

Good Friday Morning, Quiltvillians!

Yes, I'm back from my whirlwind trip to England. What a magnificent time we had!

I absolutely love traveling with quilters (and yes, their ever-patient spouses!) and seeing this beautiful world of ours.

Part Two of this mystery released on Black Friday just before I left for the airport.

Part Three was posted in the morning hours while we were in Bath, and here I am home again for Part Four.

I purposely kept Part Three a bit easier so everyone would have a chance to catch up if they got a bit behind.



Our Craftours Group at Highclere Castle of Downton Abbey fame!

View the All My Tours tab at the top of my blog and join me in my 2025 line up to discovering the crafts, culture and cuisine of Iceland in June, a celebration of quilting & textiles in France, Germany & Switzerland in September, and the treasures of a Bavarian/Austrian Christmas in December.

In January of 2026 we'll be somewhere warm with an exclusive arts & crafts experience in Morocco followed by the culture, crafts and traditions of Romania in June. September 2026 has us exploring all the quilting inspirations of India.

I am so excited about this whole lineup over the next couple of years and I hope you'll join me.

Space is limited, and there is an early booking discount if you reserve your spot before Jan 1, 2025. Don't miss out!



Poland is full of beautiful architecture!



Beautiful street scenes!



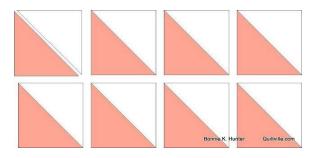
Rose gardens and interesting statues.



Fantastic building colors and interesting rooflines.



Are you ready for what Part Four is bringing?



Half-Square Triangles!

25 sets of 8 matching!

Units will measure 2 1/2" unfinished and finish at 2".

That's 200 half-square triangles total, sewn in sets of 8 - each set uses the same coral/melon and the same neutral per set, but you can use different pairings for each set if you wish.

Traditional Rotary Cutting for ONE SET:

From coral/melon fabric cut:

4 squares 2 7/8"

From Neutral fabric cut:

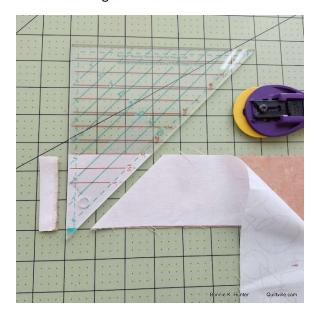
4 squares 2 7/8"

Pair neutral squares with coral squares with right sides together. Slice on the diagonal from corner to corner to yield 2 half-square triangle units ready to sew from each pair of squares.

The sewing is the same as the Essential Triangle Tool Method below.

You can use ANY method to make these, keeping in mind the unfinished and finished size.

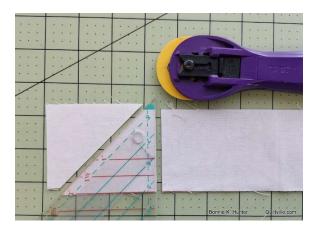
Essential Triangle Tool Method:



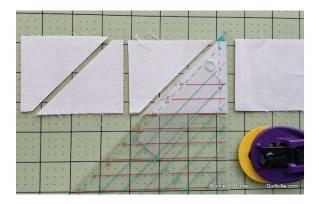
Pair a 2 1/2" melon/coral strip and a 2 1/2" neutral strip with right sides together. We are cutting in already matched pairs, ready to sew.

Square off end of strip set.

Using the 3rd red line for 2" finished half-square triangles, place the line at the top of the strip set and cut as shown.



Pivot the ruler and continue cutting, placing the 2" finished red line on the bottom of the strip set on the fabric as show. Cut.



Continue to pivot the ruler, cutting 8 halfsquare triangle pairs ready to sew from each fabric pairing.

Cut 25 sets of 8.



Stitch half-square triangle pairs along diagonal edge. Gently press toward the coral/melon fabric.

Remove dog ears and trim to 2 1/2" as needed.

If your units are too small, scant your seam allowance and try again.



Chain pressing for the win!

Try this. Sew your half-square triangles all with the same color up. In my case, I send them through with the neutrals on top.

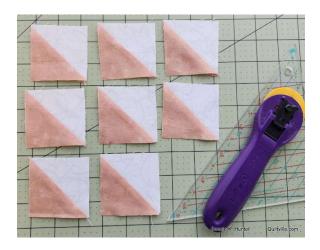
Clip your chains behind the presser foot after each completion of the sets of 8 - this keeps chains shorter than the length of your ironing board, preventing tangling from chains that are too long and unwieldy.

CHAIN PRESS! Meaning, don't cut things apart until you have pressed them. It's faster, and it keeps everything facing the same direction.

If you cut things apart first, you have to pick up, and rotate and rearrange and press one at a time...it's much quicker to work down a chain.

I use scissors to snip the chaining threads (Or sometimes a seam ripper if it is handy) and then trim dog ears into a scrap container on my ironing board.

Some of you may have that razor-blade thing for cutting apart chains, and that's great, but try pressing your chains first before you cut them apart.



One set of 8 matching.

Make 25 sets total.

Now that I'm home from England and we are back in full-on-mystery-mode, I want to give you a heads up.

The holidays get busy. People set things aside to get back to them after New Years.

Even if things get a bit hectic, it is helpful to check the blog daily so that you don't miss anything.

I've been known to throw in some "surprises" along the way, and they don't always come on Friday! LOL!

Don't worry, if I sneak in a whammy, the next Friday clue will refer you back to what you may have missed. And that's the fun of this whole thing being a mystery and keeping it a mystery for everyone.

As always - Download and print/save the PDF copies for each mystery post - not just the ones that come on Friday.

Okay, that's it for now!

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