



# Lesson #4: Half-Square Triangles Pinwheel Block



Finished block size:  
10" x 10"

Materials Needed	Cutting
Orchid Purple Ice Royal Blue Copper	From each, cut: ---four 3 3/4" squares
<b>Supplies Needed</b>	
Quilter's silver pencil 6 1/2" square ruler with a 45-degree diagonal line	

## Sewing

**Note:** Although there are many products on the market to help you make half-square triangles, this method is perhaps the simplest and requires nothing extra other than a pencil and a ruler. And, best of all you'll achieve perfect results every time!

1. Using the silver pencil and a ruler, draw a line from corner to corner on the wrong side of the Orchid and Copper 3 3/4" squares. (*Diagram I*)
2. Lay an Orchid square on top of a Purple Ice square, right sides together. Sew 1/4" from both sides of the drawn line. (*Diagram II*)
3. Press to set seam. Cut on the drawn line and press the seams toward the darker fabric. This yields two half-square triangles. Repeat to make a total of eight Purple Ice/Orchid half-square triangles and eight Royal Blue/Copper half-square triangles. (*Diagram III*)

These half-square triangle units are larger than the 3" x 3" size needed to make the pinwheels for the block. The next step is to trim the half-square triangles to size.

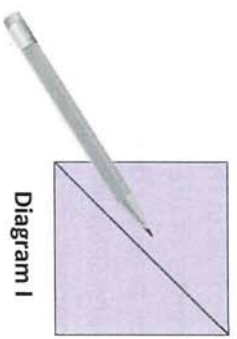


Diagram I

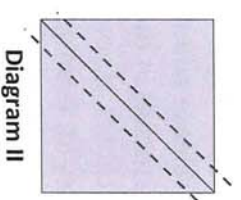


Diagram II

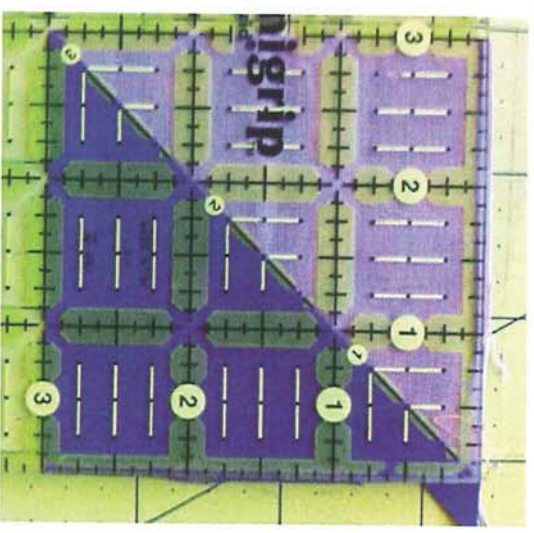


Purple Ice/Orchid  
Half-Square Triangle  
Make 8



Royal Blue/Copper  
Half-Square Triangle  
Make 8  
Diagram III

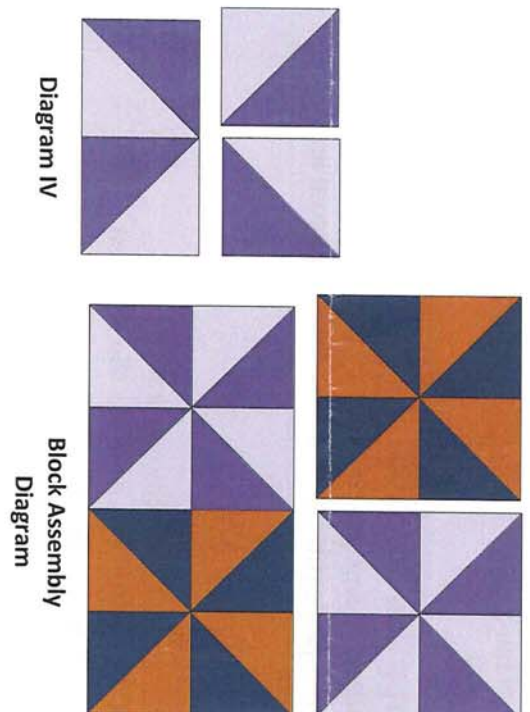
- Using the 6 ½" square ruler, align the diagonal 45-degree line on the ruler with the diagonal line of a half-square triangle. You'll be trimming it to 3" x 3", so check to make sure that fabric extends beyond the 3" lines on all sides of the half-square triangle. Using the rotary cutter, trim two adjacent sides.
- Now, rotate the half-square triangle so you can trim the remaining two sides. Align the cut edges of the half-square triangle with the 3" markings on the ruler as shown in *Photo 1*, and trim remaining sides. Repeat to trim all the half-square triangles to 3" x 3".



**Photo 1**  
Trimming the Half-Square Triangle

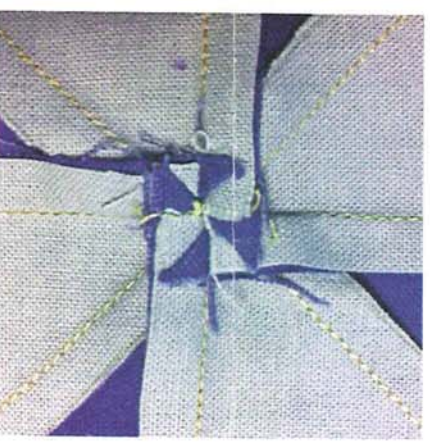
6. Lay out four matching half-square triangles as shown in *Diagram IV*. Pin and sew triangles in pairs. Notice that the seams nest together. Then, pin sections and sew together to complete one Pinwheel block.

Make a total of four Pinwheel blocks, two in the Purple Ice/Orchid color combination and two in the Royal Blue/Copper color combination.



**Diagram IV**

**Block Assembly Diagram**



**Photo II**  
Seam allowance pressing at center of block

7. You can reduce the bulk in the center of the block by pressing the final long seam in opposite directions. To do this, use a seam ripper to release about 3-4 stitches in the center. If you do it right, even your seam allowances will form a little pinwheel. (*Photo II*)

8. Referring to *Block Assembly Diagram*, sew together the four Pinwheel blocks.



## Mug Rug

— Bonus Project —

from  
**Amish With A Twist**  
Lesson #4  
"Half-Square  
Triangle Pinwheels"

### Bonus Project

Ask your shop owner for the *Mug Rug* bonus project that features this block, and for other bonus projects that come with the *Amish With A Twist* Program.

Also, look for our pattern *Twist Again* that features two different sized quilts and a table runner using Pinwheel blocks and Marcus Solids.