

## Scrappy Ocean Waves!



It took me 2 years on and off to piece this beauty. The blocks are 6" finished, all the half-square triangles finish at a tiny glittering 1.5".

Ocean Waves quilt: 91" X 104"

Not for the faint of heart, this quilt contains 2,124 half-square triangle units!

Not including the solid borders, this quilt contains 5,884 pieces!

Did the desire to make this quilt ever strike you? Did the 'inset' squares scare you off? With this two block method, you can avoid inset seams and construct this quilt more easily than you thought possible.

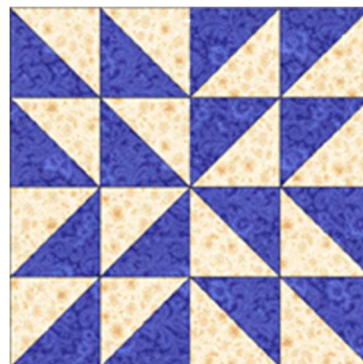
The main unit for this quilt is a 1/2 square triangle square that finishes at 1.5" when it is sewn into the block. There are many ways that you can construct your 1.5" finished 1/2 square

triangle square...from template cutting, to rotary cutting, to the use of foundation papers like "[Thangles](#)" or the use of special rulers like the [Easy Angle](#) ruler by Ez International. Both of these rulers create 1/2 square triangles by cutting from strips without having to use the "add 7/8" to the finished size" usual rotary cutting instructions.

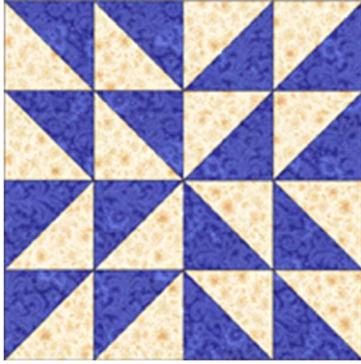
**\*NOTE\*** This quilt tutorial was made before my own Essential Triangle Tool became available.

This quilt also used "bonus" 1/2 square triangle squares that I collected over time from doing the "place a square on top of another square or rectangle and sew across the diagonal" stitch & flip methods.

If you are "regular" rotary cutting, these blocks are made completely from 2 3/8" cut triangles. My quilt is made from scraps divided simply into light/dark of every color. These diagrams are in 3 colors only to help you envision the block construction. Click on the links for each block to view the same blocks from my quilt.



Ocean waves [block 1A](#) : make 35



Ocean waves block 1B: make 36

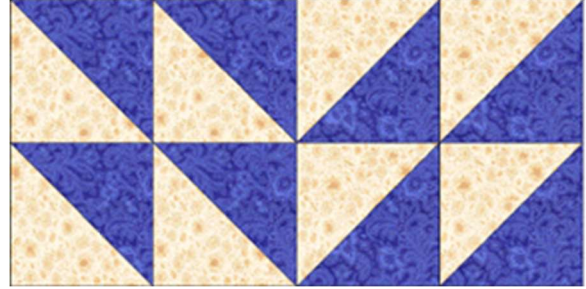
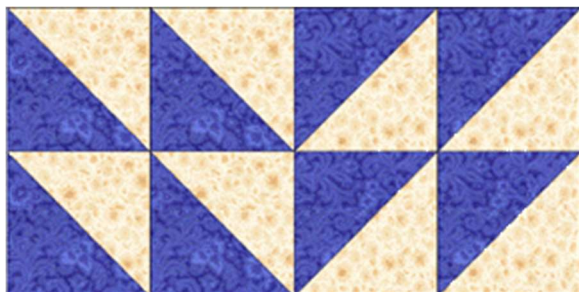
What was really intriguing about this pattern is that it is a 'positive/negative' design graphically. Above you will see block 1A and 1B. Do you see how they are made from 4 quarter blocks...each with the darks all facing the same direction in each quarter, and those quarters pinwheel around the center?

Do you also see that block 1A and block 1B are opposite from each other? It is important to see how the lights/darks fall in each block, and that each row "pinwheels" around in the proper direction. If one row contains block 1A, the next row will contain block 1B.

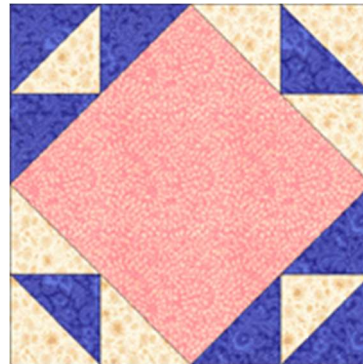
My quilt is queen size. It is 11 blocks X 13 blocks. Half of the blocks are blocks 1A and 1B. The other half are Block 2 (shown below)

Along with the full blocks as shown above, the outside of the quilt center is made from half blocks that complete the pattern. The half blocks for block 1 are like this:

Half block 1A: Make 14



Half block 1B: Make 12.



ocean waves block 2  
Make 72

For this block you will need to piece 'wing' triangles onto your pieced 1/2 square triangle squares to make the corners that surround the center square. These wing triangles are also cut from 2 3/8" squares, cut once from corner to corner diagonally.

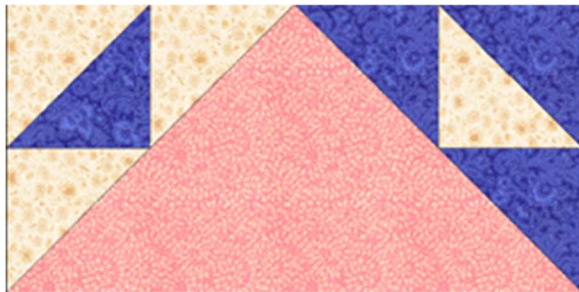
If you use the Easy Angle ruler for cutting your wing triangles, they are easily cut from 2" scrap strips, so you don't have to do the 3/8" measurement thing. I really like this ruler for cutting the wing triangles. It has the seam allowance added already, and one of the corners is already nipped as you cut, so there are less dog ears to deal with. Give it a try!

The center square is rotary cut at 4 3/4". Cut 72 of these center squares.

You will also notice with this block that there is a positive/negative thing going on with the corners. 2 of the corners have 3 darks around a

light, and the other two corners have 3 lights around a dark. This block can be rotated to go whichever way you need it to in the rows to keep the positive/negative thing going.

You will need to also make 1/2 blocks of block 2. Again the positive/negative thing will change depending on which row you are working on. On one row, the dark wings will be sewn to the right corner, and the light wings sewn to the left corner. In the next row, it may be opposite, so watch your design wall carefully as you lay these out. Here are your half blocks for block 2:



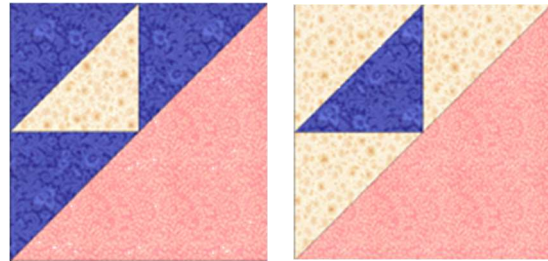
Ocean Waves Half-Block 2A: Make 10



Ocean Waves Half-Block 2B Make 12

With these 1/2 blocks the large triangle needs to have the straight of grain to the outside long edge of the block. For the large triangles, cut 6 squares 7.25" square. Cut the squares twice from corner to corner with an X to get 4 large triangles from each square. You need 22 triangles for the quilt, this will give you 24 so you have 2 extra 'just in case'.

Corner quarter blocks:



Make 2 quarter blocks with DARK wings around a light triangle and 2 quarter blocks with light wings around a dark triangle.

For the large triangles for the corners, the straight grain needs to be on the outside edges of the triangles. Cut 2 squares 3 7/8" square. Cut from corner to corner diagonally once to give you 4 large corner triangles.

If using the Easy Angle Ruler, cut the 4 triangles from a 3 1/2" strip.

Now the fun part comes: Laying out the blocks and assembling them into the quilt top.

I worked my quilt in rows, making enough of blocks 1 and 2 for each row, and starting and ending each row with the half block that it needed for that row. I then sewed the blocks into the row, and then added that row to the previous row.

I always checked when sewing the next row, that the pinwheels in the center of the pinwheel blocks were turning the way I wanted them to. Lay them out as you go and be sure they are.

If you find you made the block spinning the wrong way, set it aside for the next row that spins that way...I can't tell you the number of times that I did that!



Here it is getting bigger yet! This time I have the row of half blocks at the far right of the picture...see the large triangles on the edge? Look also at the pic at the top of this page to find which way the blocks go.



This pic shows my top in progress...at the far left of the pic is the half row that is the TOP of the quilt. after the top row 1/2 row, there are 6 rows of blocks attached. See if you can find out where the block 1's and 2's are.

Close up of blocks and borders:

Can you see the difference in how block 1A spins from 1B? Find the center of each pinwheel block....it will help you.



I finished off the quilt by floating it with a 1.5" (2" cut) inner border, and then a border of more triangles sewn into pinwheels. A 6" cut outer border frames the whole thing and gives the eyes a place to rest. I'm looking forward to getting this one quilted!

If you loved this pattern, please check out my other designs found in the Quiltville Store where my books (paperback) notions, tools, and other goodies along with my digital patterns are found right at your fingertips at [Quiltville.com/shop.html](http://Quiltville.com/shop.html)

Digital patterns are also found in my Etsy shop at [Quiltvillellc.Etsy.com](http://Quiltvillellc.Etsy.com)

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