

# Snowball Rulers

Congratulations on your selection of another revolutionary tool from Ruler Revolution that you will find useful with many patterns on the market. Using the Ruler Revolution Snowball ruler and technique, you mark the sew lines and cut lines first, sew on the larger pieces of fabric, then cut and trim. The result is a perfectly square snowball block — not skewed out of shape as is often the result using the old fashion

**Tip**

method of making snowball blocks. You will soon be snowballing every block imaginable. Enjoy!

Spray starching will help stabilize the fabric, minimize loose threads along seam edges, and assist in obtaining clean, crisp cuts and sew lines

throughout the piecing process. An accurate  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance is essential for all quilt piecing.

## Ruler Revolution Half Square Triangles

1. Select two coordinating fabrics. To make a practice snowball block, cut each piece of fabric  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square. See Diagram A. Note: The Snowball ruler has five built-in sizes, however, you can snowball any size block by using the same corner on the ruler to mark any size block.
2. Stack the two pieces of fabric **right sides together**. The piece you desire to be the corner triangle should be on top (e.g. the dark fabric in the diagrams).
3. Place the Ruler Revolution Snowball ruler on top of the fabric squares, lining up the two pieces of fabric with the  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " square markings on the ruler. See Diagram B.
4. Using a fabric marking pencil, mark a line **on the wrong side** of the fabric in each of the four diagonal slots across the corners of the  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " measurement AND in the vertical and horizontal slots of the ruler. See Diagram B.

(continued next page)

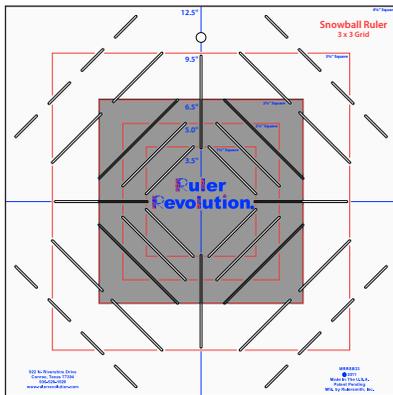


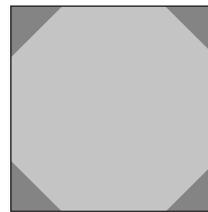
Diagram B

# Ruler Revolution®

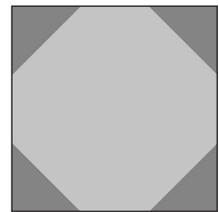
"Where Speed and Accuracy Meet"

## Remove the Paper Backing

The ruler comes with a brown paper backing. To remove, lay the ruler on a flat surface. Gently peel away the brown paper while firmly holding the ruler flat on a level surface to prevent breaking the ruler along the slots. DO NOT carry, pick up, or support the ruler at the corner. In the event you break the ruler, it can be easily glued back together with cyanoacrylate glue (e.g. Super Glue or Instant Glue brands).



4 x 4 Block



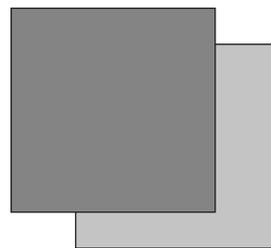
3 x 3 Block

## 4 x 4 versus 3 x 3

Each Ruler Revolution Snowball ruler has been designed so that the snowball blocks can be easily mixed with other traditional quilt blocks. For example:

- 4 x 4 ruler — mixes with any 4-patch block unit.
- 3 x 3 ruler — mixes with any 9-patch block unit. Moda Charm Pack and Hoffman Bali Snap friendly.

The corners on the 4 x 4 block are not quite as deep as the corners on the 3 x 3 block. Otherwise, the technique to make a snowball block is the same using either ruler.



Place right sides together for marking and sewing

Diagram A

**Tip**

To see the Ruler Revolution snowball technique demonstrated, go to the Ruler Revolution website at [www.rulerrevolution.com](http://www.rulerrevolution.com) and view the video for making a basic snowball block.

- Take the fabric stack to the sewing machine and sew straight down and on top of the diagonal line. Turn and sew the next diagonal line. There is no need to cut the thread as you turn. See Diagram C.

# Tip

At this step, if you have multiple snowball blocks to make, you can chain piece each block without cutting the thread and really speed up the process of making your blocks.

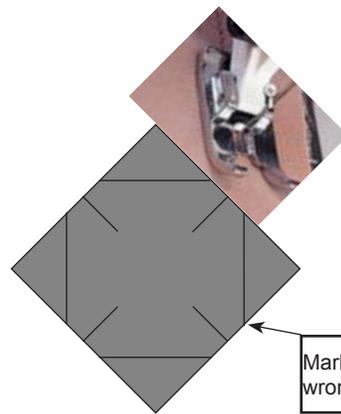


Diagram C

- After all diagonal lines are sewn, using scissors, cut through the **top fabric ONLY** following the vertical and horizontal lines as your guide. A precise cut with your scissors along these lines is not required. **DO NOT cut through both pieces of fabric.**
- Open the top piece of fabric toward the corners and press open with a hot iron. See Diagram D.

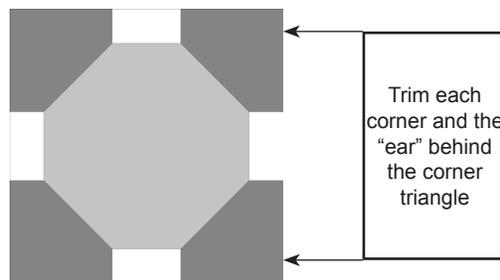


Diagram D

## Trimming the Block

- Take the pressed blocks to your cutting mat.
- Position a squaring-up ruler over the right side of the block.
- Line up the top of the block and the right side of the block with the ruler and trim off the pieces of fabric from the corner triangle.
- Turn the block 180 degrees and trim the remaining two edges. See trimmed block in Diagram E.
- Cut off the "ears" behind the corner triangles leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

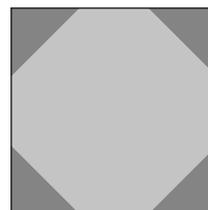


Diagram E



Ask for other Ruler Revolution rulers and patterns at your favorite quilt shops:

- 24 in 24 Half-Square Triangle ruler
- 24 in 24 Mini Half-Square Triangle ruler
- Leaf Stem ruler
- Sticks and Stones—2" ruler
- Sticks and Stones—2-1/2" ruler
- Zig Zag Snowballs pattern
- Disappearing Snowballs pattern
- Hidden Snowballs pattern
- Miters in Minutes pattern

## More Tips and Techniques

The Ruler Revolution Snowball ruler is a great tool for beginning quilters to make snowball blocks very easily, accurately, and rapidly.

Experienced quilters will get their creative juices flowing when snowballing other blocks and then mixing and matching. Create awesome blocks by cutting snowballed blocks apart in quarters, turn the units and re-sew.

Visit [www.rulerrevolution.com](http://www.rulerrevolution.com) to see videos on how to:

- Obtain bonus half-square triangles from the block
- Snowball strip sets or 9-patch blocks
- Miter corners with the Ruler Revolution Snowball ruler.

*Thank you for your business!*

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