

# How to Make 8 Half-Square Triangles at Once: The Magic 8 Method

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<https://www.mybluprint.com/article/how-to-make-8-half-square-triangles-at-once-the-magic-8-method>

## Making the Magic 8 work for you

### 1. Figure out sizing

This step requires a little bit of math. Start by figuring out how large your finished half-square triangles need to be, then follow this formula:

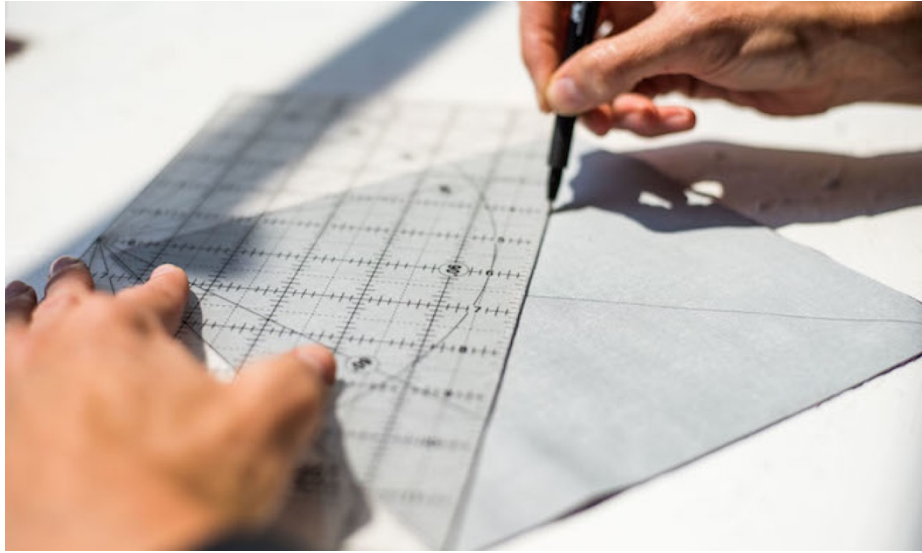
- Let's say you want to make 3" *finished* half-square triangles.
- Add  $\frac{7}{8}$ " to your 3" measurement (Your total is now  $3\frac{7}{8}$ " )
- Multiply your total of  $3\frac{7}{8}$ " by 2. (That equals  $7\frac{3}{4}$ " )
- $7\frac{3}{4}$ " squares are the size needed to make your 3" *finished* half-square triangles.

### 2. Cut your squares



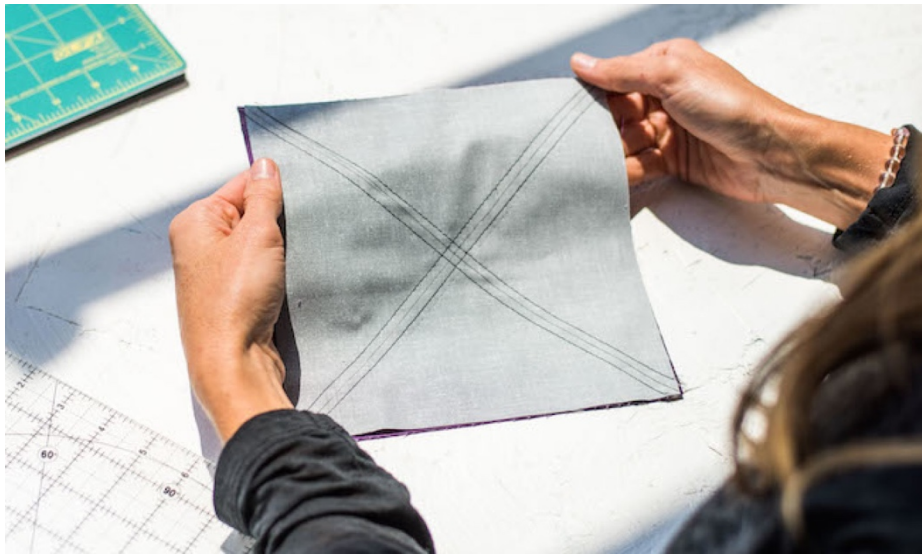
Cut two squares the desired size based on the formula above.

### 3. Section out the squares



Place the two squares on top of each other, with right sides together. Then, on one of the fabrics, draw two diagonal lines corner to corner.

### 4. Stitch Your Lines



Next, you'll stitch a total of four lines: one on each side of each diagonal line,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the line.

## 5. Cut out the triangles

Now, you can carefully cut the sewn square into the eight HSTs. You'll make a total of four cuts:

### Cut 1:



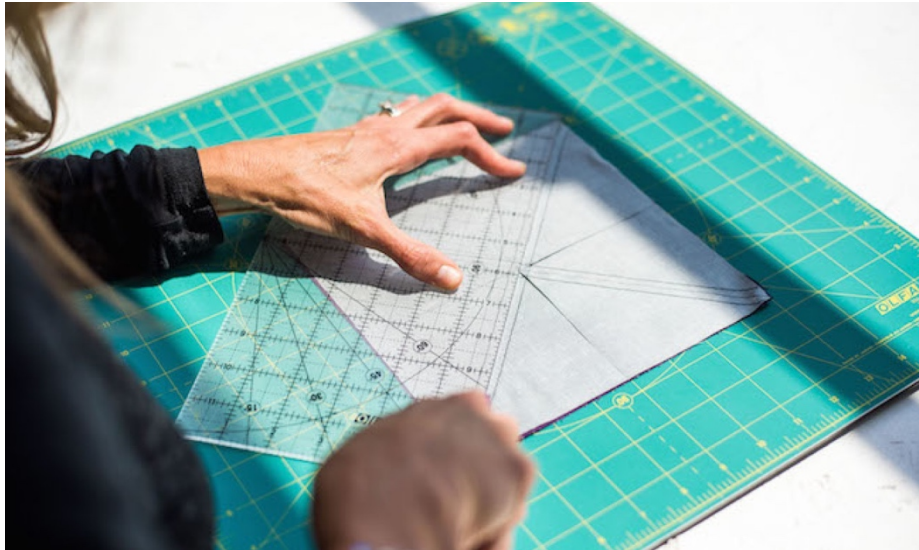
Cut vertically right down the center. Align your ruler with the center where you drawn lines intersect and one straight edge of the fabric squares.

### Cut 2:



Make a second cut that's perpendicular to the cut you just made. At this point, it's best to leave the fabric pieces where they are – don't try to rotate the fabric! Instead, walk around your table so you're better positioned to make the cut, or turn your cutting mat.

### Cuts 3 and 4:



Cut on both of the drawn diagonal lines, between your stitching lines. Again, it's best not to move your fabric; instead, move your body or your board so that you don't shift the fabric.

### 6. Separate the pieces



Now that you're done with your cuts, you can separate the cut pieces and open them up to reveal your perfect half-square triangles! Press the seams to the darker side and you're ready to use them in a project.