



A QUILTPLAN PIECING REFERENCE

FLYING GEESE

sew them oversized, trim them perfect: two methods, every size

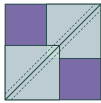
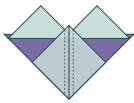
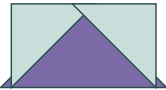
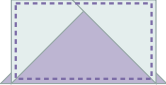
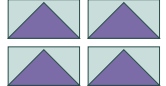
A flying goose is a rectangle with a triangle “goose” soaring through a background “sky”: the unit behind sawtooth stars, geese borders, and whole migrating flocks. Both methods here sew the geese a little big, then trim down to a perfect rectangle: **four at a time** when you need a matching flock, **stitch & flip** for a goose or two, or when your fabric has a direction to respect.

METHOD ONE

FOUR AT A TIME

five squares in, four geese out, no waste

- + Large square, cut **1**, finished goose width + $1\frac{1}{2}$ ": becomes the four geese.
- + Small squares, cut **4**, finished goose height + $1\frac{1}{8}$ ": become the sky corners.
- + Trim-to (unfinished) size: finished size + $\frac{1}{2}$ " each way.
- + One set of five squares = **four matching geese**.

- **Mark the sky squares**
Draw a diagonal line corner to corner on the back of all four small squares.
- **Two corners first**
Place two squares on opposite corners of the large square, right sides together: drawn lines meeting in one long diagonal, squares overlapping a little in the middle. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the line on both sides.
- **Cut apart & press**
Cut on the drawn line and press the sky triangles open. You have two heart shapes: each one is half a set of geese.
- **One more corner each**
Place a marked square on the remaining corner of each heart, right sides together, and again sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the line on both sides.
- **Cut apart & press again**
Cut each heart on its drawn line and press the sky open: four oversized geese. The sky pieces overlap a little above each point; that's normal.
- **Trim to size**
Square up: keep $\frac{1}{4}$ " of sky above the goose's point, then trim the bottom and sides to the trim-to size, keeping the point centered.
- **A flock of four**
One large square and four small squares: four matching flying geese, and not a scrap of waste.

FINISHED	LARGE SQ.	SMALL SQS.	TRIM TO
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 1"	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	1" $\times$ $1\frac{1}{2}$ "
$5\frac{7}{8}$ " $\times$ $1\frac{1}{4}$ "	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " $\times$ $1\frac{1}{4}$ "
$3\frac{3}{4}$ " $\times$ $1\frac{1}{2}$ "	3"	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " $\times$ 2"
$7\frac{7}{8}$ " $\times$ $1\frac{3}{4}$ "	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	2"	1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " $\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
1" $\times$ 2"	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	$1\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
$1\frac{1}{4}$ " $\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	4"	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$1\frac{1}{4}$ " $\times$ 3"
1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " $\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " $\times$ 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 3"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	2" $\times$ 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

FINISHED	LARGE SQ.	SMALL SQS.	TRIM TO
2" $\times$ 4"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2 $\frac{1}{8}$ " $\times$ 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	2 $\frac{5}{8}$ " $\times$ 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " $\times$ 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	6"	3 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " $\times$ 5"
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 5"	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	3" $\times$ 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3" $\times$ 6"	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	4 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 7"	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	4 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	4" $\times$ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4" $\times$ 8"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	5 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
5" $\times$ 10"	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
6" $\times$ 12"	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	7 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\times$ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

All the sewing happens **before** any bias edge is cut. The drawn lines stabilize everything for you, and after trimming, all four outside edges land on the straight grain. Prefer to skip the marking? You can cut both squares into triangles first and sew the same seams. Just cut the small squares $\frac{1}{8}$ " bigger to keep a full $\frac{1}{4}$ " above every point.

STITCH & FLIP

one goose at a time, squares on a rectangle

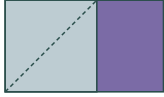
- + Rectangle, cut 1, finished height + $\frac{3}{4}$ " by finished width + $\frac{3}{4}$ ": the goose.
- + Sky squares, cut 2, finished height + $\frac{3}{4}$ ": one for each corner.
- + Trim-to (unfinished) size: finished size + $\frac{1}{2}$ " each way, same as Method One.
- + One rectangle + two squares = **one goose**. Everything cuts on the straight grain.

1

**Mark the squares**

Draw a diagonal line corner to corner on the back of both sky squares.

2

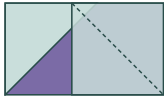
**Sew the first corner**

Place a square on one end of the rectangle, right sides together, edges flush, the line running from the bottom corner up to the top edge. Sew right on the line.

3

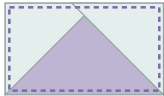
**Trim & press**Trim away the corner $\frac{1}{4}$ " outside the seam, then flip the sky open over the corner and press.

4

**Repeat on the other end**

Same again with the second square, its line mirrored: the two squares overlap a little in the middle. Sew on the line, trim, flip, press.

5

**Trim to size**Square up exactly like Method One: keep $\frac{1}{4}$ " of sky above the goose's point, then trim the bottom and sides to the trim-to size, point centered.

FINISHED	RECTANGLE	SQUARES	TRIM TO
$\frac{1}{2}" \times 1"$	$\frac{1}{4}" \times \frac{1}{4}"$	$\frac{1}{4}"$	$1" \times \frac{1}{2}"$
$\frac{5}{8}" \times \frac{1}{4}"$	$1 \frac{3}{8}" \times 2"$	$1 \frac{3}{8}"$	$1 \frac{1}{8}" \times \frac{1}{4}"$
$\frac{3}{4}" \times \frac{1}{2}"$	$1 \frac{1}{2}" \times 2 \frac{1}{4}"$	$1 \frac{1}{2}"$	$1 \frac{1}{4}" \times 2"$
$\frac{7}{8}" \times \frac{1}{4}"$	$1 \frac{5}{8}" \times 2 \frac{1}{2}"$	$1 \frac{5}{8}"$	$1 \frac{3}{8}" \times 2 \frac{1}{4}"$
$1" \times 2"$	$1 \frac{3}{4}" \times 2 \frac{3}{4}"$	$1 \frac{3}{4}"$	$1 \frac{1}{2}" \times 2 \frac{1}{2}"$
$1 \frac{1}{4}" \times 2 \frac{1}{2}"$	$2" \times 3 \frac{1}{4}"$	$2"$	$1 \frac{3}{4}" \times 3"$
$1 \frac{3}{8}" \times 2 \frac{3}{4}"$	$2 \frac{1}{8}" \times 3 \frac{1}{2}"$	$2 \frac{1}{8}"$	$1 \frac{7}{8}" \times 3 \frac{1}{4}"$
$\frac{1}{2}" \times 3"$	$2 \frac{1}{4}" \times 3 \frac{3}{4}"$	$2 \frac{1}{4}"$	$2" \times 3 \frac{1}{2}"$

FINISHED	RECTANGLE	SQUARES	TRIM TO
$2" \times 4"$	$2 \frac{3}{4}" \times 4 \frac{3}{4}"$	$2 \frac{3}{4}"$	$2 \frac{1}{2}" \times 4 \frac{1}{2}"$
$2 \frac{1}{8}" \times 4 \frac{1}{4}"$	$2 \frac{7}{8}" \times 5"$	$2 \frac{7}{8}"$	$2 \frac{5}{8}" \times 4 \frac{3}{4}"$
$2 \frac{1}{4}" \times 4 \frac{1}{2}"$	$3" \times 5 \frac{1}{4}"$	$3"$	$2 \frac{3}{4}" \times 5"$
$2 \frac{1}{2}" \times 5"$	$3 \frac{1}{4}" \times 5 \frac{3}{4}"$	$3 \frac{1}{4}"$	$3" \times 5 \frac{1}{2}"$
$3" \times 6"$	$3 \frac{3}{4}" \times 6 \frac{3}{4}"$	$3 \frac{3}{4}"$	$3 \frac{1}{2}" \times 6 \frac{1}{2}"$
$3 \frac{1}{2}" \times 7"$	$4 \frac{1}{4}" \times 7 \frac{1}{4}"$	$4 \frac{1}{4}"$	$4" \times 7 \frac{1}{2}"$
$4" \times 8"$	$4 \frac{3}{4}" \times 8 \frac{3}{4}"$	$4 \frac{3}{4}"$	$4 \frac{1}{2}" \times 8 \frac{1}{2}"$
$5" \times 10"$	$5 \frac{3}{4}" \times 10 \frac{3}{4}"$	$5 \frac{3}{4}"$	$5 \frac{1}{2}" \times 10 \frac{1}{2}"$
$6" \times 12"$	$6 \frac{3}{4}" \times 12 \frac{3}{4}"$	$6 \frac{3}{4}"$	$6 \frac{1}{2}" \times 12 \frac{1}{2}"$

The trimmed corners are the price of this method, or sew a **second seam $\frac{1}{8}"$ from the first** before trimming, and each corner becomes a bonus half-square triangle. Nothing here is cut on the bias, so there are no stretchy edges to babysit, which makes it a good pick for directional prints.

**Fabric A** — goose**Fabric B** — sky

Both charts assume standard geese: twice as wide as they are tall.