

Bite Size Class Schedule

1pm begin

Self introduction

Material Girlfriends/Marcus Fabrics

Show square for January / Bite Size Quilt

Hand out swatch sheets

Hand out Jan block Pattern

How to Not to Loose Your Points:

Starts with precision. Four main elements in having a square come out the right size.

1. Accurate Cutting. Pre-wash? Spray Starch press. Press out any folds.

Demo how to lay fabric on mat, how to cut. No sliding.

2. Align those squares up perfectly and stick a pin in it. *Demo* on pinning.

3. Accurate Seams. 1/4" seam. Suck it in a couple threads. Stilettoes are not just heels. Keeps the ends from fish tailing out of control. And slow it down there Speedy, it is not a race.

4. Accurate Pressing. Press closed. Press side of iron from the back. Press front.

Test. Cut two 1 1/2" x 3" rectangles. Right sides together, seam along the 3" side. Press. Measure. Rectangle should measure 2 1/2" x 3". Not less not more. If off, figure out which number contributed and try again.

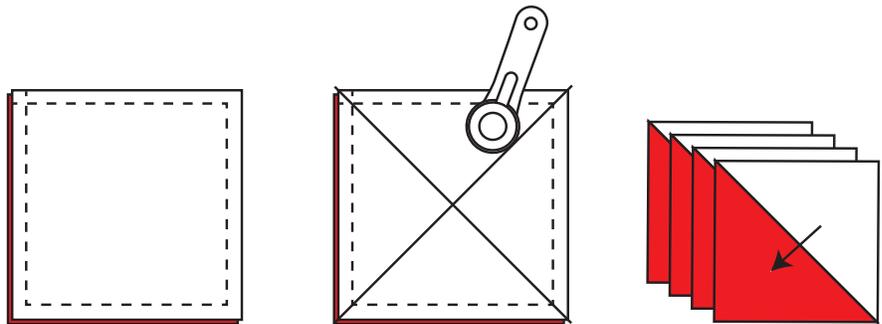
Half Square Triangles:

My Dad used to say, "There is more than one way to skin a cat." I think he'd say it to get me to react. But there are many ways to make your HST. When making HST - old method was to cut triangles. Bias cuts are stretchy and misbehave.

Method 1: Most popular method is to cut a square. Draw a line from corner to opposite corner and sew 1/4" seam on both sides from the drawn line. If making a 2 1/2" HST, most patterns will tell you to cut 2 7/8"

squares. Nay. Here is my first tip: Stray from pattern directions. Round up.

Cut larger. Then after the seams are done and square is cut apart, lay your ruler using the 45 degree line, along the seam and trim down to 2 1/2". Much more precise than 7/8" method.



Method 2: For 2 1/2" HST, cut two 4" squares (blue and white). Right sides together, sew along each side of the square.

Then cut on the diagonal, making an X. Yields 4 half square triangles. (Or you can round up your squares to 4 1/4" and trim down the HST to 2 1/2".)

Method 3: Star Singles or Thangles, cut your squares slightly larger than the paper. For Thangles, cut 2 1/2 strips or use a jelly roll. Sew on the dotted line. Cut on the solid. Yields 8 HST. Comes in many sizes. Fold paper at the seam, rip the paper from the furthest corner to the middle of the seam. Then tear from the middle out to the corners so not to stress your seams at the ends. (hand out one to try)

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Lynn Wilder's book, Patchwork Math is a great resource for making any size HST and flying geese.

Putting the squares, HST, and flying geese together:

PRESS before sewing the units together!

Alignment Tips:

At step 4, Ask yourself, “Where is the point going to be?” Before stitching, line up the two squares at that corner. (See red circle) We don’t care if it is slightly long or short at the end.

At step 5, the seams are pressed in opposite directions. When you place them right sides together, you can feel when sliding them, when they butt up against seam to seam. PIN. Sew your quarter inch seam and then check.

At step 3, the squares **overlap**. There should be 1/4” from the edge to the tip of the V.

At step 6, when stitching the two flying geese together, PIN, and then sew the quarter inch. If the tip isn’t quite to the seam, stitch again a little closer (no need to pull out the first seam.) If it swallowed your point, pull out a couple inches to the left and right. PIN and stitch again. I like having my V points not touching the seam - just a couple threads apart. They just appear sharper to me.

At step 6, when given the option, press the seam away from the tip of the V. If pressed the other way, it rolls your point under and you won’t have a sharp a point.

Last Red circles cover where you should line up the units to each other.

