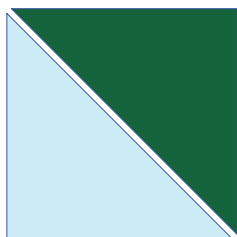
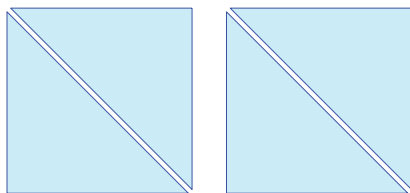


# First Monday Sew-day!

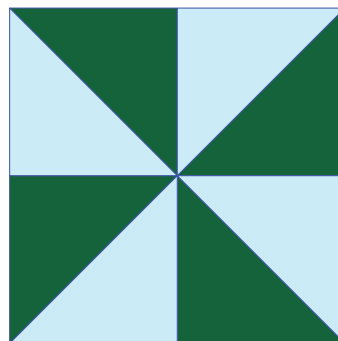
January 6, 2020

## Half-Square Triangles (HST):

A common shape after squares and rectangles, it is just what it says it is: a square, cut in half on the diagonal.



You can pair one triangle with one from another color to make this look.



Four, sewn together, can make a pinwheel.

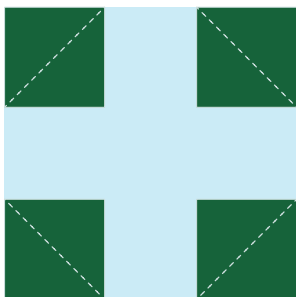
But how big do we cut the squares to get a 2" finished half-square triangle?

The trick is to add the  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch to the measurement. So if I want a 2" finished HST, I will cut my squares  $2\frac{7}{8}$ ". Experienced quilters will add a bit more, then cut them down afterwards. I would scooch it up to 3" then trim them down. I'll demo trimming at First Monday.

There are also Quarter-Square Triangles, but let's not get ahead of ourselves. Practice making and trimming HSTs until they don't terrify you.

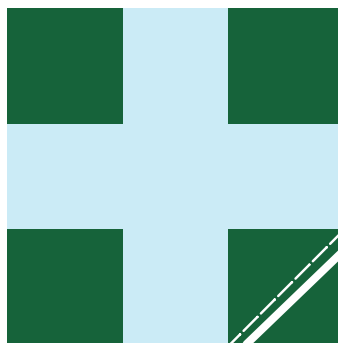
## Snowball Corners:

Another quick, but effective technique, you'll sew squares onto the corners of a bigger square, trim, then press.

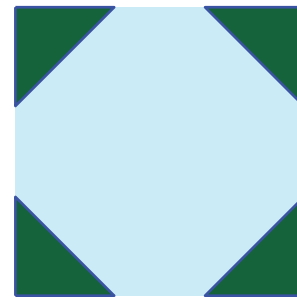


First, mark a diagonal line on your smaller squares. Lay them on your larger square like this.

Stitch one or two threads width into the corner, just the "other side" of the marked line. This allows for turn room.

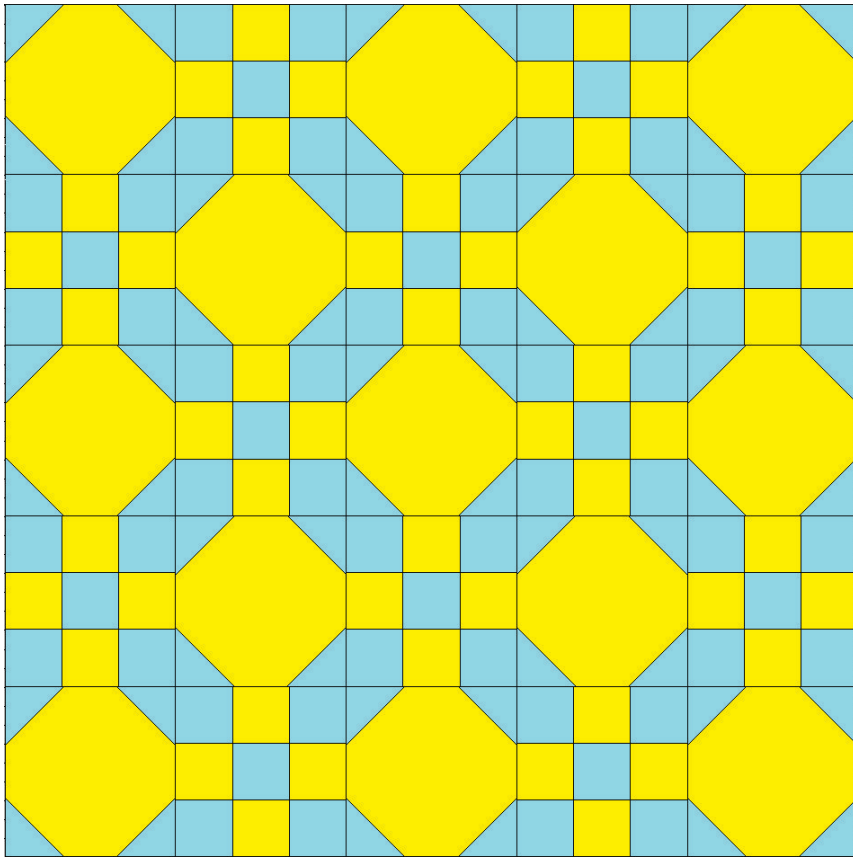


Trim off extra,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " past stitching line; discard.



After trimming and pressing, your block will look like this.

See next page for quilt ideas.



The borders on the lower quilt are 2.5" wide (cut them 3" wide, remember your seam allowances!), so the quilt finishes at 50" square.

By varying the colors, you'll get two very different looks using nine-patches and snowball square blocks.

