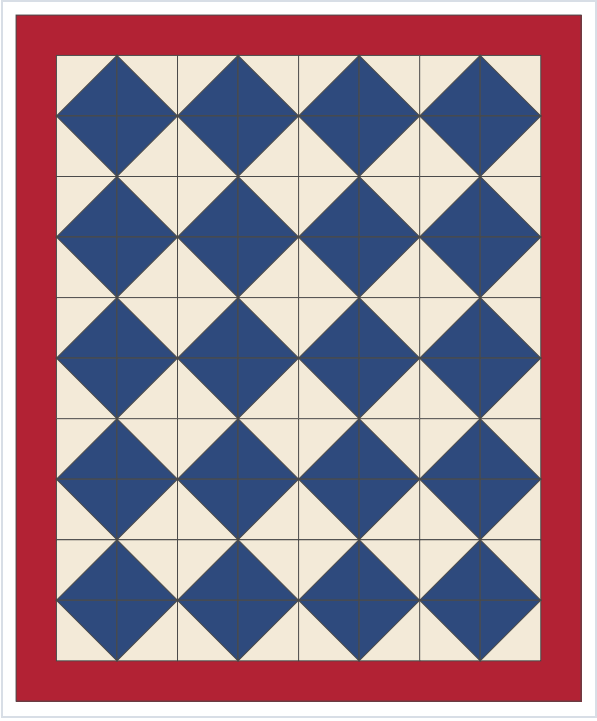
Half-square triangle diamonds throw

Finished size: 56 x 68 in **Level:** Advanced beginner, first triangles **Seams to sew:** 168



Eighty half-square triangles turned so the dark halves meet in diamonds. It is a good first triangle quilt, because every unit is made the same way.

What it teaches: Making half-square triangles two at a time and trimming them to size.

Fabric requirements

Fabric	Used for	Amount
Dark (diamonds)	half-square triangles	1 5/8 yd
Light (background)	half-square triangles	1 5/8 yd
Border and binding	border, binding	1 3/8 yd
Backing	two panels, 64 in long	3 5/8 yd
Batting	at least 64 x 76 in	one piece

All cutting sizes include a 1/4 in seam allowance. Yardage assumes 40 in of usable fabric width and adds 2 in per fabric for straightening the first cut. Each amount is rounded up to the next 1/8 yd. Backing and batting are 4 in larger than the top on every side.

Cutting

Dark (diamonds) and Light (background) (from each)

- Cut 8 strips 7 in wide across the width. From them cut 40 squares, 7 x 7 in (5 per strip). These make the half-square triangles, trimmed to 6 1/2 in.

Border and binding

- Cut 6 strips 4 1/2 in wide across the width for the border.
- Cut 7 strips 2 1/2 in wide across the width for the binding.

Sewing the top

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each light square. Place each one on a dark square, right sides together.
2. Sew 1/4 in from the line on both sides. Cut on the line and press toward the dark: 2 half-square triangles from each pair, 80 in all.
3. Trim each unit to 6 1/2 in square, keeping the seam exactly corner to corner.

4. Lay out 10 rows of 8 units. In each group of 2 x 2 units, turn them so the dark halves meet in the middle and make a diamond (see the diagram).
5. Sew the units in each row together, pressing the seams in alternate directions from row to row. Join the rows. The center should measure 48 1/2 x 60 1/2 in.
6. Join the 6 border strips end to end with straight seams and press the seams open. Measure the center from top to bottom through the middle; it should be 60 1/2 in. Cut two border pieces that long and sew them to the sides. Measure across the middle, borders included; it should be 56 1/2 in. Cut two pieces that long and sew them to the top and bottom. The top should measure 56 1/2 x 68 1/2 in.

Finishing

1. Cut the backing into two pieces 64 in long (each the full width of the fabric). Sew them together along the 64 in sides with a 1/4 in seam. That makes a backing at least 64 x 76 in. With 108 in wide backing, 1 7/8 yd is enough, in one piece.
2. Cut the batting at least 64 x 76 in. Lay the backing right side down, then the batting, then the top. Baste and quilt.
3. Trim the batting and backing even with the top. Join the 7 binding strips with diagonal seams, press the binding in half lengthwise and sew it on. You need about 260 in of binding.

> We worked out these sizes from the cutting list and have not sewn this quilt. Make one row or block first and measure it against the size given in the steps before you cut everything. More free beginner patterns: wtcquilt.com/quilting/easy-quilt-patterns-for-beginners.html