



## Postage Stamp Turkey

12.5" unfinished

Designed by Karen Thurn of [Tu-Na Quilts, Travels, and Eats](http://Tu-Na Quilts, Travels, and Eats)

*This Postage Stamp Turkey block involves stitching sixty-four 2" squares together of which 37 are Half Square Triangles (HSTs).*

### Hints:

- Set stitch length to 2.0 or 12 stitches per inch.
- Unless noted, use a scant ¼" seam allowance. Check it to be sure.
- Cut your pieces accurately. See [Tu-Na's Tried and True Easy Steps to Making Accurately Pieced Blocks](#) for suggestions.
- Use the turkey blueprint on the last page as a coloring page.
- See [Tu-Na Quilts: A Postage Stamp Turkey](#) for more information on making this block pattern.

### Fabric Selection

This block could be made from scraps or yardage.

Choose contrasting fabrics for the different body parts.

Approximate Fabric Needed:

Body: 2 ½" x 38"

Neck: 2 ½" x 7"

Head: 2" x 2"

Background: 5" x 31"

(Note: These pattern directions are written using one fabric for the background as pictured to the right. If you would like to make your turkey using two different fabrics (sky and ground), as pictured above, please see my blog post [Tu-Na Quilts: A Postage Stamp Turkey](#) to find directions for that option.)

Beak: 2 ½" x 2 ½"

Wattle: 1 ½" x 7"

Legs/Feet: 2" x 6"

Tail: Choose two contrasting colors or a light and dark of one color

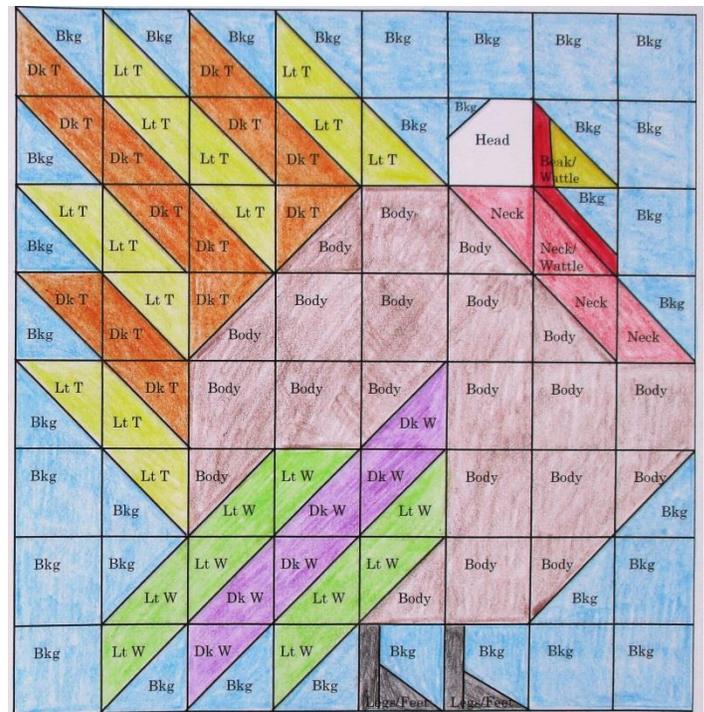
Light: 2 ½" x 18"

Dark: 2 ½" x 18"

Wing: Choose two contrasting colors or a light and dark of one color

Light: 2 ½" x 14"

Dark: 2 ½" x 12"



## Keeping It All Straight

Labels help me keep my pieces organized especially when there are a lot of them. I've included a set below if you want to use them to identify the piles of pieces once they are cut.

Body	Neck	Beak	Legs & Feet
Head	Background	Wattle	Light Tail Feathers
Dark Tail Feathers	Light Wing	Dark Wing	



### Cut the Following Pieces

#### Head:

1 – 2” x 2”

#### Neck:

2 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

#### Beak:

1 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

#### Wattle:

1 – 1 ½” x 2 ½”

1 – 1 ¼” x 3 ½”

#### Background:

12 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

12 – 2” x 2”

2 – 1 ½” x 2”

1 – 1” x 1”

#### Body:

5 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

12 – 2” x 2”

#### Legs/Feet:

2 – 1” x 2”

2 – 1 ½” x 1 ½”

#### Tail Feathers:

Light: 7 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

Dark: 7 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

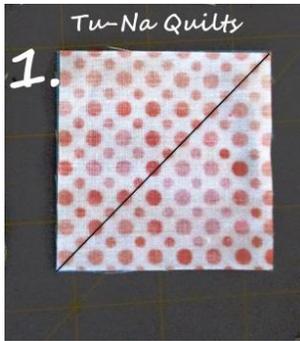
#### Wing:

Light: 5 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

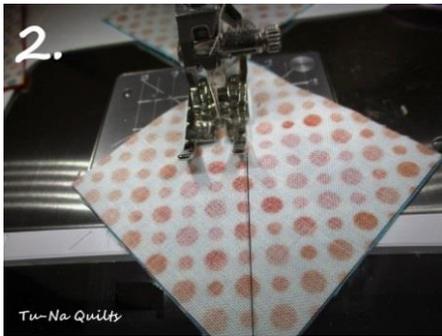
Dark: 4 – 2 ½” x 2 ½”

## Making HSTs is as easy as 1, 2, 3, and 4!

Here's a review of the method I use. This method yields two HSTs.



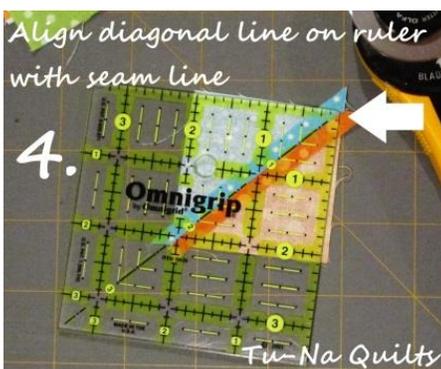
1. Place two squares of fabric right sides together. Draw a line on the wrong side of top fabric from one corner diagonally to the opposite corner.



2. Stitch a scant 1/4" on **each side** of that line.



3. Cut between the two seams (cut from point to point).



4. Press each seam open (or as directed) and trim aligning the diagonal line on the ruler with the diagonal seam line (as noted in the picture with the white arrow).

### For this block:

All HSTs are made using the 2 ½" squares. Press seams open unless otherwise directed. **Square each HST to 2"**. There will be a few leftover HSTs.



## Make these HSTs

- Using 3 background and 3 light tail pieces, make 6 HSTs.
- Using 2 background and 2 dark tail pieces, make 4 HSTs.
- Using 2 background and 2 light wing pieces, make 3 HSTs.
- Using 1 background and 1 dark wing piece, make 1 HST.
- Using 1 background and 1 body piece, make 2 HSTs.
- Using 1 body and 1 neck piece, make 2 HSTs.
- Using 1 body and 1 light wing piece, make 2 HSTs.
- Using 1 body and 1 dark tail, make 2 HSTs.
- Using 1 body and 1 dark wing, make 1 HST.
- Using 2 light wing pieces and 2 dark wing pieces, make 4 HSTs.
- Using 4 dark tails and 4 light tails, make 7 HSTs.

## Making the Extra Body Pieces and Special HSTs

### ○ Head



Place the 1" square background piece on the upper left hand corner of the head piece. Draw a line diagonally from one corner to the other.

Stitch just to the side of the line towards the corner that will be trimmed away. Trim seam to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Flip corner up. Press seam open. **Square to 2"**.



### ○ Legs/Feet (make 2)



Making the feet: Add the 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " square foot piece to the bottom of the 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2" background piece. Draw a line diagonally from that upper left corner to bottom right corner on the 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " foot piece. Stitch just to the side of the line towards the corner that will be trimmed away. Trim seam to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Flip. Press seam open.



Adding the legs: Stitch one 1" x 2" leg piece to the left side of that unit. Press seam towards the leg. **Square to 2". Make two.**

## ○ Beak/Wattle/Background HST



Fold the 1 ½" x 2 ½" wattle piece in half lengthwise with wrong sides together as pictured. Stitch approximately 1/8" from the edge just to hold the piece together.



Lay wattle to the left side of the beak square (as pictured) and stitch on previously sewn 1/8" seam line to secure it while you finish making the beak.



Proceed as you would to make a HST. Place a 2 ½" background piece on top of this beak/wattle unit with right sides together. Draw a diagonal line on the background from upper left corner to lower right corner (wattle should remain on the left during this process). Stitch a scant ¼" on each side of line.

Trim seam. Press seams to the side. You will only use the HST with the wattle on the left. **Square block to 2"**.

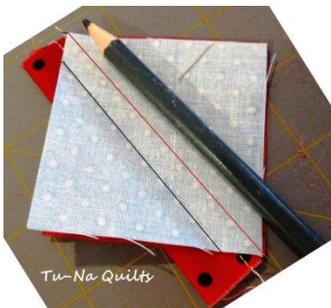
## ○ Neck/Wattle/Background HST and ○ Neck/Background HST



Draw a line from the upper left corner to the bottom right corner on the **right side** of a neck square.

Fold the 1 ¼" x 3 ½" wattle piece in half lengthwise with wrong sides together. Stitch approximately 1/8" from edge down long side to keep it together as pictured.

Lay the wattle piece on the neck piece with the raw edge touching the drawn line as pictured. Secure the wattle onto the neck piece by stitching on the 1/8" line that is holding the wattle together. The front part of the wattle will hang free.



Then proceed to make a HST. Place a 2 ½" background piece right sides together on top of this neck/wattle piece keeping the wattle on the left side.

Draw a line from the upper left corner to the bottom right corner (as shown in the picture as a red line).

Stitch a scant ¼" from this line (as shown in picture as a black line). You will be stitching through the neck, wattle, and background pieces on this side. Then stitch a scant ¼" **on the other side** of this center (red) line for the other HST.

Cut on the drawn line in the center (red line in picture). One HST will have the wattle insert and the other one will not. **You will need both** of these HSTs. Position wattle so it overlaps the background on the front. Press seam to the side. **Square blocks to 2"**.

## Putting It All Together

Follow the blueprint on the next page to lay out the HSTs, the 2" squares, and extra body pieces to form the turkey. I found my cutting mat to be useful for this.



### Sewing the blocks and rows together

Sew the blocks in each row together with right sides together. Refer to the pressing diagram below when pressing. Alternating the pressing of each row will make it easier to match the seams as you join the rows.

#### Pressing Diagram

		Row 1 Press	→	
		Row 2 Press	←	
		Row 3 Press	→	
		Row 4 Press	←	
		Row 5 Press	→	
		Row 6 Press	←	
		Row 7 Press	→	
		Row 8 Press	←	

Sew row 1 to row 2 pressing the seam towards the top of the block. The seams between the blocks should easily nest together creating perfectly matched intersections.

Continue sewing the rows together pressing the seams towards the top of the block.

Your block should measure 12.5".

Sew on a small button or bead for the eye after you have finished quilting your top.

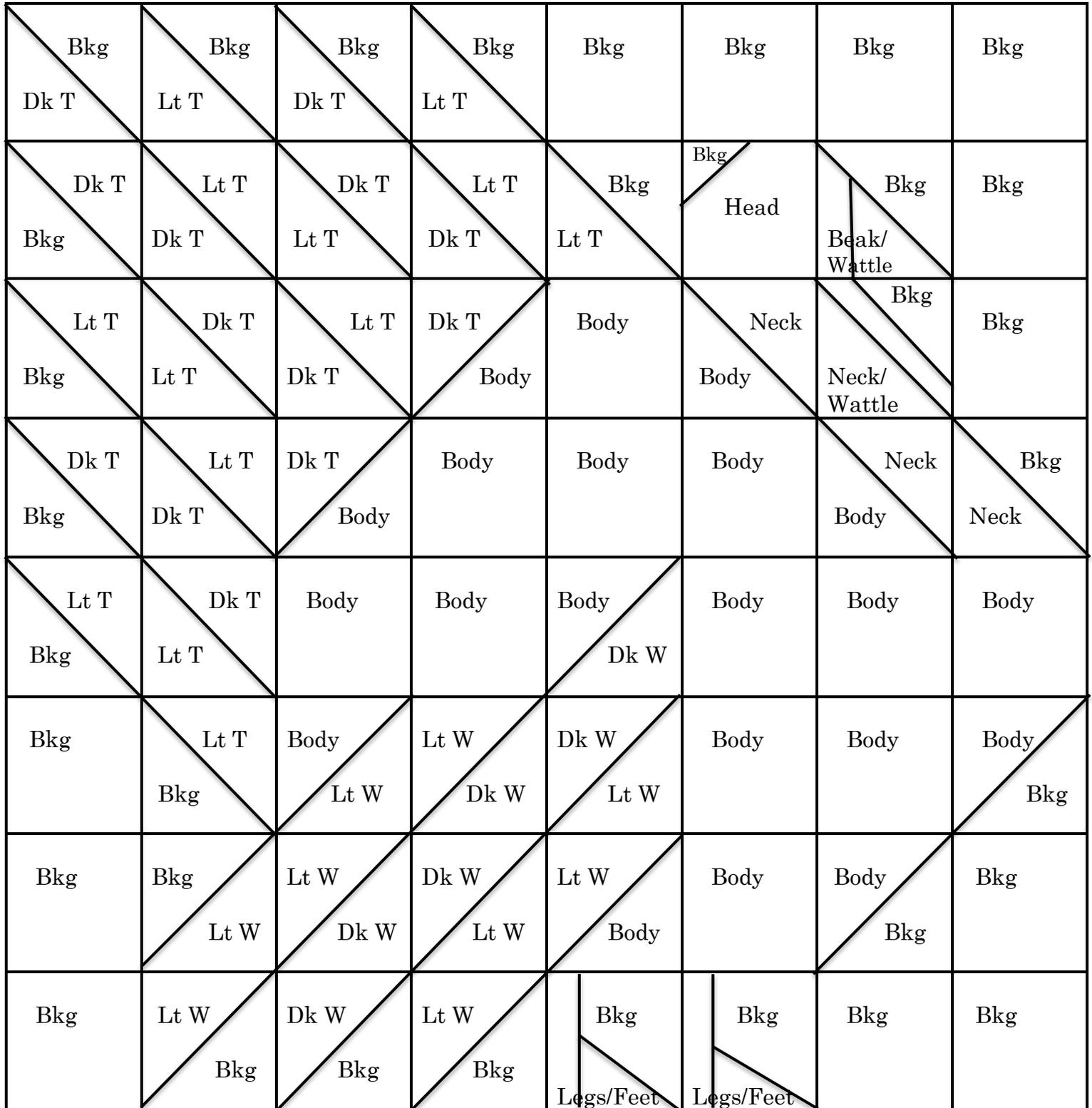
#### About Tu-Na

Learn more about me on my blog, [Tu-Na Quilts, Travels, and Eats](#). You will find stories, photographs, and inspiration regarding the things I enjoy doing: quilting, traveling and eating (actually cooking and baking but that didn't sound good in the title). If you enjoy what you read and would like to receive notifications of my next published post, please consider subscribing to follow using one of the three ways available on my blog's sidebar: email, WordPress, or Bloglovin.

This pattern was designed for the Fall Into a QAL.



## Blueprint for laying out the Postage Stamp Turkey pieces



### Key:

Bkg = Background      Lt W = Light Wing  
 Lt T = Light Tail      Dk W = Dark Wing  
 Dk T = Dark Tail