

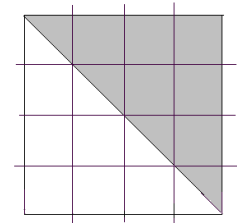
You will be amazed at how easy it is to make this leaf block, which finishes at 4-1/2".

1. Start with an 8" half-square triangle (HST) unit, made by your favorite method.
 - Note: Easy method of making a pair of HST units:
 - Cut an 8-1/2" square from each of two fabrics (leaf and background)
 - Place right sides together. Draw a line on a diagonal.
 - Sew 1/4" on either side of the line.
 - Cut on the line you drew.
 - Press seam towards the "leaf fabric"
 - Trim to 8" square

2. Slice vertically into 2" slices

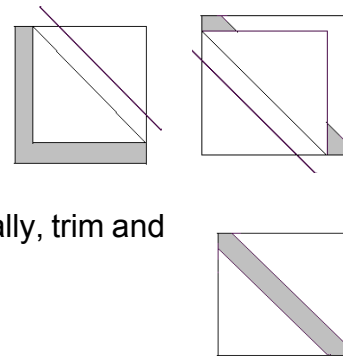
3. Slice horizontally into 2" slices

4. You now have 4 small HST units, 6 background squares and 6 leaf fabric squares.



5. To make the stem of the leaf

- Trim 2 of the background squares to 1-3/4"
- Place one of these on the upper right corner of a leaf square; stitch diagonally as indicated. Trim the excess, press towards leaf fabric.
- Place the other trimmed background square on the lower left corner of this unit; stitch diagonally, trim and press as before.

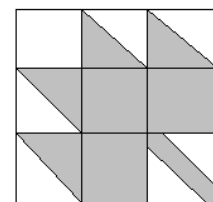


Assembly

Arrange this stem unit, the 4 HST units, 1 background square and 3 leaf squares into a 9-patch, as indicated.

Sew units into rows, and sew rows together for finished 4-1/2" block.

If you would like a 6" finished block, start with 10-1/2" squares, trim the HST unit to 10", slice into 2-1/2" slices horizontally and vertically. For the stem, trim background squares to 2-1/4".



This slick trick with a half square triangle unit is courtesy of Debbie Caffrey.