

Trellis Quilt Notes

(Tuesday Garden Club or Terry's Flower Bed)

(Just a few clarifications and a little extra guidance)

Half Square Triangles, with or without Thangles™

Are you **using Thangles**? If so, make the half-square triangles using 1½" strips (see instructions in Thangle package). When you are finished, the half-square triangles will be 1½". (The 1" on the package refers to the finished size AFTER it is sewn into the quilt.) I love to use Thangles, especially in this tiny size. It reduces the time it takes to make the half-square triangles (hst) because it gives you very consistent seam allowances and eliminates the need to trim the hst to size. When you are using small pieces, slight variations in seam allowances can make a big difference. It isn't necessary to use Thangles but they make the project much simpler.

If you **aren't using Thangles**, start with a practice piece. Cut 1 - 2" square of each color. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the light square with a fine line water soluble marking pen or a faint pencil line. Pin squares right sides together. Sew 1/4" on each side of the drawn line. Press and cut apart on the drawn line. Press open, pressing seam allowance to the darker fabric side. Using a square ruler, trim each (now half-square triangles) to 1½". They should look like the picture in the pattern.

Join squares to the half square triangles to make the cornerstones measure 2½"

Look carefully at the "Full Cornerstone" graphic in the pattern. You lay out the squares with the half-square triangles in a 4-patch configuration. You can see it better if you turn the page 1/4 turn counterclockwise. Now you'll see the light square in the upper left, the dark square in the lower right and the half-square triangles next to them. Watch where you sew them to each other so that the dark and light sides of the half square triangles are lined up just like the picture. This step is important to give the illusion of light and shadow in the trellis.

I use pins mostly to remind myself which edge to stitch together :) Pin the top pair together and then the bottom pair. Stitch and press toward the square (away from the hst) which will reduce the bulk in the seam allowance. Then pin the top pair to the bottom pair. The seam allowances will each go in the opposite direction, making it easy to snug them up to each other, matching seams and reducing bulk again.

Cutting the setting triangles:

I always **cut my setting triangles larger** than they need to be. This allows for differences in sewing and seam allowances. It makes straightening the edges of the quilt so much easier! It also helps to prevent lost points on the edges. The layouts in the pattern are drawn to scale but may not show the excess fabric that will be trimmed away before you put on your border. The corner triangles are larger, as well. (The updated layout showing the oversized setting triangles can be found at the end of this document.)

Working with oversize setting triangles:

Here is how you **work with the oversize triangles**: Align the straight edges of the side setting triangle with the block and sashing that you are sewing it to. The point will hang over and you won't have to trim anything until you have the entire top together. However, when you get to the corner triangles, center the long side of the triangle on the corners of the quilt. The points will hang over each end evenly. When you trim and square up your quilt top before adding borders, save all left-over greenery. You never know when you might need it. I have already pieced those scraps together to add to my binding.

When assembled, the full cornerstones should measure 2 1/2" including the seam allowances. The half cornerstones for the outside edges will measure somewhere close to 2 7/8" on each short side. If you follow the cutting instructions for the 2 1/2" squares of both the light and dark lattice fabric and follow the diagram in the pattern, you will have the exact size triangles you need to make those half cornerstones. Look at the diagram for the "Left (4)" half cornerstone. This will show you the order of assembly for each one. The rest of the diagrams show the different combinations you need to make the lattice look real on the edges. It's a little picky, but it works.

I'd like to pass along a quote from my friends who sew with me each week. All of them have made this quilt at least once. They test my patterns and give me lots of helpful suggestions. They suggest I tell this to anyone who asks about this pattern: "Just follow the directions, step by step and you'll do fine."

When you're finished, please send me a picture, along with your name and the state where you live