

# CaterCorner



Approx 50" x 60"

Is it kitty-corner or catty-corner? It depends on where you live! I am going to play it safe and call my little quilt Catercorner. It finishes at about 50" by 60", but can easily be made larger with more blocks or another border. This quilt was originally presented as a mystery. Pictures of finished quilts are at <http://www.quiltbug.com/catercorner.htm>

The directions in this pattern gives you the option of using either the traditional method or Thangles for making the half square triangles (HSTs.) If you prefer another method, adjust the cutting directions accordingly.

## Requirements

Light: 3/4 yard (the light in the picture)  
Light Two: 2/3 yard (the center of the churn dash and the first border in the picture)  
Medium: 1/2 yard (the diagonal caramel squares in the picture)  
Lt medium: 1/4 yard (not a FQ) (the light blue in the picture)  
Dk medium: 1/4 yard (not a FQ) (the dark blue in the picture)  
Dark one: 1/4 yard (not a FQ) (the dark Dark in the picture)  
Dark two: 1 yard (a different dark Dark in the picture)

## Optional

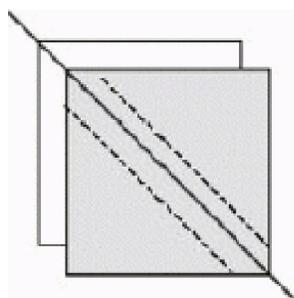
A 3 1/2" square ruler  
3" Thangles.  
A Quick Quarter Ruler

## Cutting List

Here is a partial cutting list. To give you the option of making HSTs using an alternative method, you will not cut all your fabric ahead of time. Some pieces will be cut just before you use them. All strips refer to Width of Fabric (about 40")

- Cut 5 strips 3 1/2" wide by the WOF of the Medium. Cut these strips into (50) 3 1/2" squares. These will be the diagonal squares in the alternate blocks
- Cut 1 strip 3 1/2" wide by the WOF of the Light Two. Cut these strips into (10) 3 1/2" squares. If you have fabric that lends itself well to fussy cutting, you can center a design in these blocks. These will be the center of the churn dash blocks.
- Cut 5 more strips 3 1/2" wide by the WOF of the Light Two. These will be used in the border.
- Cut 2 strips 2" wide by the WOF of the Light Medium for the churn dash blocks.
- Cut 2 strips 2" wide by the WOF of the Dark Medium for the churn dash blocks.
- Cut 4 strips 2" wide by the WOF of the Light for the churn dash blocks.
- Cut 6 strips 4" wide by the WOF of the Dark Two. These will be used in the border.

## Making Half Square Triangles (HSTs) the Traditional Way



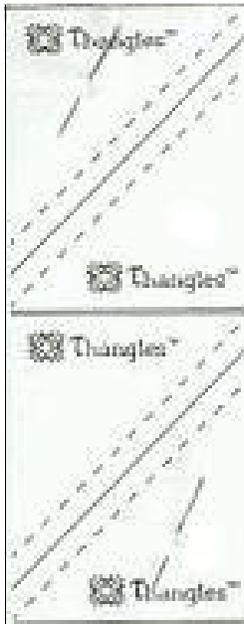
In the traditional method of making half square triangles, you put two squares of fabric right sides together and draw a diagonal line on the back of the lighter square. Sew 1/4" each on either side of that drawn line then cut on the line and press to the dark. If you have a Quick Quarter Ruler, just place the ruler on the diagonal of the back of the light square. You can draw your cutting line through the slot in the center of the ruler. The two sides of the ruler are exactly 1/4" from that center slot, so when you draw a line along the sides, you are drawing your sewing line.

We will need 40 Dark One/Light One combination HSTs for this quilt. To make them the traditional way, start by cutting (2) strips 4" wide by the WOF from both the Dark One and the Light One fabric. Cut these strips into 4" squares. You will need 20 squares from each color.

Draw a diagonal line on the back of the 20 light squares. Use the Quick Quarter Ruler if you have one. Place each Light One square right sides together with a Dark One square. Sew 1/4" from both sides of the diagonal line. Cut on the solid line and press to the dark.

The actual formula for making HSTs using this method is to add 7/8" to the size of the finished HST and cut your squares to that size. I had you cut your squares 1/8" larger than needed so, in theory, you should now have to square them up. Measure your blocks and square them up to 3 1/2" (unfinished) if needed.

## Making Half Square Triangles (HSTs) using Thangles



You should have some Dark Two and Light One fabric left over from cutting the strips. Use that to make (40) additional 3 1/2" HSTs using your favorite method. If you would like to give Thangles a try, you will need to cut (2) strips of Dark Two 3 1/2" wide by the WOF strips and (2) strips of the Light One 3 1/2' wide by the WOF.

Thangles are a method of paper piecing strips of fabric to make HSTs. Start by laying your fabric strips right sides together with the light on top, making a strip set. Pin a Thangles paper to the strip set. Sew on the dotted lines (you can chain stitch these) and cut on the solid lines. Don't forget to cut off the top and bottom line on the Thangle paper! Press them open with the paper still attached.

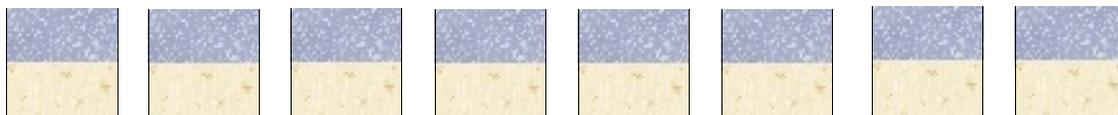
Because you put the light strip on top, the seam will automatically press to the dark. To pull the paper off easily, hold the HST with your thumbnail on the center seam of the paper and pull. The paper should rip right at your thumbnail.

Last but not least! Using your favorite method, make four HSTs using the Dark Two fabric and the Light Two fabric. (If you need to cut a little off the strips you cut for the border, it's okay. There is enough extra.)

### Making Strip Sets

Sew the Light Medium strips to the Light One strips and press the seam to the dark. Make two sets. Do the same thing to the Dark Medium and Light One strips.

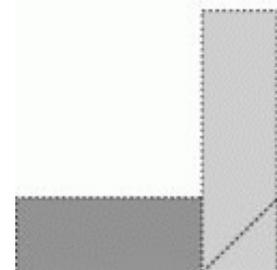
Cut those strips into 3 1/2" square two-part blocks. You will need 20 Light Medium/Light One blocks and 20 Dark Medium/Light One blocks.



### Putting the border strips together

Sew the (5) 3 1/2" wide strips of the Light Two fabric end to end. These will be used in the inner border. Miter the joins if you like.

Sew the (6) 4" wide strips of the Dark Two end to end. These will be used in the outer border. Miter the joins if you like.

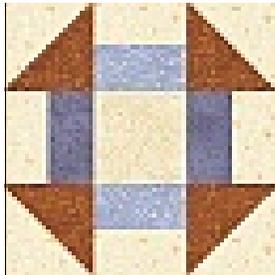


## Coffee Time

Let's take inventory. You should have:

- (40) Dark One/Light One 3 1/2" HSTs (unfinished)
- (40) Dark Two/Light One 3 1/2" HSTs
- (4) Dark Two/Light Two 3 1/2" HSTs
- (50) 3 1/2" squares of the Medium
- (10) 3 1/2" squares of the Light Two
- (1) really long 3 1/2" wide strip of the Light Two
- (1) really long 4" wide strip of Dark Two
- (20) Light Medium/Light One two-part 3 1/2" square blocks
- (20) Dark Medium/Light One two-part 3 1/2" square blocks

### Making the Churn Dash blocks



Using the Dark One/Light One HSTs, the (10) 3 1/2" Light Two squares, and the (40) two-part blocks you just made, make 10 Churn Dash blocks.

Sew the 3 1/2" blocks in horizontal rows, pressing the seams of the top and bottom row in toward the two-part square.

Press the seams of the center row out, away from the center square. This will help your seams "nestle" (just touch each other) when you sew the rows together. Press from the back to make sure none of your seams are twisted and square up to 9 1/2".

### Making the Alternate Blocks



Using the Dark Two/Light One HSTs and the (50) 3 1/2" squares of Medium, make 10 of these blocks. Again, press the seams of the top and bottom rows towards the outer block (the medium square) and the seams of the middle block toward the center.

Press from the back to double check and make sure none of your seams have twisted. Square up to 9 1/2" if needed.

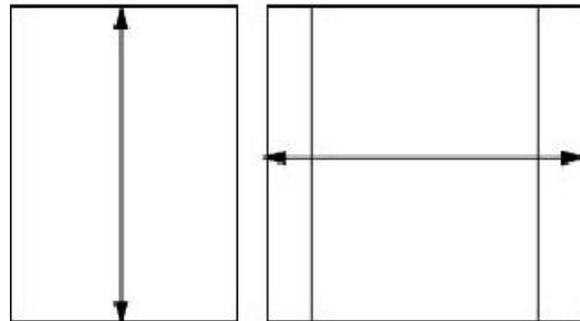
You should have four HSTs (the Dark Two/Light Two ones) left over! Don't worry about them, we will use them in the last step.

## Putting the Top together

Find a space where you can lay out your blocks. You can place them the way they are in the picture on the first page, or you can give the alternate block a twist and create a stronger diagonal design. Try it both ways and choose the one you like the best.

Once you have a layout you like, sew the blocks together in rows. Press the seams of the even rows to the right and the odd rows to the left. Again, this is to help them lay flat against each other which keeps the bulk down in your quilt. When you are done, give the quilt one last pressing, double checking to make sure you haven't twisted any seams.

## Adding the borders



You must MEASURE for your borders. It's easier to sew on a border and cut off the excess when you get to the end, but that is a recipe for wavy borders. Measure your quilt through the middle horizontally. It will probably measure 36 1/2" but use your personal measurement.

Measure the quilt through the center vertically (probably 45 1/2") as well. Cut two of the lighter cat borders to the vertical measurement and two to the horizontal measurement. If you are scratching your head and saying, "But that won't work, the borders won't be long enough!" you are right. Remember those four leftover HSTs? We are going to add one to both ends of the horizontal border strip, like so:



Sew the two side borders on first, matching the center of the border with the center of the quilt. Ease to fit if necessary. NOW you can add the top and bottom borders with the HST at either end. You have just framed your quilt.

Press your quilt and add the last four borders, made from the Dark Two fabrics, measuring through the center again as you did for the first border. You are done! Press from the back one last time. Hang it on the wall for a while so you can decide on a quilting design (and your family can praise you.) Now finish it and... Enjoy!