There are at least three problems that every quilter works on with every quilt. First, how to sew a consistent half-square triangle; second how to match points perfectly and third, how to transition from square blocks to a quilt that needs to be rectangular when finished. Well, yes, there may be other problems along the way but these are the design problems that we will practice this month. This month, it’s a simple block for which we will create 20 half square triangles, matching points as we go and then surprise, it’s a rectangular block that will easily become a rectangular quilt.

No borders required.

**Block Size**
Unfinished: 10 ½” x 13”
Finished: 10” x 12 ½”

**Materials**
(This will be enough to create two blocks.)
Cut 5, 3 3/8” squares in a sunshine-yellow print
Cut 15, 3 3/8” squares in a sky blue print
Cut 20 3 3/8” squares in Kona white

*Note: Nothing is more problematic than a mixture of whites on a quilt. Kona has many shades of white: Vintage white, Snow white, White, etc. Each is beautiful but in combination you can end up with a block that looks ‘less than white’ when compared to another. That’s why Kona white is specified for this fresh summer quilt. The picture doesn’t show the true white of the block, so please don’t try to match based on color in the photograph.*

**Directions**
Match one yellow square to a white square with right sides facing.
Draw a pencil line diagonally from corner to corner, then stitch ¼” away from the pencil line. Repeat this step on the opposite side of the line.
Now cut the square in half on the pencil line and finger-press to open. This unit should measure 3” square when pressed.
Repeat steps 1-3 with remaining yellow, white and blue fabric to create ten half-square yellow/white triangles and 30 half-square blue/white triangles.

Stitch 5 yellow/white squares in a row. Repeat this step to complete three rows of blue/white squares with 5 per row.
Stitch all four rows together with your yellow row on top.
If you wish, repeat these steps to complete your second block.

**Pressing**
I generally press toward the darker fabric. In this block, all of the triangles are pressed toward the dark side. On the rows, it is easier to alternate rows, pressing one row to the dark side and one to the lighter side so that the rows will nest nicely when stitched together.

**Product Recommendation**
I would recommend using Triangle Paper from [www.quiltime.com](http://www.quiltime.com) or a comparable product if you are making many half-square triangles for a quilting project. It will simplify the process and create a more consistent end product. I buy this product at my local quilt store.

**BOM Basics:**
Each person may enter up to three blocks each month.
Please include your name on your block(s)! Many of us just use a mailing label.
If you have nice scraps left over, consider including them with your block for the winner’s use (a border or other finishing touches).
If you cannot bring the blocks to the quilt meeting, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for the blocks to arrive before the meeting.

Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414
To help us celebrate more winners, we will draw two names if we have over 20 blocks (3 if we have 30+, 4 if we have 40+). If the winner(s) are not present, the blocks will either be mailed or left at the MQ office for the winner to pick up. We will call to notify winners.

Jeanne LaMoore & Wynn Martin