

# Quilting How Tos from the Redheaded Quilter

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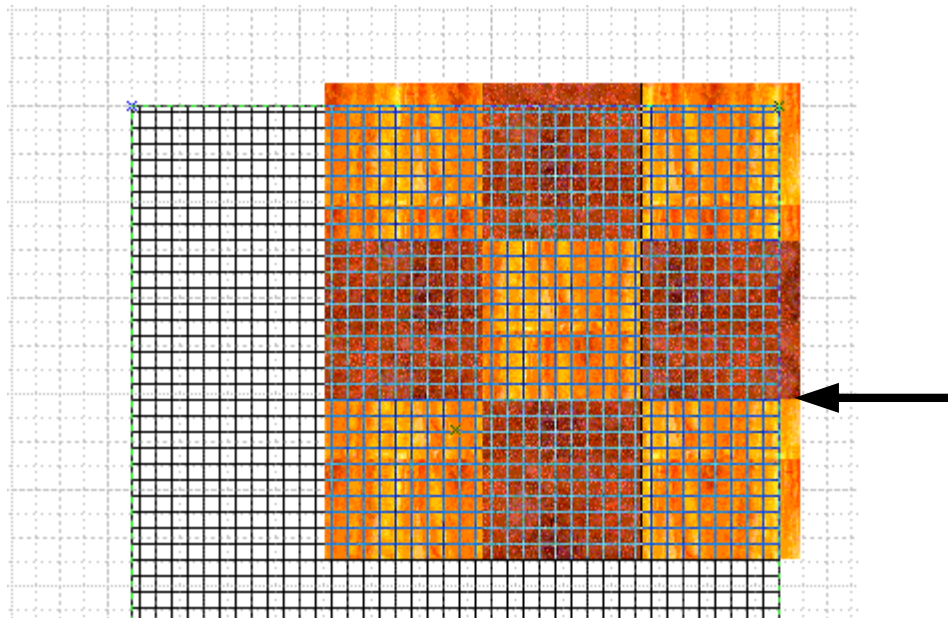
## Squaring Up a Block

All units and blocks in your quilt must be squared up before being sewn to other units or blocks so that the finished quilt will lie flat.

### To square up a block you will need:

- A square acrylic ruler that is slightly larger than the size of your unit or block
- A rotary cutter and cutting mat

1. Ensure that the block is pressed flat then line up the 45-degree line on your square ruler with a diagonal seam in your block. If the block has no diagonal seams, line up a horizontal or vertical ruler line with a seam. The arrow in the diagram below shows the ruler line along the lower horizontal seam of the block.



2. Place the desired measurement line on the ruler on the lower left corner of the block, making sure that a small amount of fabric is outside the measurement lines. For example, to cut your unit down to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " put the  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " lines along at least one seam of the block.
3. Any excess fabric should now be sticking out on the top and right of the ruler. Use your rotary cutter to trim the right and top edges of the block.
4. Lift the ruler. Turn the block around so the trimmed edges line up with the desired measurement line as in step 2.
5. Use your rotary cutter to trim the right and top edges of the block.