

Suzan Lauder's Cushion Cover Reticule Designs:

Cushion Cover Reticule Patterns #1 to #6



CUSHION COVER RETICULES #1 AND #2, PLUS BONUS RETICULE DUE TO OFF-CENTRE BACK ZIPPER (LIKE #5).

TO CUT OUT THE PATTERN

Patterns are at the end of this document.

Pattern for Reticules #1 to #4 are based on a 17" square cushion cover where both sides match, unless otherwise stated. A 16" to 20" cushion will work. Two of each reticule result in most cases. For #5, an 18" cushion is best. For #6, a 14" cushion is best.

The design on the cushion must work well on the diagonal.

Fabrics such as smooth silks, fine monotone cottons with embroidery, silk-like polyesters, damask, needlepoint, brocade, some net and crochet patterns (compare to museum texture and design, as many won't work) and metallic embroidery are best.

If there is an end zipper, remove from cushion. When making reticules, sew this closed as required prior to commencing with instructions. If there is a side zipper, remove, but do not put it into reticule except seam allowances or linings.

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- Make a square the size of your cushion on a sheet of newspaper or similar paper.
 - Fold this sheet into diagonals and score. Mark centre with marker.
 - Your cushion may look square, but may be slightly longer on one side. Trim paper to the available fabric size.
 - If there is a back zipper, cut paper to the size of the panel on one side of the zipper. If back zipper is off-centre, the smaller side may work for two small square reticules.
- Draw the pattern on the newspaper in pencil, adjusting to maximize use of the fabric.
 - Reticules can be longer and wider on larger cushions; e.g., Reticule #1 or #3 goes to diagonal in the middle of cushion.
 - The tab at bottom of Reticule #3 is to extend the piping or cording up the sides. For larger sizes, extend length so it goes to 4½" to from top (5½" for 19"-20" square cushions).
 - Optional scallops, curves, or notches for Reticule #1 or #4:
 - Best appearance with stiffer fabrics.
 - Sketch the changes you desire in pencil.
 - Reticule #1 and #2:
 - Smaller cushion: at the bottom sides, into the space to be cut off for Reticule #2.
 - Larger cushion (wider Reticule #1): up the sides to 4½" from top. Notches make a pineapple look.
 - Once you are happy with the outline, use marker on final lines on one side. Fold and trace to match the second side.
- Pin pattern to the cushion, cut along lines to remove straight-sided reticule first.
- Cut two long reticules apart in centre.
- If using scallops, fold in half lengthwise and cut to ensure match both sides.

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RETICULES #1 AND #2

No-sew instructions are at the end. No-sew tape is not appropriate for curved seams (e.g., scallops) or heavier fabrics.

Seam allowances can be reduced from $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " if sewing.

RETICULE #1 ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Lining is optional for this reticule (see separate directions).

- Install tassels at pointed corners if desired (see separate instructions).
- Turn inside out and sew a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam up the sides, stopping to leave $4\frac{1}{2}$ " not sewn at the open end (top of purse). If required, sew closed where zipper was removed.
- Trim bottom inside corners to 45° , $\frac{1}{4}$ " from seams.
- If not lining, either press seams open or finish seams with zigzag or blanket stitch machine sewn seams together, or zigzag bias tape over the seam allowance.
- Turn reticule right-side out.
- Flap for ruffle and drawstring casing:
 - Sew a right-angle from side seam at body of reticule to $\frac{1}{4}$ " towards middle of reticule.
 - Turn 90° and sew side seam towards top of reticule (flap), **stopping** at 2" from top, reinforcing by wide zigzag tack or backstitching.
 - Leave a $\frac{3}{4}$ " gap, tack or backstitch as you continue to top; backstitch.
 - Press non-sewn seam allowance open at gap with an iron; sew in place with a blanket, button-hole, or zigzag stitch.
 - If desired, finish balance of seam as above.
 - Fold over top of reticule to the outside (towards you) by $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and press.
 - Repeat with a second fold to the outside a further $1\frac{3}{4}$ " long ($2\frac{1}{4}$ " if unsewn reticule is over 13" long).
 - Repeat previous steps on other side of top of reticule.
 - Sew a seam close to the bottom of the flap on both sides (maximum $\frac{1}{8}$ ").
 - Repeat about $\frac{3}{4}$ " higher, at top edge of opening on side.
- The drawstring threads through the lower casing, and the top 1" panel makes a bit of a ruffle.
- Make double drawstrings; install and trim as you see fit (see separate instructions).



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RETICULE #2 ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS: THE "ENVELOPE" RETICULE

This reticule is lined. Softer cushion fabrics will result in an orchid-like petal shape rather than an envelope.

- If required, sew closed where zipper was removed.
- Fold the triangular side flaps in to the centreline of reticule.
 - Sew to the front panel with a zigzag over the edge of the top flap. Iron the folded sides.
 - Sew the tops of the flaps to the front with a blanket or zigzag stitch at the edge.
 - There are no side seams to sew.
- Install tassel bottom if desired (see separate instructions).
- Make lining per separate instructions.
- Make drawstring, and trim as you see fit (see separate instructions).



Variations for No-Sew iron-on hemming tape:

- Seams use ½" no-sew tape.
- If not lining reticule, finish seams by folding 1" wide bias tape (available in sewing stores and dollar stores) over the sewn seam allowance; attach with no-sew tape.
- If lining, the bias tape will be used on the lining seams.
- Special for Reticule #1 drawstring casing:
 - Side seam at top stops 1¼" from top edge instead of 2". There is no resumption of seam at end of fabric.
 - Fold unsewn seam open at seam allowance and use no-sew tape to hold in place.
 - Press ½" flap for casing and second fold 1¾" to 2¼" above it, as indicated in regular instructions.
 - Do not use no-sew tape to hold either fold in place, just to attach the ½" flap to the reticule as follows.
 - Use two rows of no-sew tape:
 - At the bottom edge under the ½" flap
 - With a lower edge ¾" from the bottom folded edge of the original fabric.
 - This leaves a ¾" wide slot at the sides.
 - Use hand-sewing to tack the edges of the drawstring opening top and bottom, both sides, for reinforcement where drawstrings will enter/leave.

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RETICULE #3 AND #4

This pattern is for a cushion with an edge trim such as cording or piping that you want to use on the sides of the long reticule.

RETICULE #3 ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- Install tassels at pointed corners if desired (see page 14).
- Turn inside out. With right sides of fabric together, pin the narrow tab between layers of the main body of the reticule.
 - Using a zipper foot, sew all panels together close to the edge of the trim.
 - Repeat on the opposite side of reticule.
 - Trim seam allowances in layers to reduce bulk and if desired, finish with a zigzag or blanket stitch.
- Trim bottom inside corners to 45° at ¼".
- Turn right side out.
- From here, follow instructions for Reticule #1.

RETICULE #4 ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- Install tassels at pointed corners if desired (see separate instructions).
- Turn inside out and sew a ½" seam on one open side, **stopping** at 2½" from the top of the reticule, backstitching or tacking to hold thread.
 - If lining reticule, do not stop, instead sew side seam to the top.
- Trim bottom inside corners to 45° and about ¼" from seams.
- If installing lining (separate instructions), skip the next set of instructions.
- Drawstring casing:
 - Iron the non-sewn seam allowances at the top of purse open (with a ½" fold) to align with seam. Sew to body of purse at ⅛" from the cut edge.
 - Take one layer and fold a ½" flap towards yourself (the outside), across the top, and press in place with an iron.
 - Fold down another ¾" and press in place with iron.
 - Repeat last two steps on opposite side.
 - Sew a seam close to the bottom of the flap on both sides (maximum ⅛").
- Turn the reticule right side out.
- Install lining if desired (see separate instructions).
- Make double drawstrings, install and trim as you see fit (see separate instructions).

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RETICULE #5: THE AMERICAN GIRL'S BOOK THREE-SIDED RETICULE

A common style of Regency reticule.

Use a plain-backed cushion to have a lining. A 17" or larger cushion is preferable.

Piping and cording edge trim is optional; if in place, use Optional Piping Edges instructions.

- Cut 3 of Reticule #4, 7" wide, with straight sides, from the corners to a height where they meet in the middle.
 - There will be a square in the middle.
 - Set aside extra fabric to use for another reticule (#1 or #3).
- Attach tassels (see separate instructions) to the outside of the fabric on the right side lower corner of each side plus one bottom corner.
- Optional piping edges: if you are an intermediate sewer, you can add piping up each outside seam.
 - If there is existing piping or cording:
 - Cut panels with a tab attached, similar to like Reticule #3, but only one side on each panel.
 - Each tab should have ½" of cushion fabric attached to their sides for a seam allowance.
 - They should be long enough to reach to 2" from top of reticule.
 - Use instructions from Reticule #3 to attach while you're putting the outside panels together.
 - If there is no existing piping:
 - Cut off lining close to edge.
 - Use piping with its own tab for seam allowance.
 - From centre bottom corner, pin between seams of outside fabric (right sides together) so edge of piping seam allowance matches fabric edges and piping is to the inside of the reticule.
 - End piping 2" from top.
 - Continue as below, but use a zipper foot, close to piping, for side seams up to 2" from top.
 - Make lining separately, similar to side panels, except sew to top at side seams. If using no-sew tape, finish with bias tape.
- Pin outside fabric of 2 panels together, right sides together and sew with a ½" seam to within 2" of top.
- Press unsewn seams open and stitch at ⅛" from edge. If bulky with piping, trim layers unevenly.
- Press sewn seams open or finish with zigzag or blanket stitch.
- Repeat with next panel until all three are sewn into a tube.
- Repeat with the inside panels (original back of cushion cover, will be the lining), right sides together, except sew to top. If using no-sew tape, finish with bias tape.
- You should now have two tubes connected at the base (unless you added piping).
- Turn the outside panels right side out over other panels.
 - Lining should now be tucked into outside. If you look inside, it will look finished.

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- Baste lining and outside together all around top opening.
- Use the instructions for Reticule #4 to make the casing for the drawstrings, folding both layers (outside and lining) together.
- Use three drawstrings (instructions on another sheet)
 - Each goes all the way around starting from a different slot,
 - Both ends of each drawstring come out the same slot, and there's no loop end the other side.
 - Trim drawstrings as desired.

Variations for No-Sew iron-on hemming tape:

- Seams use ½" no-sew tape.
- Special for tabs for edging on Reticule #3 or #5:
 - Open tabs and put no-sew tape between one side of tab and adjacent main panel of reticule, right sides together.
 - Make sure no-sew tape is close to edge trim.
 - Repeat with other side of tab and both sides of reticule.
 - If using bias tape (unlined) then put on each of these two seams separately.
- If not lining reticule, finish all seams by folding 1" wide bias tape (available in sewing stores and dollar stores) over the sewn seam allowance; attach with no-sew tape.
- If lining, the bias tape will be used on the lining seams.
- Special for drawstring casing for Reticule #3:
 - Side seam for gather/casing stops 1¼" from top edge instead of 2". There is no resumption of seam at end of fabric.
 - Fold unsewn seam open at seam allowance and use no-sew tape to hold in place.
 - Press ½" flap for casing and second fold 2¼" to 2¾" above, as indicated in regular instructions.
 - Do not use no-sew tape to hold either fold in place, just to attach the ½" flap to the reticule as follows.
 - Use two rows of no-sew tape:
 - At the bottom edge under the ½" flap
 - With a lower edge ¾" from the bottom folded edge of the original fabric.
 - This leaves a ¾" wide slot at the sides.
- Use hand-sewing to tack the edges of the drawstring openings top and bottom, both (or three) sides, for reinforcement where drawstrings will enter/leave.

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RETICULE #6

Pattern is based on a 14" or larger square cushion with a pattern only on one side. Adjust the dimensions of the reticule to get the best look for the pattern.

Important notes: Top panel side length should always be 1¼" (cut size) except for use of no-sew tape. Note where seam allowance cannot be reduced (bold type).

RETICULE #6 ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- Cut along lines as shown on the pattern.
- Turn the four corner panels inside out.
- For the two longest panels:
 - Pin outside fabric of panels right sides together.
 - Sew a ¼" seam down each side.
 - Repeat with the two inside panels (original back of cushion cover), right sides together.
 - Finish seams with zigzag or blanket stitch at cut edges, or press seams open.
 - Turn the outside panels right side out over other panels.
 - Lining should now be tucked into outside.
 - If you look inside, it should look finished.
 - Temporarily pin lining closed across the top opening.
- For each of the two short panels:
 - Fold the ¼" side seam allowance of the outside layer towards you (right sides together).
 - Sew in place, ⅛" from cut edge.
 - Turn each panel over and repeat with lining.
 - Turn right side out.
- Place short panel bottom edge along top of bottom panel outside top edge, right sides together, matching seam allowance to top finished edge
 - Pin the outside of the bottom panel to the top panel (do not pin lining in).
 - Sew a ½" seam.
 - Repeat other side.
- Fold top panel up and press seam towards the bottom of reticule.
- Unpin lining of bottom panel.
- Press a ¾" fold in the top edge of lining, towards its outside (between it and outside panel)
- Pin to the outside panel, with its folded edge about ⅛" over the seam.
- Sew along the seam of joint between top and bottom, all around opening of purse (about ⅛" from edge of lining fabric fold).
- In each top panel, sew another line about ¾" above the seam to the lower half, from the outside edge of the original cushion cover on one side to the other.
 - If there is piping or cording, this seam should be just below it, that is, do not sew it into what becomes the opening for the drawstring cord casing.
- Make double drawstrings, install and trim as you see fit (separate instructions).

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Alternate instructions for unlined version of Reticule #6, plus one extra reticule:

This design can also be made with a cushion cover that has two matching sides, for one of this reticule and one reticule such as #1-#4. The body of the reticule is unlined.

- Cut one long panel only, and two short panels.
- Turn long panel inside out and sew the side seams closed.
 - Zigzag or blanket stitch side seams or cover with bias tape if desired, otherwise, press seams open. Trim corners.
- Continue with instructions for Reticule #5 top (short) panels.
 - Ignore references to the bottom lining.
 - After attaching top panels, stitch seam downwards (towards unlined section) close to the joining seam ($\frac{1}{8}$ " maximum).
- The extra reticule can be treated like Reticule #2, unlined, with the top flap of Reticule #1 for the drawstring casing and ruffle, or a scalloped version of Reticule #1, or as Reticule #3.

Variations for No-Sew iron-on hemming tape:

- Seams use $\frac{1}{2}$ " no-sew tape. No-sew tape is not appropriate for heavier fabrics.
- Cut panels $\frac{1}{4}$ " longer. Optional: $\frac{1}{2}$ " wider.
- If not lining reticule, finish inside bottom seams by folding 1" wide bias tape (available in sewing stores and dollar stores) over the sewn seam allowance; attach with no-sew tape.
- If lining, the bias tape should be used on the lining seams.
- Special for drawstring casings:
 - Before attaching top (short) panels to bottom:
 - Put a line of no-sew tape between the outer and lining layers of the top panels with its bottom edge about $1\frac{1}{4}$ " up from the cut edge.
 - Hand-sew to tack edges.
 - After attaching outside top to bottom:
 - Use no-sew tape to hold down both layers of the upper panels towards bottom of reticule.
 - Hand-stitch tacks at each edge of drawstring opening to reinforce.
- If lining bottom, turn over at $\frac{1}{2}$ " and attach with no-sew tape.
 - Hand-stitch to upper lining all around at edge (overcast stitch).

Museum Example of Reticule #5; 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long; Metropolitan Museum of Art

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BONUS RETICULE

This was made from extra fabric because of off-centre back zipper. Similar to #5.

Initial cuts on second half of cushion.



Panels opened and bottoms trimmed to shape.



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Tops trimmed and turned down; beads taped out of way of seams before sewing. Bottom beads shown.



Final reticule with three drawstrings.



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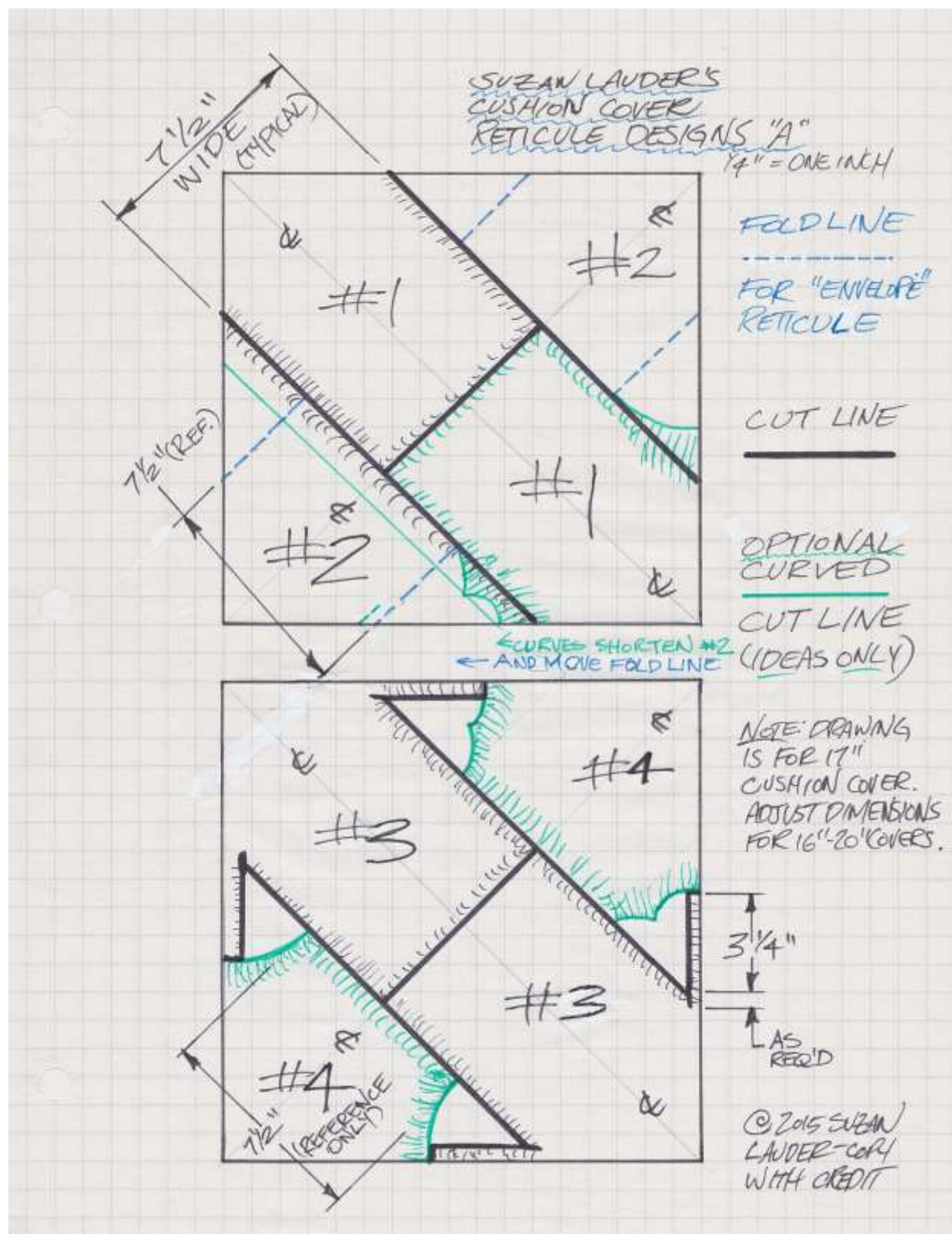
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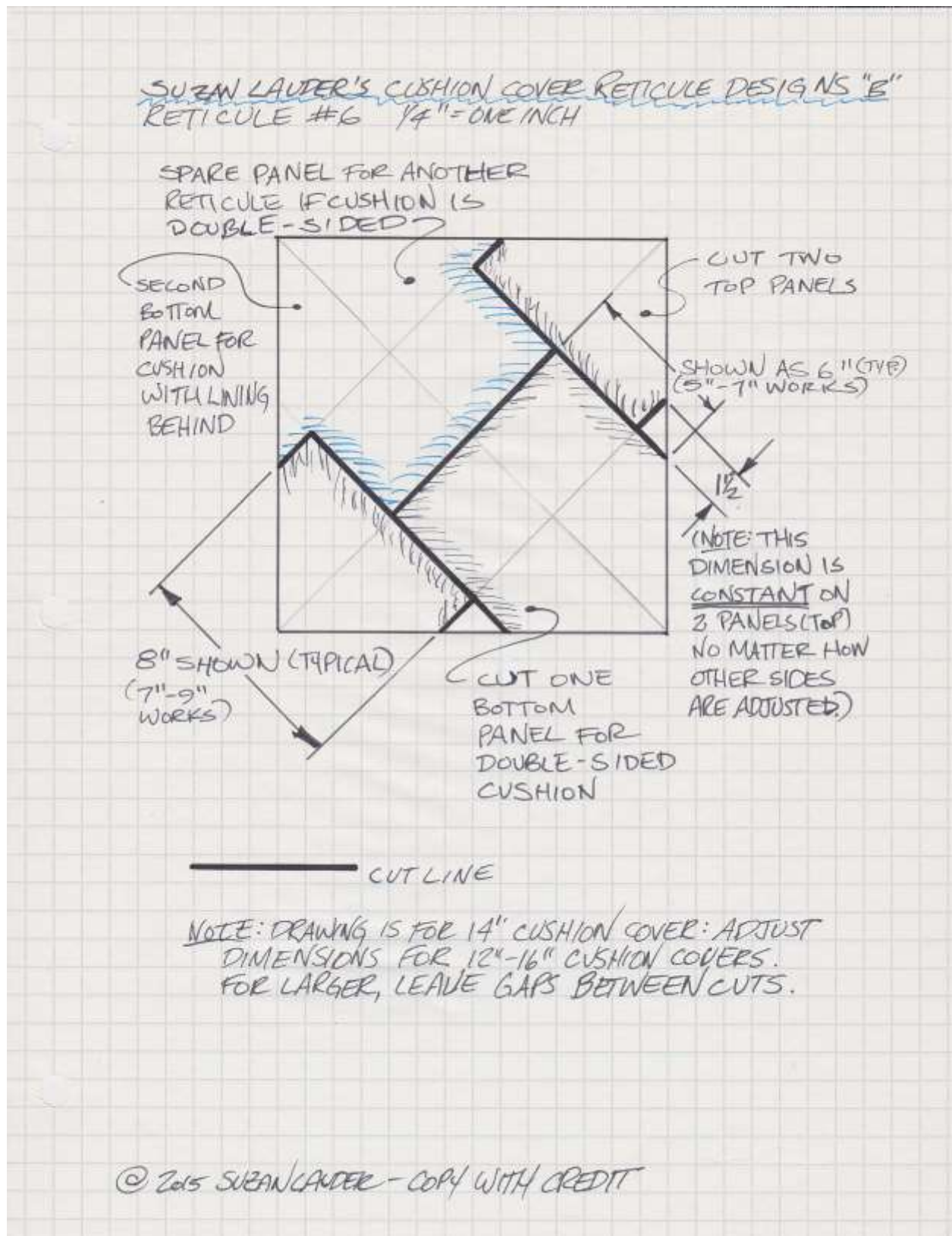
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