



BY APRIL ROSENTHAL

NOVEMBER 25, 2013

Quick And Easy Half Square Triangle (HST) Hack



NO MARKING

HALF SQUARE TRIANGLE HACK

The other day (or like, two months ago) on [QuiltCast](#), Amy and I were talking about shortcuts and tools we use in our studio. I mentioned blue painter's tape, and how I use it for making Half Square Triangles (HST) quick and easy. WITHOUT MARKING. Yes, you read that correctly. I don't mark the back of my half square triangles. I'm a quilting rebel, what can I say. (By the way, have you been listening to [QuiltCast](#)? It's a podcast for quilters that I'm doing with Amy Ellis of [Amy's Creative Side](#). We're getting some great feedback on it, and I'd love yours. [Head on over and download it](#) and let me know what you think? xoxo)

[Podcast-graphic](#)



Welcome! I'm April. I share quilting and fabric posts as well as other awesome things. :) I design fabric for Moda (#dreamjob) and love to design and write quilting patterns that are easy to understand and fun to make (and finish!). I'm so glad you're here!



my fabric collections



homestead



midnight magic



Orchard



All-weather friend



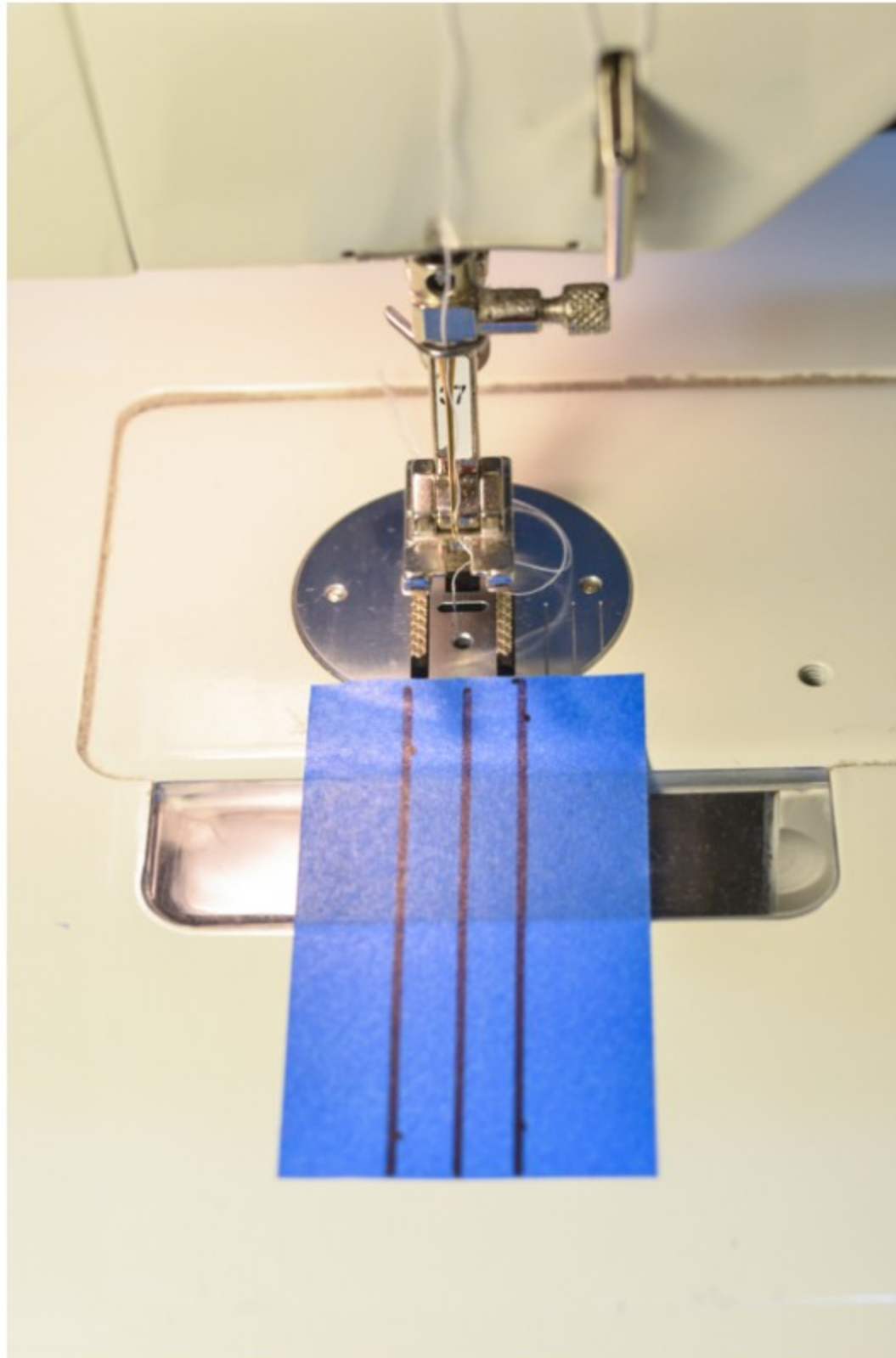
Anyway, I figured you'd want to see this awesome little hack, because hey, it saves me a ton of time...and who really loves marking the back of HSTs anyway? *crickets*

That's what I thought.

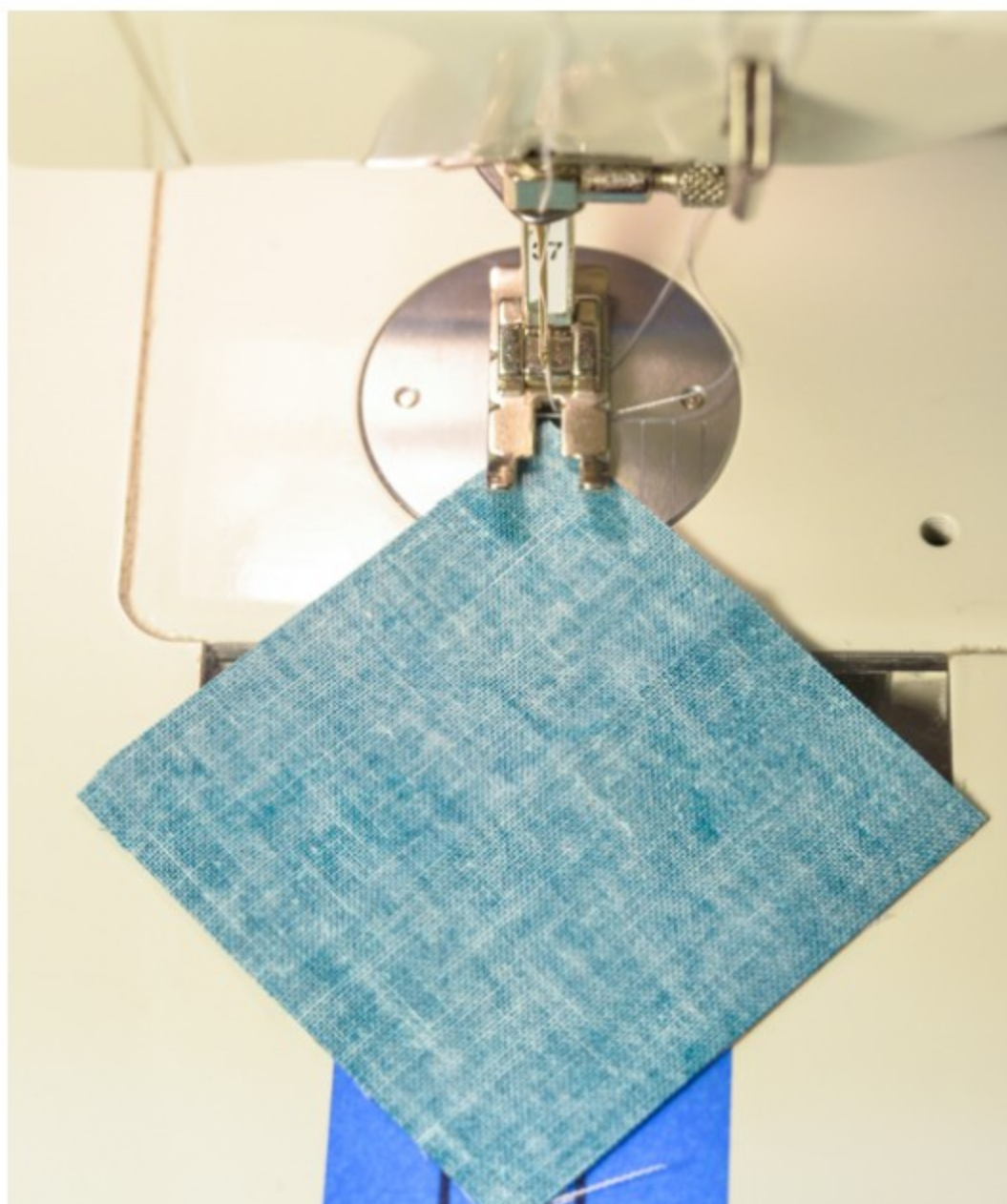
So get yourself some blue painter's tape, and let's do this thing.

Mark one line right down the middle of the tape, and another line 1/4" away on either side, for a total of 3 lines.

Put the tape on your extension table, lining up the middle line with your needle. Be sure not to place the tape over the feed dogs.



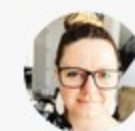
To sew a standard HST, line up the top corner with your needle and place under your presser foot. Align the other corner with the middle line.



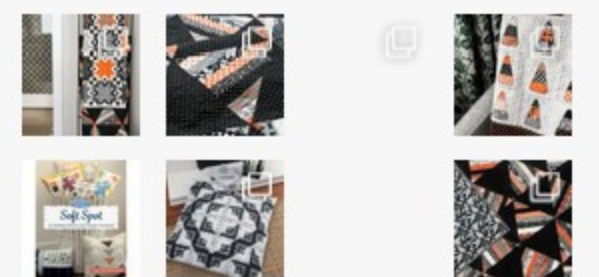
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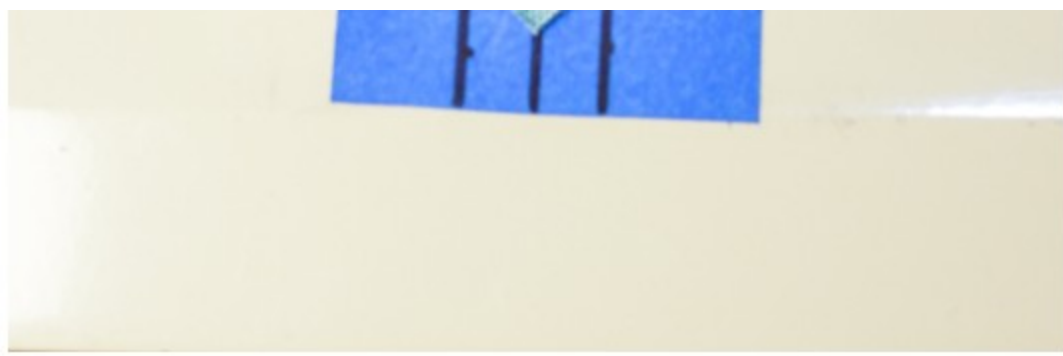
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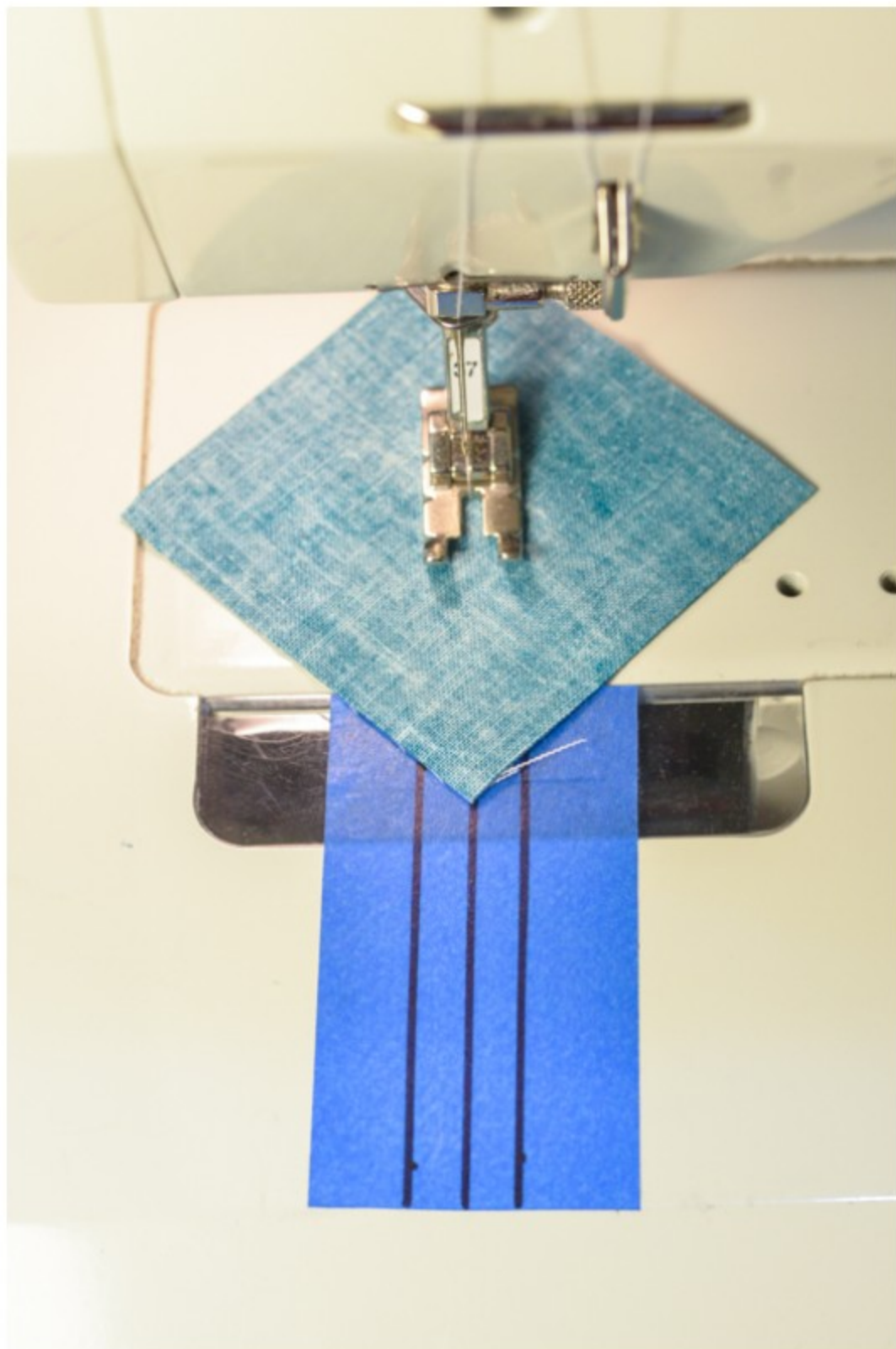




Start sewing,



keeping the bottom corner on the middle line as you sew.



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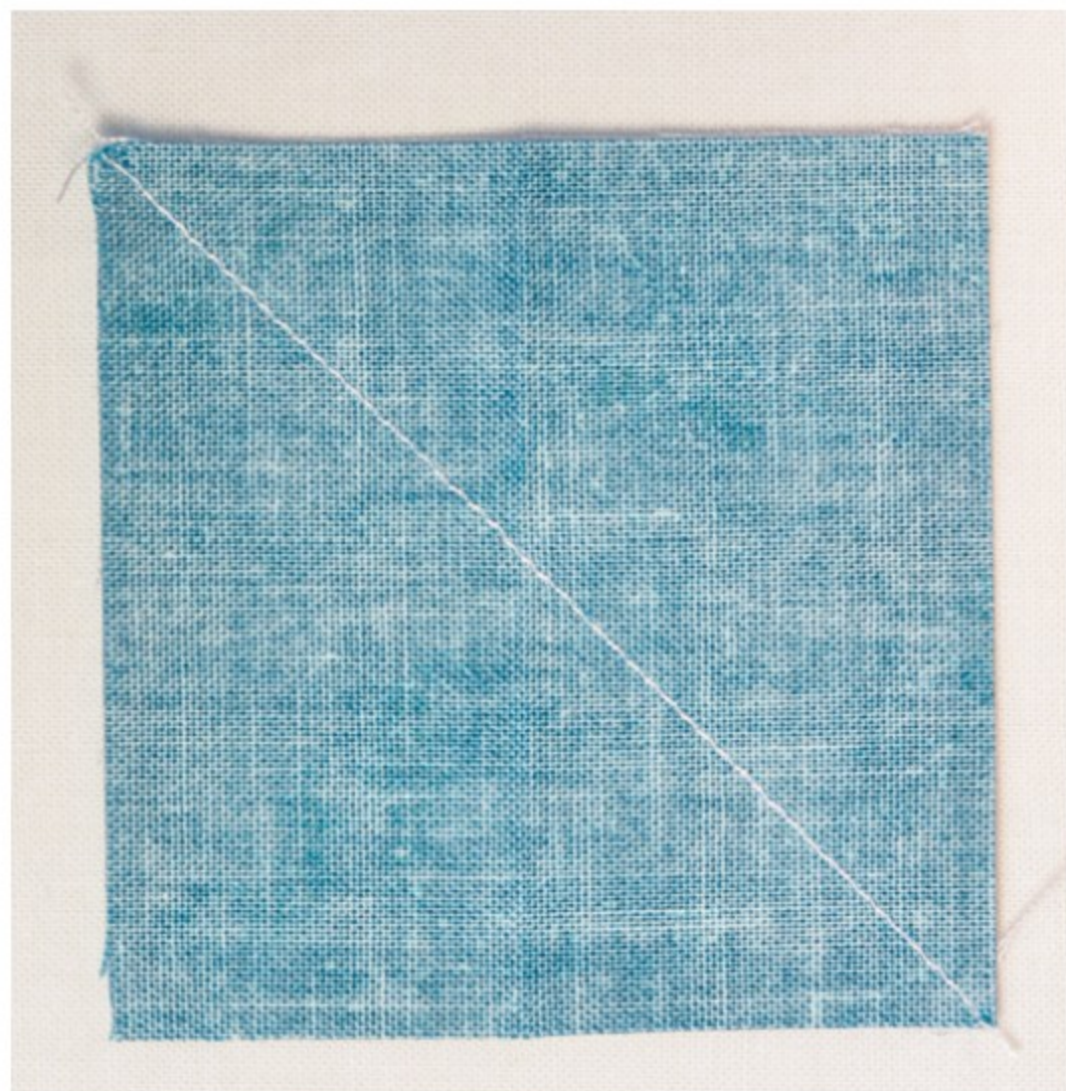
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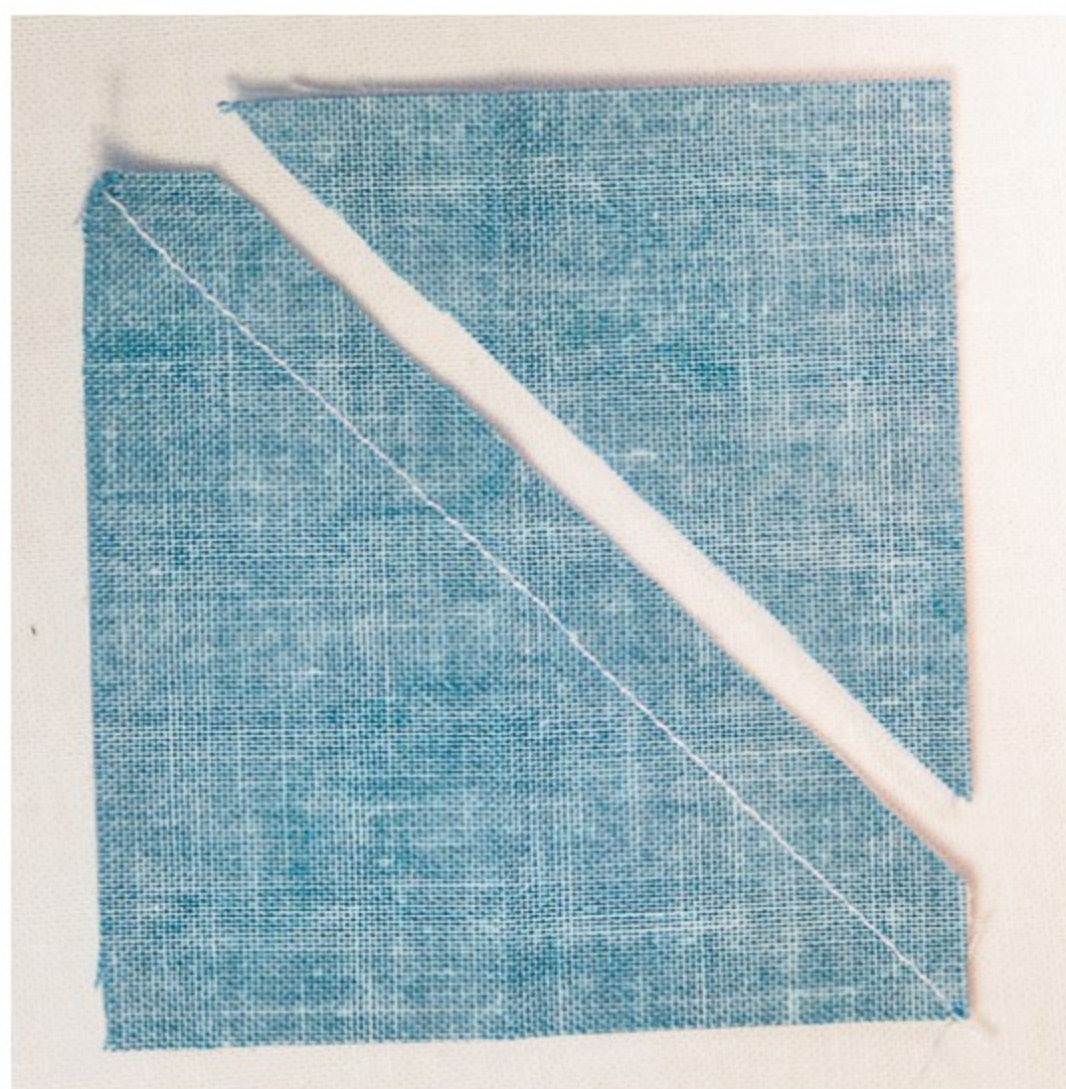
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Sew all the way to the other corner...



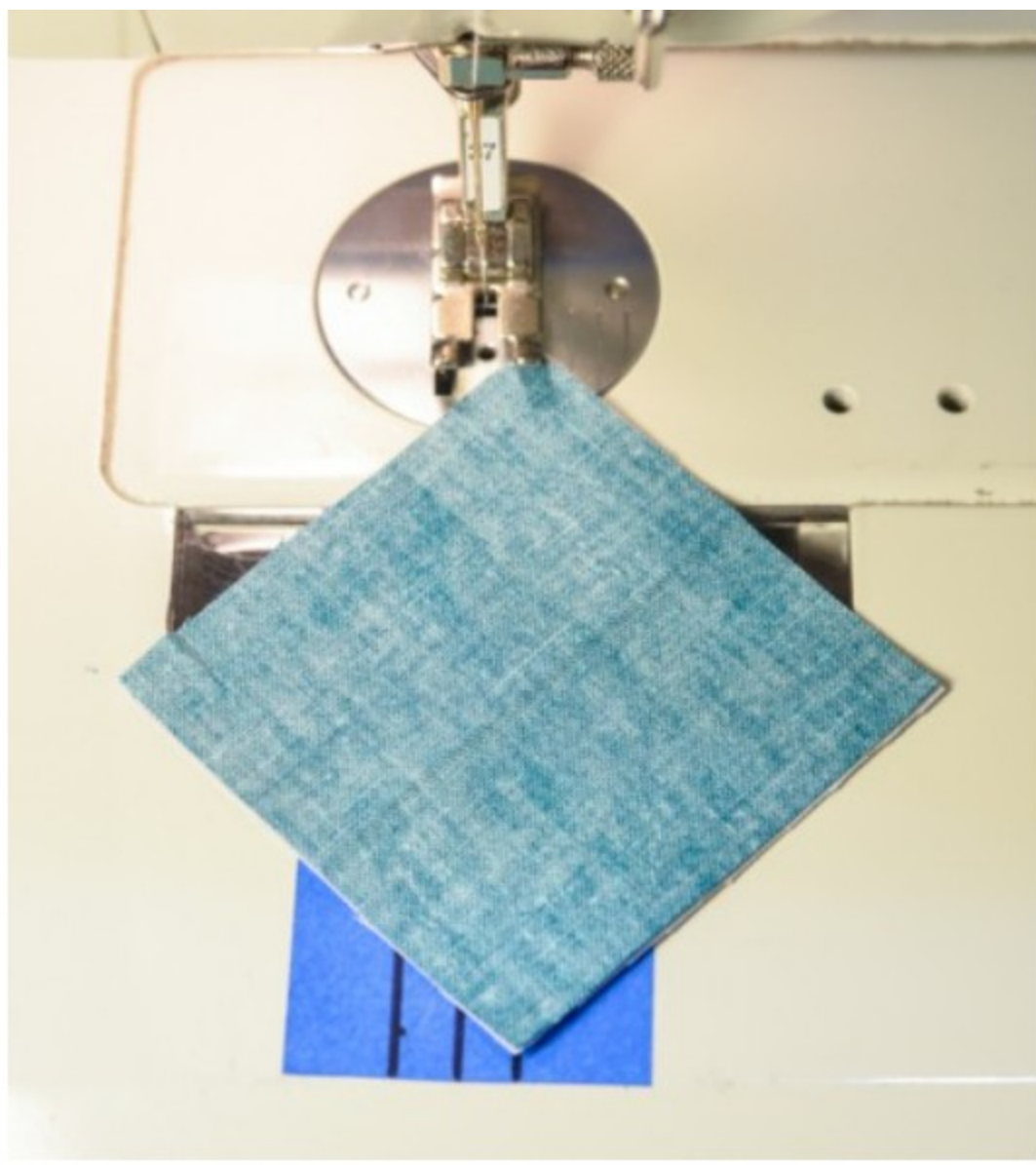
set your seam, trim your excess,



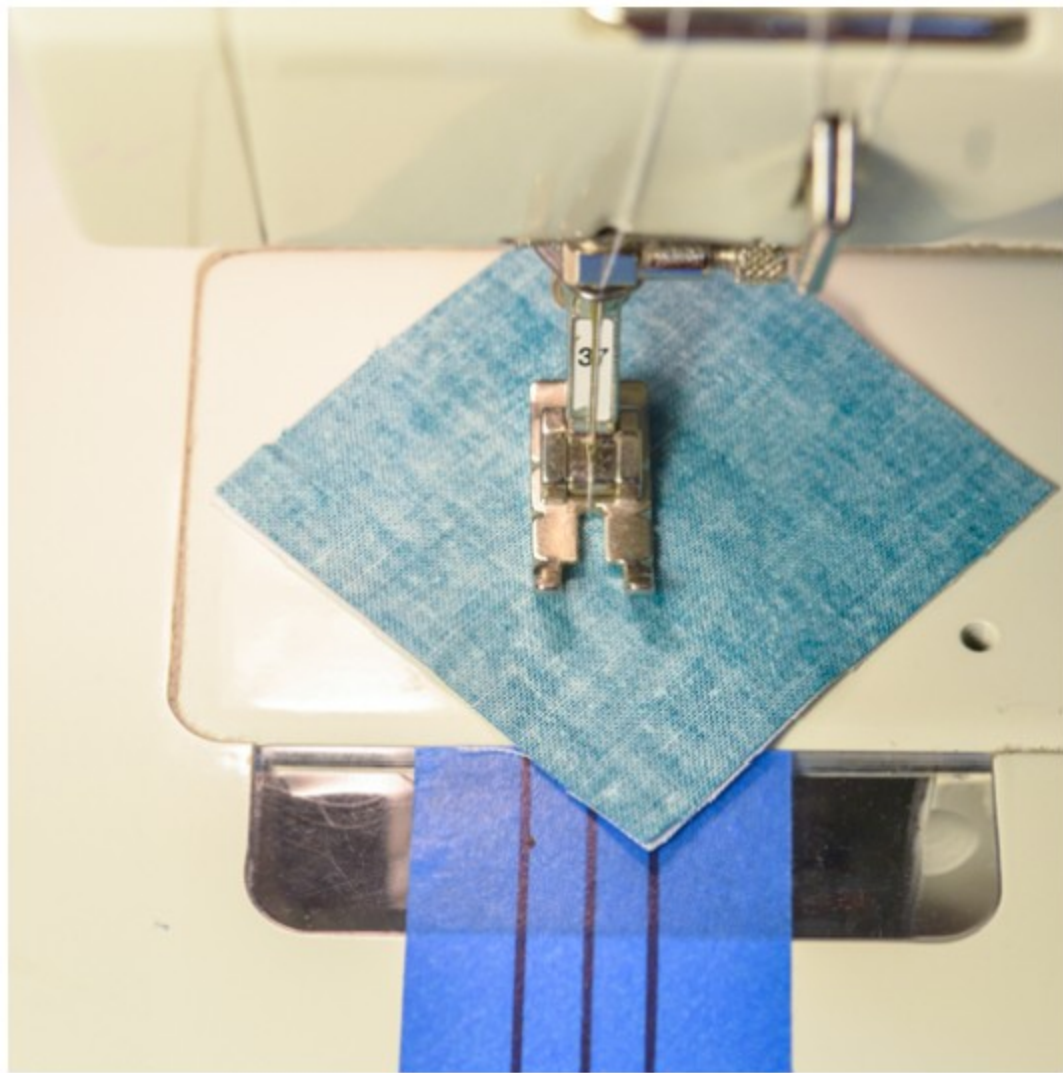
press toward the dark, and VOILA!



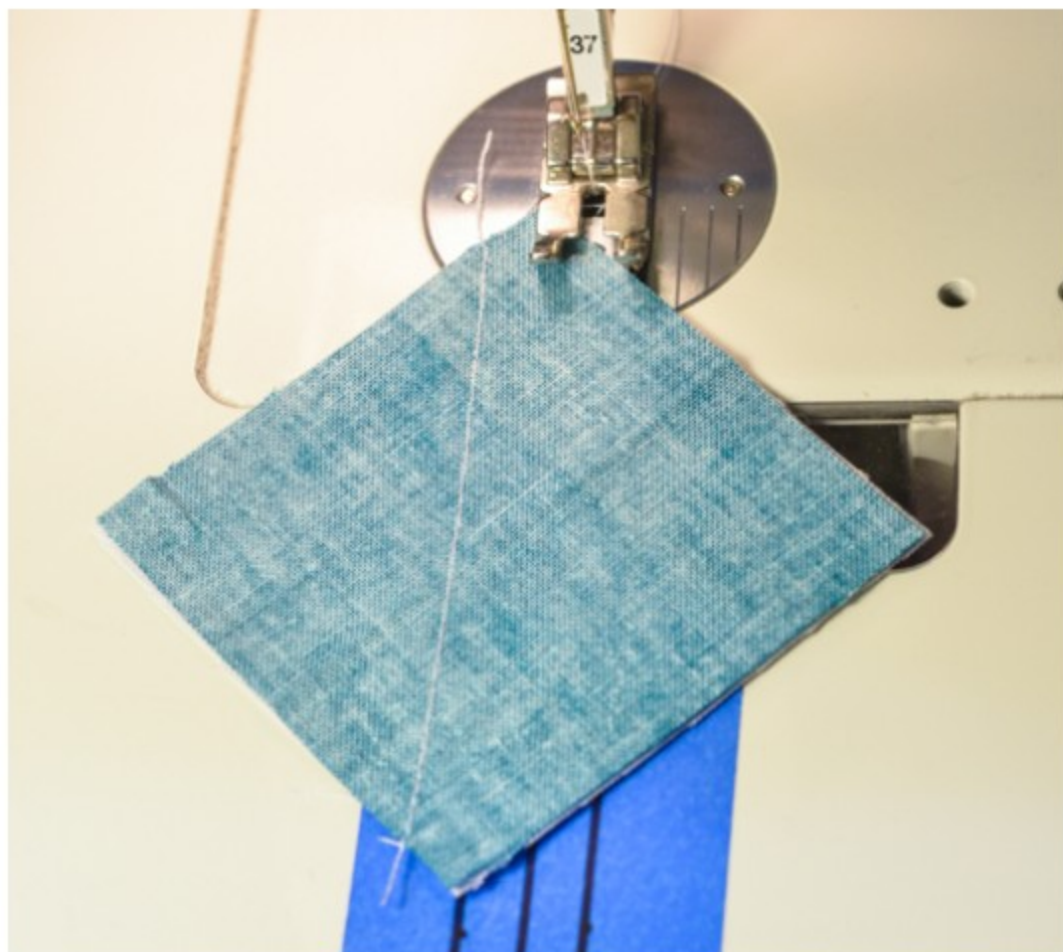
To make 2 HSTs, simply align your top corner with your 1/4" seam allowance (I use the edge of my patchwork foot) and the right or left line.



Sew,



then rotate and repeat...

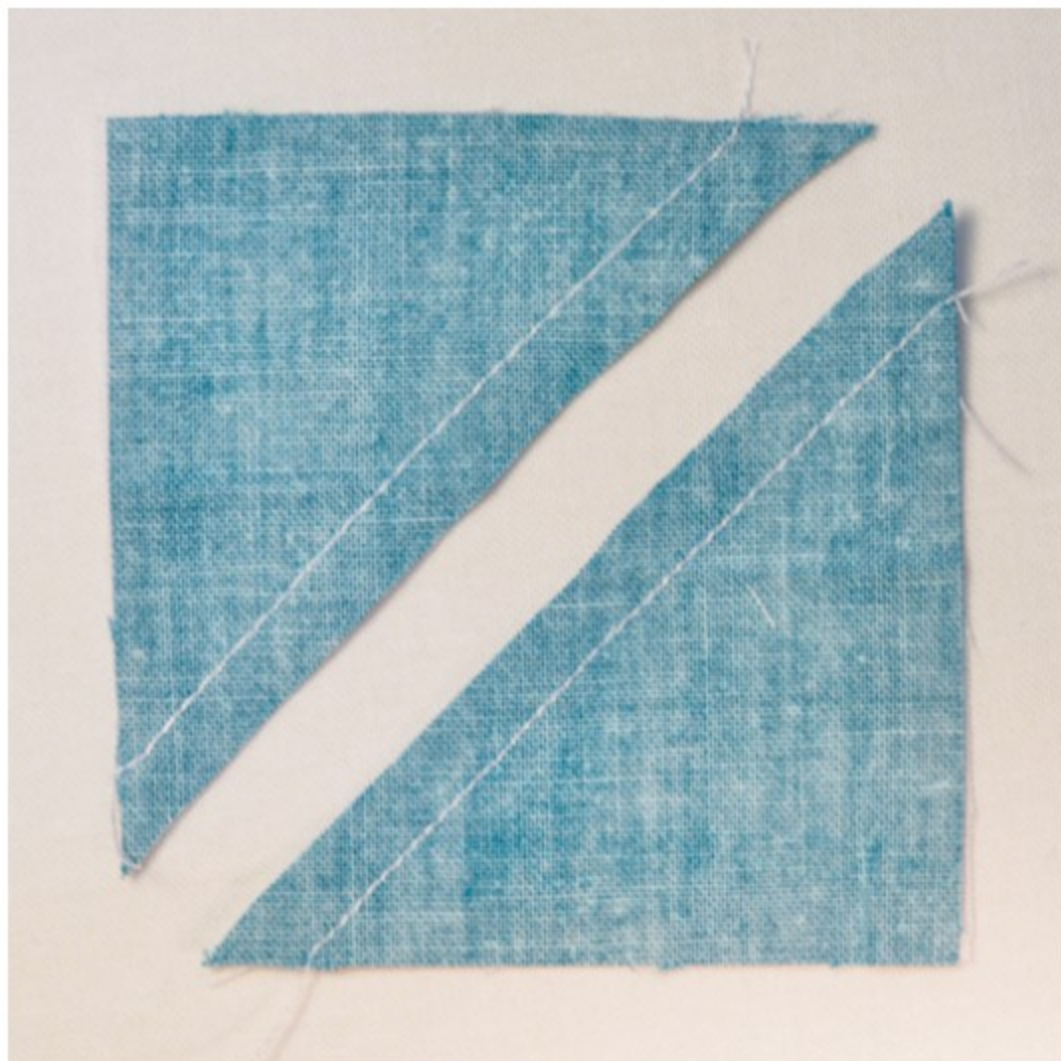


on the other side of the diagonal.





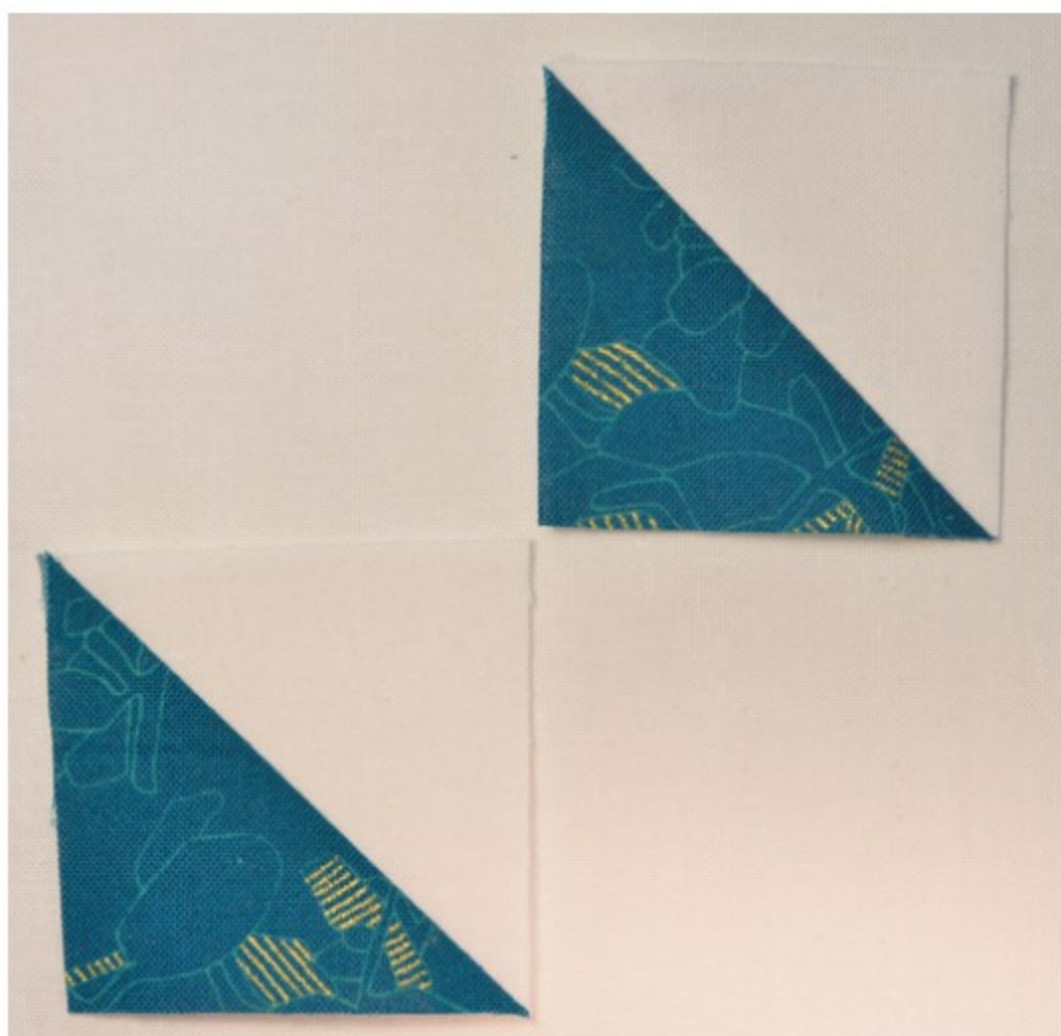
Cut between the two seams...



Set seams, press toward dark, trim up, and check it out! Two HSTs and NO marking!

Seriously people, it's like magic. (However, it is not magic taking photos in the basement.)

On my table, the biggest HSTs I can do with this method is 3" square—but for those of you lucky ducks who have a custom table where your machine is inset, you may be able to go even bigger. Just make sure your tape is straight out from the needle.



What do you think? Will you try my Half Square Triangle Hack? Do you have any fast and easy methods of your own? I'd love to hear them!

Also. YOU GUYS. New Patterns and a Black Friday coupon code coming tomorrow!! I'm crossing my fingers you love these new ones as much as I do.

xoxo
April



By April | Filed under [Quilting](#), [Quilting Hack](#), [Tutorial](#)

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