

New Jersey

The New Jersey block comes from the original state block book called "Covering America". They suggest you make four quarters with diagonal pieces then sew them all together to create the block. To do this, start with a 5 inch square, and put a blue $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch strip with one edge $\frac{1}{4}$ inch off center. Add more $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch strips in this order - white on each side, then red, then a yellow piece on one corner.

Another method is to use a $9\frac{1}{2}$ inch foundation square and sew the strips to that. *If you download the paper piecing patterns, lay the one pattern over the other so the center block aligns to form one pattern.* It can be light fabric or paper. I started with a yellow $2\frac{5}{8}$ inch square in the center and all of the surrounding strips are $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide. The first strips are red going all around forming a $4\frac{5}{8}$ inch square. Add a white round making a $5\frac{3}{4}$ inch square. Then add a blue round making a $7\frac{3}{4}$ inch square. Next is white and then the last is red. These last 2 don't have to be the full length because you will be trimming them off anyway. You can stop them at the edge of your foundation piece.

Now press the whole piece very well and trim it to the $9\frac{1}{2}$ inch size we are using.

