

## Magic 8 Half Square Triangle Units



Let's Get Started. Your pattern should tell you the finished size of the HST units. Multiply the finished size by 2. Add  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ". Cut two (contrasting) squares of fabric to match that dimension.

*Example:*

*HST units finish at 3" x 3"*

*3" x 2 = 6"*

*6" + 1-3/4" = 7-3/4"*

*Cut two contrasting squares, each 7-3/4" x 7-3/4"*

Experiment with scraps to see what works best for your sewing style.

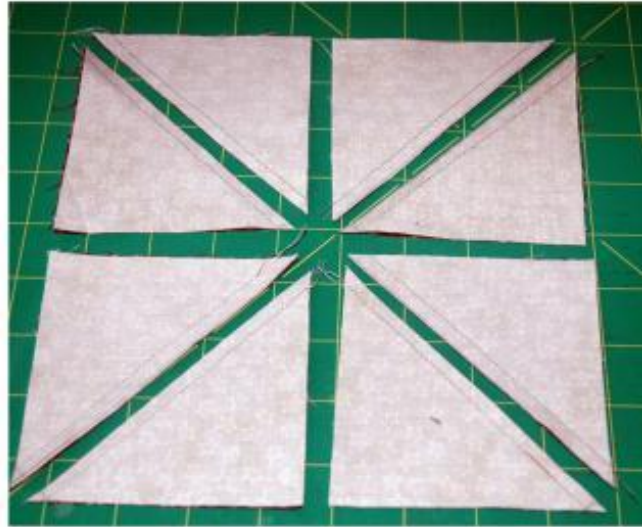
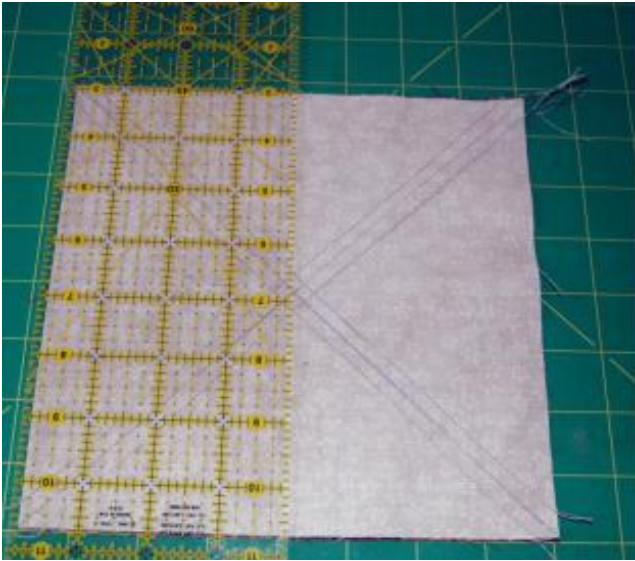
### Mark Fabric and Sew Seams for Half Square Triangle Units

Calculate the square size as explained and cut the two squares you've chosen for your HST units. Draw two diagonal lines on the reverse side of one of the squares, each from one corner to the opposite corner as shown, above left. Align the squares, right sides together and all edges matched. Secure with pins to keep fabrics from shifting.



Sew a seam 1/4" from each side of each line, right image. If you don't have a quarter inch presser foot, mark the lines before sewing. If you are not using an oversize square, sew scant 1/4" seams (slightly narrower than 1/4").

## How to Cut Apart Quick Pieced Half Square Triangle Units



### It's Time to Cut Apart the HST Units

Slice through both layers of the sewn square through its vertical midpoint. Use the center 'box' created by seams and the original marked lines as a guide, but be sure your rotary ruler is aligned so that its rules are parallel to all outer edges of the drawn square. Left image.

Now slice each of the remaining sections apart on the original, drawn lines (right image).

Place the eight unopened HST units on your ironing board -- the fabric seams will be pressed towards should be facing up. Press one more time, unopened, to set the seams.

Flip the top fabric of one unit back and use your iron to (carefully) press the unit open. Repeat for all HST units. Be sure to trim off the little 'dog ears'..