

Hand Rendered Repeat Pattern/ **BLOCK REPEAT DITZYS**



There are many ways to create repeat patterns, with examples of the variety of systems outlined overleaf.

This tutorial will explore the BLOCK repeat system.

TASK

- You are asked to work within a repeat pattern block **measuring W4 x H6cm, which you will draw out onto graph paper**. We use a grid system to enable us to design rhythms and flows within our design, while working to a measured area.
- **Mark onto your block your crosshairs**, which will be used to match and tile your pattern.
- Working within the 4 x 6cm space you are asked to **develop a ditzy (small) flow and rhythm that explores the design space available**. Try to stay within the confines of this space, while you find your repeat feet.
- Remember that any elements that fall outside of the unit, will need to appear on the opposite side. You can achieve this by measuring and drawing into the space or tracing and replacing using your guides to align accordingly.
- How do these rhythms work? **Using a lightbox or window trace the block at least 3 blocks wide and 2 blocks high, using your cross hairs to align your pattern, to test your ditzy repeat**. Looking pretty great? Okay, lets make it even better!
- Place your final block design onto a light box or window and **retrace exactly using a variety of drawing techniques and marks** inspired by your personal projects (e.g. monotone Indian ink drawings Vs. laser engraved lino cuts and wood blocks). Aim to translate 3 x 3 (as a minimum) final versions using a range of media and colours to explore the possibilities of your working design and to check for errors.
- Repeat (!) until you have a series of ditzy patterns, in a range of colours and or drawing styles, that work as a micro pattern group.

Repeat Pattern

There are many ways of repeating pattern:

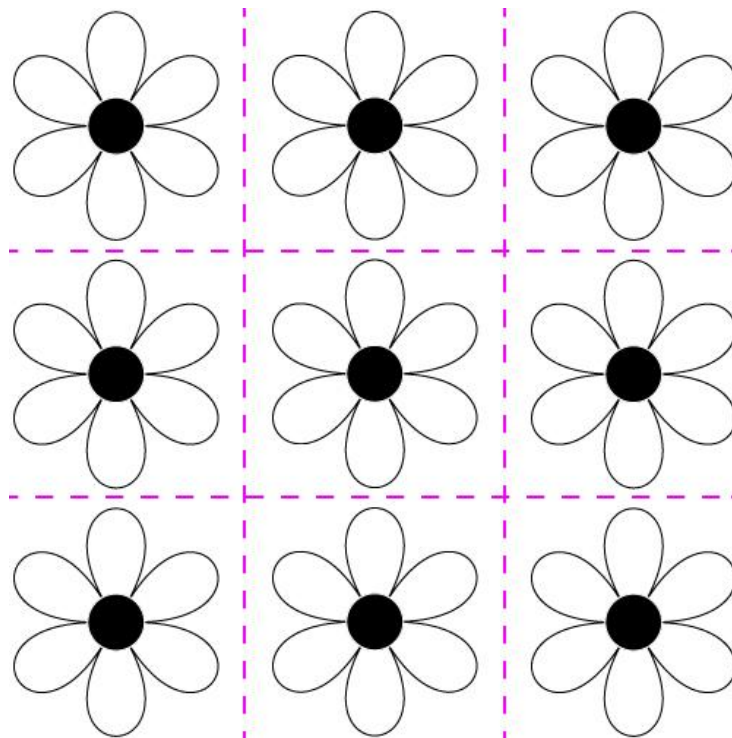
Continuous repeat – fabric printed the full width of the fabric and in a continuous length, metre after metre.

Panel print – a block of pattern is printed many times over, side by side and along the length of the fabric. The panel piece is then cut from this block, helping to eliminate waste.

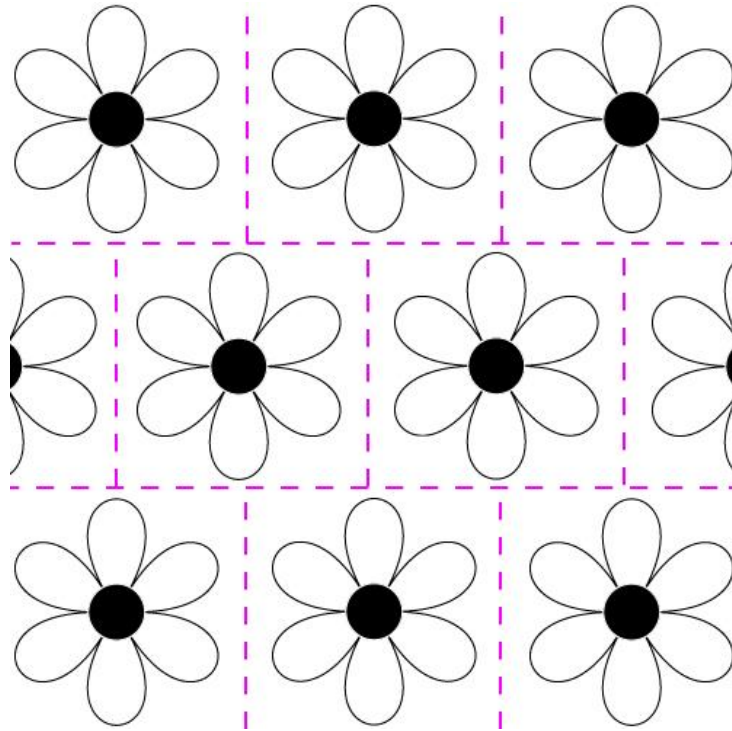
Engineered prints – the design is intended to fit within one of the pattern pieces of the garment so that it appears in a specific place every time. There can be a lot of wasted fabric in engineered prints, which can often be quite expensive in production terms.

Repeat printing refers to how a design is placed across the width and down the length of the substrate to be printed. Repeat patterns can come in many forms, with some of the most common arrangements being:

Full drop OR Block repeat. Arranged in a grid like pattern, each unit of repeat is arranged exactly next to and above each other.



Brick repeats. Arranged like bricks in a wall, each unit of repeat is moved along by half a unit in every other row.



Dropped repeats. This is where the unit of repeat across the fabric has moved alignment by either a quarter, half or a third.

