Creating a Xmas Banner

Part one ------- Pattern

There are a number of ways you can create the pattern for the flags on your banner. You can draw your triangles straight onto the fabric. However, if you are learning, it is perhaps better to have a **template** to follow.

You can buy triangle templates from a quilting shop, usually in a number of different sizes:

While these are great, very sturdy and long lasting, they are expensive. Invest in these only if you can see yourself using them often, and therefore getting value for money.

As an alternative, you can make your own template. First choose the size triangle you want. This can be big and showy (eg: 20cm W x 30 cm T) to hang across a room or wall, or it can be dainty (eg 5cm W x 7 cm T) which would look great draped around a xmas tree.

Find an old box:

Draw your triangle onto the box: and then cut it out:

Creating a Xmas Banner

Part two ------- fabric

Choice of fabric is the next step. For my banner, I found a pack of matched xmas themed quilting fabrics at my local quilting store.
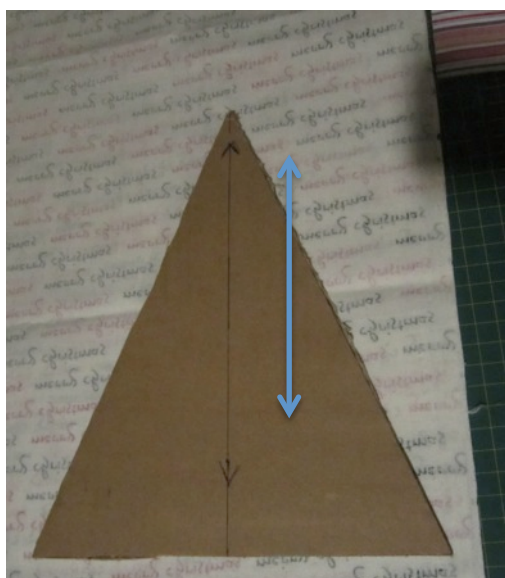

However, this is not your only choice.

Spotlight sells a printed calico, that would make great flags, perhaps alternated with matching plain colours. You could also choose plain calico, apply designs with applique, puff paints, or even sequins and hot glue.

A third option is a preprinted banner panel. These can sometimes be found at quilting shops but also online. The advantage is you don't have to measure or make a template. They can come in triangles or rectangles, and are a great option.

Fold your fabric right sides together, and then place your template onto the fabric. Be sure to make sure the centre line is parallel to the selvedge (the woven edge of the fabric). This will mean that the flag will hang straight. Trace around the template with a tailors chalk or pencil.

To save fabric, you can stack the template in the same way that the preprinted panel is spaced out, but always be mindful of having the centre line parallel to the selvedge.

Once you have all of your pieces traced, pin the layers together, and then **cut out**.

Hooray! You have started on your xmas banner!