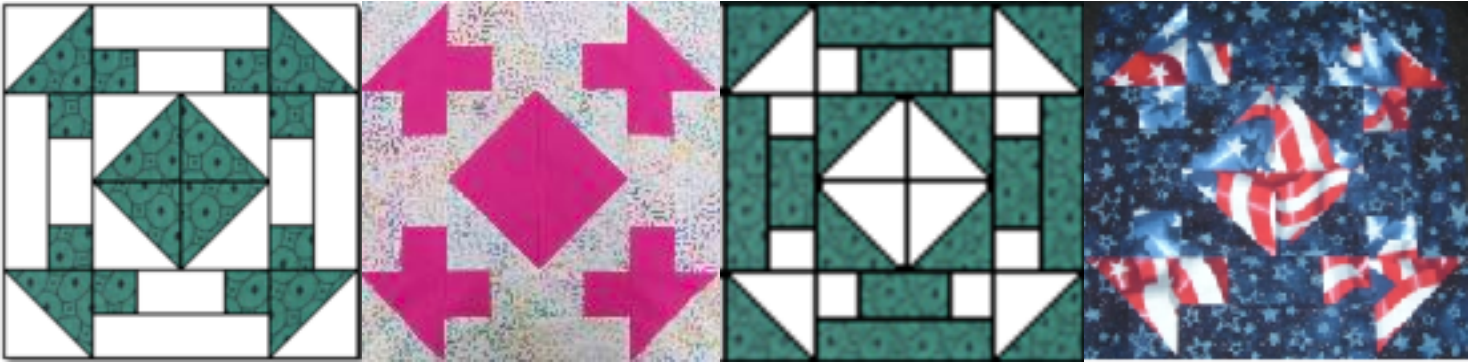


## December BOM - Ruins of Jericho

With the holidays upon us, we need a quick and easy block, something that can be accomplished in just an hour or 2. Our December block fits that bill. Just Half Square Triangles (HST), squares and rectangles. Only 2 colors needed. The directions will show how to make 8-at-a-time HST. If you are more comfortable making 2 at a time, please feel free. I've included cutting directions for both.



Want to simplify this block further **or** give yourself a bit more of a challenge? Take a look at the variations at the end of the directions.

### **CUTTING**

#### Light/background

Four rectangles 2.75" x 9.5"

One strip 5" x 12"

One 11.5" square (8 @ time HST)

**OR**

Four 5.5" squares (2 @ time HST)

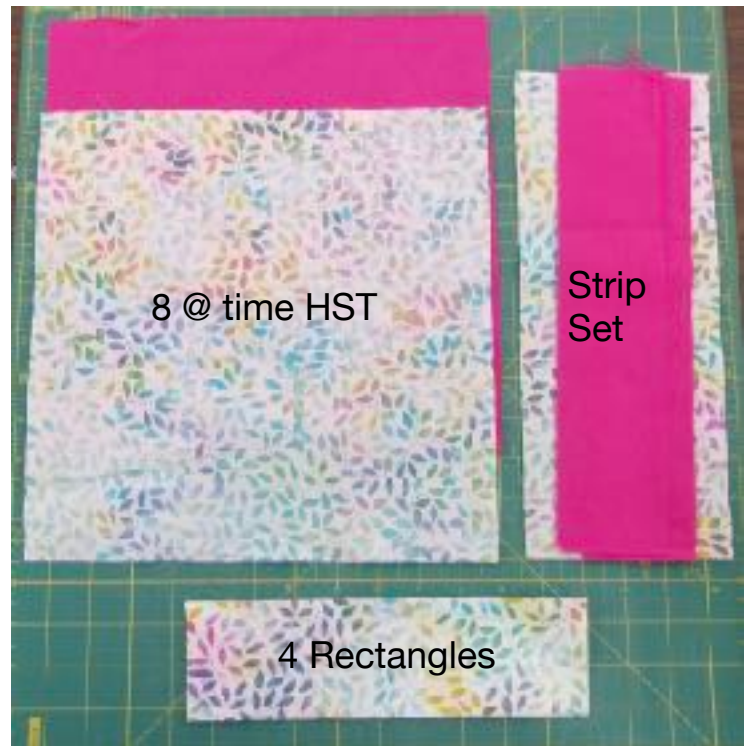
#### Dark

Two strips 2.75" x 12"

One 11.5" square (8 @ time HST)

**OR**

Four 5.5" squares (2 @ time HST)

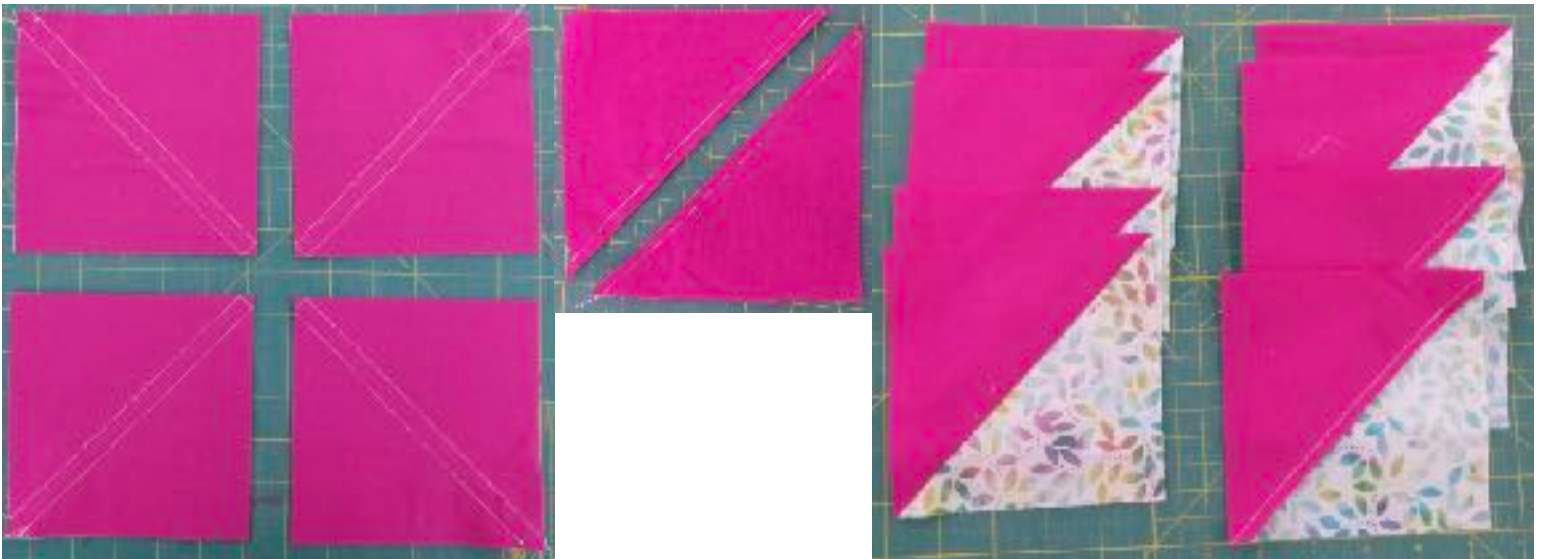


## **8-at-a-Time HST**

Draw 2 diagonal lines on wrong side of the light 11.5" square. Place right sides together (RST) on dark 11.5" square. Sew 1/4 inch on either side of the diagonals (4 seams in total). Press flat.



Cut in half on the horizontal & vertical centers. No line was drawn but use your ruler to keep cuts square. The center of the block should be about 5.75" from the edge of fabric. Now cut between the seam lines as shown. Presto ! 8 HST. Press 2 of the HST to the light side and the rest to the dark. Trim to 5".



\*\*\* If you are using the 2-at-a-time method, please reference directions for our July block or watch the video link below. \*\*\*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_mwsfXmFdPs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mwsfXmFdPs)

## **Side Bar Strip Units**

### **Step 1**

With 2 dark 2.75" x 12" strips and the light 5" x 12" strip, sew a dark strip to both sides of the light strip. Carefully press towards dark, keeping seams straight. It helps to finger press first, then press with iron.

This is a great test for your 1/4" seam. Your strip set should measure 9.5" wide. You will be sewing it to the 9.5" rectangles so feel free to re sew if the width is off significantly.

Cut strip set into four sections, 2.75" wide. It helps to line seam lines up along a ruler line to keep cut square.

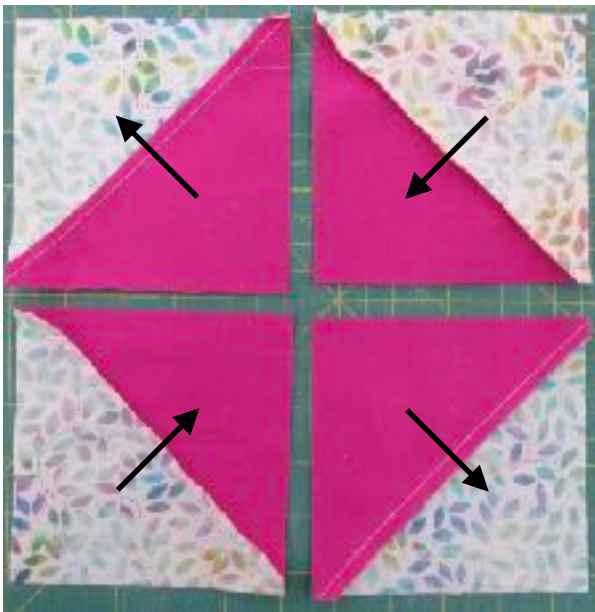


## Step 2

To each of these sections, sew a 2.75" x 9.5" light rectangle along the long edge. Press to the light 9.5" rectangle.



## Center Square:



With the 2 HST triangles pressed towards the light and 2 pressed towards the dark, create a Square in a Square as shown. Arrange the HST so that the seams nest as you are sewing them together.

Sew together in rows, then sew rows together. Press seams open.

Take a moment to admire how nicely the corners of your square have come together :)



## Time to assemble the pieces !

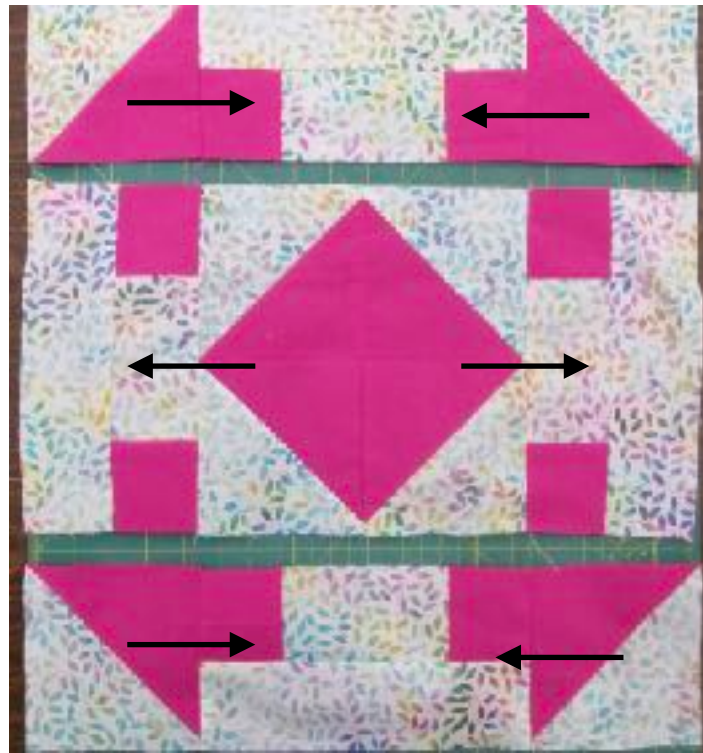
Lay out the pieces as shown. Sew a HST to each end of 2 of the Side Bar units. Make 2. Press **away** from the HST.



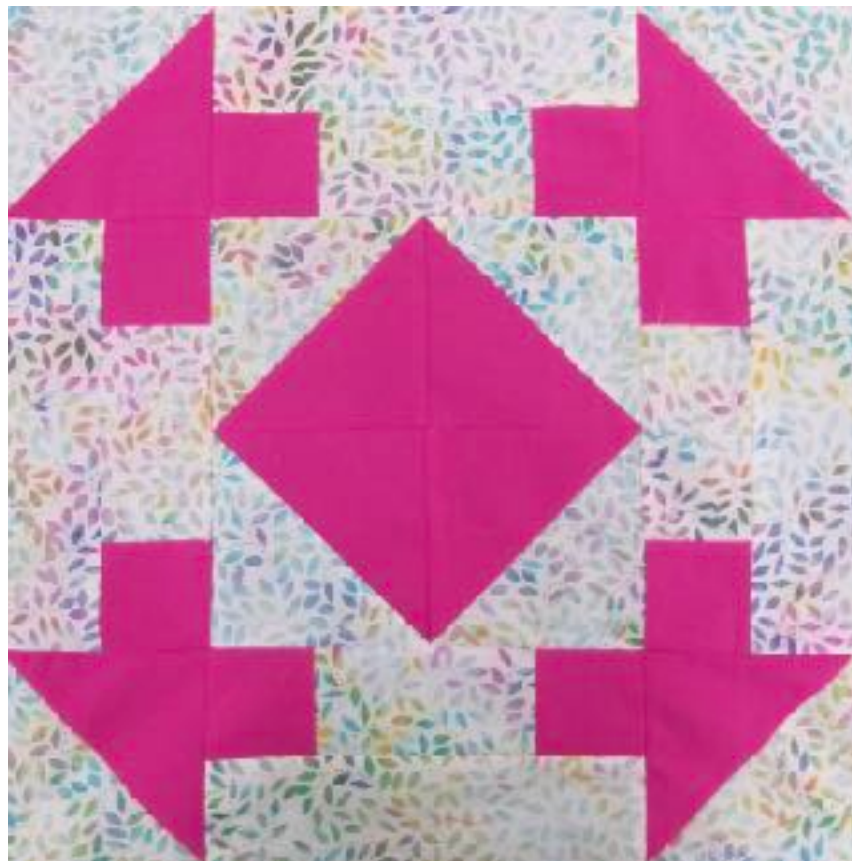
Sew a Side Bar unit to each side of the center Square/Square unit. Sew with the Square/Squared on top. Use a couple of pins to ensure the the points of the dark center square lines up right along your seam lines. Press **away** from center.



Now sew the rows together. Again, sew with the center Square/Squared on top so you can see the point/corner of the dark square.

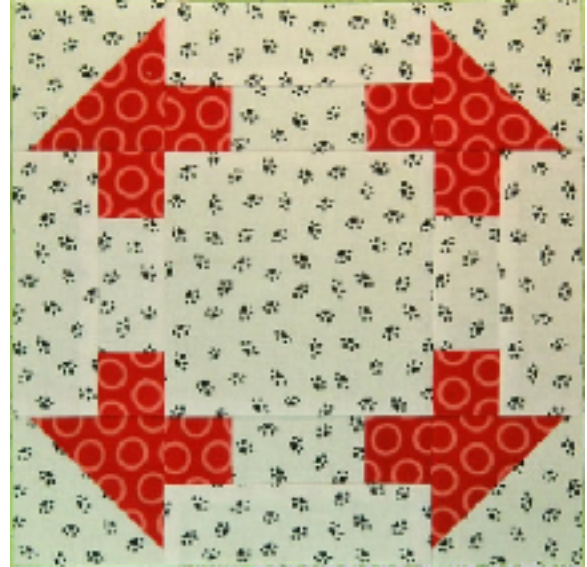


Give it all a final press and you're done. Snap a photo and send it along to Joey Strait so we can post it on the website.



As promised, here are a couple of variations you can try.

For an easier block, make 4 HST using 2/time method. Cut a light 9.5" square for the center. Assemble as a 9-patch. No points to match !



Want a bit more variety?  
Make 4 HST in 1 color and 4 HST in a second color. Color 2 will make up your center Square/Squared.

How about making that center square an hour-glass block?  
Again, just half-square triangles but in 2 colors.

Have fun !

