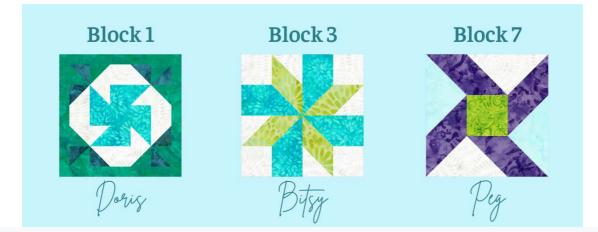


Week 1 - Half Square Triangles

We are so glad you are here with us for the sisterhood Quilt Along!

Yay! Are you ready to make some blocks?

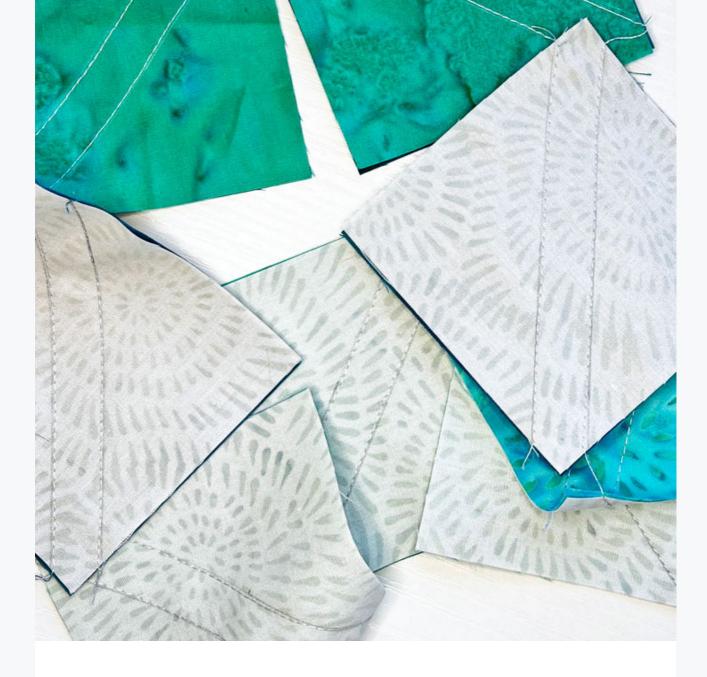
This week we will be making blocks 1, 3 and & 7!



In case you haven't cut already, just remember - you have TWO sets of cutting options. **Basic Cutting** provides the exact size cuts as well as **suggested oversizing** for wiggle room.

The **<u>Studio 180 cutting</u>** is already oversized, as the Studio 180 approach and tools allow for wiggle room and trim down room.

Gentle reminder - you must choose ONE cutting method to follow: Basic Cutting or Studio 180 Cutting. Yardages have been carefully calculated using ONE method only.



Half Square Triangles!

All of the blocks this week use Half Square Triangles (hereafter referred to as HST). You are going to get REALLY comfortable with making them this week!

Let's look a little closer at some tips that will make each block a bit easier to stitch.

First, while you CAN make each HST unit the EXACT size without trimming (and we have provided the exact cutting size under the Basic Cutting instructions), you can also oversize your cuts to allow for a bit of trimming room when making your HST.

We use the two at a time method, outlined in the Month One section of the pattern. This stabilizes the center bias seam and helps keep the block square.

If you are unfamiliar making HST or how to trim down an oversized HST, you can refer to the video (link below) for guidance.

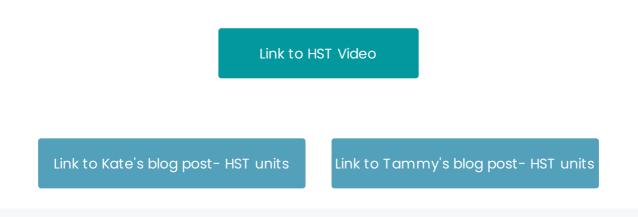
In the video, Tammy shows seams pressed open. Kate likes to press seams to one side. Regardless of pressing preferences, stitching and trimming is the

same.

Second, some Pressing Tips:

- If pressing seams open, it is a good idea to SLIGHTLY reduce your stitch length to prevent seams from pulling open
- A wool pressing mat can aid in getting lovely flat pressed seams
- Best Press, Flatter or a simple water mister (or heck the steam setting on your iron!) can aid in pressing
- Remember to NOT pull or stretch these bias seams!

If you would like any additional HST unit tips, there are links below to Tammy's blog post on HST units and Kate's blog post on HST units.



Eccentric Star





You might want to start with Peg. This block uses EIGHT HST units and one square. Piecing will be quick and easy. This will ease you into the other, more complex blocks, Bitsy and Doris.

Also, if you choose to press your seams to one side, another fun pressing tip is to swirl the seams or rotate press them. This helps those intersections lay nice and flat. If you have never done this technique, click below for a link to Kate's post on Rotate Pressing!

Kate's Blog post on Rotate Pressing

Block 7 - Peg's Story

Kate:

Peg is my mother in law. And while this block was originally called the eccentric star, Peg is not eccentric.

Peg is a force of nature; she raised 7 children, 4 of them boys and kept them in line with a look and a pink slipper. She was a great cook and learned how to feed a crowd on a moment's notice.

These days, she's 93, still a little feisty, lives in assisted living and lets others cook for her. She's deserves it!

Clay's Choice

Block 3 - Bitsy



If you started with Peg, it would be great to move on to Bitsy next, as she has a few more pieces, and mixes HST with squares.

Block 3 - Bitsy's story

Bitsy is my mom. Bitsy is not her real name but as you will find out as we go along in the quilt along, my family loves a nickname! My mom was a tall, elegant woman with a great sense of style. People say I look like her but that is because I had the same dark hair and brown eyes. Because I am not tall and not at all elegant; I am more of a plaids and checkered shirt kind of girl!

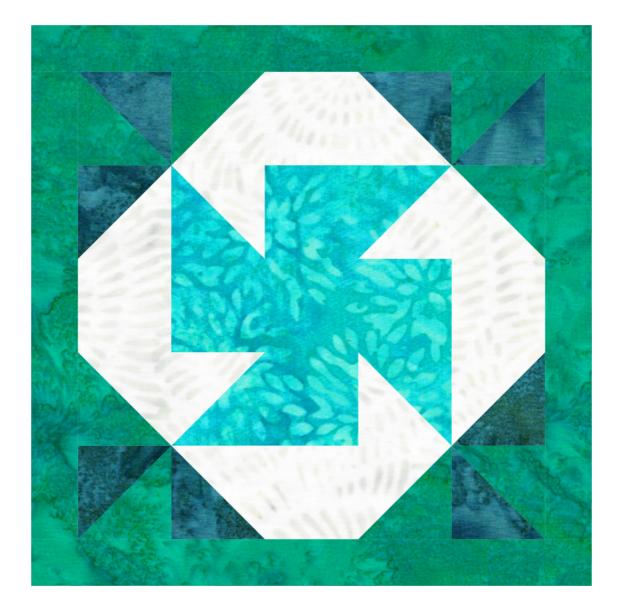
She had a great sense of humor, was warm and loving and we all miss her dearly. She passed away when I was just 20 years old but my siblings and I comforted ourselves knowing she was with our father whom she missed terribly. They were both so young when they died and they missed out on meeting their grandkids but I think they have smiled down on us and approved!

My mom taught me how to sew. She never made a quilt but she did give me the love of sewing and so you could say she is the one who got me started quilting!

Oh- her real name? Mary. But no one called her that either. She went by Kathy, from her middle name of Kathleen! I am named after her, our names are just in reverse.

Grandma's Choice

Block 1 - Doris



Doris is the most complex block. The pieces are smaller - and you have more of them! Accuracy is your friend here.

With more complex blocks, you may want to break the block down into units rather than sewing by row. The corners can be constructed as pinwheels (use the diagram in the pattern for color placement), similar to the center of Bitsy. Then you can sew the A and B squares together and sew the units into your rows.

Remember that she has framing strips, so don't forget to add them so she comes out the proper size.

Block 1 - Doris' story

Kate:

Well, since this block was originally called Grandma's choice, of course it had to be named after one of my grandmas! Grandma Doris was my father's mother and she was a character! She was a tiny thing which is funny because my dad was 6' 3"!

She may have been small, but she was feisty and independent. She lost her first husband when her only son (my dad) was a young boy and made it all work! That was one of her sayings... "I went to work and ". She didn't mean she went to a job; she meant she got it done.

She lived alone until she was 94 and then she had health issues and had to go into a nursing home. She passed away when she was 98 years old.

But we still have a Grandma Doris in the family - my younger sister is named Doris though she prefers to be called Dee. And she is a grandma! *I love calling her Grandma Doris*!

My sister Doris is a warm and loving mom and a supportive grandma. She takes after our Grandma Doris (who was a sewer) and sews clothes for her little granddaughter! How fun is that?

Guest Designers

Each week, we will have guest quilt designers share a block they made from the Sisterhood quilt and share a story of an influential woman in their life.

Enjoy!



from Pamela Boatwright:

I'd like to dedicate this block to my dear friend, Brenda. Brenda was a wonderful friend, who loved God, and people! She was known for her generosity and sweet spirit and I don't think she ever met a stranger. She was a big encourager in my life, and always wanted to learn to quilt as she admired my quilts very much. She was a wonderful hostess and so much fun to be around. I miss her dearly, and treasure my memories of her every day.

Pams's Blog: http://pamelaquilts.blogspot.c...

Block 3

from Christina:

I am Christina, pattern designer of Sweet Potato Quilts: <u>www.sweetpotatoquilts.com</u> and you can find me on Instagram + TIKTOK: @sweetpotatoquilts.

An important woman in my life is my grandma, who is alive and well in her 90's. She grew up during the Japanese colonialization of Korea and lived during the Korean War. Needless to say, she is full of personal, historical stories! Grandma gave me this wooden bowl that was a souvenir from her honeymoon at a mountain range that is now considered part of North Korea. She is my connection to the culture and heritage I was not able to grow up with as a Korean-American.



Block 7

from: Charisma Horton:

I would like to honor my Grandmother,



Kay. She was from Iceland and came to America with my grandfather who she met while he was stationed there. She loved working in her garden. Her yard was beautiful with blossoming trees, flowers beds and flower pots and various decorations. She loved going and get her annuals every year. When I bought my first house I planted some flowers in my yard from hers. As I have moved I have taken those with me every where I go as a reminder of her. I chose a simple flower fabric to use in my block...she loved pink.

Charisma's Website:

https://charismascorner.com

This Week's Giveaway!!!!!



We have a great giveaway this week from Deb Tucker's Studio 180!

This week we have a fabulous giveaway! The generous folks at Deb Tucker's Studio 180 will give away <u>1</u> <u>tool/ruler of your choice</u>!

So you can pick a tool you haven't used yet or really want to try!

The ones that we mention in the pattern are the Tucker Trimmer 1, the Wing Clipper and the Split Rects. But the winner can choose their favorite!

And the winner is.....

Anita K!! Congratulations!

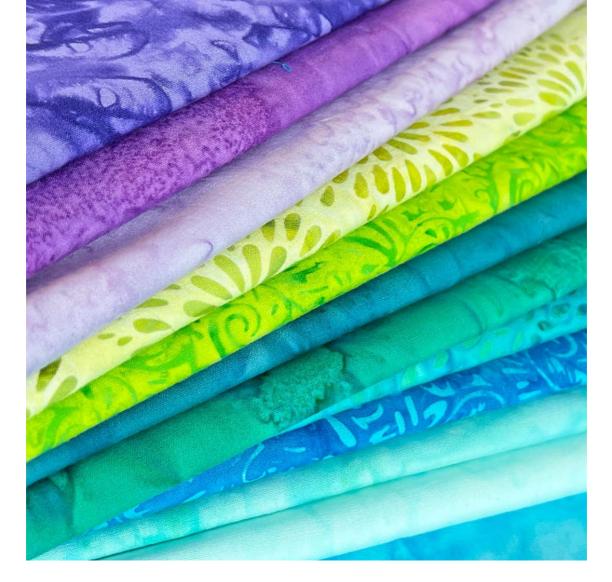
Anita's email starts with ajkendal....

Anita - you need to reply to this email with your full name and mailing address and what tool you would like BEFORE 9am Sunday April 24th!!!!

If we don't hear from you by then, we will pick another winner.

Or you can email Tammy directly: <u>info@tamarinis.com</u> or email Kate directly: <u>kate@katecollerandesigns.com.</u>

Fabric Giveaway!



We had to pick a new winner for the second group of fabrics!

Two week's ago we had a bonus newsletter and a giveaway- 2 bundles of fabric from Island Batik! The same 12 fabrics we used in our quilts- 1/2 yard of each!

But, only one of the winners got back to us so I picked a NEW WINNER!

The new winner of fabric is: Tamara!

and her email starts with kamala....

Tamrara, you need to reply to this email with your full name and mailing address BEFORE 9am Sunday April 24th!!!!

If we don't hear from you by then, we will pick another winner.

Or you can email Tammy directly: <u>info@tamarinis.com</u> or email Kate directly: <u>kate@katecollerandesigns.com.</u> Thank you for reading our Quilt Along newsletter.

See you next week with 3 more blocks!!!

We appreciate all of you!

<u>Thank you!</u>

Happy Quilting!

Kate Colleran Designs, LLC

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