CORINNE SOVEY

QUILTS & PATTERNS

PLAYGROUND SKILLBUILDER

MONTH 4

MONTH 4 > HOURGLASS AND QUARTER-SQUARE TRIANGLES (PLUS 1 HST)

CUTTING CHART

C2	
C2	
A	(2) 11 ½ × 11 ½
C3	
C3	
B	(1) 11 ½ × 11 ½
C4	
C4	
C	(1) 11 × 11
C5	
C5	
D	(1) 11 ½ × 11 ½
C6	
C6	
E	(2) 11 ½ × 11 ½
F	(1) 11 × 11

HOURGLASS VS. QUARTER-SQUARE TRIANGLE BLOCKS

Hourglass blocks are comprised of two colors in an hourglass shape, and are typically made from one pair of HSTs.

Quarter-square triangles are comprised of more than two colors in an hourglass shape.

SQUARING UP/TRIMMING HOURGLASS & QUARTER-SQUARE TRIANGLES

This example shows how you trim a 4.25" square down to 4" square.

4.25" SQUARE

TRIM TO 4" SQUARE

Find the corner of your ruler where there is a diagonal line pointed upward towards the right side (seen above in yellow). It is helpful to have a square ruler to make this easier, but you can make do with a typical 6.5 x 24.5 ruler.

For this example you would find the 4" mark on the top and right side (shown above as the labeled 4 circles and the red outlined square). If you are trimming a lot of Hourglasses you can mark these lines with washi tape so you don't have to think quite as hard each time.

Line up the seam of your Hourglass with the 45 degree line on your ruler (yellow line above). Position the ruler so that you can square up the top right corner (top edge and right edge above) while making sure there is some overhang on the bottom left that you will trim in the next step.

Flip your Hourglass so that the corner you just trimmed is now the bottom left corner. Line up your HST again with the 45 degree line on your ruler. Position the ruler so that the bottom left corner aligns perfectly with the 4" measurement lines. Trim the top right corner to finish squaring up your Hourglass.

EXTRA BLOCKS
You will end up with one extra HST, one extra hourglass, and one extra quarter-square triangle (plus two extra HSTs from your QST steps, more on that later). I recommend saving them to use for a pieced backing for your quilt.

2X HST (TRADITIONAL METHOD)

1. Use the traditional 2X HST method to make your HST blocks from your C and F units (you will only need one). On one of the units draw a line diagonally from the bottom left corner to the top right corner on the wrong side of the fabric. This will be your cutting line (shown above in red). Draw another line 1/4 inch to the left of the line you just drew (shown above as a dashed black line). This will be one of your stitching lines. Draw another line 1/4 inch to the right of the first line you drew. This will be your other stitching line. Place the unit you drew the lines on right sides together with your other unit. Stitch along the stitching lines.

3. Cut your unit in half diagonally from corner to corner along the red cut line you drew in step one. Press seams towards the C unit.

4. Square-up/trim your units to 10 ½ inches using the instructions on page three. Save your extra HST for a pieced backing.

Hourglass & Quarter Square Triangle Seam Options

Pressed Open

Pressed to One Side

Spiral Seam

2X HOURGLASS METHOD

1. The first step in making hourglass quilt blocks is to use the 2X traditional HST method to make two HSTs. You will be using your B unit and one of your E units. On one of the units draw a line diagonally from the bottom left corner to the top right corner on the wrong side of the fabric. This will be your cutting line (shown above in red). Draw another line 1/4 inch to the left of the line you just drew (shown above as a dashed black line). This will be one of your stitching lines. Draw another line 1/4 inch to the right of the first line you drew. This will be your other stitching line. Place the unit you drew the lines on right sides together with your other unit. Stitch along the stitching lines and cut the unit into two HSTs along the red cutting line. Press towards the B unit.

2. On one of the HST units draw the cutting line diagonally from the bottom left corner to the top right corner on the wrong side of the fabric (shown above in red). Draw another line 1/4 inch to the left of the line you just drew and another one to the right (shown above as a dashed black line). These will be your stitching lines. Place the unit you drew the lines on right sides together with your other HST unit, nesting the seams as seen above. Stitch along the stitching lines.

3. Cut your unit in half diagonally from corner to corner along the red cut line you drew in step two. Spiral the seams and square up/trim your blocks to 10 ½ inches square. You will only need one hourglass block.

4X QUARTER-SQUARE TRIANGLE METHOD

1. Use the traditional 2X HST method to sew one A unit to your D unit. Do the same for the other A unit and one of your E units. You will only need one AD HST and one AE HST for the next step. You can choose to keep the others as HST or make more QSTs if you prefer.

2. Follow steps two and three from the Hourglass instructions to make two Quarter-square triangle blocks. The only difference is you pair an AD unit with an AE unit so that there are three colors. You will end up with two quarter-square triangles and will only need one. It should measure 10 ½ inches square.

PUTTING THEM ALL TOGETHER

The above diagram shows the direction your seams will be if you used the recommendations in the pattern. Sew the Quarter-square triangle to the left of the Hourglass block. Sew the HST to the right of the Hourglass block. Your final set of three blocks sewn together should measure 30 ½ inches wide by 10 ½ inches tall.

2X HOURGLASS METHOD

EQUATION

FINISHED HOURGLASS SIZE
PLUS 1 ¼
EQUALS
MINIMUM SIZE OF YOUR STARTING SQUARES

ADD AT LEAST 1/2 INCH TO THAT FOR WIGGLE ROOM TO TRIM

PRESSING OPTIONS

SPIRAL SEAM *PRESS TO SIDE* *PRESS OPEN*

HOURGLASS SIZES		SIZE OF SQUARES TO MAKE HOURGLASS	
Finished Hourglass Size (Size Once Sewn Together)	**Unfinished Hourglass Size** (Size Before Being Sewn Together)	**Minimum Size of Starting Squares** (No wiggle room to trim)	**Suggested Size of Starting Squares** (Sized to be trimmed down)
1	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 3/4
1 1/4	1 3/4	2 1/2	3
1 1/2	2	2 3/4	3 1/4
1 3/4	2 1/4	3	3 1/2
2	2 1/2	3 1/4	3 3/4
2 1/4	2 3/4	3 1/2	4
2 1/2	3	3 3/4	4 1/4
2 3/4	3 1/4	4	4 1/2
3	3 1/2	4 1/4	4 3/4
3 1/4	3 3/4	4 1/2	5
3 1/2	4	4 3/4	5 1/4
3 3/4	4 1/4	5	5 1/2
4	4 1/2	5 1/4	5 3/4
4 1/4	4 3/4	5 1/2	6
4 1/2	5	5 3/4	6 1/4
4 3/4	5 1/4	6	6 1/2
5	5 1/2	6 1/4	6 3/4
5 1/4	5 3/4	6 1/2	7
5 1/2	6	6 3/4	7 1/4
5 3/4	6 1/4	7	7 1/2
6	6 1/2	7 1/4	7 3/4
6 1/4	6 3/4	7 1/2	8
6 1/2	7	7 3/4	8 1/4
6 3/4	7 1/4	8	8 1/2
7	7 1/2	8 1/4	8 3/4
7 1/4	7 3/4	8 1/2	9
7 1/2	8	8 3/4	9 1/4
7 3/4	8 1/4	9	9 1/2
8	8 1/2	9 1/4	9 3/4
8 1/4	8 3/4	9 1/2	10
8 1/2	9	9 3/4	10 1/4
8 3/4	9 1/4	10	10 1/2
9	9 1/2	10 1/4	10 3/4
9 1/4	9 3/4	10 1/2	11
9 1/2	10	10 3/4	11 1/4
9 3/4	10 1/4	11	11 1/2
10	10 1/2	11 1/4	11 3/4
10 1/4	10 3/4	11 1/2	12
10 1/2	11	11 3/4	12 1/4
10 3/4	11 1/4	12	12 1/2
11	11 1/2	12 1/4	12 3/4
11 1/4	11 3/4	12 1/2	13
11 1/2	12	12 3/4	13 1/4
11 3/4	12 1/4	13	13 1/2
12	12 1/2	13 1/4	13 3/4
12 1/4	12 3/4	13 1/2	14
12 1/2	13	13 3/4	14 1/4
12 3/4	13 1/4	14	14 1/2
13	13 1/2	14 1/4	14 3/4
13 1/4	13 3/4	14 1/2	15
13 1/2	14	14 3/4	15 1/4
13 3/4	14 1/4	15	15 1/2
14	14 1/2	15 1/4	15 3/4
14 1/4	14 3/4	15 1/2	16
14 1/2	15	15 3/4	16 1/4
14 3/4	15 1/4	16	16 1/2
15	15 1/2	16 1/4	16 3/4

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