

VIRTUAL

# Breakfast Club



Brought to you by:

# MATERIAL Girls Quilt Boutique

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# Get Your GAGGLE In Order

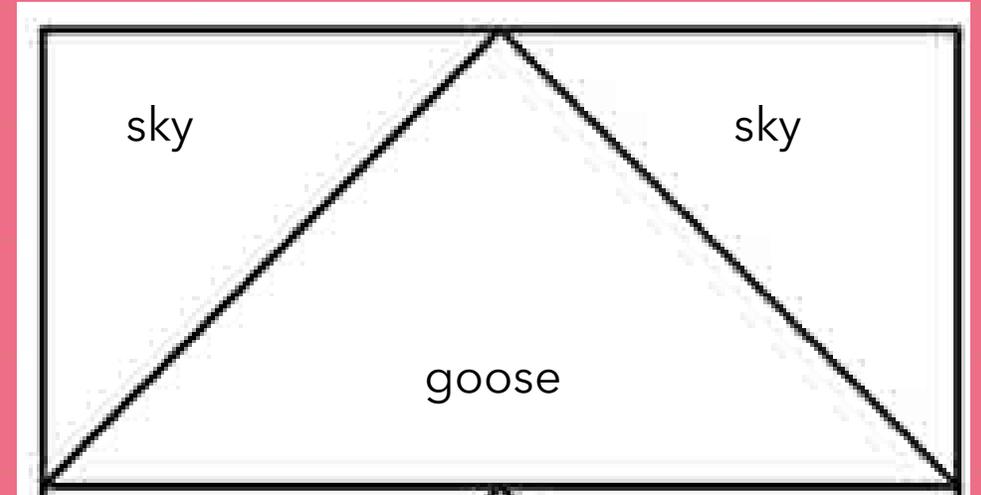
An In-Depth Look at the Flying Geese Unit



# What is a flying geese unit?

The traditional flying geese block consists of three triangles cut from two fabrics:

- One large center triangle
  - ✓ generally known as the "goose"
- Two smaller triangles
  - ✓ Represent the "sky."



## Flying geese math:

One flying geese unit finishes at a width which is twice its height (e.g., 2" x 4")

# How to make a flying geese unit

Traditional Triangle  
Method

Stitch n Flip Method

No Waste Method

Two Square Method

# Traditional Triangle Method

There will be bias edges, and you have to pay attention to how you align the triangles.

Let's do the math first:

Large Triangle (Geese): Cut a square with side measurements the same as the finished width of the flying geese block +  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ", then cut on both diagonals to make four triangles (enough for four flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:  $4" + 1\frac{1}{4}" = 5\frac{1}{4}"$   
Cut a  $5\frac{1}{4}"$  square and then cut on both diagonals



Small Triangles (Sky): Cut a square with side measurements the same as the finished height of the flying geese block +  $\frac{7}{8}$ ", then cut on one diagonal to make two triangles (enough for one flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:  $2" + \frac{7}{8}" = 2\frac{7}{8}"$   
Cut a  $2\frac{7}{8}"$  square and then cut on one diagonal



This will result in a  $2\frac{1}{2}"$  x  $4\frac{1}{2}"$  flying geese unit

**Traditional Triangle  
method is most  
used when:**

Hand Piecing

Using Templates (ie. Marti  
Michell Perfect Patchwork)

Using an AccuQuilt

# Stitch n Flip Method

Most common method that quilters are first introduced to when making flying geese. This method involves trimming triangles after stitching each line

Large Triangle (Geese): Cut a rectangle with side measurements the same as the finished width and height of the flying geese block + 1/2" (enough for one flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:

$$2 + \frac{1}{2}'' = 2 \frac{1}{2}'' \quad \text{and} \quad 4 + \frac{1}{2}'' = 4 \frac{1}{2}''$$

Cut a 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" rectangle

Small Triangles (Sky): Cut two squares with side measurements the same as the finished height of the flying geese block + 1/2" (enough for one flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:

$$2 + \frac{1}{2}'' = 2 \frac{1}{2}''$$

Cut (2) 2 1/2" squares

## Stitch n Flip method is most used when:

When making a quilt with fewer than four flying geese from a particular combination of fabrics.

When using directional fabrics, and you need the prints oriented in the same direction on every flying geese block

When working with scraps that are too small for the no-waste method

# No Waste Method

No-waste here means no trimming half-square triangles from the seam allowance as you do in the stitch and flip method.

Large Triangle (Geese): Cut a square with side measurements the same as the finished width of the flying geese block + 1-1/4" (enough for four flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:

$$4" + 1 \frac{1}{4}" = 5 \frac{1}{4}"$$

Cut (1) square 5 1/4" x 5 1/4"

Small Triangles (Sky): Cut four squares with side measurements the same as the finished height of the flying geese block + 7/8" (enough for four flying geese).

Let's make a 2" x 4" finished flying goose unit:

$$2 + 7/8" = 2 \frac{7}{8}"$$

Cut (4) 2 7/8" squares

# No Waste method is most used when:

When you need to make LOTS of flying geese from the same fabric combinations. This method produces 4 at a time

When using the same directional fabrics for four or more flying geese, but you want half oriented in one direction and half oriented 90° from there

When you want no waste 😊

# Two Triangle Method

Two Squares, one larger than the other and in a few stitches, it will yield 4 flying geese

1. Determine your unfinished size of your flying geese.
2. Add 1" to the longest measurement from Step 1 and cut a square of your "goose" fabric
3. Add 1 ½" to the longest measurement from Step 1 and cut a square of your "sky" fabric

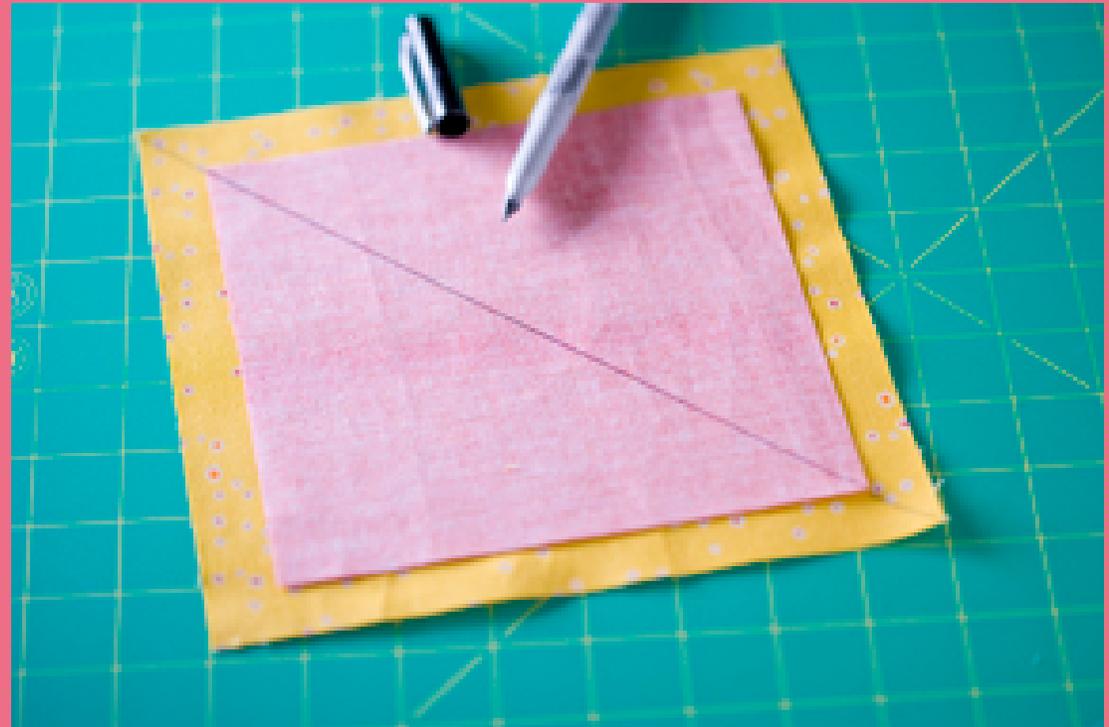
Unfinished flying goose unit =  $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$

Goose Fabric =  $6\frac{1}{2}'' + 1'' = 7\frac{1}{2}''$

Sky Fabric =  $6\frac{1}{2}'' + 1\frac{1}{2}'' = 8''$

# Step 1:

- Place your two squares RST (right sides together) and place the smaller block in the center of the larger block. This doesn't have to be exact but should be pretty close.
- Use a fine tip marker, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner.



## Step 2:

- Stitch through both layers, 1/4" from each side of the marked line.
- Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut on the center marked line.



## Step 3:

- Align one corner/2 sides. DO NOT ALIGN the center seam
- Keeping the two blocks in that same position, pin if you need to, draw another fine line diagonally across the block, crossing the seam as shown. Again, stitch 1/4" on each side of this marked line. Then using a ruler and rotary cutter, cut on the marked line.



## Step 4:

Using sharp tipped scissors, cut the seam allowance just to the edge of the seam, at the bulkiest section. Repeat on both pieces. This will allow you to press the seam allowance to the background color on each side.





## Step 5:

Using your ruler, cut down the center of the sky/background sections to create two roughly. Repeat with both units to create 4 flying geese units.

# Step 6:

- Using your ruler, trim all four units down to size.
- Be sure you leave a 1/4" just above the point of your goose.
- Trim the sides so the "sky" butts up against the "goose" on both sides.



# Not a fan of those methods? Too much math

- Let's look at some rulers that will make the geese slightly oversized and then give you the ability to trim to the exact measurement



# Ruler Options

- Quilt in a Day Flying Geese Rulers
- Wing Clipper by Studio 180
- Marti Michell Flying Geese Ruler
- Creative Grids Ultimate Flying Geese Ruler
- Creative Grids 45\* and 90\* Ruler



# Quilt in a Day Flying Geese Rulers

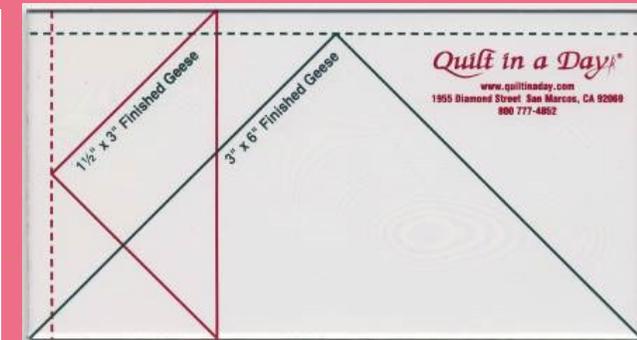
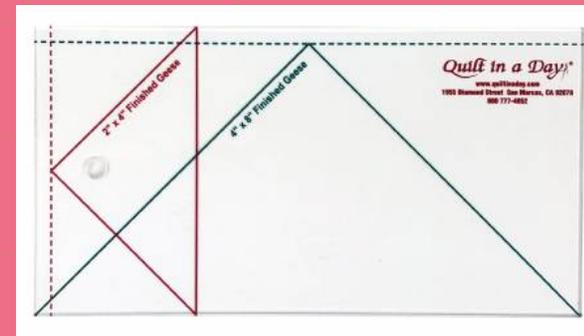
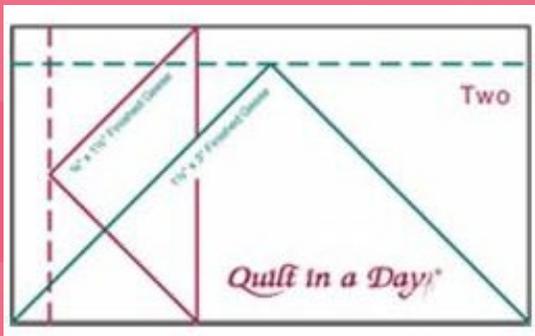
No measuring necessary! Just line up the triangle lines on the ruler with the 45 degree sewn lines and trim the patch the size of the ruler

4 Rulers with the following "finished" sizes:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ "
- 1 x 2
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  x 3 \*
- 2 x 4 \*
- 3 x 6
- 4 x 8

\* Duplicate size on another ruler

Instructions for assembly use the "Two Triangle Method"



# Wing Clipper by Studio 180 Design

Instructions for assembly use the "No Waste" Method

## Wing Clipper I

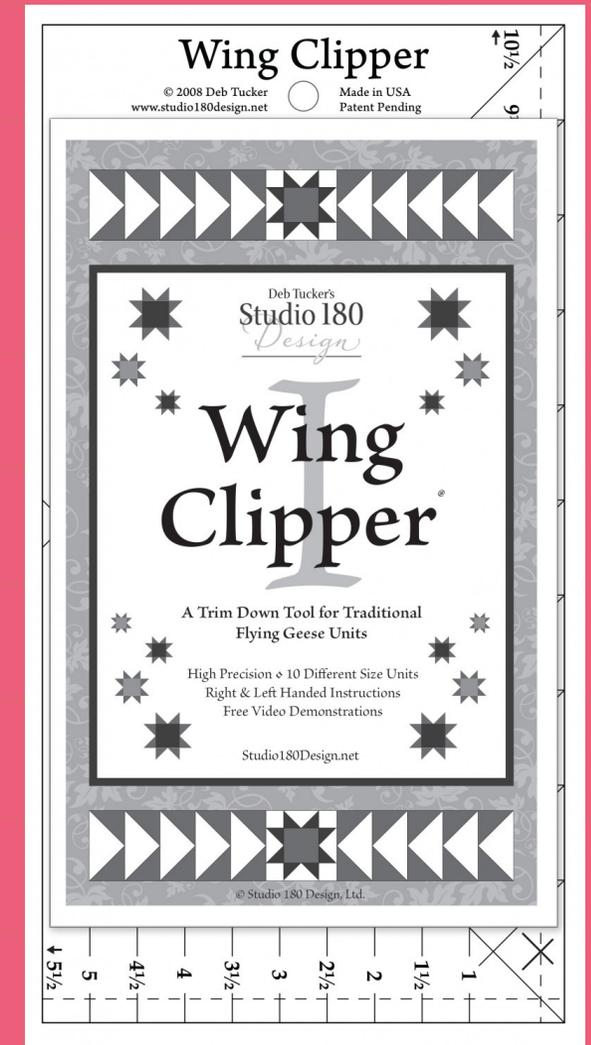
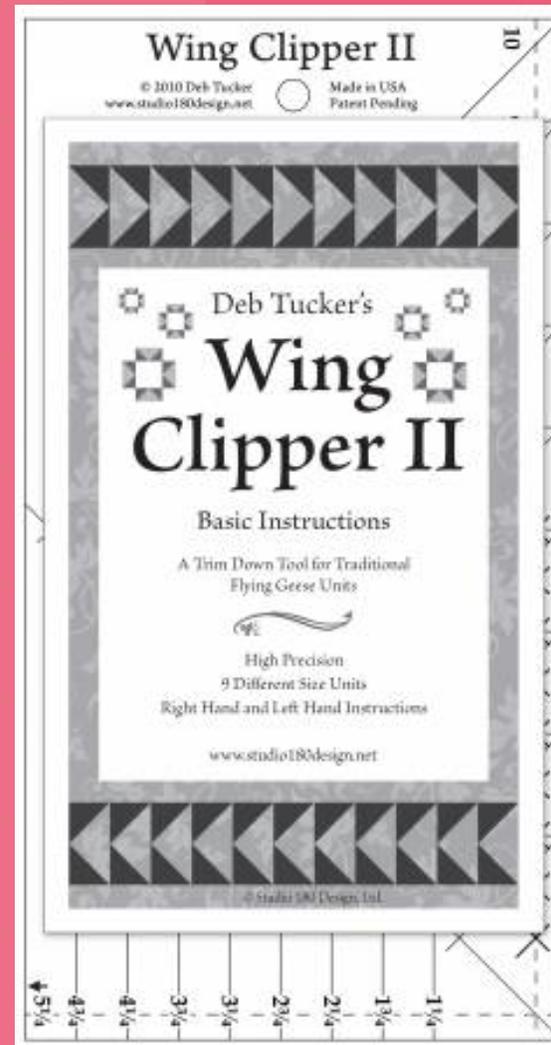
Ten sizes from 1/2" x 1" finished units to 5" x 10" finished units

Note all sizes on this ruler are based on heights that finish to 1/2" or whole inch. The heights increase in half inch increments.

## Wing Clipper II

Ten sizes from 3/4" x 1 1/2" finished units to 4 3/4" x 9 1/2" finished units

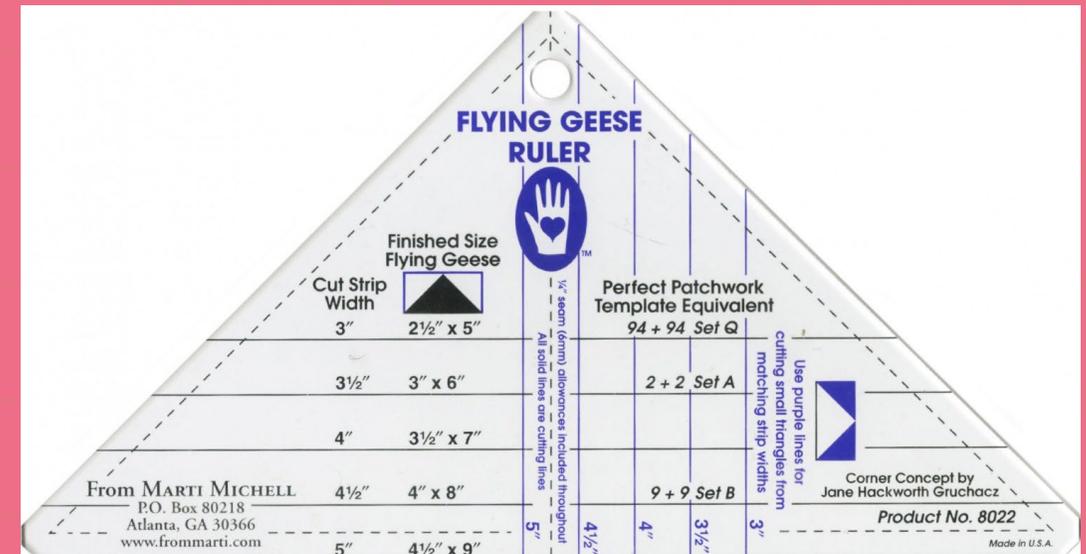
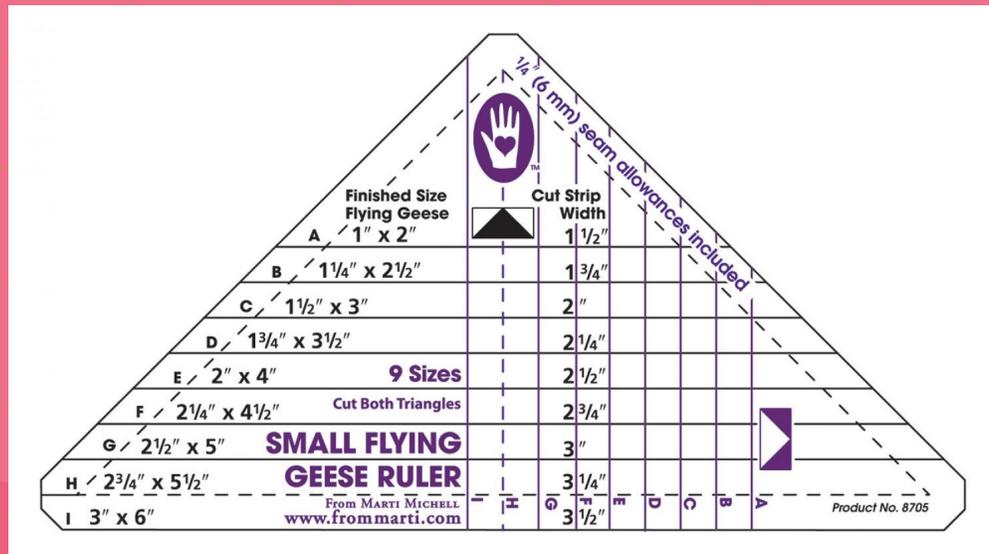
Note all sizes on this ruler are based on heights that finish to 1/4" or 3/4". The heights increase in half inch increments.



# Marti Michell Flying Geese Rulers

Instructions for assembly use the "Traditional Triangle" Method

Just cut strips according to the widths marked on the ruler and align the ruler on the strips using the appropriate horizontal or vertical line to cut triangles. Nip the points using the ruler's special engineered corners for perfect sewing alignment.



Our new Small Flying Geese Ruler cuts both triangles for Flying Geese in 9 sizes.  
 1 x 2, 1 1/4 x 2 1/2, 1 1/2 x 3, 1 3/4 x 3 1/2, 2 x 4, 2 1/4 x 4 1/2, 2 1/2 x 5, 2 3/4 x 5 1/2, and 3 x 6

You can cut both triangles for Flying Geese units in 5 sizes with our special engineered corners. 2.5in x 5in, 3in x 6in, 3.5in x 7in, 4in x 8in and 4.5in x 9in

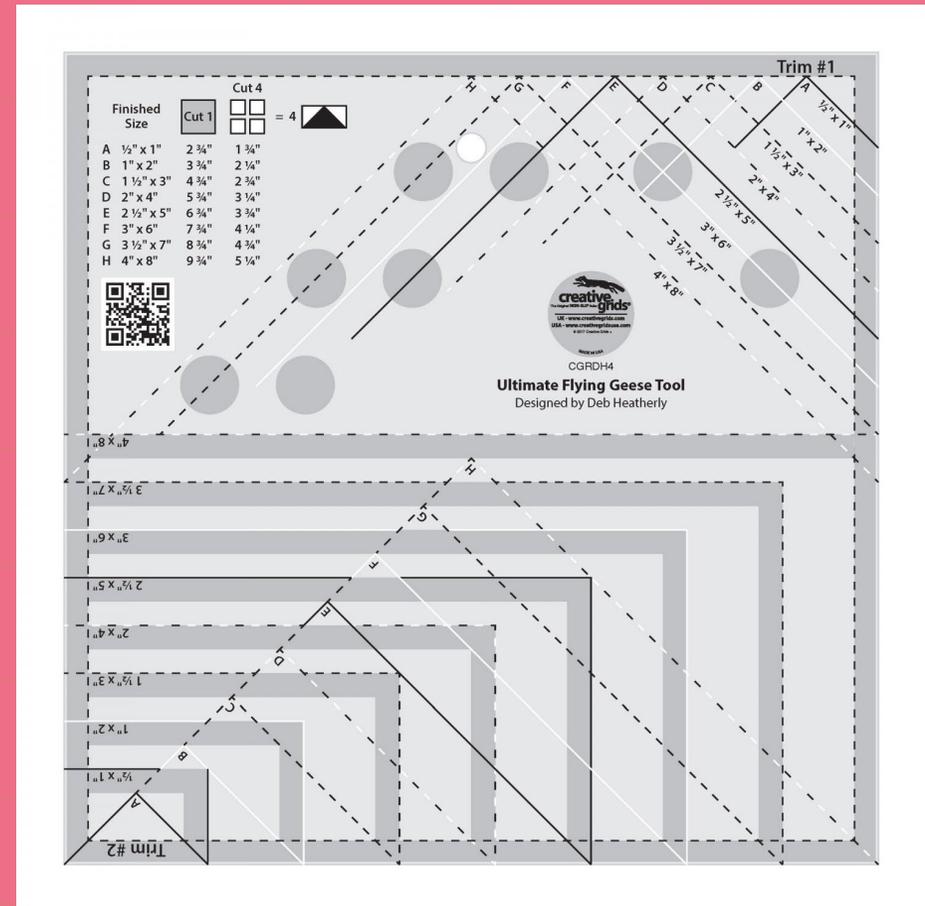
# Creative Grids Ultimate Flying Geese Ruler

Instructions for assembly use the "No Waste" Method OR the "Traditional Triangle" Method

The printed cutting chart on the ruler works for TWO different methods!

Or, oversize your favorite method for making Flying Geese, then use the Ultimate Flying Geese Tool to trim to perfection.

Create eight different finished sizes from 1 x 2 to 4 x 8 inches - the cutting requirements for each size is printed right on the tool

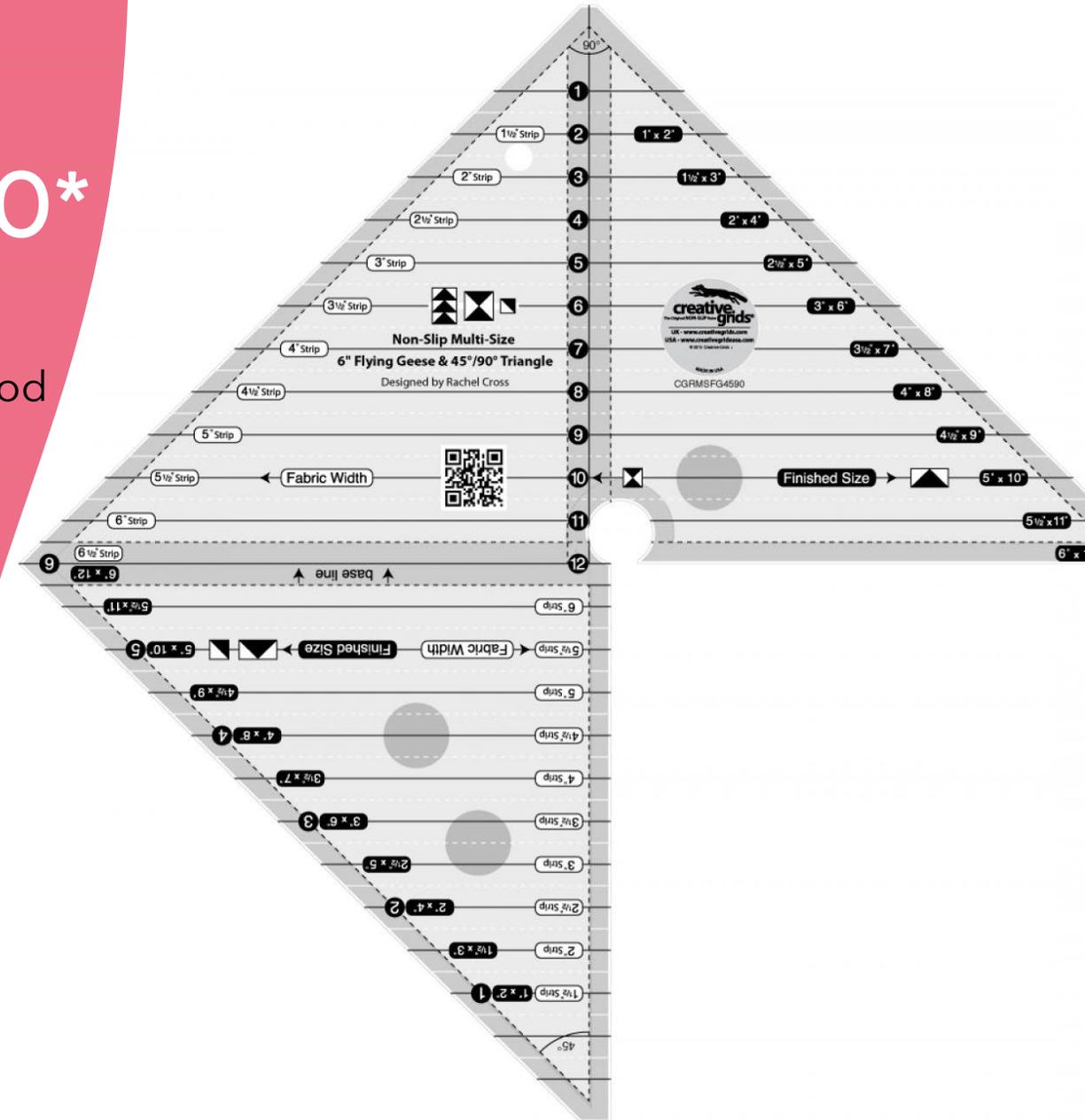


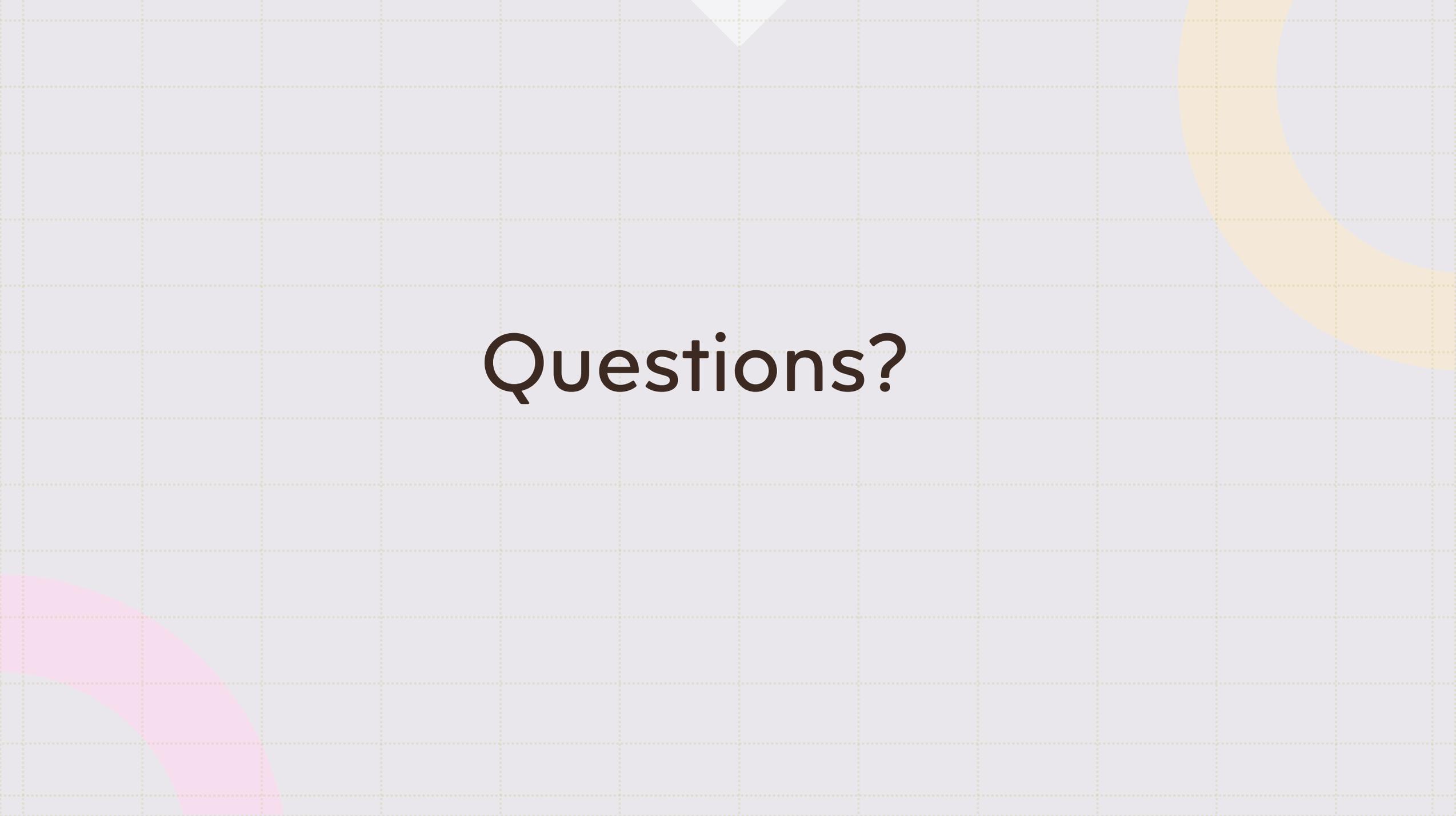
# Creative Grids 45\* and 90\*

Instructions for assembly use the "Traditional Triangle" Method

This multi-sized ruler features the two triangles required to complete a flying geese unit - 45 and 90 degrees - in one tool.

Cut flying geese units up to a finished size of 6 x 12 inches.





Questions?

# Resources

- [Cutting Charts for Traditional Triangle, Stitch N Flip, and No Waste Method](#)
- [Two Triangle Method Demo](#)
- [Creative Grids Ultimate Flying Geese Tool Video](#)
- [Creative Grids 45\\* and 90\\* Triangle Ruler](#)
- [Marti Michell Perfect Patchwork Template Flying Geese Sizes](#)