

Aunt Daisy Block Unit G - Triangle in a Square

This is the final month for the block units! Yeah! Next month I'll show you how to put the block units together into individual blocks and how to layer up and quilt. Next month or the following month I'll show you how to sew the quilted blocks together and quilt along the seams. The following month I'll show you different binding techniques. If you finished last month's block units this month will be a breeze because the directions are the same with the exception that your main color will be the center triangle and the side triangles will be the background color.

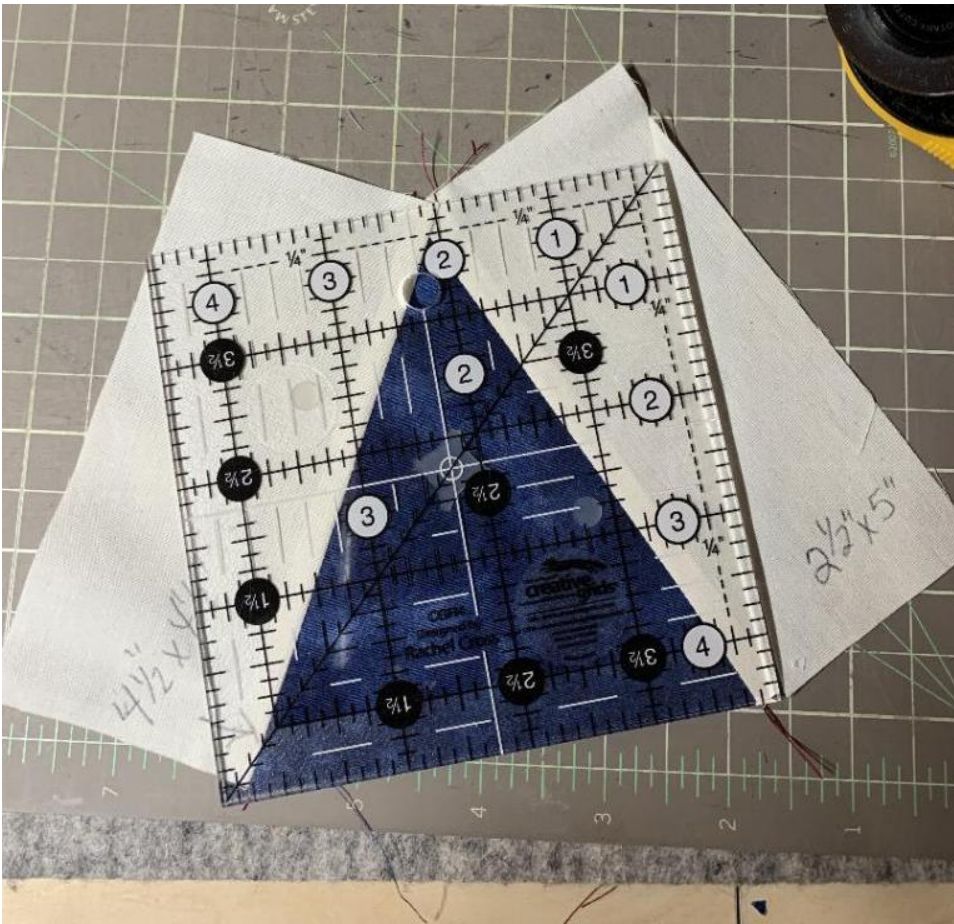
Aunt Daisy's Quilt Block G

Just a reminder: I'm showing you two ways I've made a 4 ½" x 4 ½" unfinished Triangle in a square. Choose the method that works best for you!

– **Directions for using regular rulers!** There are many, many specialty rulers just for making the Triangle in a Square block unit; I've used the rulers from these companies: The Wonder Triangles from Quilt Sense, The Triangle in a Square from Today's Quilter, and the Tri-Recs Tools by Darlene Zimmerman and Joy Hoffman from EZ Quilting. There is a newer ruler from 180 Studios - Deb Tucker's ruler she has named the VBlock ruler and I've heard rave reviews about this ruler; although I've never used this particular brand we have a resident FB group Aunt Daisy member, Paula Nelson from Allen, Oklahoma that is a certified instructor and sells the rulers and would be happy to help you if you would like to use this type of ruler. I've also used the Accuquilt cutter to cut this unit and whether it's my sewing or the die was off I couldn't tell you, but all of my blocks sewn with the Accuquilt method were 1/4" too narrow, forcing me to sew 1/8" seams on those sides when sewing the block units together. If this happens you can sew a 1/8" seam and then sew again about 1/16" away on the seam allowance edges to reinforce those edges. I am not including directions for these specialty rulers as they all come with their own directions and most have videos to demonstrate their rulers. The last idea I have for %alternative methods for making this block is to search for free Triangle in a Square paper pieced pattern for a 4" x 4" finished unit. My one tip is **MAKE SURE YOU PRINT USING THE 100% OR ACTUAL** choice on printing to keep the exact dimensions. After you print the pattern, place your ruler over the square to make sure it is a finished 4" square. My instructions will be using only straight rulers. Please test one block before you cut out all of the blocks. The cutting directions below are for my method, if you are using a specialty ruler follow their cutting directions. As always, I encourage you to use the method or technique that works best for you!

There are two methods for using straight rulers. The first is very easy but leaves you with bias edges.

Method 1: When I first learned to make the Triangle in a Square unit, about 40 years ago, I would cut a square the **unfinished** size I wanted for the large center triangle $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ and for the side triangles I would cut two rectangles $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5''$. I would fold the center triangle fabric in half and crease the top edge $\frac{1}{2}''$ down with my thumb nail, then lay a rectangle and center it placing the $\frac{1}{4}''$ seamline on the top crease and the fabric sticking out beyond the top by about $\frac{1}{4}''$. Then at the bottom I would place the $\frac{1}{4}''$ seamline at the $\frac{1}{4}''$ seam from the side edge. Then sew a $\frac{1}{4}''$ seam using the rectangle edge as my guide. I would fold it back to make sure it covered the corners and press. I would repeat with the second rectangle. Press back. Then carefully cut away the extra fabric behind the side triangles, press again and then trim to $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$. This is a very easy and quick method BUT you must be careful because this method creates bias edges that is easy to distort or stretch. (see picture below)



When trimming, make sure the top point is pointing toward the $2\frac{1}{4}''$ line.

Method 2: I learned to use this method because I wanted all of my sides to be on the strait of grain with less chance of stretching. I'm going to demonstrate how to make the block with straight edged rulers. (Remember the colors are reversed for block unit G with the center triangle as the main color and the sides as the background color.)

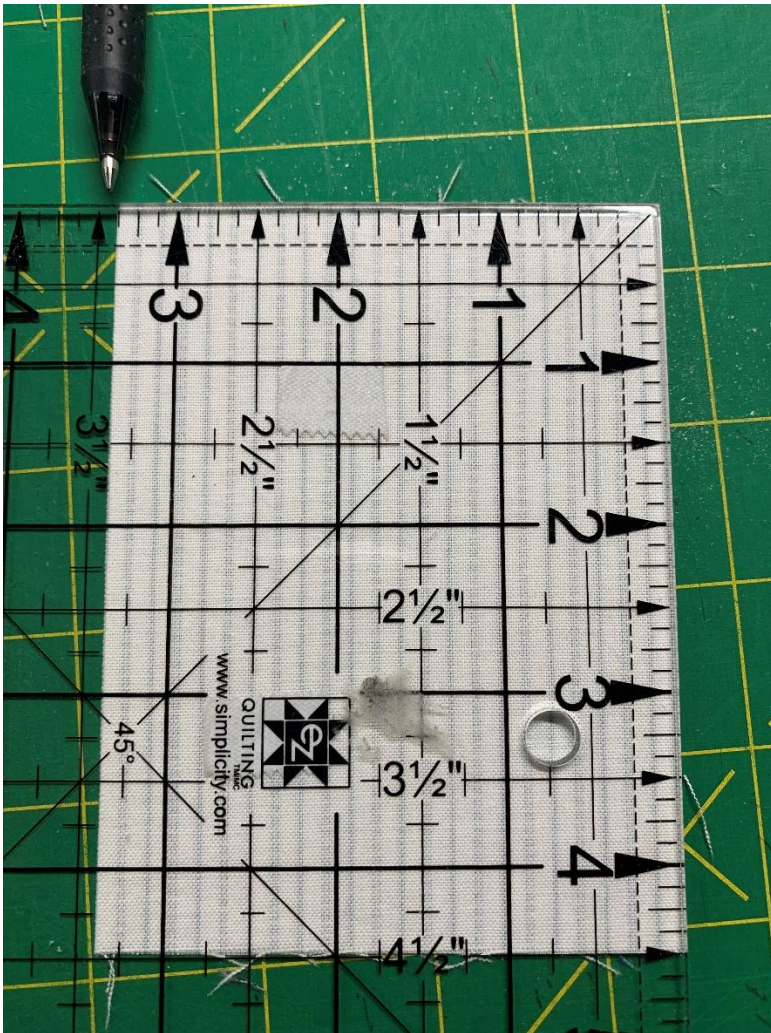
Block Unit G – Triangle in a Square block unit $4\frac{1}{2}''$ x $4\frac{1}{2}''$ unfinished/ $4''$ x $4''$ finished.

***Block G has the large center triangle the MC and side triangles the BC.**

For every two Block G Units you will need the following:

MC for the center triangles: Cut 2: $4\frac{1}{2}''$ x $4\frac{1}{2}''$ squares.

BC for the side triangles: Cut 2: $4\frac{1}{2}''$ x $3\frac{3}{8}''$ rectangles.



This is important: Place the two rectangles right sides together BEFORE marking and cutting. If you skip putting these together correctly and or only cut one rectangle you will end up with right side triangles only, you need mirror imaged side triangles so we MUST cut two rectangles at once with rights sides facing each other.

On the short edge mark $5/8$ " to the right of the bottom left corner. Now mark $5/8$ " from the top right corner as shown in the picture.



Use a ruler and cut between the two marks.



You now have two sets of mirror images triangles that is wider at one end (top of the block unit) and $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide at the other end (bottom of the block unit). Take one set of mirrored triangles to sew the first block unit. **Directions:** Fold the MC square in half and crease on one end about $\frac{1}{2}$ " down, I just use my finger to press to mark the center.



Next, open up and place the first BC triangle with the widest diagonal edge at the center. The top triangle piece should be placed so $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from each side is sitting on the crease line exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the top of the MC square. Please note: colors are opposite of what you are working with today BUT this is a clear picture showing the seamlines marked to help you understand the placement. Note: Where the $\frac{1}{4}$ " lines cross they are positioned directly over the crease and $\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the top of the MC square.



And here is another picture showing the back side with the seam allowances marked.



Now, align the bottom edge as shown below, you will see that the bottom edge aligns 1/4" over from the edge.



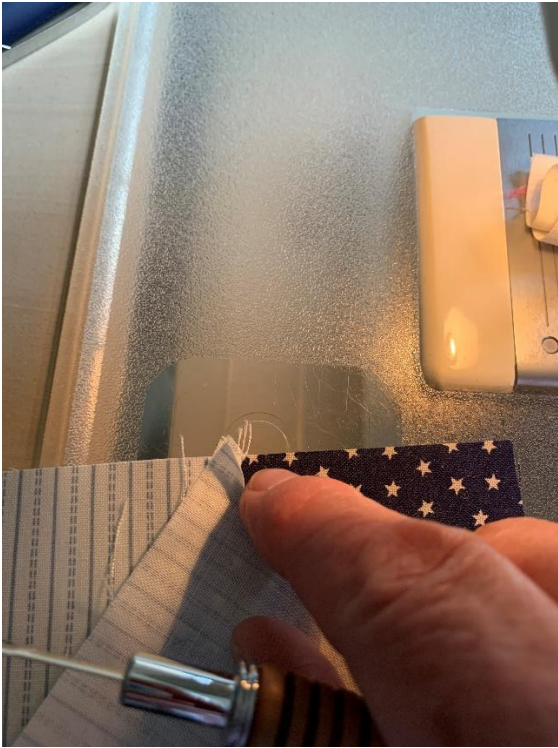
Sew along the diagonal line using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press back when finished to make sure the side triangle completely covers the 4 1/2" square on that side. If it covers the corner at the widest part, you have sewn it correctly.



Trim the center triangle extra off as shown below and press open again.



Now, repeat with the other side using a mirror imaged side triangle. Notice the tips at the top line up on top of each other.



Here's another view showing the alignment of the second side triangle:





After sewing the second side, press back and check to make sure that side of the square corners are covered. If the MC corner is covered, trim off the excess and press open again.



Now it's time to trim your unit to $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$. Place the ruler with the $2\frac{1}{4}''$ mark at the tip of the MC triangle.



****Tip:** When cutting the BC rectangles, I suggest you open up your strips and place them with RST (right sides together) BEFORE cutting the strips into rectangles to have them placed correctly to cut the side triangles. If the strips are placed right sides together remember you will be cutting TWO rectangles at once.

King Size Quilt: Required 192 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 24 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 192 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut 24 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 192 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Queen Size Quilt: Required 144 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 18 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 144 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut 18 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 144 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Double Size Quilt: Required 108 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 14 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 108 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut 14 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 108 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Twin Size Quilt: Required 72 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 9 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 72 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut 9 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 72 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Lap Size Quilt: Required 48 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 6 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 48 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut 6 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 48 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Table Topper or Pillow Front Size : Required 12 Triangle in a Square block units: 4 ½” x 4 ½” unfinished

MC: Cut 2 strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 12 - 4 ½” x 4 ½” squares.

BC: Cut strips 4 ½” x WOF – sub cut into 12 - 4 ½” x 3 3/8” rectangles.

Block G unit is marked in red!

