

# **Paper Quilt Squares**

#### **About Quilts:**

A quilt is made of two layers of fabric that are sewn together with padding in between. Quilts were blankets made by hand, that came in many different patterns.

See historic quilts: National Museum of American History, "National Quilt Collection," <a href="https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/object-groups/national-quilt-collection">https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/object-groups/national-quilt-collection</a>

### Shapes, Patterns, & Geometry:

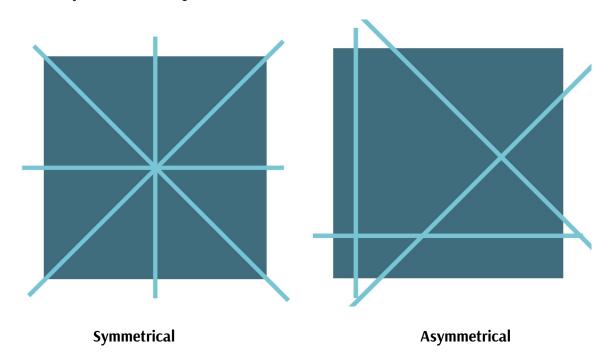
Quilt patterns, or designs, can be made up of many different shapes, but squares and triangles are the most common. Usually, those shapes must fit together symmetrically. Asymmetrical quilts are often called "crazy quilts" because there is no set pattern.



### What is symmetry?

A shape is symmetrical if it can be folded in half from any direction and all the sides and edges match. Take a look at the diagram below, this square can be folded along any of the lines (light blue) that pass through the center and the shape will remain symmetrical.

But if you look at the second diagram, moving the fold line away from the center would create an asymmetrical shape.

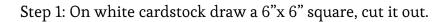


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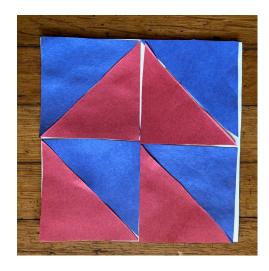
## **Supplies:**

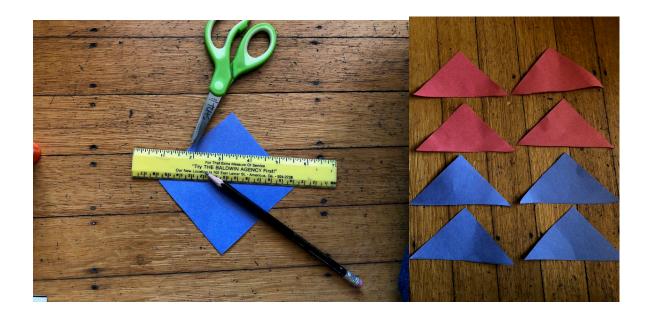
- Construction paper, cardstock, scrapbook paper
- White cardstock or plain paper (base) cut into a 6" square
- Scissors or paper cutter
- Gluestick
- Ruler
- Pencil

#### **Instructions**

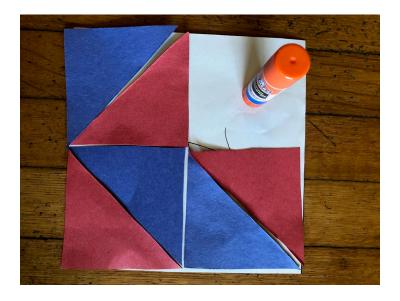


Step 2: Cut colored paper into 3" x3" squares. Cut in half on a diagonal to create triangles. Cut triangles in half again if desired. Each quilt square needs 4, 3"x3" squares of colored paper.

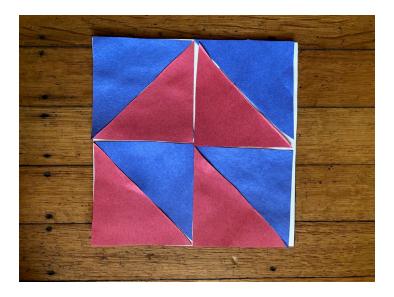




Step 3. Arrange your triangles in any design you'd like, matching sides so there's no overlap, and the triangles do not go outside the borders of the square. Carefully glue pieces down.



Repeat Steps 1-3 to make a larger "quilt."



Want it to look more like a real quilt? Try cutting the triangles out of fabric instead! You may need fabric glue to create a stronger bond between fabric and paper.