

## Kelly Ashton, Kellyquilter Designs

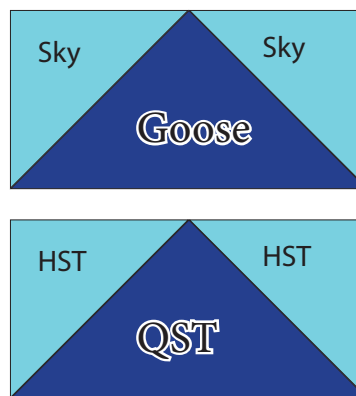
# Flying Geese from GO! Qubes

The Flying Geese is a traditional quilt block that easily lends itself to traditional or contemporary fabrics. A single Flying Geese block is a rectangular block whose finished size is twice as wide as it is high, and it is made of three triangles: one quarter-square triangle (QST) from a larger square and two half-square triangles (HST) from a square half the size of the QST square. For example: A QST based from a 4" finished square plus two HSTs based from a finished 2" square would yield a Flying Geese block with a finished size of 2"x4". Typically, the Flying Geese block is comprised of two fabrics: the goose triangle from one fabric and the two "sky" (background) triangles from the second fabric. When selecting fabrics for a Flying Geese block, be sure to have adequate contrast between the two fabrics - either a darker fabric for the goose triangle and lighter fabric for the sky or vice versa.

Flying Geese are very versatile. There are many blocks that incorporate Flying Geese in their construction. Rows of Flying Geese easily make up into entire quilt tops or can be used for pieced sashings and/or pieced borders.

### Featured in this demo:

- Accuquilt GO! Fabric Cutter
- GO! Qube Mix & Match 8" block (Item # 55776) dies #4 & 5
- GO! Strip Cutter 2½" (2" finished) (Item #55017)
- GO! Square 6½" (6" finished) (Item #55000)
- Fabric - 100% quilting cotton



### AccuQuilt Die & Cutter Compatibility:

Mix & Match Qube / item #	AccuQuilt GO! Me	AccuQuilt GO!	AccuQuilt GO! Big	AccuQuilt Studio
12" (55778)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
10" (55797)	--	X	X	X (with adapter)
9" (55777)	X	X	X	X (with adapter)
8" (55776)	X	X	X	X (with adapter)
6" (55775)	X	X	X	X (with adapter)

### General Tips for cutting patchwork with the AccuQuilt Die-Cutting System

- Use good quality fabric.
- Blades on some dies are positioned at an angle. Align the fabric parallel to the edge of the die shape.
- Keep scissors handy. Occasionally, a thread or two will remain where die blades meet. Snip with scissors.
- It's always a good idea to test cut one shape before cutting several to ensure fabric orientation is as desired.
- Place fabric on the die so the lengthwise grain is in the direction that the fabric moves through the AccuQuilt GO cutter.
- Up to 6 layers of cotton fabric may be cut at once.

### Fabric Preparation

Whether or not you pre-wash your fabrics, I recommend this “fabric prep” step to help add stability to the fabrics prior to cutting. This step is not related to cutting with AccuQuilt; the AccuQuilt cutter and die will cut the fabric beautifully! This step is related to piecing. In my opinion, this step is important to help diminish the likelihood of distorting the patchwork during piecing anytime one may be working with bias edges. I believe this step is especially important if you pre-wash your fabrics, as all of the sizing in the “off the bolt” fabric will have been washed away.

**Procedure:** Generously spray your fabrics (damp; not drippy wet) with Mary Ellen’s Best Press or other fabric sizing product. Press fabrics with a dry iron on cotton setting, then hang fabric to dry completely (or put fabric in the dryer for a few minutes on cotton heat setting). Once dry, press your fabric to remove any creases. Fabric prepped!

### AccuCutting With AccuQuilt

AccuQuilt Cutter



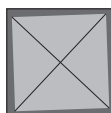
The die can move through manually-propelled AccuQuilt Die-Cutting machines in either direction (GO! Me; GO!, or Studio). If using the electric GO! Big machine, the die will be propelled through the machine in only one direction.

Die(s) & Cutting Mat(s)

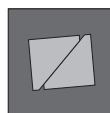
With the exception of the strip-cutting dies (because they have no cross-cutting blades), all the AccuQuilt dies are made so that the shape is on the die board at an angle so there are no big “blade bumps” for the rollers of the machine to move over. GO! dies all have blunted corners for easy alignment of patchwork pieces.

Always use the appropriate sized cutting mat for the die that is being used.

Dies from  
8” Mix & Match Qube

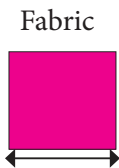


Qube die  
#4



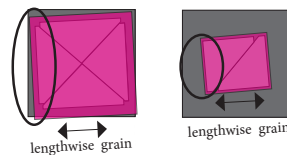
Qube die  
#5

Fabric, Grain, and  
Placement



The lengthwise grain of the fabric is placed in the direction the die moves through the machine.

Fabric positioned on die:



Note how the fabric is overlapping and is parallel to the die blade.

This is the direction that the die with fabric will go through the machine. The white die label is facing you as the die moves through the AccuQuilt cutter.

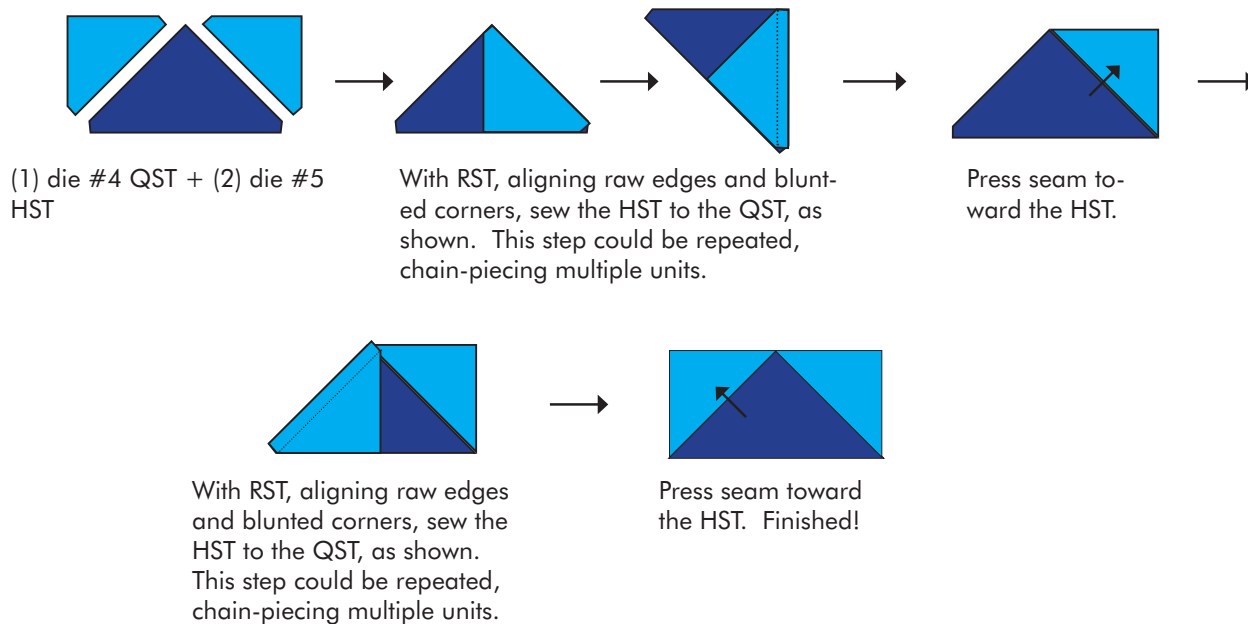
Rough-cut Fabric Sizes for GO! 8” Mix & Match Qube Flying Geese (Dies 4 & 5 ): 8” GO Qube creates a Flying Geese block that finishes at 2” x 4”.

Die #4: 5 3/4” square

Die #5: 3” crossgrain X 3 3/4” lengthwise grain

### Flying Geese Piecing and Pressing Plan

Each Flying Geese block is comprised of (1) Qube die #4 QST and (2) Qube die #5 HST from the same Mix & Match Block set. The blunted corners on the patchwork cut from these wonderful AccuQuilt dies make lining up the pieces for stitching SO easy!



### Rough-cut Fabric Sizes for Flying Geese Blocks from Mix & Match Qube Dies #4 & #5

	12"	10"	9"	8"	6"
<b>Die #4</b>					
Crosswise grain	7 3/4"	6 3/4"	3 1/4"	5 3/4"	4 3/4"
Lengthwise grain	7 3/4"	6 3/4"	5 1/2"	5 3/4"	4 3/4"
<b>Die #5</b>					
Crosswise grain	4"	4"	3 1/4"	3"	3"
Lengthwise grain	4 3/4"	4"	4"	3 3/4"	5 1/4"

Flying Geese Block (finished size) from GO! Qubes Mix & Match Block sets:  
No matter what size GO! Qube Mix & Match Block set is used, dies # 4 and 5 are always the dies needed to make Flying Geese units.

#### Mix & Match Block Set

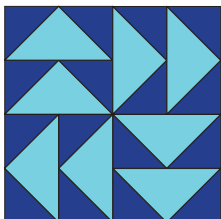
12"  
10"  
9"  
8"  
6"

#### Finished size Flying Geese Block

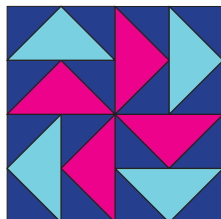
3 x 6"  
2 1/2" x 5"  
2 1/4" x 4 1/2"  
2" x 4"  
1 1/2" x 3"

### A Few Quilt Blocks Using Flying Geese Components

A Flying Geese block is often a unit in a larger block. When putting two same-sized Flying Geese blocks together, one on top of the other, the combination creates a square block. The Dutchman's Puzzle and Spinning Windmill blocks (below) are each made from eight Flying Geese blocks.



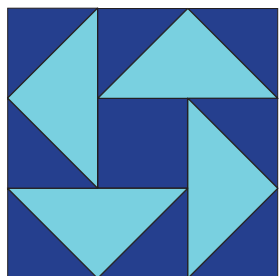
Dutchman's Puzzle



Spinning Windmill

The Dutchman's Puzzle and Spinning Windmill blocks are identical except for their coloration.

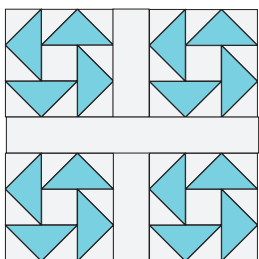
### Dizzy Geese Block



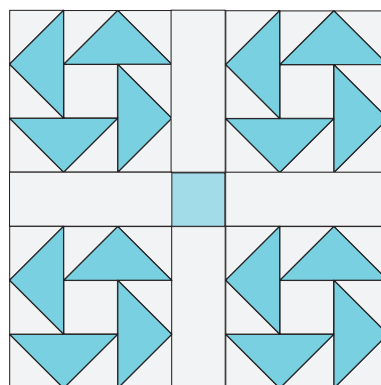
The Dizzy Geese block adds another shape to the mix: a center square. To make the Dizzy Geese block, use GO! Mix & Match Qube dies #2, #4, & #5. This block requires the use of a partial seam to construct. This is the block used in both of the sample quilts shown in the video. The smaller, dark-colored quilt was made from GO! Qube Mix & Match 8" Block set. The finished Flying Geese unit is 2" x 4", and the finished block size is 6" square. The GO! 2 1/2" (2" finished) Strip Cutter die (Item #55017) was used for the sashing and outer border strips, and the GO! Square 6 1/2" (6" finished) die was used to sub-cut some of the sashing strips placed between blocks.

The larger, light-colored quilt was made from GO! Qube Mix & Match 12" Block set (dies #2, #4, & #5). The finished Flying Geese unit is 3" x 6", and the finished block size is 9" square. The GO! 3 1/2" (3" finished) Strip Cutter die (Item # 55032) was used to cut the sashing strips and die #2 (the same die used to cut the center square in the quilt block) was used to cut the cornerstones. The GO! 2" (1 1/2" finished) Strip Cutter die (Item #55025) was used to cut the outer border strips.

There are no cornerstones in the smaller quilt, only sashing.



The larger quilt has sashing between the blocks, horizontally and vertically, and uses cornerstones at each intersection.



You can find GO! Qubes and other great AccuQuilt products at your local AccuQuilt Signature Retailer or at [accuquilt.com](http://accuquilt.com). Also at [accuquilt.com](http://accuquilt.com): educational videos and free patterns!!

Thank you for joining me for **Kelly Quilts With AccuQuilt! : Flying Geese from GO! Qubes**.  
Happy quilt-making!

*Kelly*

