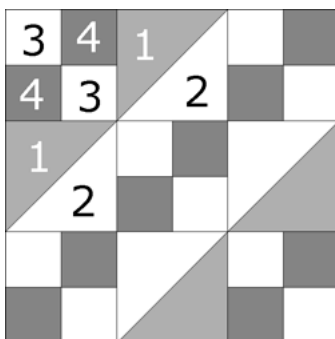


Wagon Tracks Quilt Block


Step 1: Cut the Wagon Tracks patches



Wagon Tracks design

All the four patches are set in the same direction (dark in the upper right and lower left squares) so that the units can be strip pieced with directional fabrics if you so choose.

I prefer to cut oversized #1 and #2 squares for the half square triangles, stitch and then trim to the exact size.

 Cutting Chart for a Wagon Tracks Design Quilt Block ~ Traditional Piecing ~					
Patch	Fabric	Qty	Finished Block Size		
			6"	9"	12"
1**	A	2	2-7/8"sq	3-7/8"sq	4-7/8"sq
2**	Background	2	2-7/8"sq	3-7/8"sq	4-7/8"sq
3	Background	1	1-1/2" x 16"	2" x 21"	2-1/2" x 26"
4	B	1	1-1/2" x 16"	2" x 21"	2-1/2" x 26"
Unfinished Block Size			6-1/2"	9-1/2"	12-1/2"
Grid Size			1"	1-1/2"	2"

I prefer making HST's larger and then trim them down to the correct size.

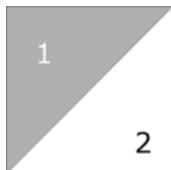
For instance, for a 9" block, start with a 4" square and trim to 3 1/2".

For 12" block, star with a 5" block and trim to 4 1/2".

Step 2: Assembling the Wagon Tracks units

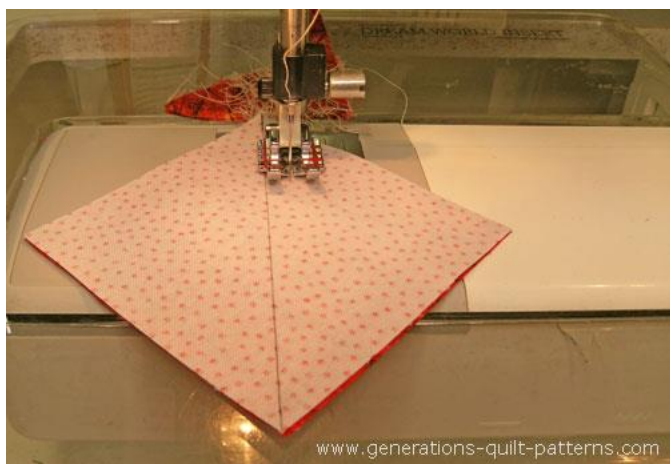
Half Square Triangles (HST)

Make 4



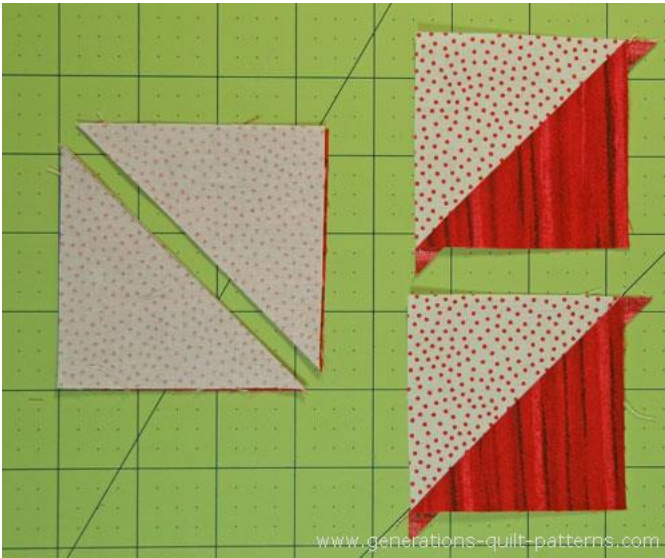
With a pencil, draw a diagonal line on the back of each of the #2s. With right sides together (RST) layer these marked #2s with their unmarked #1 counterparts.

Stitch a 1/4" away from the line on both sides, on both pairs.



With your scissors, cut on the drawn line to create two HST from each pair.

SAs are pressed to the dark.



Your HST should measure the size that corresponds to the Finished Block Size. Remove the dog ears. Trim if needed.

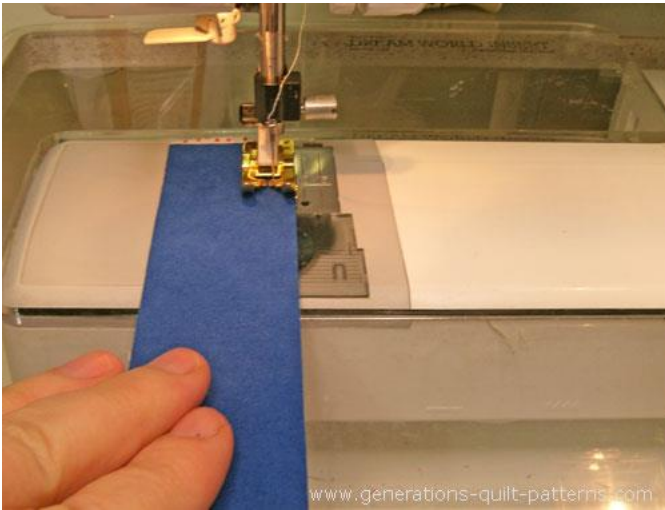
Finished Block Size	Trim HST to...
6"	2-1/2"
9"	3-1/2"
12"	4-1/2"



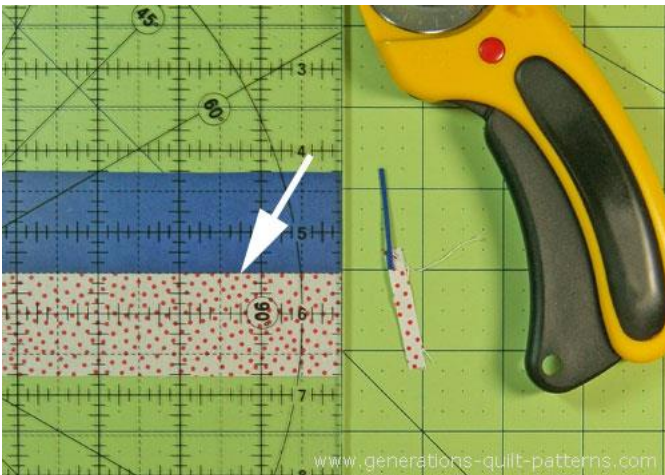
4-Patches

Make 4

With RST, sew the #3 and #4 strips together along the long edge.



Press the SA toward the darker fabric.
 Straighten one short side by aligning a line on your ruler with the seamline of the strip set (white arrow). Trim away a sliver with your cutter.



Now subcut this stripset into **10 units** equal to the width indicated in the chart below.

Finished Block Size	Width of Strip Set	Subcut Width
6"	2 1/2"	1 1/2"
9"	3 1/2"	2 "
12"	4 1/2"	2 1/2"

After cutting...



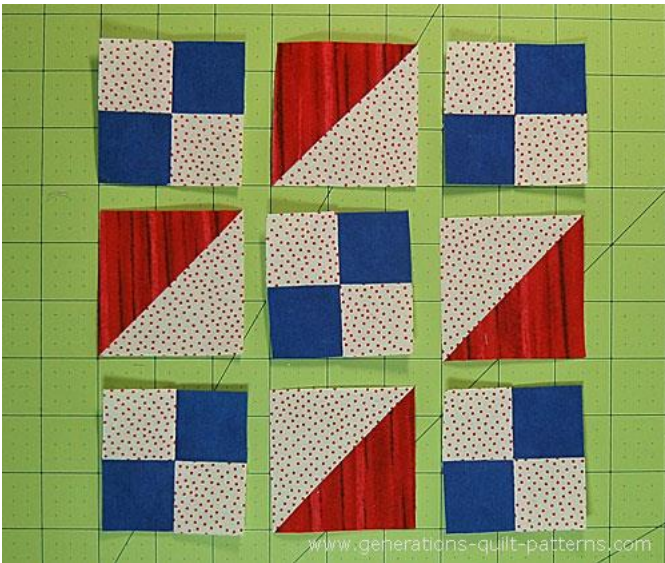
Stitch the pairs together, RST. Pin if needed for a good match in the centers. Press with the SA either to one side, open or twirled.



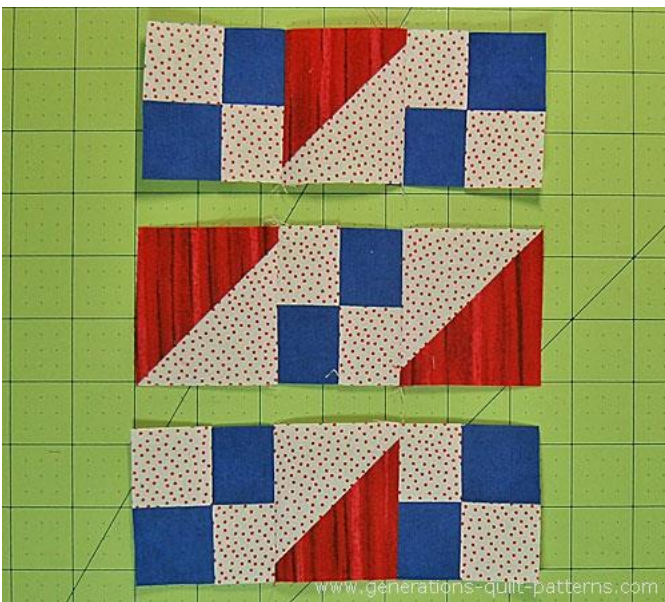
Step 3: Assembling the Wagon Tracks quilt block

Arrange your pieced units into the Wagon Tracks design shown below. All the four patches are laid out with a dark square in the upper right corner.

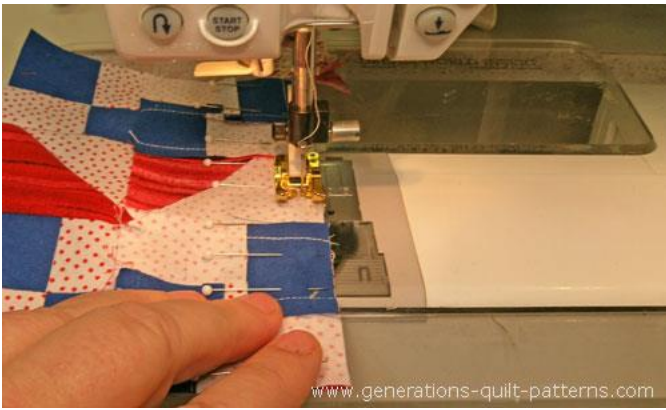
Pay particular attention to the direction of the dark side of the HST. It's easy to get them flipped around before piecing them together.



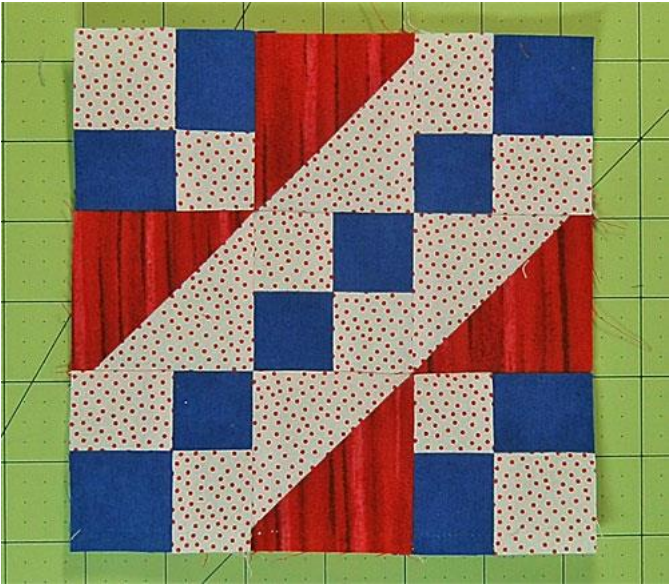
With RST stitch the units in each row together, pressing with the SA toward the HST.



And finally, stitch the rows together. Pinning makes matching the points of the HSTs much more accurate, and especially on the first try!



Give your Wagon Tracks quilt block one final press and it's ready for your quilt.



Wagon Tracks quilt block

