## Good Hope Quilters' Guild - 2024 Mystery Quilt <br> www.goodhopequiltersguild.org.za

## When You Shine - PART 2

## SORT THE FABRIC... AGAIN!

1. Take ONE stack of fabric (it does not matter which group) and lay the squares (right side up). This is my Group 5 ( $8,4,2,1$ and 1 ).

2. Flip the top row square over the bottom row square (rights sides together).

3. Align the squares so they line up perfectly.

## MAKE (16) Half-Square Triangles (HST)

TIP: Match your sewing thread to the 8 squares.

## OPTION 1

1. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the light fabric.
2. Align the pairs and iron to bond temporarily, makes handling a lot easier. Pin. Sew a scant $1 / 4$ " on either side of the drawn line. Use chain-piecing to speed up the process.

3. Before cutting the HST units apart, "set the stitching" (press the sewn line of stitching so that the stitches settle into the fabric). It is a little quicker than pressing the individual HST.
4. Cut units apart on the diagonal. Press seams open. Press from the front.
5. Trim to $4 " \times 4 "$. Make sure the $45^{\circ}$ diagonal line on the ruler is directly on top of the diagonal line in the block. You will end up with (16) HSTs.

## OPTION 2

Use $1 / 4$ " diagonal seam tape for sewing diagonal seams without marking. I find guiding the point of the square along the $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ mark easier and more accurate than sewing $1 / 4$ " from a drawn line (and no marking needed). If you do not have any $1 / 4{ }^{\prime \prime}$ diagonal seam tape, you can easily make your own with painter's tape (masking tape), a fine permanent marker (make sure the line does not rub off) and a ruler.

The edge of the tape is aligned with the needle of your machine; the black line represents the $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ seam allowance. Use the $1 / 4$ " markings on the bed of your sewing machine bed as a reference. Do not tape over the feed dogs. Use a ruler to make sure the tape is straight and perpendicular to the sewing needle.


1. Align the pairs and iron to bond temporarily, makes handling a lot easier. Pin if necessary.
2. Position your squares under the feet of your sewing machine. Align the top point with the edge of the $1 / 4$ " sewing foot and the bottom point aligned to the drawn line on the tape. When sewing make sure the bottom point is always on the line.

3. Once you have correctly positioned the squares under the sewing machine foot and the feed dogs catch the fabric (before the needle stitches into the fabric), you will keep your eyes on the bottom point to make sure it stays on the line. No need to look at the needle.
4. Sew the other side of the HST unit the same way. Sew one square as a test to make sure you have positioned the tape correctly.
5. Chain piece the HST units but snip connecting threads before sewing the second side. Before cutting part the HST units, "set the stitching" (press the sewn line of stitching so that the stitches settle into the fabric). It is a little quicker than pressing the individual HST.
6. Cut the units apart on the diagonal. Press seams open. Press from the front.
7. Trim to $4 " \times 4$ ". Make sure the $45^{\circ}$ diagonal line on the ruler is directly on top of the diagonal line in the block. You will end up with (16) HSTs.

SORT the HST units in to their four stacks:


1. Take the two stacks with the two HST units and sew into a four-patch as shown. Note that the four corners of the four-patch have the same fabric.

2. Stack the HST units and the four-patch together, pin or clip the group and set aside.
3. Repeat the above process with two more groups of fabric. Work with only one group at a time. Remember to pin/clip the HSTs and the four-patch units of each group together, before you work on the next group.


Trust the process, and please don't be tempted to move the fabrics. See you next week!

## Take your time and enjoy the challenge!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, diana@vandeyar.net
Share your awesome work and progress photos we love to see them!
Facebook: Good Hope Quilters Group Facebook Page Instagram: tag @ghqg_south_africa and @dianavandeyar Hashtags: \#GHQGMysteryQuilt and \#whenyoushinequilt

