

4 Patch & 4 Patch Triangle Blocks (makes One 4 Patch)

Making 4 patch squares and 4 patch triangles

You will need:

1. 2½" hard plastic template
2. Hand needle and thread if you want to tack
3. Small or mini cutting mat – need to be able to turn it
4. Rotary cutter
5. Sewing machine
6. Scissors / pin cushion, seam ripper and other general quilting tools
7. ¼" seam

You need to cut out:

The length will depend on the block design you are using.

1 dark strip - refer to the BOM for sizes

1 light strip - refer to the BOM for sizes

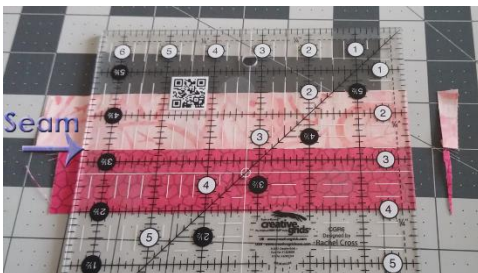
Step 1:

Sew a dark strip to a light strip to make a strip set – Right Sides Together. Press the seam open.



Step 2:

Square up one edge strip set - by lining up your seam line with the line on your ruler. Trim the edge as shown below.



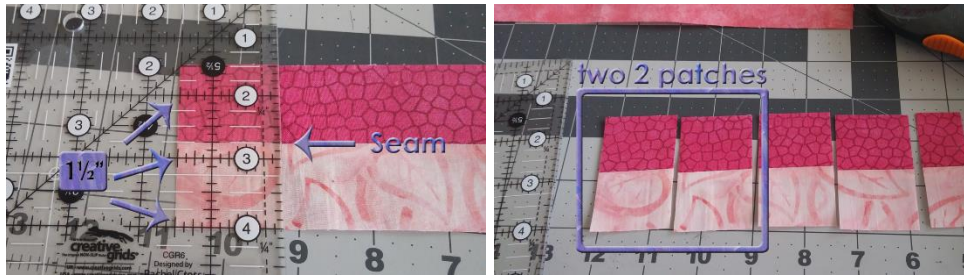
Step 3:

Line up your ruler with the seam line at one end.

The size of your sections will depend on if you are making 4 patch squares or 4 patch triangles

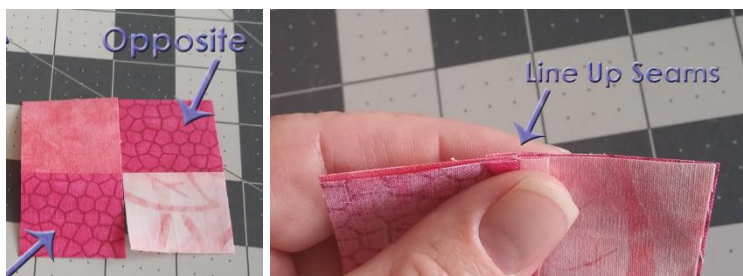
Refer to the BOM Cutting directions for more info on size of the sections

Cut sections and repeat for two 2 patches. Cut the rest later for more 4 patches.



Step 4:

Rotate one of the 2 patches around to where the dark/light is opposite the other. Flip over one 2 patch onto the other face to face and line up seams – Right Sides Together. Tack or Pin. Tacking directions are below. Sew the two 2 patches together. Press open seams. I highly recommend you measure your joined fabrics at this point to make sure they are the right size. Every time you join fabric measure it to keep it the right size. This way you shouldn't have to do any trimming at the end that can cause you to lose points or seam allowances. It also allows you to fix anything that isn't square before adding any more fabric.



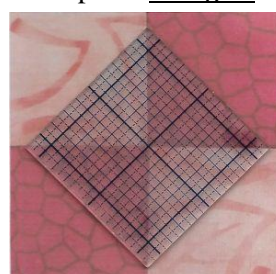
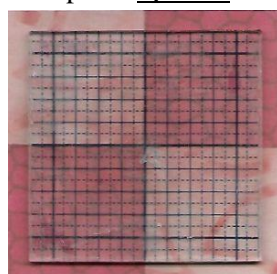
Step 5:

Now you have a 4 patch. To get an accurate 4 patch block I recommend cutting out with a template. Lay your 4 patch square on a mini cutting mat and place your template on the fabric so the center lines match the seams. To cut a 4 patch triangle block, lay your template on the fabric so the corners of the template match the seams.

Then cut along each side being careful not to let the template move as you cut. The benefit of using a template is in being more accurate. It also allows you to make 4 patches without handling small squares. Any leftovers can be reused or traded with other quilters.

4 patch squares

4 patch triangles



Note:

When making a 4 Patch with 2 darks, 1 light and 1 medium square, follow the steps above, using 2 patches from two different strip sets.



Take time to TACK! This allows for a more secure seam joins

When joining two shortcut blocks together I prefer to tack instead of pinning. Tacking is putting a stitch where your seam is going to go through wherever you have two seams meeting and on the ends. This keeps the fabric from moving before it is sewn. If you tack and the fabric is in the right place your project will be a lot more accurate than if you use pins. I feel the fabric still moves too much with pins. A tack is a lot more secure in my opinion.

I use a hand needle and thread and put at least one if not two stitches where I want the seams to stay put. Tacking also takes care of any bias problems. I do use pins in the center sometimes. I tack on the ends and over seams and put pins in the middle to keep it from separating.

This is a star point block. Tack on both ends and then where the seams meet.



This one is a Kansas Dugout
Tack where the red and white
Seams meet so they stay put.



Tacking seams in place

