

October Block of the Month – please use fall colors if you are submitting a block for the raffle.

HALF SQUARE TRIANGLES (HST)

This month we are featuring a technique for making half square triangles (HST)

Choose 2 contrasting fabrics – light and dark. Press together- right sides together.

Cut a strip.. at least 1" larger than your finished block. This month we are making 5" (5 ½" unfinished) HST. So I would cut a strip at least 6" wide. 6 ¼" may work better for you.

MARK cutting lines on the lightest fabric. First mark vertical lines to form squares. Mine are 6" apart (if yours are 6 ¼" strips, mark 6 ¼" apart) I am only making 4 HST so I only need 2 squares. Then mark one diagonal line on each square. Pin if you want.

SEW the light to the dark ¼" on either side of the diagonal lines. (See the red thread in the picture). Press to set the seam.

CUT along all marked lines: verticals and diagonals. Open the squares. Press toward the dark.

TRIM the squares down to 5 ½" blocks. You can use a square ruler and place the seam at the diagonal line on the ruler.

If you have a "Tucker Trimmer ©" tool, trim your block use the 5 ½" line on the ruler. Press to the dark side.

For the basic block, piece four of the blocks as shown in the diagram to form an hour glass 10" block (10 ½" unfinished).

PRESS the seams from the back first. Try rotating to snug the seams together. Congratulations! You have produced your October Block of the Month. Make as many as you like for your sample quilt or for the raffle.

MARK & SEW



CUT & TRIM



PIECE & PRESS



For the challenge block (using at least 8 half square triangles) I googled "half square triangles quilt blocks". There are many options to create a block that have more than 8 HSTs.

Using 6 inch squares of 8 different fabrics (four light yellows and four browns), trimmed to 5 ½ unfinished half square triangles I made a 20 ½ inch unfinished block.

