

# PHOENIX QUILT GUILD BLOCK SWAP

## HALF SQUARE TRIANGLES

The next swap will be at the September meeting. We will swap 4.5" half square triangle blocks. These blocks will finish at 4" and easily combine with our already swapped 4-patches.

If you sew perfectly, begin with 4 7/8" squares. Draw a diagonal line corner to corner on the back of the light batik. Place the 2 batiks right sides together & stitch 1/4" on either side of the line you have drawn. Cut the square on the drawn line. Press open with the seam to the darker fabric. Again, if you are perfect, you now have a 4 1/2" square.

The rest of us can start with 5" squares. Follow the same procedure. After you have pressed the block, get out your trusty 4 1/2" square ruler and trim to 4 1/2" square. Be sure to align the ruler's diagonal line with your diagonal seam. This method gives you a small margin of error. For an even greater margin, start with 5 1/4" squares.

Maintain your 1/4" seams with whatever method you choose.

Two half yard cuts of batik will yield 48 four inch half square triangle blocks. Pin or tie them into groups of 4 for 12 sets. Label them & put them in a ziploc.

You are ready for September!

If you want to swap more sets, remember, one width of fabric by 5" yields eight 5" squares which yields 16 half square triangle blocks or 4 sets of four.

We had 18 people participate in June. You can swap as many block sets as you want, but make 2 different colorways if you go beyond 16 sets. It will make swapping much easier.

This quarter we are continuing to use "bright" batiks. If you are wondering if your fabric is bright enough, it probably isn't. Go for bright! And contrast!

Taffy