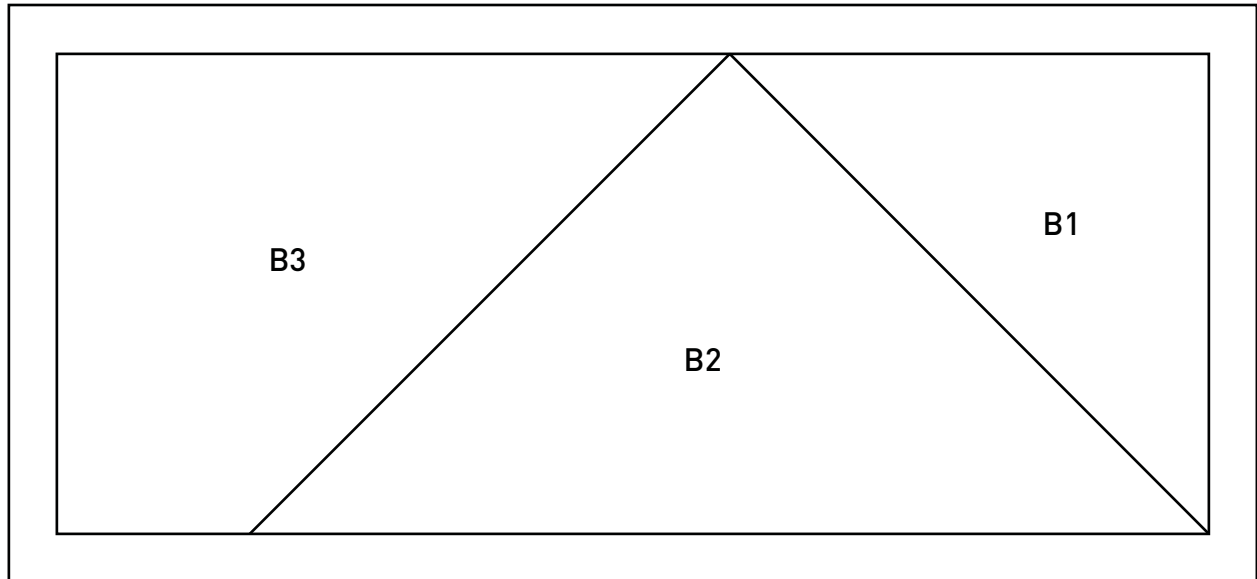


Block D

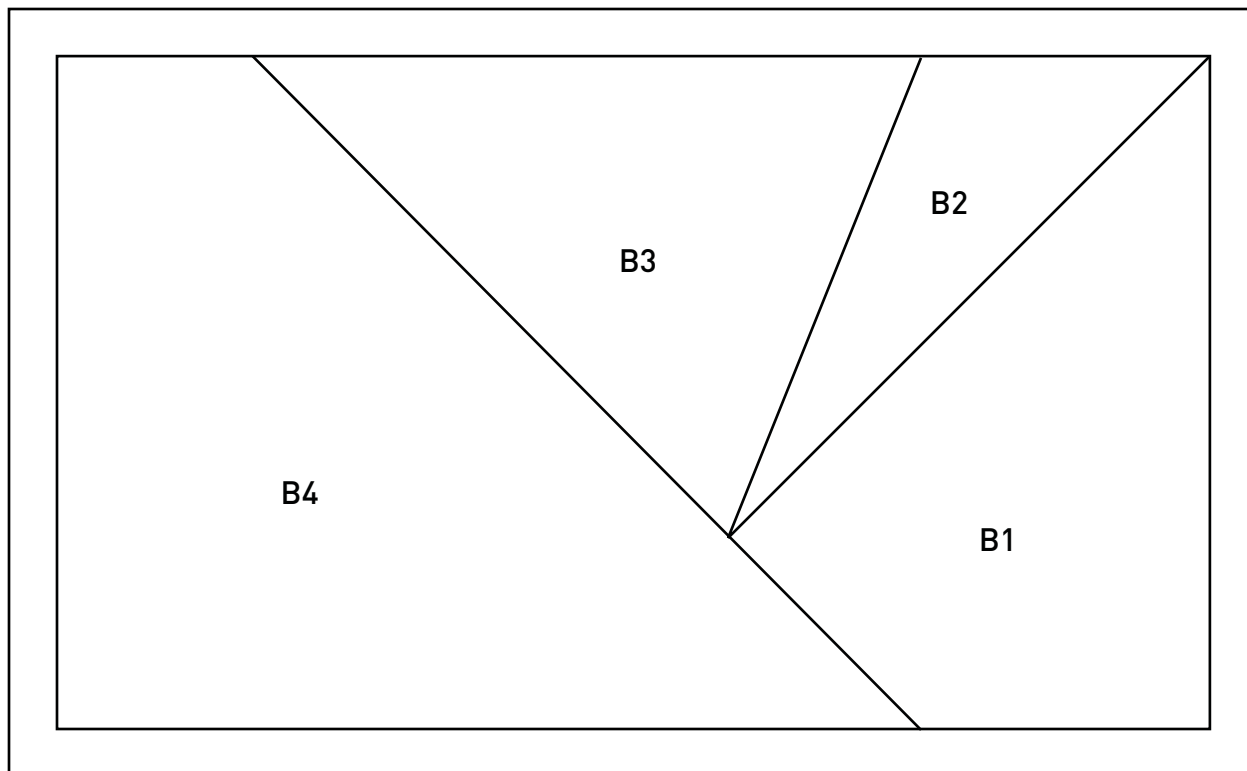
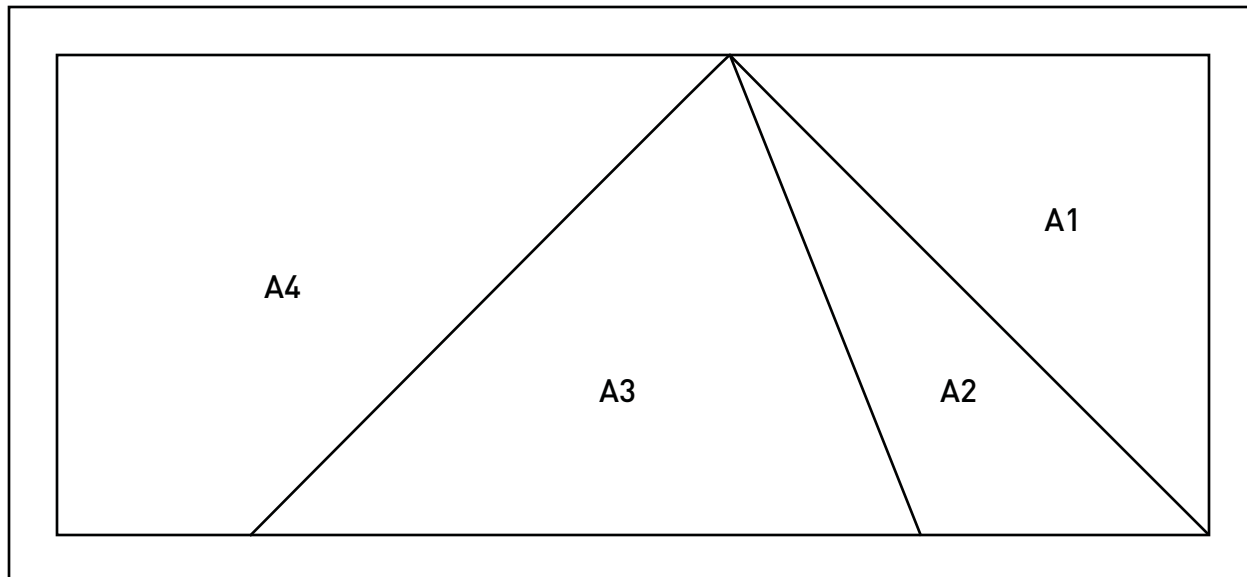


Block E

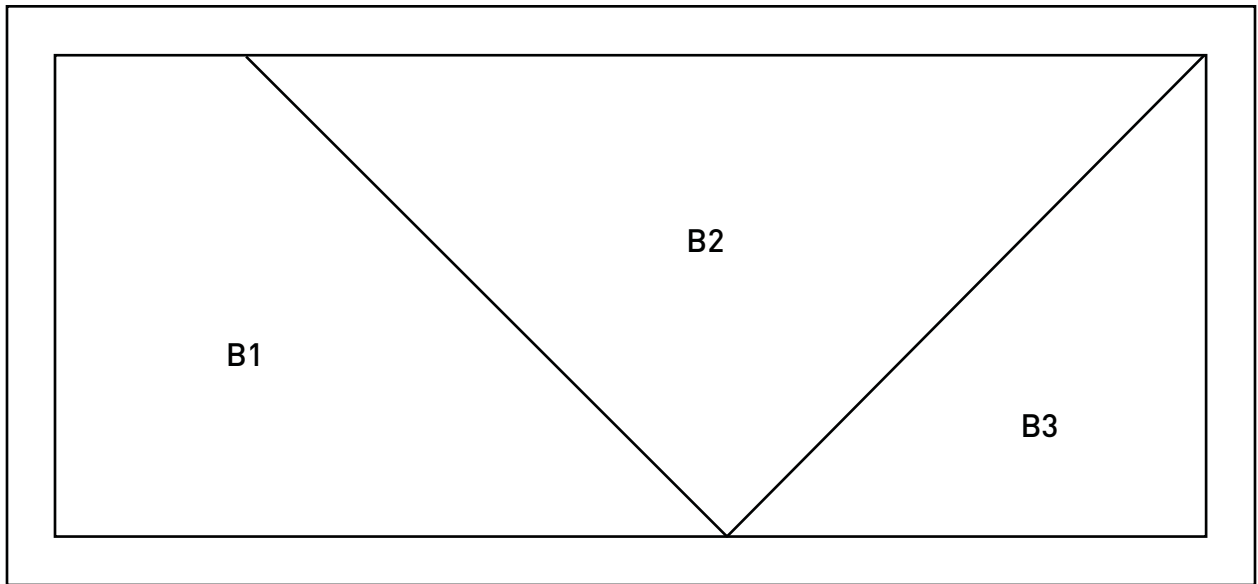
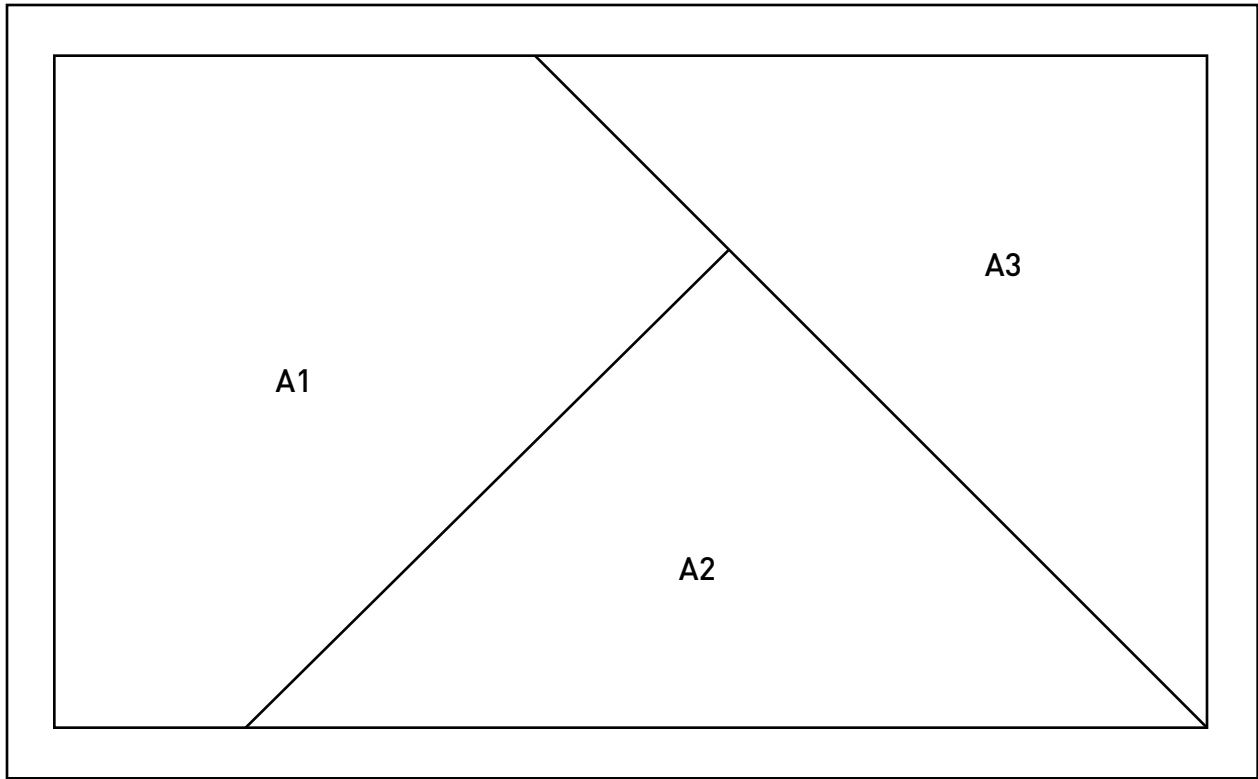




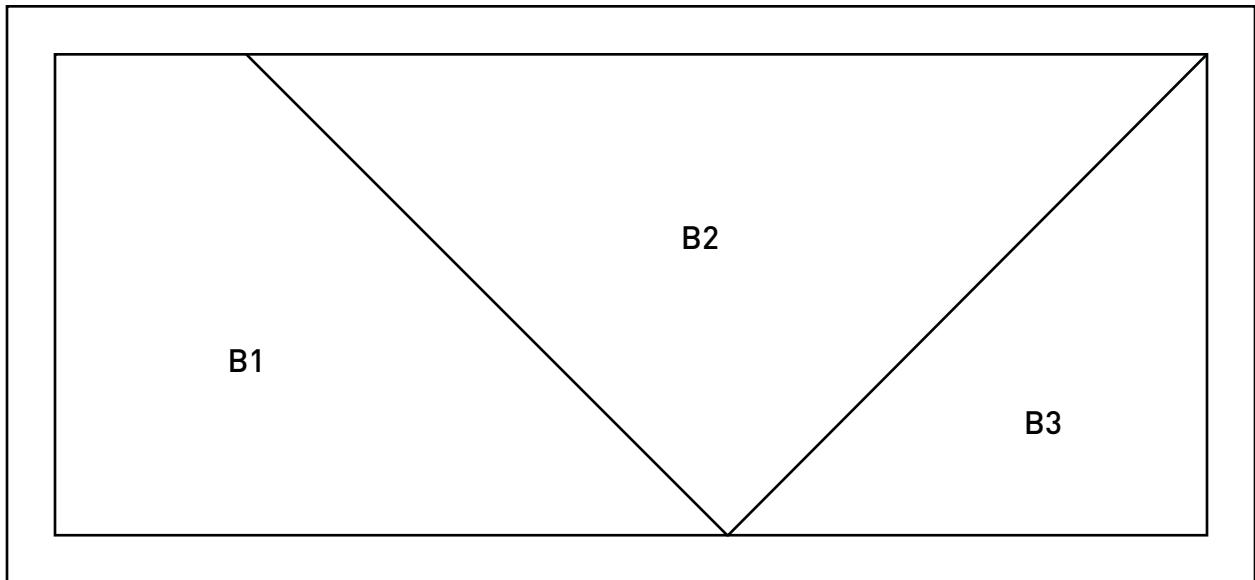
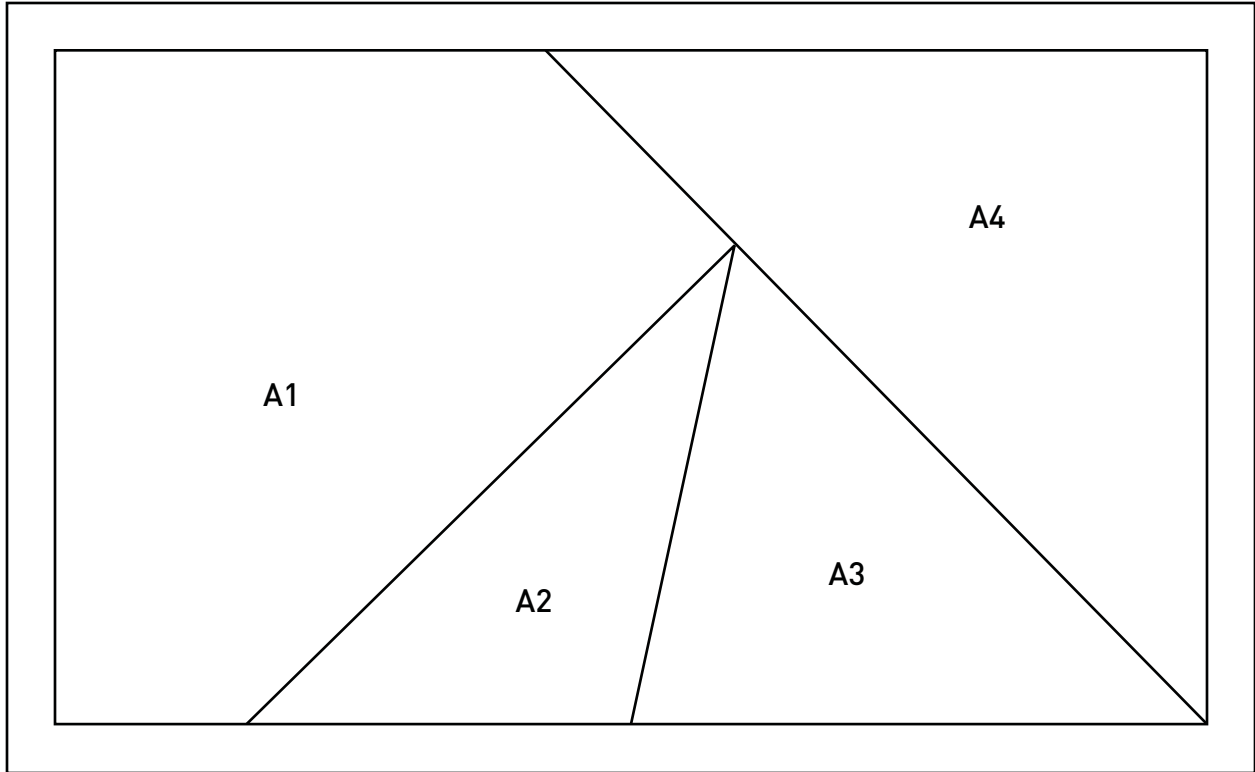
Block F



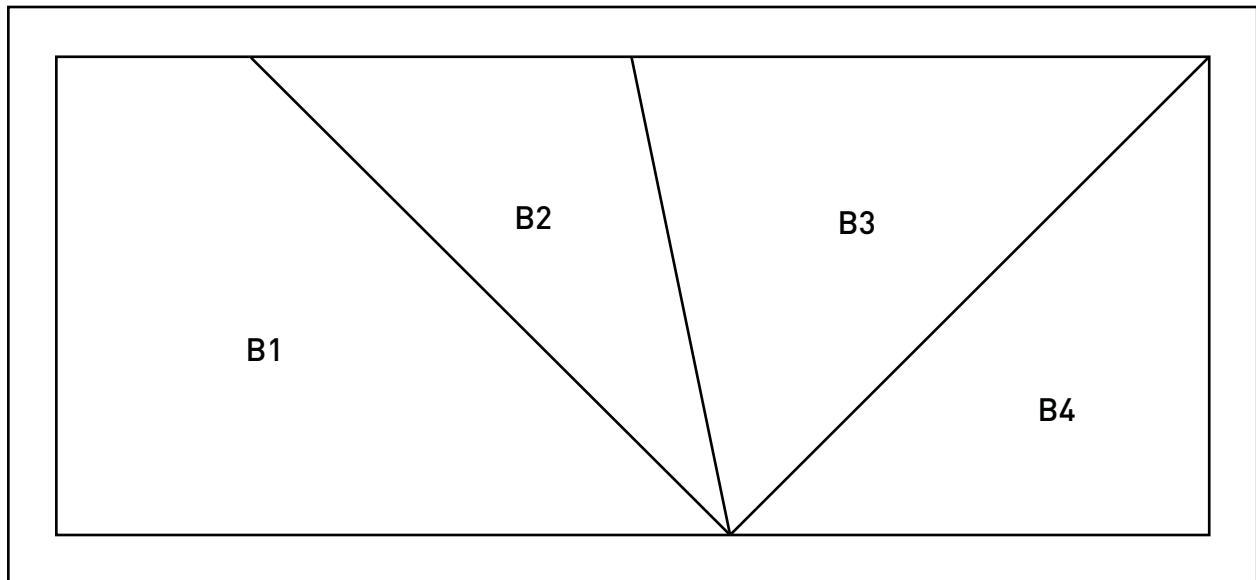
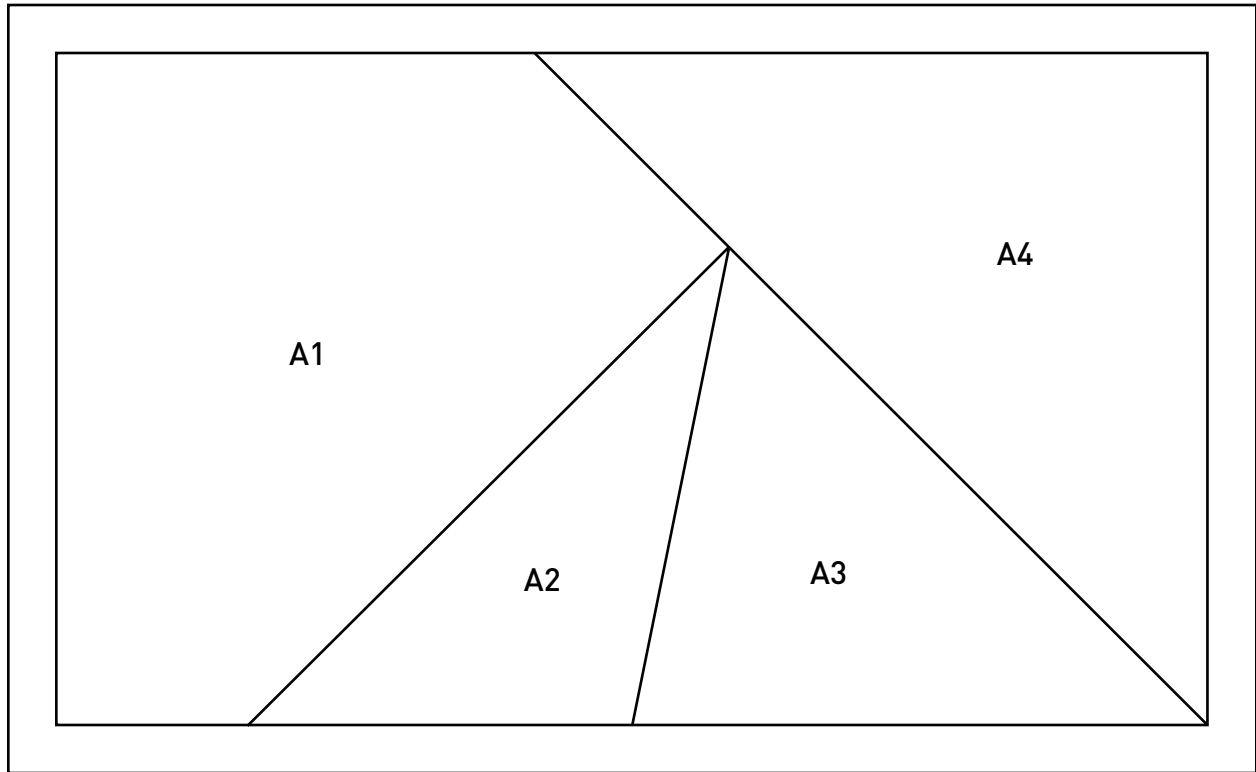
Block G



Block H



Block I



Block J