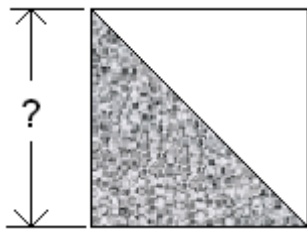


HALF AND QUARTER SQUARE TRIANGLES

How Big Are The 'Squares' When Making Half- And Quarter-Square Triangles?

HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLES



The basic size for half-square triangles is the square size, 3" or 4" or . . .

But the 1/4" seam allowances and the fact that the squares are made in pairs means that sharp points stick out about 5/8" at each end . . .

. . . and taking this into account means that the 'raw' squares must be 3" (or 4" or . . .) plus 5/8" at the pointy end, plus 1/4" at the opposite edge, which is a total of 3 7/8" (or 4 7/8" or . . .).

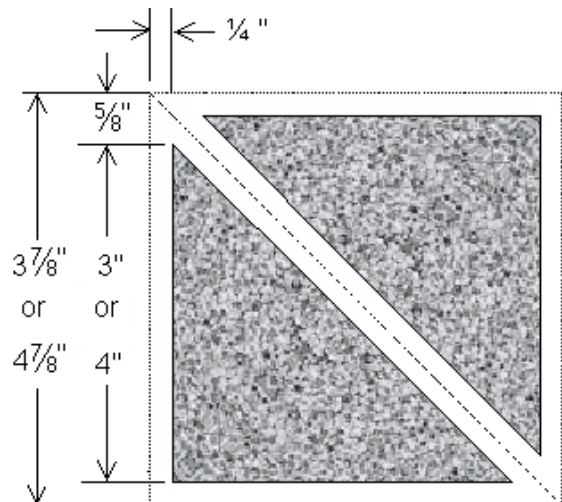
In practice, cut slightly larger squares, say 4 1/4" or 5 1/4" or . . ., they can be trimmed later.

METHOD

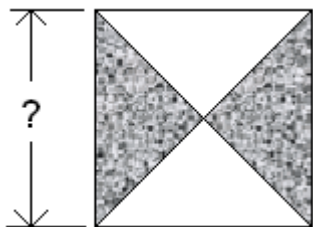
Cut light and dark 4 1/4" or 5 1/4" or . . . squares and lay a pair of squares together, good-side to good-side.

Mark the diagonal, and sew together 1/4" either side of the diagonal. Cut apart along the diagonal, open out the pieces and press the seams (to the dark side, Luke!).

Then, laying the 45° line on the cutting ruler along the diagonal seam, trim the block to the required basic size plus seam allowances, that is, 3 1/2" or 4 1/2" square or . . .



QUARTER-SQUARE TRIANGLES

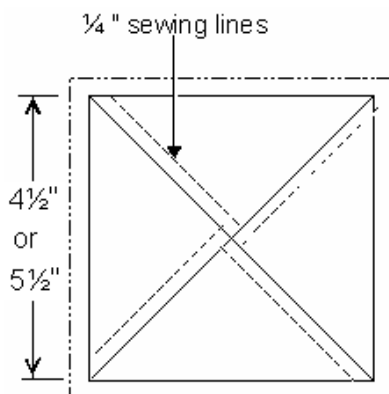
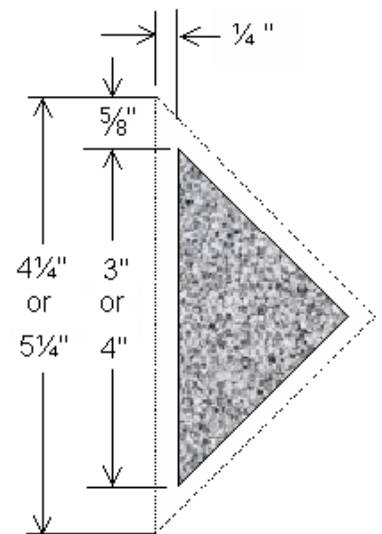


. . . are quarter of a square and the basic triangle size is measured on its long edge . . .

. . . so with 1/4" seam allowances, the 'raw' squares must be 3" (or 4" or . . .) plus 5/8" at the **two** pointy ends. Overall, that's 1 1/4" larger than the finished square size.

METHOD

Again, cut the raw squares slightly larger, say 5" (or 6" or . . .) and lay the light fabric on top, and the dark fabric underneath, good side to good side.



Draw a 4 1/2" (or 5 1/2" or . . .) square grid in pencil and then the diagonals in both directions. Mark and then sew along the dotted lines, 1/4" away from a diagonal, changing side at the centre of the square. Repeat in the other diagonal direction.

Then cut up along the diagonals and clip the corners. Open out, press to yield 4 identically handed triangles, each half-and-half light and dark.

Join pairs of triangles, matching the centres, to make squares and *then* trim these squares to 3 1/2" (or 4 1/2" or . . .) square.

[Note that, with a little planning, you can mark up and make sets of half or quarter square triangles in strips across fabrics!]