

#DT15

Deb Tucker's Diamond Rects[®]

A Trim Down Ruler for One of Quilting's Most Popular Units

Right & Left Handed
Instructions



High Precision for 5
Different Sizes

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Diamond Rects Tool

Now you can make those tough elongated diamond units needed for any Storm at Sea project with ease and success. But remember, this is a basic unit that can be combined with any of the other fundamental units into many, many other interesting designs and quilt projects.

Your Diamond Rects tool has three different sections:

Section #1 is the Center Diamond cutting section

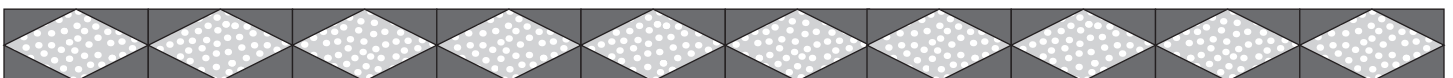
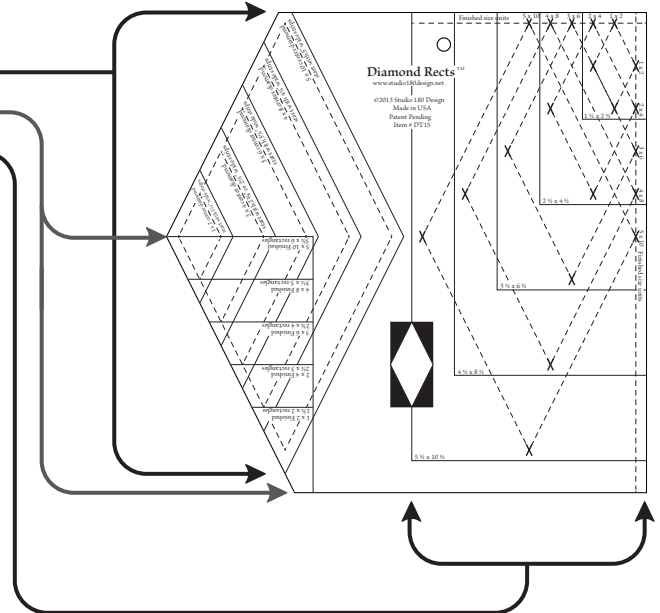
Section #2 is the Side Triangle cutting section

Section #3 is the Trim Down cutting section

The **Center Diamond** cutting section gives you window templates for cutting five different size units. Each unit size also has a strip size listed that will give you fabric pieces slightly oversized. You will then be able to quickly and easily cut each diamond to an exact size that has all seam allowances included.

The **Side Triangle** cutting section lists a rectangle size to cut for each of the five different size units. Each pair of rectangles will be cut into mirror image side triangles by using the horizontal and vertical guidelines and the angled cutting edge.

The **Trim Down** cutting section has X markings for you to align with the seam intersections plus dashed guidelines to line up with the seam lines of each different size unit.



Finished Size Unit	Cut Size	Strip Size for Center Diamonds	# of Diamonds per W.O.F.	Side Triangle Strips	# of Side Triangles per W.O.F.*
1" x 2"	1½" x 2½"	1½"	22 - 24	2" Strips into 1¾" x 2" rectangles	48 triangles (12 units)
2" x 4"	2½" x 4½"	2⅜" or 2½"	13 - 14	3" Strips into 2¼" x 3" rectangles	36 triangles (9 units)
3" x 6"	3½" x 6½"	3¼"	9 - 10	4" Strips into 2¾" x 4" rectangles	30 triangles (7½ units)
4" x 8"	4½" x 8½"	4¼"	7	5" Strips into 3¼" x 5" rectangles	26 triangles (6½ units)
5" x 10"	5½" x 10½"	5"	6	6" Strips into 3¾" x 6" rectangles	22 triangles (5½ units)

*each Diamond Rects unit requires 4 side triangles

Cutting the Diamond

Step 1 - Determine the size unit you will need for your project.

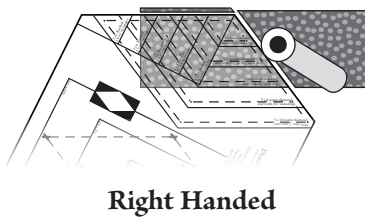
Step 2 - Refer to the ruler for the size strips to cut for the center diamonds. Use the chart to determine the number of diamonds you can cut from a full width strip (approximately 40"). Use this to figure out the number of strips to cut.

Step 3 - Open up your strips and position them all either right sides up or right sides down on your cutting mat. You can stack your strips so cutting goes more quickly, but if you do, you need to carefully align all the raw edges for every strip in the stack. Don't stack the strips too high – it's very important that every diamond is

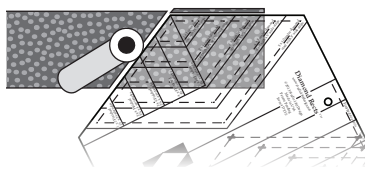
perfectly sized, so you don't want your stack shifting around.

Step 4 - Align the guidelines of the ruler with the raw edge of the strip as shown in the illustrations and cut. Note positioning for right hand cutting and for left hand cutting. You will need to cut along both of the angled edges of the ruler. You'll get an angled cut across the strip and just a few threads trimmed from the top edge of the strip.

Step 5 - Rotate the first piece around to make the second diagonal cut near the selvedge edge, then continue to make cuts along the remaining length of the strip.

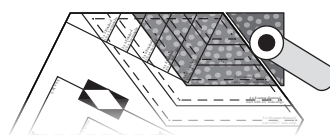


Right Handed

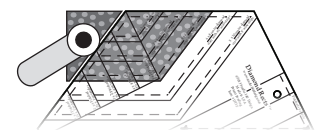


Left Handed

Step Four - First Cut



Right Handed



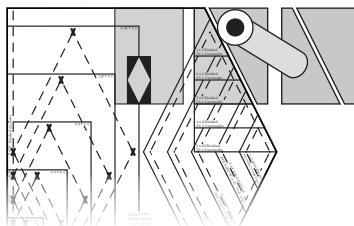
Left Handed

Step Five - Second Cut

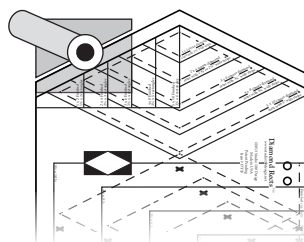
Cutting the Side Triangles

Step 6 - Refer to the chart and ruler for the size to cut the rectangles that will become the side triangles. Be sure to cut and keep your rectangles either right sides together or wrong sides together so you'll have the mirror image pieces you need.

Step 7 - Position the ruler guidelines for your chosen size units against the raw edges of the stacked rectangles and cut along the slanted edge of the ruler. Note positioning for right hand cutting and for left hand cutting in the illustrations.



Right Handed

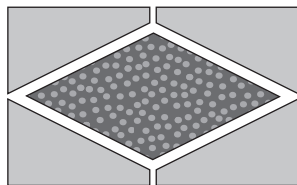


Left Handed

Step 7 - Cut

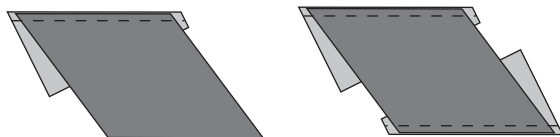
Stitch, Press and Trim

Step 8 - Lay out all pieces right sides up as they are going to be sewn.



Step 8 - Lay Out

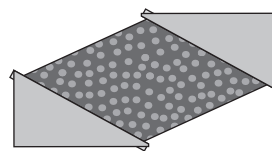
Step 9 - Stitch two opposite side triangles to opposite edges of the center diamond. Align the raw edges and basically center the diamond over the side triangle edge. Sew with the diamond on top and use your best 1/4" seam.



Step 9 - Stitch

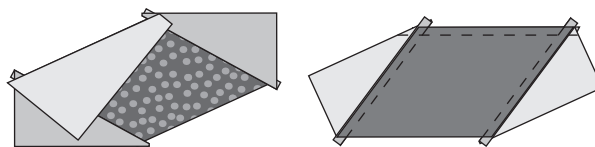
Note from Deb: You may want to make a few test samples to get a feel for how these should be aligned. Not a lot of fuss is needed, but a little will insure you have adequate fabric when you go to trim your units.

Step 10 - Press away from the center diamond.



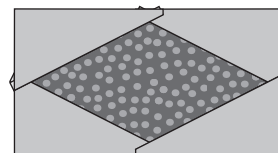
Step 10 - Press

Step 11 - Align and stitch the remaining two side triangles to the raw edges of the center diamond, just like you did with the first two triangles. Remember to stitch with the diamond on top.



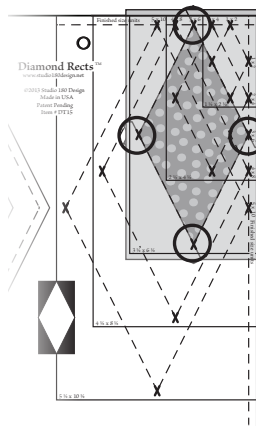
Step 11 - Stitch

Step 12 - Press away from the center diamond.

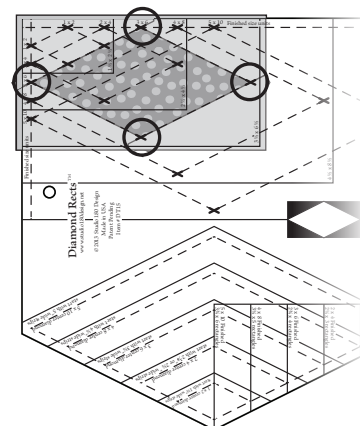


Step 12 - Press

Step 13 - Place the stitched and pressed unit face up on a cutting mat. Position the trim down side of the ruler on the unit, aligning the X's and the dashed lines with the seam intersections and the sewn seams. Note the positioning for right hand trimming and for left hand trimming in the illustrations.



Right Handed

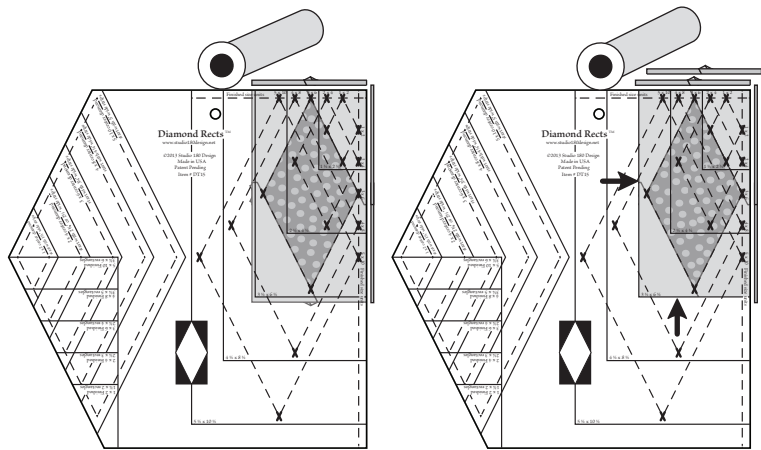


Left Handed

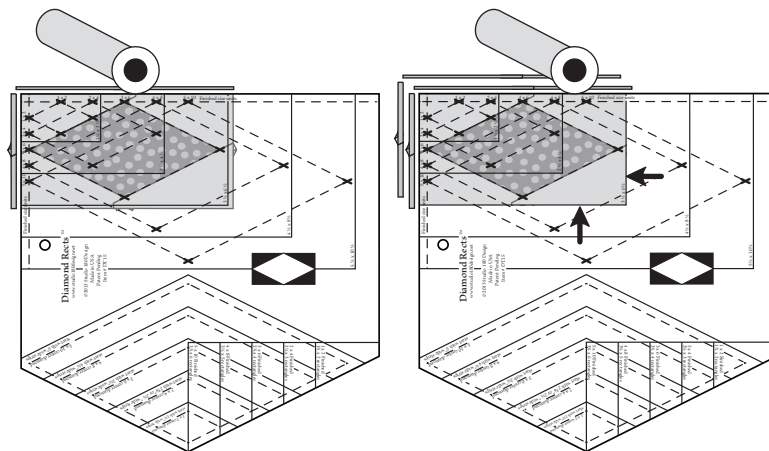
Step 13 - Position

Step 14 - Trim two sides of the unit then lift the ruler, rotate the unit 180 degrees, and reposition the ruler. This time align the two clean up lines on the previously trimmed sides along with the X's and the dashed lines.

Step 15 - Trim the remaining two sides of the unit to produce an extremely precise diamond rects unit.



**Step 14 to 15 - Right Handed Trim Down
for Diamond Rects Unit**



**Step 14 to 15 - Left Handed Trim Down
for Diamond Rects Unit**

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