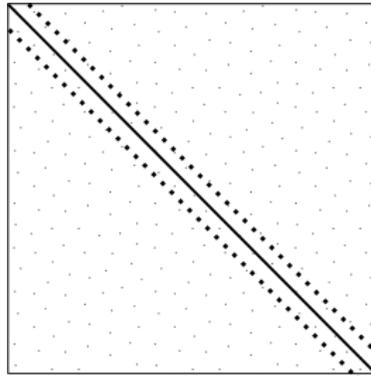


Know Them, Raise Them, Be Them Sampler

Half Square Triangle Sewing Method

Step 1: Pair (2) squares of fabric, each the same size square as the other, right sides together.

Step 2: On the wrong side of one square from each pair, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner through the middle. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " inch away from the line one direction, then turn the square and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the marked line the other direction. Drawing line is solid and sewing lines are indicated by the dashed lines here:



Step 3: Cut along the line you drew. Press each half-square triangle (HST) unit open. Trim as needed. Most standard quilting rulers have a 45 degree line that runs from corner to corner (or corner to an edge) of the ruler that you can line up on the seam and then use it as your guide when squaring up - make *sure* you are using the 45 degree line though because you may have 60 degree and 30 degree markings also! There are some special rulers for HSTs that are marvelous time savers for accurate trimming including the Half Square 4-In-1 ruler from Creative Grids or the Slotted Trimmer Rulers from New Leaf Stitches.

Note: When the original squares are a " $\frac{3}{8}$ " or " $\frac{7}{8}$ " measurement, you will do very little trimming, but sometimes in a pattern the starting squares will be whole or half numbers - like 4" or $5\frac{1}{2}$ " - and those are generally made larger to trim down to square them up. Example: Both (2) $3\frac{7}{8}$ " OR (2) 4" squares paired together and then sewn together using the above method will yield (2) Half Square Triangle (HST) units that will finish at 3" in your quilt but the $3\frac{7}{8}$ " squares don't leave much room for error - there's no extra fabric to help you trim down and adjust. The 4" squares *do* give you some wiggle room but you'll have to trim them to $3\frac{1}{2}$ " before piecing them into your block. I have included *both* starting measurements in this quilt; I've used whole or half number measured squares in the beginning so you can get used to making HSTs if you haven't before but I switch to the " $\frac{7}{8}$ " style of measurement if appropriate and you get more comfortable with them and the way I write instructions.