

April Block of the Month: "Birdhouse Beauty"

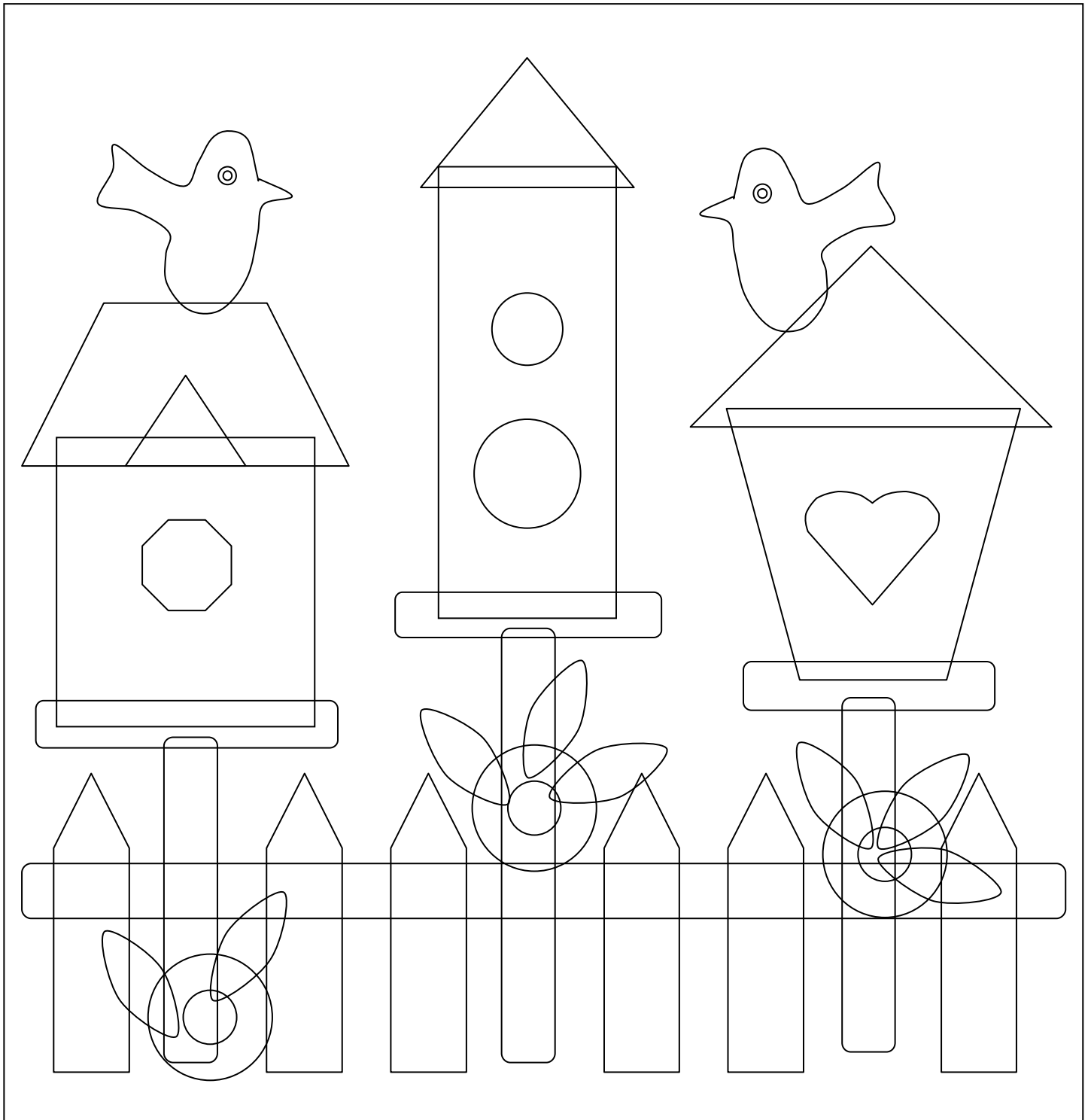
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(SUGGESTED FABRIC/COLOR SELECTION)

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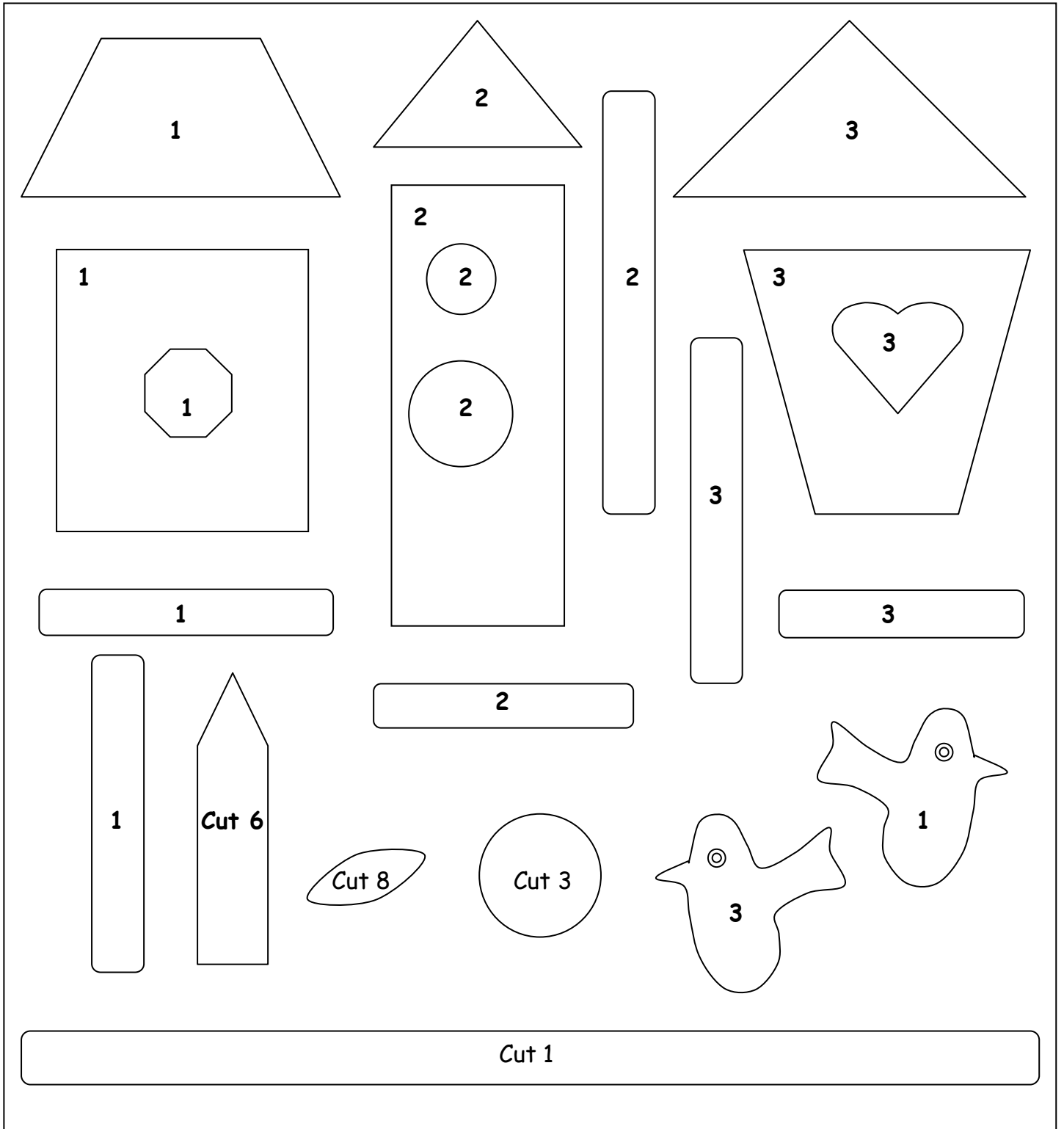
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(MASTER PATTERN)

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(PATTERN PIECES)

Block of the Month: March – November 2006

"Garden Party"

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Block Two: Birdhouse Beauty

Using the pattern pieces above and following the "*fusible appliqué instructions*" on page three of the first instalment, prepare the appliqué pieces for the birdhouse block.

All the pieces for this block, other than the birds, are symmetrical and therefore do not need to be reversed. The birds are a mirror image and will automatically reverse as required.

In order to position the pieces accurately onto the background fabric, use a light box and place the master pattern under your appliqué mat so you can see the correct placement. Gently spot press into position then remove the light box and press into place using a **medium/hot DRY iron**.

Now select a stranded cotton embroidery thread to match the color of the shape being appliquéd. Use **one thread** for these small shapes.

Birds' Eyes: Use very small buttons for the eyes of the birds. Alternatively, these can be drawn on using fabric pens **or embroidered** with either "French" or "colonial" knots.

Flowers: Again, use buttons for the centrepieces of the flowers or you may like to make the flowers out of *Suffolk puffs* and attach with a button.

Birdhouse Entries: You may also prefer to use "buttons" for the birdhouse entries instead of the fabric shapes as shown.

Feel free to add any additional embellishments to the birdhouse block to create a truly unique block.

May the wind also be beneath your wings!