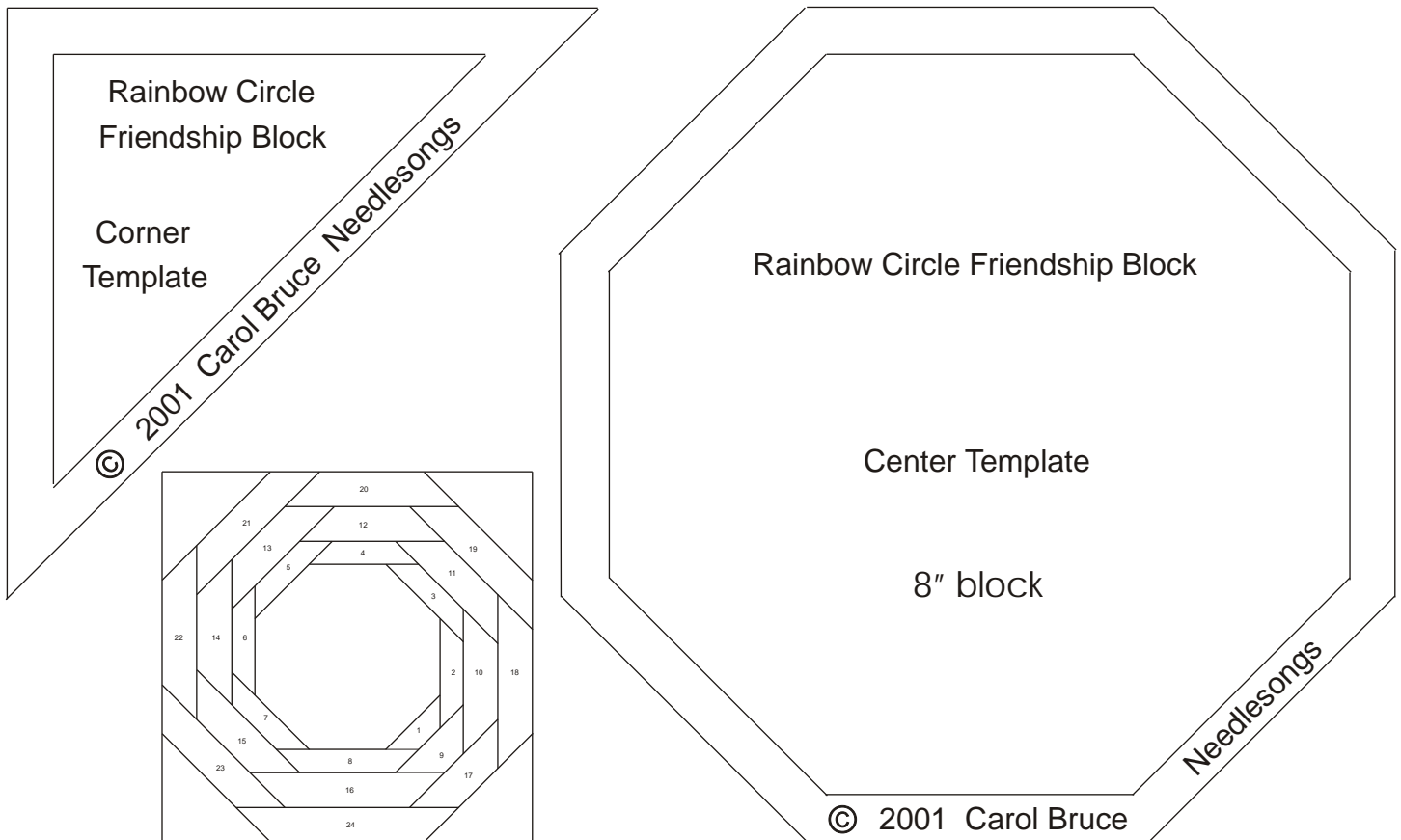


Rainbow Circle Friendship Block

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Strip Piecing Directions

There are three strip pieced rows around the center octagon. For an easy rainbow, use only 3 colors, one for each row. For a rainbow that spirals use 8 colors. Lay out the colors in the order of a color wheel to decide which 3 colors will be used on the inside row. (The 3rd color will be used on both 1st and middle row.)

Cut strips $4\frac{1}{2}$ " wide for octagons, and cut into squares. Use the template and/or 45 degree ruler to cut the corners to shape.

Cut strips 1" wide for the inside row.

Cut strips $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide for the middle and outside rows.

For the 4 triangles, cut strips $3\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and cut into triangles.

Sew a 1" strip to one side of the octagon, and then trim off the excess. Rotate the octagon (right or left, but always rotate the same way in the same block.) Sew the 1" strip to the next side, trim and rotate again. Continue until the first row is complete. Continue rotating the block in the same direction as the $1\frac{1}{4}$ " strips are added for the next 2 rows. Finish by sewing the triangles to every other side of the octagon.

If doing the spiral rainbow, sew the first 3 strips in the first color, the next 3 strips in the 2nd color, next 3 strips in the 3rd color, etc. until you've worked around the color wheel, around the octagon.

For a friendship block use white or light centers and triangles. Or, try black for a bold Amish look. This block could even be used to frame novelty fabrics or I-spy prints. For another variation, make the middle row the same color as the background.