

Let's Get Frosty!

Sew Along

Part One

Welcome to our newest Sew Along! This new project has smaller units in the quilt design for more intricate piecing and will be a bit more challenging. For some of these smaller units I have established a different approach to their assembly. If you are new to my techniques, some may seem a bit unorthodox but you will find that they work well to achieve perfect piecing every time. Stitching a straight and perfect scant $1/4$ " seam allowance is important and don't underestimate the power of preparing your fabric with Best Press or starch before beginning. Please follow these steps below for a successful outcome.

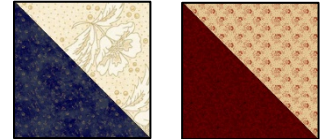
PLEASE READ THROUGH ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE CUTTING

Piecing Tips:

- Use an accurate scant $1/4$ " seam allowance throughout this project unless specified.
- Starch or Best Press® fabrics before cutting for easier handling. I highly recommend to spray all fabrics and let them dry (to prevent size distortion) then press and cut as instructed.
- Stitch length should be small – 1.8 to 2.0.
- Use thread colour with minimal contrast especially when joining blocks together.
- Drawn diagrams may not show seam allowances – do not trim to match diagram. Refer to the sizes provided.

Step 1: Making the 1-1/2" finished size (2" unf. size) Half-Square Triangles

Please read through the following and select your preferred method of making HSTs. If you purchased our Frosty Fabric kit, it included pages of our *Sew Easy Half Square Triangle* paper for this project. **Choose your preferred method and refer to the instructions provided.**



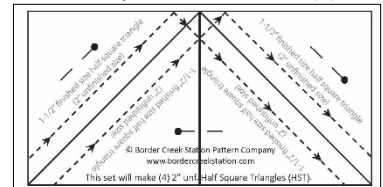
Method 1: Using our *Sew Easy Half Square Triangle Paper*

This method requires (15) printed *Sew Easy Triangle* units.

To sew (15) *Sew Easy Triangle* paper units:

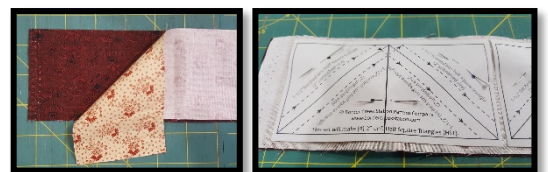
From the Frosty Cream (light) fabric:	Use (2) strips 3" x 42" WOF.
From the Background (dark) fabric:	Use (2) strips 3" x 42" WOF.

Each of our printed units make (4) HSTs.



Using our *Sew Easy Triangle Paper* provides a stable foundation for quick stitching and easily tears away for perfect half square triangles.

1. With paper scissors trim printed *Sew Easy Half Square Triangle* units larger than the outside solid printed line (about $1/8$ " – $1/4$ " beyond the outer printed solid line). Fabric will be cut larger than the measurement of the paper product. This is important to be accurate.
2. **With the Frosty Cream fabric on top, place right sides together.** Position one printed *Sew Easy HST* unit on top, printed side up and pin to secure in the open areas of the paper. Repeat all along the fabric strips to prepare for stitching. Cut to separate the units.



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- With pinned units at the sewing machine, use a shorter stitch length (i.e. 1.8 to 2.0 machine setting) and begin stitching on the dashed lines marked on the paper. There is no need to backstitch. Remove pins. Remember to chain piece.
- With a rotary cutter carefully trim the outside edges of fabric to match the SOLID printed lines of the paper and then cut on all remaining solid lines to separate the HSTs.
- With paper still attached, open up HSTs and press seam allowance to the dark fabric. Clip wings and then carefully remove all paper. Voila! Perfectly sized 2" x 2" unfinished size HSTs!

This will make:	(60) 2" x 2" unfin. Size Half Square Triangles.
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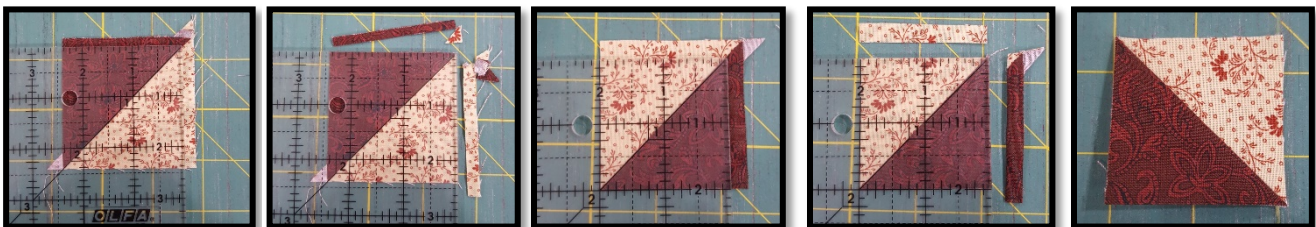
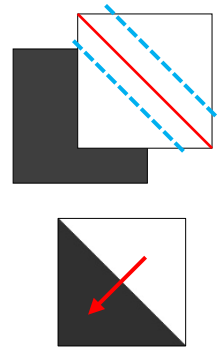


Method 2: Traditional Method for Half Square Triangles

Note: These fabric pieces have been cut larger and the sewn pieces will be trimmed to size.

To make (60) HST units:	
From the Frosty Cream (light) fabric:	Use (2) strips 2-1/2" x 42" WOF.
From the Background (dark) fabric:	Use (2) strips 2-1/2" x 42" WOF.

- With a pencil lightly mark on the wrong side of the **Frosty Cream fabric** squares **diagonally from corner to corner** as shown by the **solid red line** in the diagram.
- With right sides together, place marked **Frosty Cream fabric** square on top of the **Dark Background** square. As per the **blue lines** (shown in diagram) stitch a scant 1/4" away from drawn line. Cut apart on the RED solid line as shown. Open and press to the **Dark Background** fabric as indicated by the arrow. This will make 2 identical HSTs from each of the sewn square pairs.
- Once complete these units need to be trimmed to measure 2" x 2" unfinished. At this point, as shown below, I always trim the units to size by placing the 45-degree line on the ruler along the center seam as shown, making sure the 2" lines have plenty of room for trimming, too. Trim to tidy the first 2 sides. Rotate the unit block, align center seam as before and the trimmed edges along the 2" ruler lines. Trim remaining two sides. Voila! Perfectly sized 2" x 2" unfinished size HSTs!



This will make:	(60) 2" x 2" unfin. Size Half Square Triangles.
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Stay tuned for Part 2 on November 5th!



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