

## Diagonal Illusion

### **Pacifica Quilters Club – Block of the Month – February 2026**

By Jaysa Zablatzky (Contact me for help or feedback, thanks! [jaysa@zablatsky.com](mailto:jaysa@zablatsky.com))

Bring your sewn blocks to the March and/or April 2026 meetings.



Unfinished size 12 ½”

**CUT PIECES** (5” Charm Squares are great for this project!)

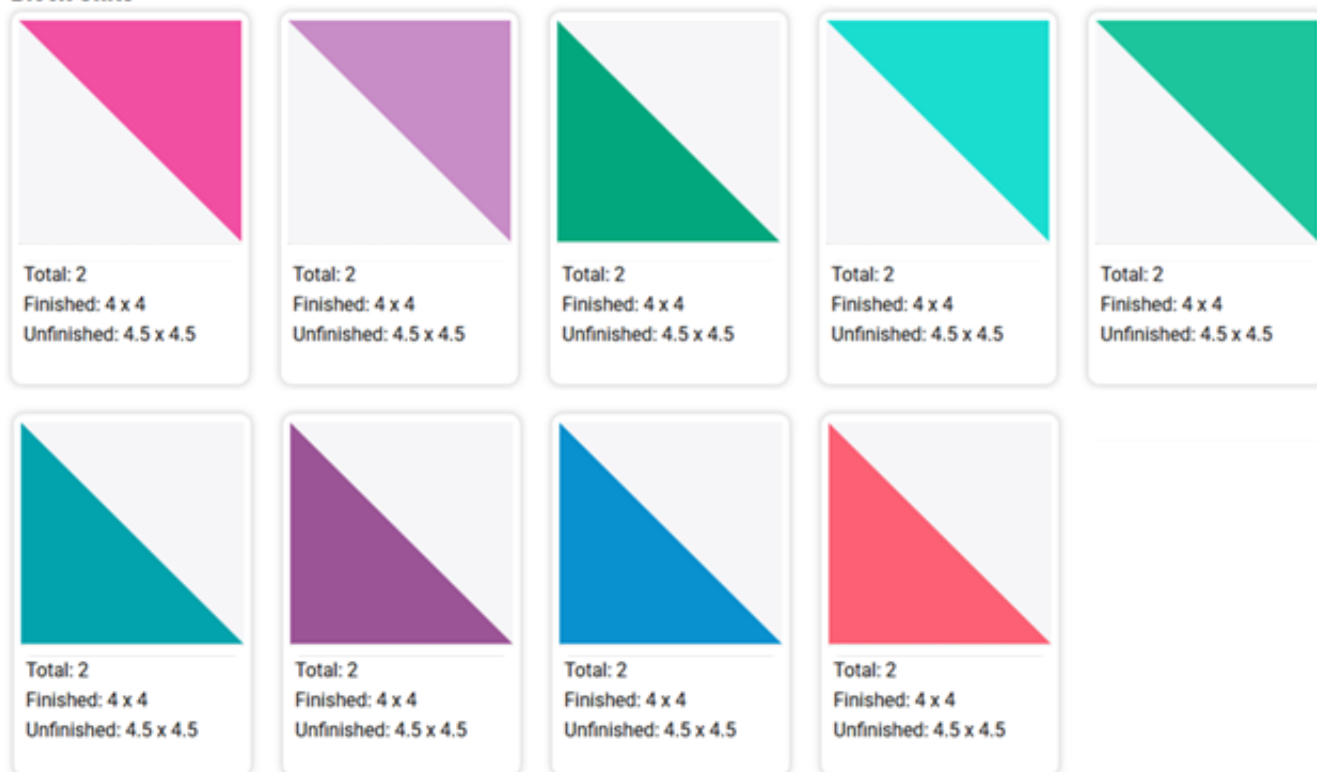
**Fabric a1:** WHITE (tone-on-tone white or very light white print) nine different white fabrics if possible.

Cut one **5” squares** of each White color (nine total)

**Fabrics a2, a3, a4, a5, a6, a7, a8, a9, a10:** MEDIUM color print fabrics in BLUEs, GREENs, PURPLEs, PINKs (nine different fabrics)

Cut one **5” square** of each color (nine total)

#### **Block Units**



## ASSEMBLE BLOCK UNITS

Sew triangle block units using “2 at a Time Half-Square Triangle method”.

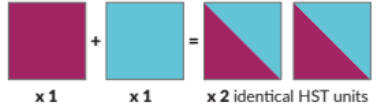
NOTE: This method will provide enough triangle block units to make 2 complete blocks.

Make block units from each of the nine Medium color fabrics **a2, a3, a4, a5, a6, a7, a8, a9, a10** paired with one of the nine White fabrics **a1**

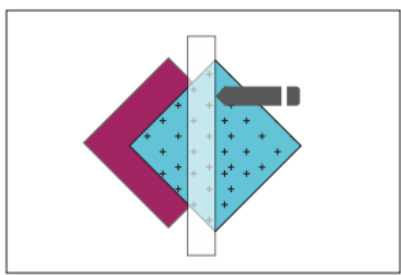
TIP: Use scant ¼” seams. A scant ¼” seam is just a seam that is 1-2 thread widths narrower than an actual ¼” seam. (This helps to assure the blocks finish at correct size.)

TIP: Press triangle seams open. (This helps with less bulk when multiple corners are sewn together.)

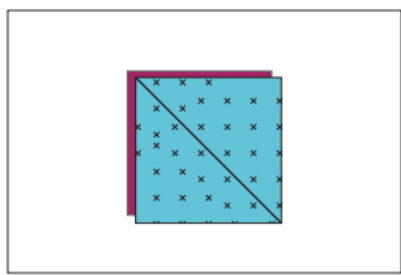
**pq** PreQuilt Half-Square Triangles (HST)  
2 at a Time Method



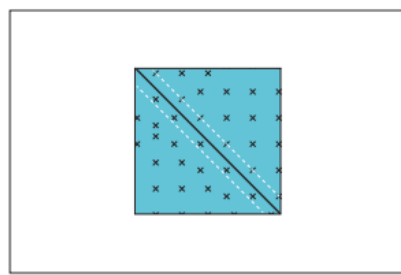
x 1 + x 1 = x 2 identical HST units



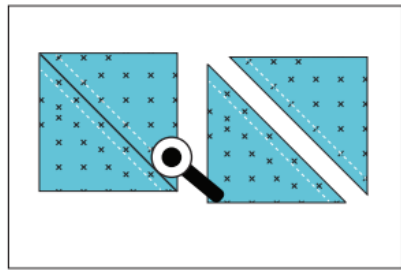
**1** | On one of your square pieces, draw a diagonal line from one corner to the other on the wrong side of the fabric.



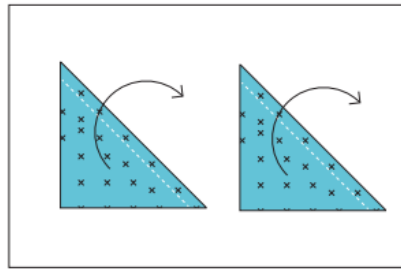
**2** | Layer both squares of fabric on top of one another with right sides together. Make sure that the line you drew is visible.



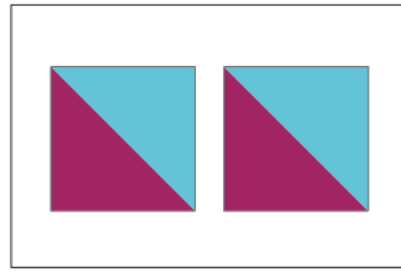
**3** | Sew a straight line a 1/4" (or scant quarter inch) away from the drawn line. Repeat on the other side of the line.




**4** | Cut your square diagonally along your drawn line. You will now have 2 triangle units.



**5** | Unfold the top fabric of your triangle unit along the sewn line so that you have a square block. Press as preferred.



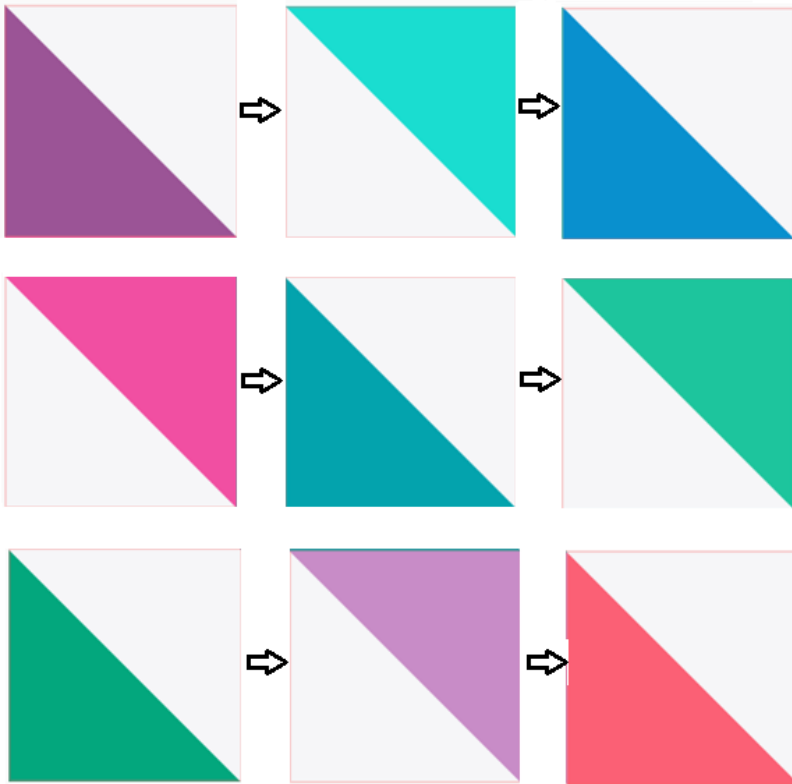
**6** | You will now have 2 identical half-square triangle blocks. If necessary, trim your blocks to your desired unfinished size.

 = wrong side of fabric

**KEY STEP:** After assembling units using the HST method above) **Trim each Half-Square Triangle unit to 4 ½” square.**

Tip: Trim using a ruler with a 45 degree angle mark placed along your diagonal seam to assure your diagonals are exactly at the corners of your trimmed block.

**LAYOUT AND ASSEMBLE THE COMPLETED BLOCK:**

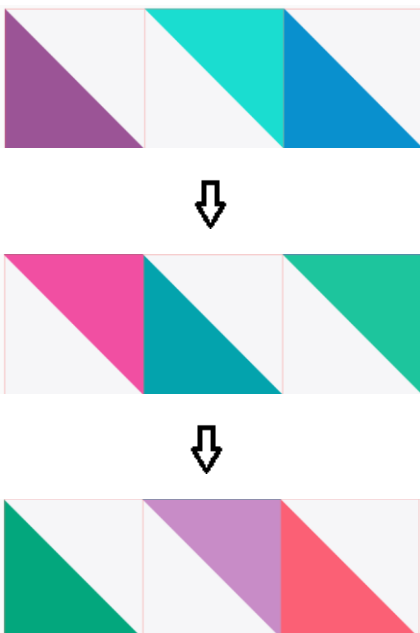


Layout units from nine different colors as a 9-patch on a table or design wall. Rotate each unit until you get the proper diagonals in your layout.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> block (from the nine extra half square triangle units) make block with a different layout of the colors -- or bring to HST units the meeting for the lucky block winner to have extras for the final quilt.

Sew blocks together in rows using scant 1/4" seams. Press seams.

Sew the rows together to make the 12 1/2" unfinished block.



**And you can make it in PATRIOTIC colors too!**



If you are the “Lucky Block” winner, here are some layout options for assembling your finished quilt:

