



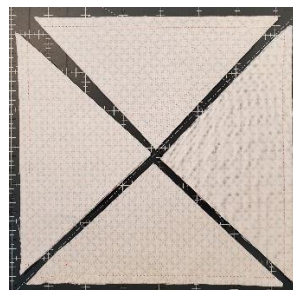
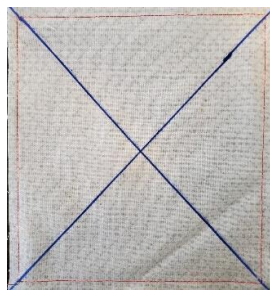
How to make 4 or 8 Half-Square Triangles at a time

It's not at all hard to make multiple half square triangles at a time. You'll begin by cutting your two fabrics into two large squares. Their size depends on the finished cut size of the half square triangles. We have the math below, but we also worked it out into a chart for you to make life easier. Here's an overview of the process without taking size into account for the moment.

For 4 at a time, here's how it works:

Cut your fabrics into squares according to the chart below for 4 at a time.

With right sides together, sew all the way around the perimeter with a 1/4" stitch. Then, draw a line from corner to corner in each direction. Next, simply cut along the drawn lines and you'll have 4 pieces.

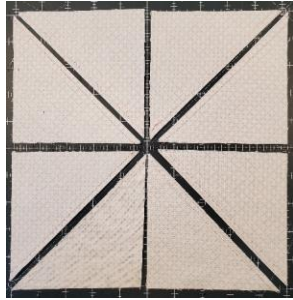
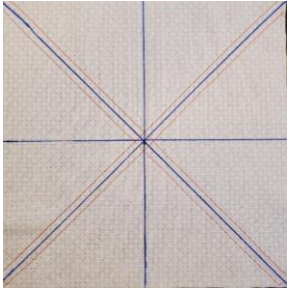


Remember to square up your pieces once you press them open. We usually press the seam to the darker material, but it's up to you. (See below on squaring your squares!)

For 8 at a time, here's how it works:

Cut your fabrics into squares according to the chart below for 8 at a time.

The process is a little different for 8 at a time. Instead of sewing around the perimeter of your two squares, you will begin by marking one of them corner to corner and at the halfway point in each direction. Then you will stitch a 1/4" seam on each side of the diagonal lines.



Once you've done that, simply cut along your drawn lines and you have 8 pieces!

Square up your squares!

There are a couple of things to keep in mind when you make multiple triangles. First, if you're worried about accuracy, then try cutting your initial two squares a little larger than what's on the chart below (although you will still have great triangles with these sizes). That way, when you cut them apart and find you weren't as accurate as you'd like, you have a little bit of fudge room to straighten out your triangles.

Second, remember that you are cutting along bias lines and that means your parts can have some stretch to them. That can help or hinder.

After you cut and press your half square triangles, place them on your cutting mat. Use the sewn seam as your guide to square up the piece with your ruler.

The Math

The formula you use for the 4 at a time method is different than that for the 8 at a time method. Also, the 4 at a time method is determined off the UNFINISHED size of your square before being sewn into your quilt. The 8 at a time method is calculated off the FINISHED size of your square.

4 at a time - Take your desired finished size (as sewn into your quilt) and add 1/2" to determine the unfinished block size. Then, divide the unfinished block size by .64 to determine the size of the square needed to achieve 4 unfinished half square triangles when sewn and cut apart. If number winds up being 3.960, just round up your starting square to 4". You can trim to size when you square up.

Example: The finished size of my desired half-square triangle is 3-1/2". $3\text{-}1/2'' \text{ finished size} + 1/2'' = 4''$ unfinished size. $4'' / .64 = 6.25''$. You would start with two 6.25" squares that would be sewn together as shown above. See chart below for your convenience. We rounded up for you.

8 at a time - Add 7/8" (.875) to your desired finished size. Then multiply that by 2. If you have an odd number, add a little bit. You can trim to size when you square up.

Example: I want eight 4" half square triangles. $4" + .875" = 4.875$. $4.875 \times 2 = 9.75"$. You would start with two 9.75" squares that would be sewn together as shown above. See chart below for your convenience. We rounded up for you.

4 AT A TIME CHART

Finished H-S Triangle Size	Unfinished H-S Triangle Size	Beginning Square Size
1	1 1/2	2 3/8
1 1/2	2	3 1/8
2	2 1/2	4
2 1/2	3	4 3/4
3	3 1/2	5 1/2
3 1/2	4	6 1/4
4	4 1/2	7
4 1/2	5	7 7/8
5	5 1/2	8 5/8
5 1/2	6	9 3/8
6	6 1/2	10 1/4
6 1/2	7	11
7	7 1/2	11 3/4

8 AT A TIME CHART

Finished H-S Triangle Size	Unfinished H-S Triangle Size	Beginning Square Size
1	1 1/2	3 3/4
1 1/2	2	4 3/4
2	2 1/2	5 3/4
2 1/2	3	6 3/4
3	3 1/2	7 3/4
3 1/2	4	8 3/4
4	4 1/2	9 3/4
4 1/2	5	10 3/4
5	5 1/2	11 3/4
5 1/2	6	12 3/4
6	6 1/2	13 3/4
6 1/2	7	14 3/4
7	7 1/2	15 3/4