

Totally Tubular Triangles

What to Bring

Basic Sewing Supplies

- Sewing Machine
- 50 wt. 2-ply long staple cotton thread to be used for piecing [Aurifil recommended, Available for purchase in class].
- Sewing Machine Needles 80/12 for piecing
- Scissors, Pins, Seam ripper
- .9MM ceramic lead mechanical pencil for quilting. [Sew-Line recommended. Available for purchase in class]
- 6" X 24" See through ruler with 30, 45 and 60-degree markings in both directions [Omni-Grid recommended]
- 4" x 14" or smaller See thru ruler with markings
- Rotary cutter with a sharp blade and a spare blade
- Cutting mat at least 24" on one side
- Pencil and paper for taking notes.
- Optional 1" x 6" ruler with ¼" markings. [Available for purchase in class]
- Optional Book and Patterns [Available for purchase in class]
- Optional small binder/folder to put hand-outs and notes in.

Fabrics:

Students will complete three exercises and will need the following strips. Each exercise should have different strips so you can tell them apart easily. Coordinate fabrics if you want to combine all exercises into one project. Please bring a little extra for mistakes etc.

Exercise 1: Two Fabrics, one 4 ½" Strip of each

Exercise 2: Two Fabrics, two 3" strips of each [four strips total]

Exercise 3: Four Fabrics two 3" strips of each [eight strips total]

- Use quality fabrics that are pre-washed and dried. Batiks are highly recommended for learning this technique because of their stability.
- Pick some fun fabrics you really like.
- The print on these fabrics should be fairly small. Solid fabrics or tone on tone prints are good to bring. Small uneven stripes are good to use
- Contrast is the biggest thing to consider, it will be easier for learning.
- Prewash and dry fabrics, Iron folded in half selvedge to selvedge. Do not use starch.
- To save class time, pre-cut and sew strips together as directed in homework.
- Go to www.ritahutchens.com/Pages/Workshops.html for supply list and complete homework directions and PFD file to print for the Totally Tubular Triangles Class.
- Most of all don't stress out about your fabric choices.

Go to my YouTube channel for a preview of some of these techniques and quilts made with them.

www.youtube.com/user/RitaHutchens

Homework [please read carefully before you cut or sew]

You will get more out of the class if you do a little pre-class homework. You will be way ahead if you do these simple steps. Use the fabric above for the homework.

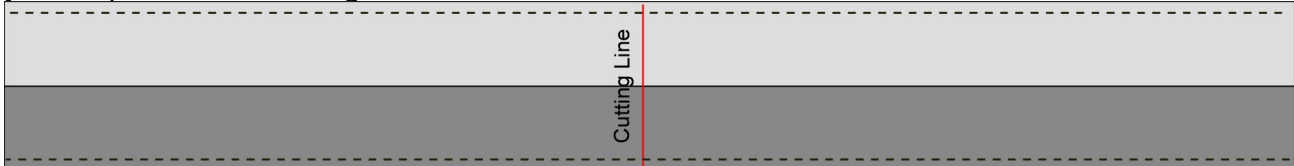
Use a rotary cutter and ruler to cut required strips for each exercise from the full width of the fabric [apx. 42"]. When ironing seams open a few stitches at the ends of the seams are likely to come out when you are working with them. Use a small stitch [18-22 per inch, and good tension when sewing the strips together and this will not be a problem. Strips cut from different fabrics will be slightly different in length. Do not worry about making the ends even at this point. Work from one end and make them generally even. I prefer not to use pins unless I have to match up seams or ends. Without stretching, pulling or distorting, gently feed the strips through the sewing machine matching the edges. Sew your strips together using an even and consistent one-quarter inch seam allowance. Use a hot steam iron and iron seams open. It takes a little extra time but the work will lie flatter. It will be easier to iron seams open if you "set" the seam first and then iron it open. Be careful not to stretch your strips while you are ironing or you will get a strip set with a big curve in it.

Totally Tubular Triangles

Exercise One: [Half Square Triangles, Sawtooth Borders]

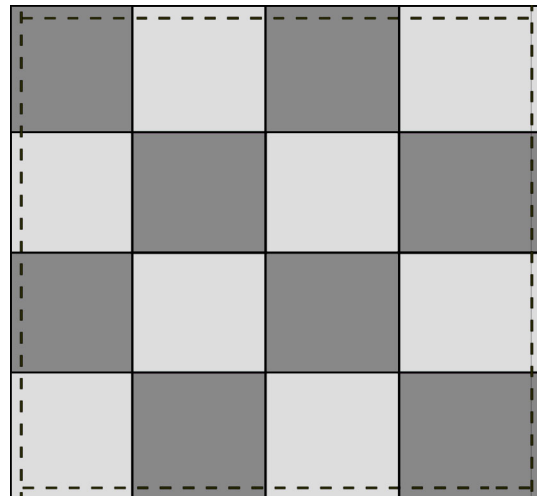
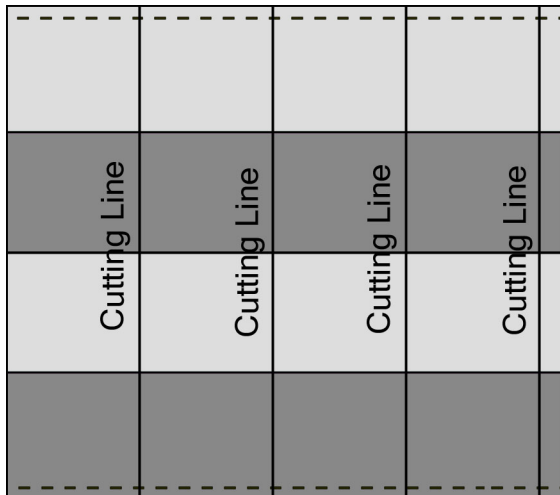
Dotted lines represent seam allowance, as in dressmaking patterns, and are not actual stitching lines.

1. Choose two contrasting fabrics. Follow the directions above for cutting and cut one strip from each fabric 4-1/2-inches.
2. Follow the directions above for sewing and ironing and sew strips together as shown below. Cut your strips in half on cutting line as shown below.



3. Sew the two halves together.
Cut four 4-1/2-inch strips as shown below.

4. Flip every other strip to make a checkerboard.



Exercise Two: [45-degree triangles]

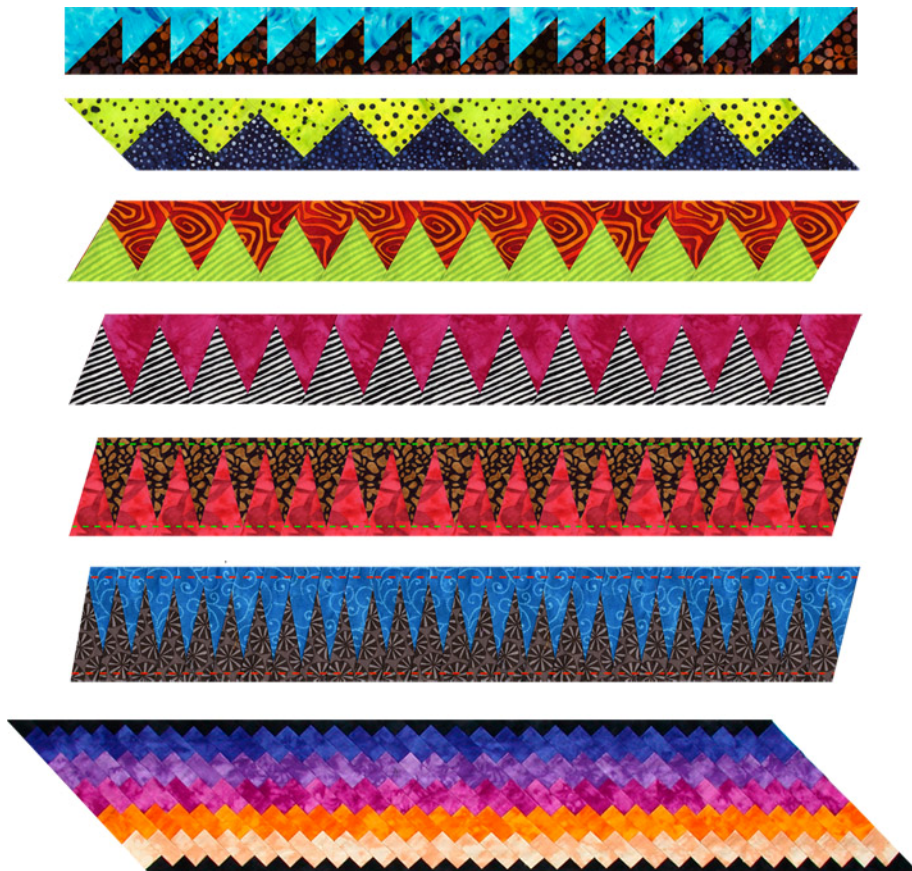
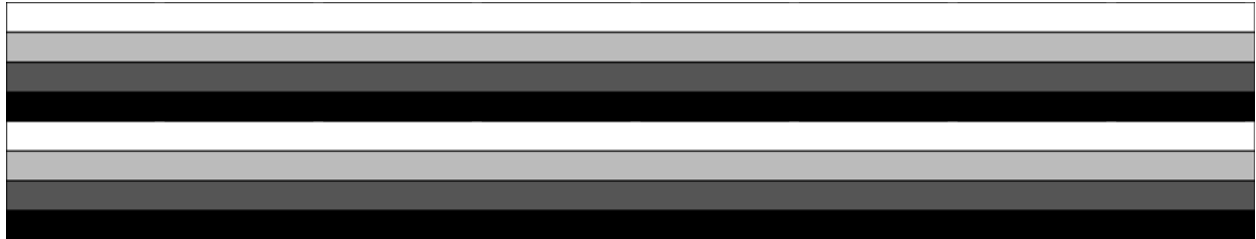
1. Choose two contrasting fabrics. Follow the directions above for cutting and cut two 3-inch strips from each fabric.
2. Follow the directions for sewing and ironing and sew the strips together as shown. [make sure your stair-steps are going in the same direction as the illustration stagger your steps 2-3/4 inches]



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Exercise Three: [Right triangles]

1. Choose Four contrasting fabrics
Follow the directions above for cutting
Cut two 3-inch strips from each fabric the full width of the fabric [apx. 42"]
2. Follow the directions above for sewing and ironing.
Sew all four strips together as shown below.



Don't Forget
Bring your sense of adventure, humor, and willingness to learn, experiment and enjoy the process!
Please to feel free to call or write if you have any questions.
I look forward to seeing you all.....Rita