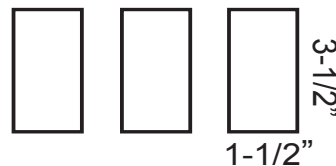


Is your 1/4" seam really a 1/4" seam?

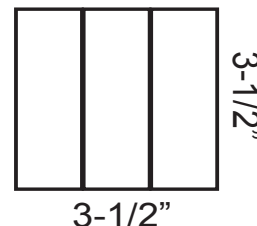
To help ensure quilting success, try this!

1. Using scraps, cut 3 rectangles that measure 1-1/2" wide x 3-1/2".long:



2. Sew them together, then press the seams in one direction.

3. Measure the results of your sewing and see if you need to adjust:



Does it measure exactly 3-1/2" wide?

If your sewn piece measures exactly 3-1/2" wide, you've made a 'perfect' quarter inch. This may vary by a thread-width from project to project, depending on the fabrics you are using, so it's a good idea to check at the beginning of a project.

Does it measure less than 3-1/2" wide?

If your sewn piece measures less than 3-1/2" wide, your seams are wider than 1/4". It may be just a thread-width or two, but you will want to adjust accordingly.

Does it measure more than 3-1/2" wide?

If your sewn piece measures more than 3-1/2" wide, your seams are narrower than 1/4". Again, it may be just a thread-width or two, but you will want to adjust accordingly.

Practice, practice, practice . . .

Repeat this exercise until you are satisfied with your 1/4" seam allowance. You'll be glad you did!