

## January BOM - Disappearing Hourglass



Let's start the new year with a new basic block, the Hour Glass. It is also called Broken Dishes or Quarter Square Triangle.

As you can see above, there are lots of color combinations you can try. For simplicity, the directions will reference the 2-color block (white with blue floral print).

### **Step 1.**

Cut 1 light square 10.5 inches & 1 print square 10.5 inches. (Can cut a bit larger if desired & trim down in next step)



### **Step 2.**

Place squares right sides together and sew 1/4" around the outside edge. Press flat.

### **Step 3.**

Cut sewn square on the diagonals. Open and press to print side. Presto ! 4 HST. Trim or square to 7 inches



#### **Step 4.**

Lay out 4 HST in an Hour Glass pattern and sew together as a 4-patch.

Be sure to use a scant 1/4 inch seam.

Check to make sure you have an Hour Glass and not a Pinwheel (Ask me how I know :)

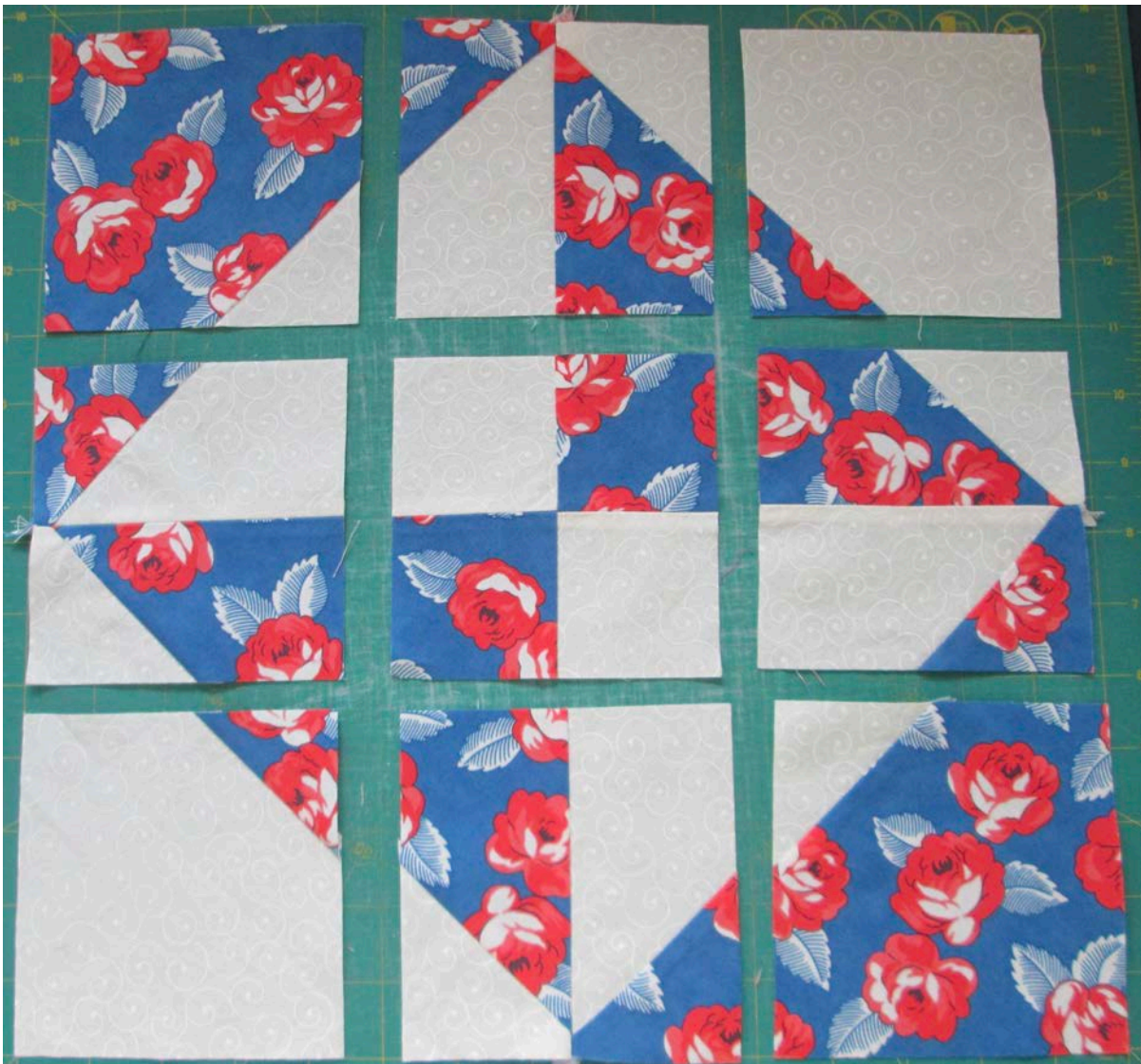
I pressed seams open to reduce bulk but please do what is most comfortable for you.

Your block should measure 13.5 inches square.



#### **Step 5.**

Now we divide the block into 9 equal parts.  $13.5$  divided by  $3 = 4.5$  so each of the 9 pieces should be 4.5 inches squares. To do that, make 2 vertical cuts 2.25 inches from the center seam. Repeat with 2 cuts 2.25 inches from the horizontal seam.



## **Step 6**

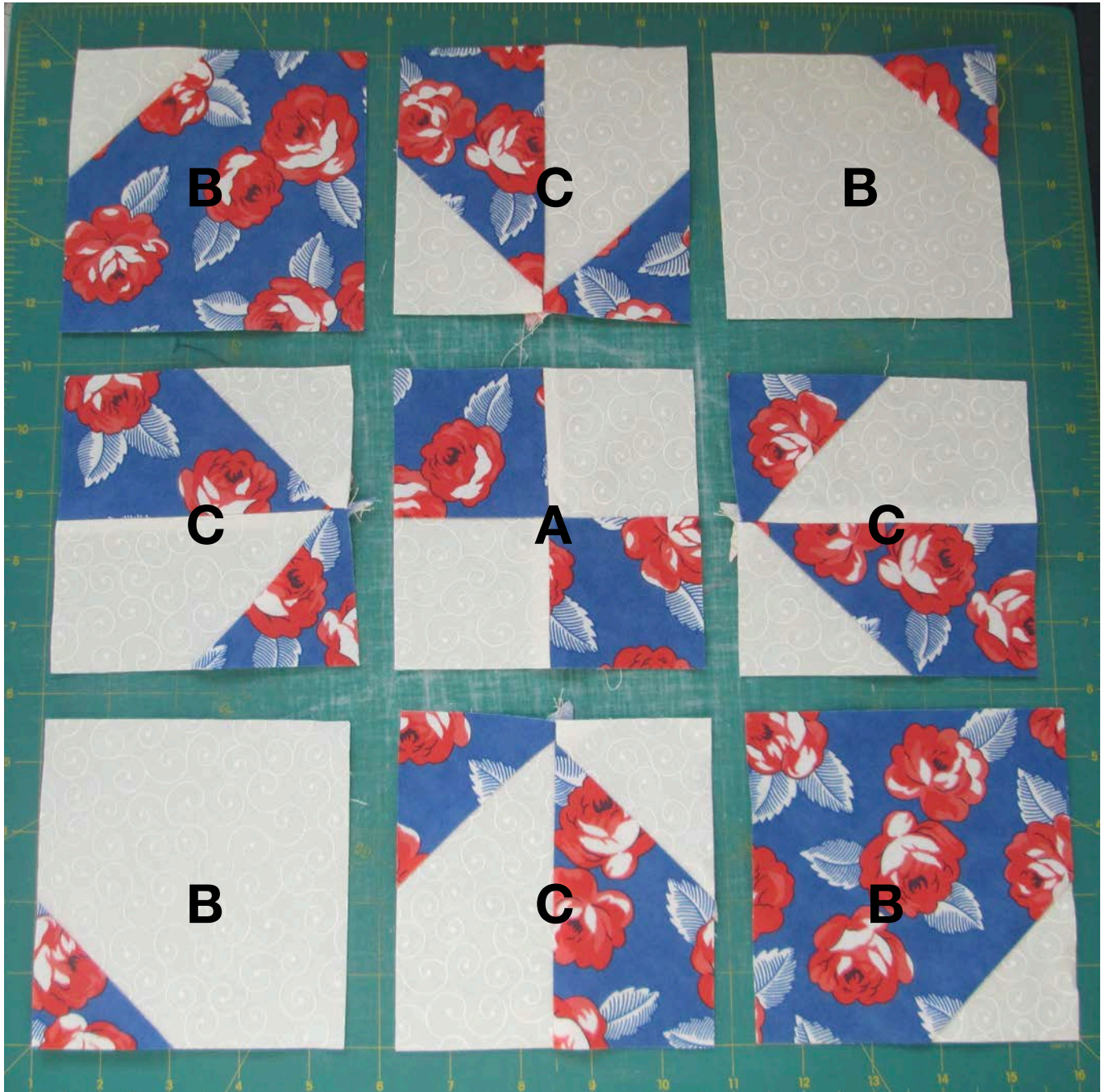
Now for the magic! All of the squares will change direction so go slowly.

A. Rotate center 4-patch square (A) 90 degrees.

B. Turn corner squares (B) 180 degrees so that the little triangle points to the outside.

C. Now turn the side pieces (C) so that the arrows point to the center.

Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, sew rows together a 9-patch. Make sure points on C sections line up with seams on A section.



## **Step 6**

Press flat. Trim / square up to 12.5 inches. And you're done !

I've added a few notes below for those who want to experiment a bit or who aren't able to start with 10.5 inch squares.

NOTES: If your fabric doesn't allow for a 10.5 inch square, don't worry. You just need to make your HST measure 7 inches unfinished. You can do that by making them 2-at-a time, cutting starting squares at 8 inches.

This is also a good method if you want to use lots of colors. Just make sure your starting HST are 7 inches unfinished.