



Hollow Cube

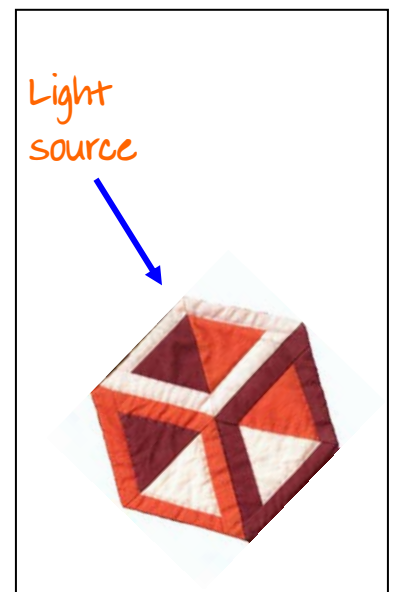
These fun shapes are actually easier to make than you might imagine.

The key is to be sure to keep the color value placement. As with any 3 dimensional design the first thing to do is choose a light source.

In this cube, the light is coming from the upper left, and a little in front of the cube.

This means that where the light would “hit” the cube should be light fabric, what would be in the shadow, should be the dark fabric, and the medium would be on the remaining side.

As you look at the cube, notice that the color values



are lined up with each other. The light is on the top and the bottom of the cube. The medium is on the front side and the back side. And the dark fabric is on the front left and the back right.

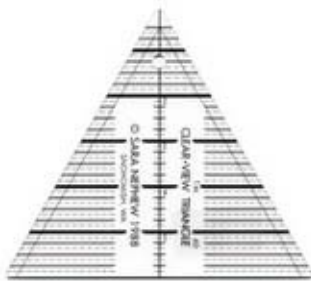
Now for sewing it together.

Taking the block apart, you will see that there are just 6 sections and all are alike. Each is a triangle with a narrow strip on 2 sides. Easy, right?

Well, it really is.

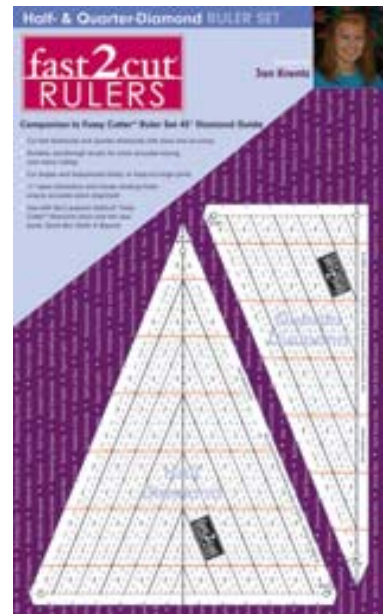
There are two ways to sew this together. One is to use the templates at the back of these instructions.

The other way is to use an acrylic rotary cutting template. This type of template offers a great deal of flexibility and accuracy as you make these cubes.



There are several templates out there. I have one that is several years old, and is a Clearview product. This is great for making triangles and for hollow cubes.

There is a new product out that I am anxious to try. It will cut triangles as well as diamonds. Now, that sounds pretty cool. The shape is basically the same, but there are markings along the angle sides as well as parallel with the bottom.

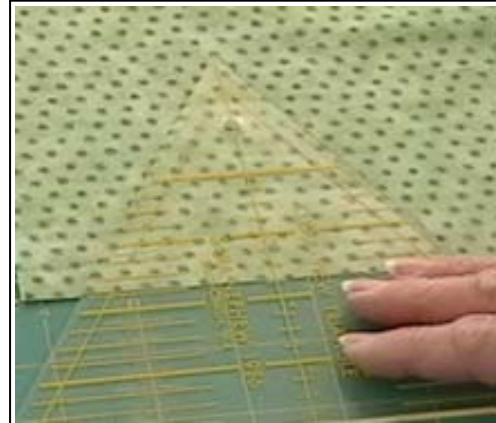


Whichever method you choose, the steps are basically the same.

First you will want to cut out the center triangles. There are two of each color – light, medium and dark.

If you are using a template, be sure to start with a straight edge, and then place your template on the fabric, lining up a mark on the ruler with the size you want your triangle to be.

In the video, I made a mistake by lining up my ruler to cut a 3 1/2 inch triangle. I should have lined it up on the 3 1/4 inch mark – because the template already has a 1/4 seam allowance marked on the two other sides ☺



Because the sides of the ruler have the 1/4 inch seam allowance added, line up the ruler for just 1/4 inch larger than your finished size triangle.

For example, if you want a 3 inch triangle, line up the bottom on the 3 1/4 inch marker. On this triangle template, each yellow line is 1/4 inch.

Once you have all of your center triangles cut, place them on a flannel board or lay them out on your table the way you will sew them together.



Lay the two triangles on your strip, right sides facing together. Be sure to leave enough space between the triangles to cut the strips at an angle.

Next, cut strips of the outside fabric. I use a 1 inch wide strip of each of the fabrics to add to my center triangles.

There are two center triangles which need to have the same fabric surrounding them. Take those two triangles and lay them on a strip, right sides facing together.

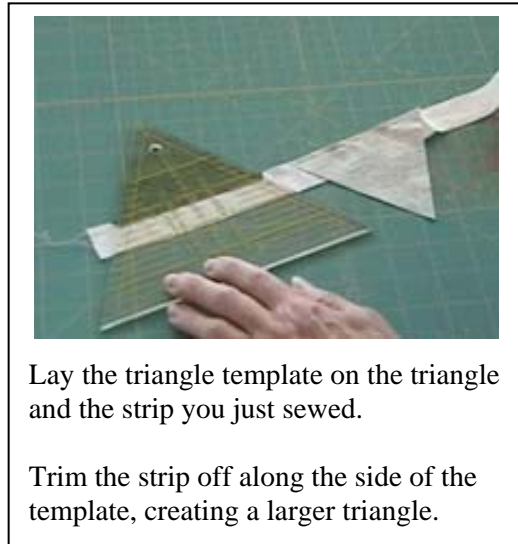
Be sure to leave enough space between the triangles to trim the strip. You will be extending the

angle of the triangle, so you may need more than 1/2 inch between the triangles.

The next step is to fold up the triangle so the right side is facing up.

Then line up the template on the triangle and the strip, and cut the triangles away from the strip.

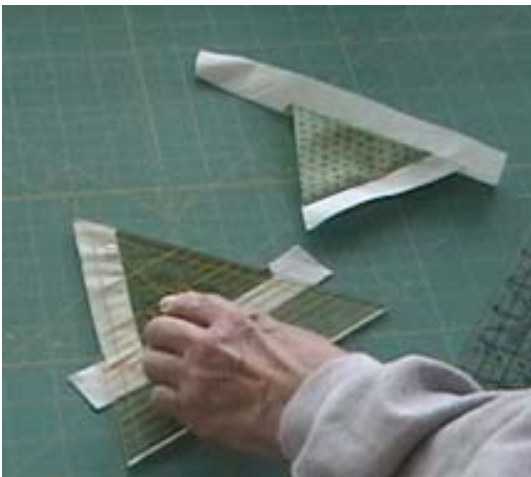
At this point, you really don't need to be measuring as much as paying attention to the lines of the triangle – make sure that the edges of the template are lining up with your fabric triangles.



Lay the triangle template on the triangle and the strip you just sewed.

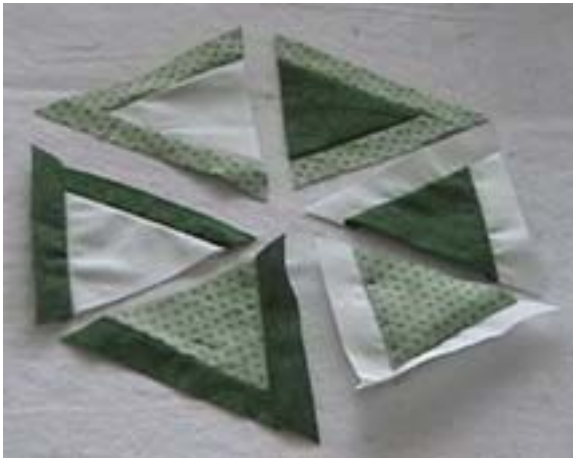
Trim the strip off along the side of the template, creating a larger triangle.

Now you are ready to add the same color strips to the second side of the center triangle.



Follow the exact same process – sew on the strip, and then trim the triangle away from the strips.

Continue to add strips to the outside of all of the triangles – keep paying attention to the color value you are sewing onto each triangle. And note the placement of the triangles as you lay them out. It is really easy to get one or more mixed up and sewn together wrong! (I've done it many times. It's really not a big deal as long as you catch it before you sew the cubes into a quilt. Just rip and re-sew.)



Once your triangles have the strips on the outside, you are ready to sew them together.

Check once again to be sure that everything is lined up – that all of the values are in the right place.

Instead of sewing each side together to create diamonds, sew 3 of the triangles together to create two halves of the cube.

That way, you will be sewing straight seams every time, and one longer seam will finish the cube.



Once your center seam is sewn, your cube is finished and you are ready to press it, make more, and put them all together.

you want, and vary the center as well.

Using this technique, you will be able to make whatever size cube



Hollow Cube #2

Sewing this cube together is done in the same basic way.

There are, of course, a couple of differences. In this cube, two of the sides have no extra strips on them – they are simple triangles.

The other two sides have smaller centers and larger strips on the outside.



This becomes more obvious as the cube is separated into its pieces.

The same color value principles apply. The light and medium fabrics are placed on two sides.

The difference is that since this cube is missing one side (the right front), there is just one spot for the dark fabric. However, it shows up in two of the triangles.

Happy Quilting!