



Yes, yes, yes - I know it's only Monday!

But did I not warn you in Part Four that there might be some sneaky mystery posts happening in the near future?

In all honesty, my plan was to post this Christmas Eve morning as a gift to everyone -

But then I decided that Christmas Eve (And Hanukkah Eve, if there is such a thing!) was maybe a bit much for releasing anything...so I decided that today would do the trick.

And perhaps folks could find time between Monday and Friday to at least get a few of these units made.



The Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine, near Kraków, Poland is a UNESCO World Heritage center.

This was one of the most amazing tours we experienced while in Poland.

The deposit of rock salt in Wieliczka and Bochnia has been mined since the 13th century.



My hand in the handprint of a long ago salt miner.



Our guides took us chamber by chamber explaining to us just how salt was mined here and how necessary it was for survival.

This chamber was excavated between 1649 and 1685. Just think about that!



There were wonderful displays to take us back in time.



This was the coolest thing!

This entire chapel was carved out of salt. Even the chandeliers were sculpted from rock salt.



What it must have been like for workers back in the day.



Green water down below.

There were mule powered teams way down below.



1717-1965



Artisans of long ago carved these artworks out of salt!



And those stairs! Did we have to climb back up?



Narrow passageways and so many steps!





Nope!

The crammed us into elevator cars and sent us back up to the top. Luckily our elevator mates for random nationalities also on tour were up for a selfie in the half-darkness!

So now that we've learned about the Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine, let's get on to Part Six!



Red/Neutral half-square triangles.

25 sets of 4 matching.

Units will measure 2 1/2" unfinished and finish at 2" in the quilt.

You've done this before. It's the same as Part Four, only you are cutting in sets of 4 instead of sets of 8, Use one red and one neutral per set. Fabrics may change from set to set.

25 sets of 4 is 100 half-square triangles total,

Traditional Rotary Cutting for ONE SET:

From red fabric cut:

2 squares 2 7/8"

From Neutral fabric cut:

2 squares 2 7/8"

Pair neutral squares with red squares with right sides together. Slice on the diagonal from corner to corner to yield 2 half-square triangle units ready to sew from each pair of squares.

The sewing is the same as the Essential Triangle Tool Method below.

You can use ANY method to make these, keeping in mind the unfinished and finished size.

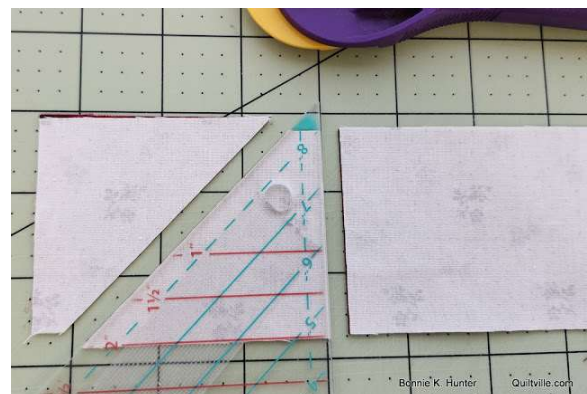
Essential Triangle Tool Method:



Pair a 2 1/2" red strip and a 2 1/2" neutral strip with right sides together. We are cutting in already matched pairs, ready to sew.

Square off end of strip set.

Using the 3rd red line for 2" finished half-square triangles, place the line at the top of the strip set and cut as shown.



Pivot the ruler and continue cutting, placing the 2" finished red line on the bottom of the strip set on the fabric as show. Cut.



Continue to pivot the ruler, cutting 4 half-square triangle pairs ready to sew from each fabric pairing.

Cut 25 sets of 4.



Stitch half-square triangle pairs along diagonal edge. Gently press toward the red fabric.

Remove dog ears and trim to 2 1/2" as needed.

If your units are too small, scant your seam allowance and try again.



One set of 4 matching. Make 25 sets.

Hopefully this is easy enough for you to slide in until Part 7 is released on Friday.

If you can't get to it, don't worry - it's not anything with a new technique, you already know this unit. See if you can make just a couple of sets to hold your place while you wait for things to calm down a bit.

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