Maker Module 1

Square in a Square Quilt

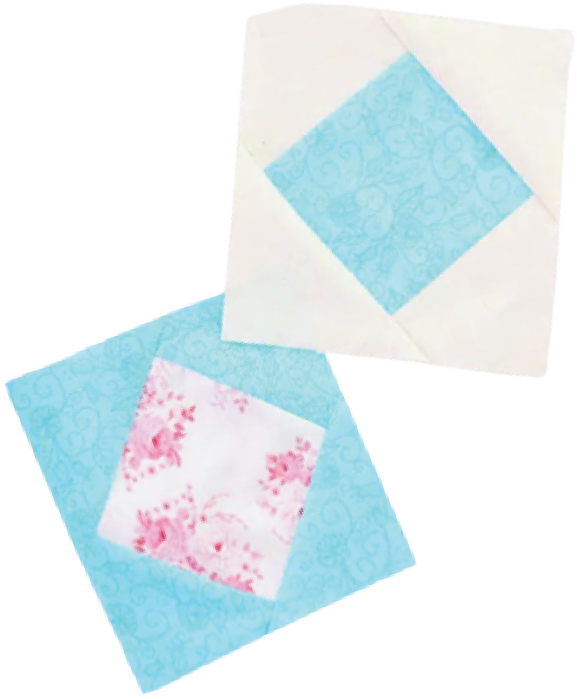
Learn how to make a basic ‘square in a square’ quilt block. Perfect for beginners!

Materials

- x2 or x3 different coloured / patterned fabric
- Sewing scissors
- Ruler
- Iron and ironing board
- Sewing machine and thread
- Pattern pieces (page 10)

Skill Learning Outcomes

- Cutting out a pattern
- Sewing straight seams
- Joining quilt squares (optional)
- Top stitching





Sewing Method 1 (Method 2 on p.5)

Step One— Cutting out our pattern pieces

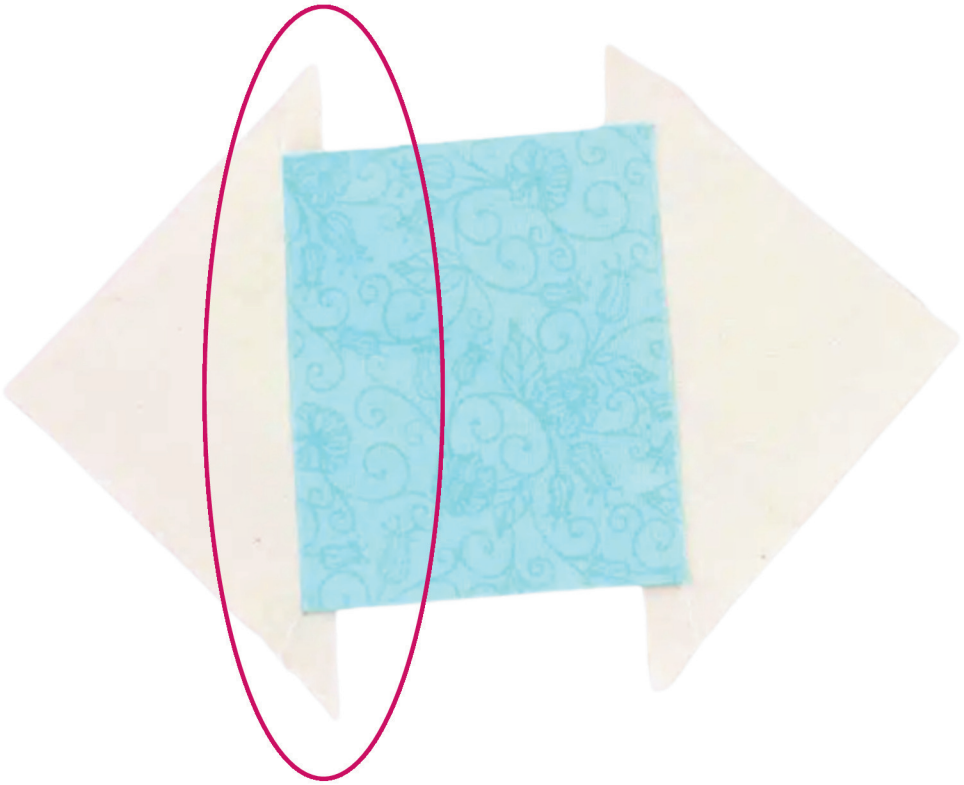
1.) Choose the fabric you want to be on the outside of your square.
2.) Using the fabric you chose, cut out x1 template each of Square (B) and (C) using the pattern templates.
3.) Fold each of them in half diagonally, and press with iron. Unfold.
4.) Cut (B) and (C) squares in half diagonally along the crease.
5.) Choose the fabric you want to be in the middle of your square
6.) Cut out Center Square (A) using the pattern template.
7.) You now have x1 square, and x4 triangles. Press each piece.

Step Two— The sides



1.) Fold all your pieces in half and leave a chalk mark or a small snip in the middle of each piece
2.) Pin Triangles (B) to opposite sides of the center square
3.) Match the middle of the sides of the center square with the center of the triangles.
4.) Sew them in place using a 1/4 inch (6mm) seam allowance.

5.) Open out the triangles and press. Look at the red oval in the picture below to double check that it is pressed in the correct direction.



Step Three— Top and bottom

1.) Pin the larger pair of triangles (C) to the remaining sides of the center square. Match the centers again, same as before.

2.) Sew into place all the way across the triangle , with 1/4 inch (6mm) seam allowance.

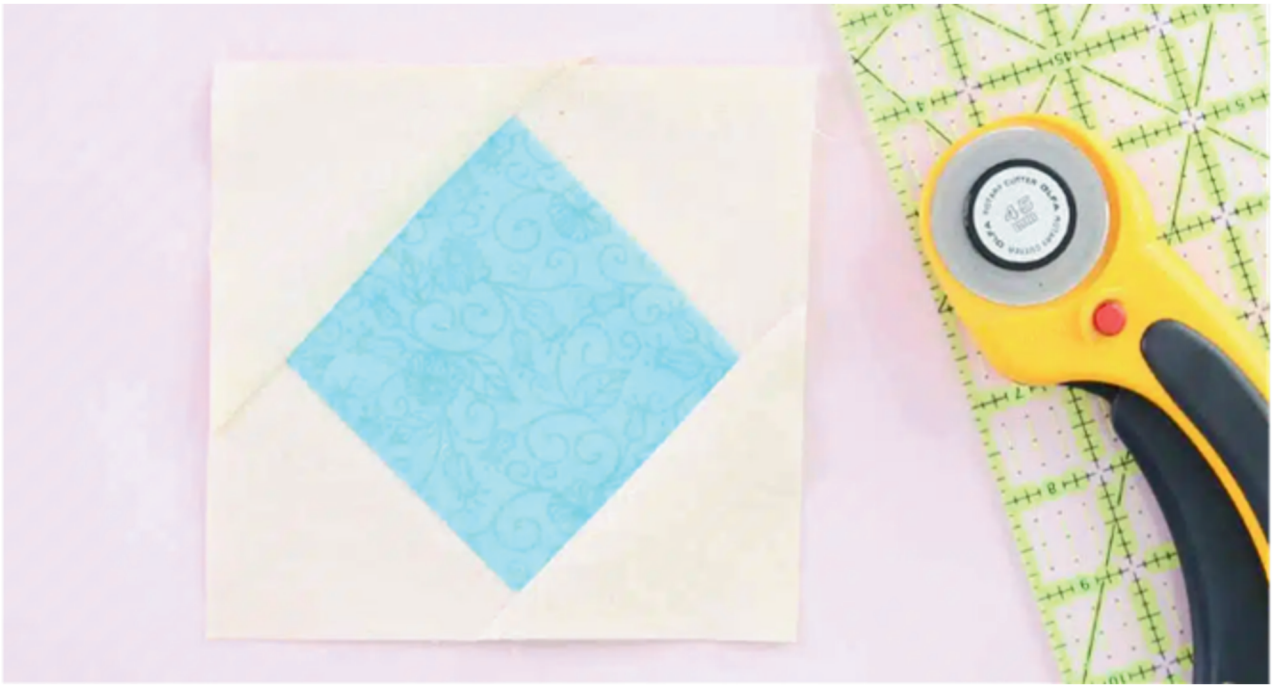
3.) Open out and press.

4.) Use a ruler to draw a line, and trim off the extra fabric on the sides. Your final square should be 13.5 x 13.5cm.

Note: There should be some overlap of the triangles, so everything closes up properly. We will trim off the excess fabric later, so that the finished square is 15cm (6 inches).

Repeat Steps 1-3 until you have the desired number of squares for your project.

Go to page 7 for instructions on sewing squares together and finishing the back.



Sewing Method 2

Step One — Cut out the pattern pieces

1.) Choose the fabric you want to be on the outside of your square.
2.) Cut out x2 template each of Square (B) and (C) using the pattern templates.
3.) Choose the fabric you want to be in the middle of your square
4.) Cut out Center Square (A) using the pattern template.
5.) You now have x5 squares.
6.) Press each piece with the iron.



Step Two — First side squares

1.) Draw a diagonal line with chalk through the middle of squares (B) and (C).
2.) Place the small squares on opposite sides of the center square. Your drawn diagonal lines must touch the edges (not corners) of the center square.
3.) Sew along the diagonal lines.
4.) Trim the seam so it is about 1/4 inch (6mm) wide.
5.) Press open with the iron.



Step Three — Next side squares



1.) Sew the other two squares onto the remaining corners of the block in the same way.
2.) Sew along the diagonal lines.
3.) Trim the seam so it is about 1/4 inch (6mm) wide.
4.) Press open with the iron.
5.) Use a ruler to draw a line, and trim off the extra fabric on the sides. Your final square should be 13.5 x 13.5cm.

Note: There should be some overlap of the triangles, so everything closes up properly. We will trim off the excess fabric later, so that the finished square is 15cm (6 inches).

Repeat Steps 1-3 until you have the desired number of squares for your project.

Go to page 7 for instructions on sewing squares together and finishing the back.



Sewing Squares Together

Step Four — Joining Squares to make Rows

1.) Place two of your squares together right sides together (wrong side facing out).

2.) Pin or clip in place, and sew along one edge with a ¼ inch (6mm) seam allowance.

3.) Repeat 1.) and 2.) with additional squares until you have a row of squares long enough for your project.

Repeat Step Four until you have as many rows you need for your project.

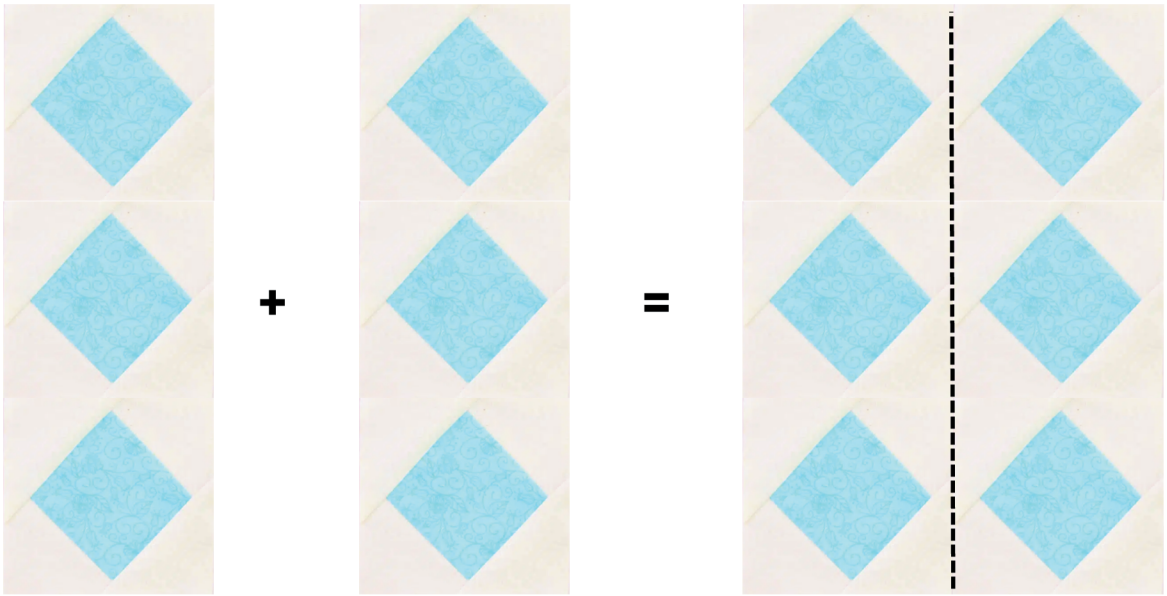


Step Five — Joining Rows to make Full Size

1.) Place two of your rows together right sides together (wrong side facing out), along the long side.

2.) Pin or clip in place, and sew along one edge with a ¼ inch (6mm) seam allowance.

3.)Repeat 1.) and 2.) with additional rows until you have a full square or rectangle of desired size.



Step Five— Adding Backing

1.) Measure the size of your finished quilted front, and cut a piece of fabric using these measurements. This will be our quilt backing.

2.) Press both your quilted front and backing fabrics with the iron.

3.) Place the quilted front and back piece right sides together and pin or clip in place. Leave a gap on one side (like the picture above), stitch a seam around the square with 1/4 inch (6mm) seam allowance.

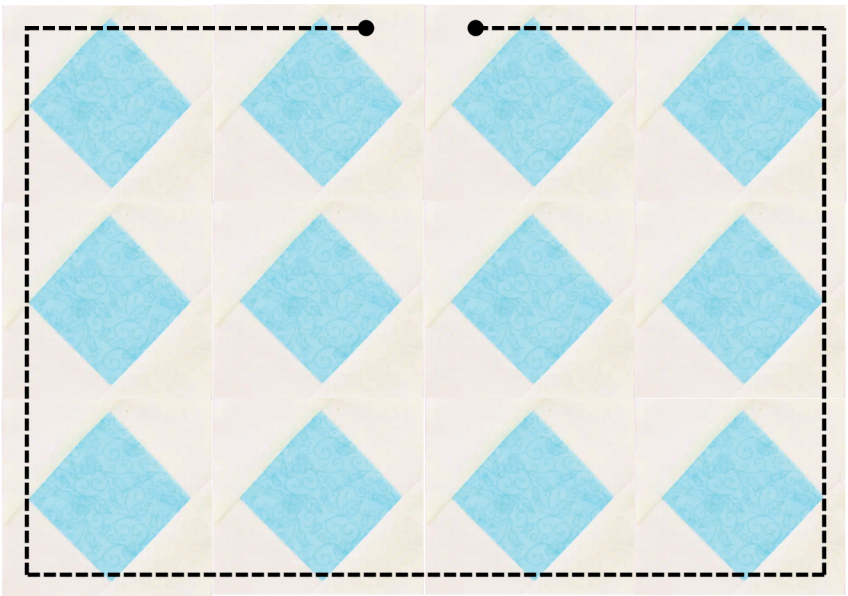
4.) Stitch a seam around the square with 1/4 inch (6mm) seam allowance, making sure to leave a gap.

5.) Turn the square the right side around using the hole left on one side. Use a point turner or chopstick to push out the corners.

6.) Press the quilted square nice and flat, with the unfinished edges of the hole tucked inside. Press again on high heat.

7.) Change the Stitch Width to 0.5 on the sewing machine. Line up the edge of your square with the middle of the presser foot, and top stitch all the way around.

8.) Press again to get everything nice and flat.



Ka pai — All done!

Project Ideas Using Quilted Squares

- Place mat(s) / table runner
- Cushion covers
- Laptop / tablet / eReader cover
- Blanket or comforter
- Tote bag
- Quilted wall hanging

Have some squares and want to make one of these projects, but not sure what to do next?

Come along to one of Rangiora Library's Tinker Times!

Monday 2 – 4pm

Tuesday 10am – 12pm

Find out more

waimakaririlibraries.com/learning/tinker-zone
0800 965 542

Quilt Block Template

Center Block (A)

3.5 x 3.5 inches

Cut out x1

Quilt Block Template

First Side Square (B)

9.5cm x 9.5cm

Method 1: Cut out x1

Method 2: Cut out x2

Quilt Block Template

Second Side Square (C)

11.4cm x 11.4cm

Method 1: Cut out x1

Method 2: Cut out x2