

5 Square Bow Tie Block

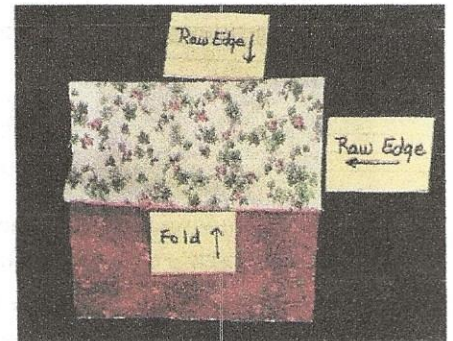
By Beth Scott

Start with 5 squares of Fabric - all the same size (this block can be done with any size squares as long as all 5 are the same size). 2 of the squares will be background fabric and 3 will be contrasting fabric (for the BowTie).



1. Fold one of the 3 contrasting squares in half – wrong sides together.

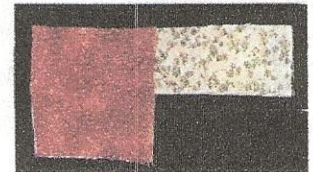
- Lay down one Background square *right* side up.
- Place folded Contrasting square over the top of Background square matching raw edges at top and on right side of square (folded edge of folded block should be in the middle of the background square).



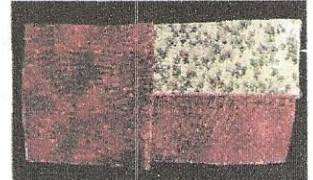
- Lay one contrasting square *right* side down on top of background and folded square matching up raw edges on top and at right side.
- Sew down R. side with ¼ inch seam allowance.



2. Fold the 2 large squares back leaving the folded square pointing towards the right.



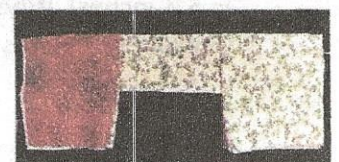
3. Take the 2nd Background block and place it right side up underneath the folded square matching the raw edges on the top and on the right side. (Which ever previously sewn large block is facing up at you on the left side is the color of block that goes underneath now.)



- Top with the last contrasting block, right side down, and match up raw edges.
- Sew ¼ inch seam down R. side.



- *If you fold both sides of big squares back, the folded block will make a bridge in the middle.



5 Square Bow Tie Block

By Beth Scott

4. Bring the top edges of the squares together matching the sides. Using your finger (or tool of your choice), open the folded square inside the seam so it matches with the top raw edges and has equal amounts on both sides of the center seam. Match the center seam (stagger seam and pin).



5. Start sewing a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam along the top of the squares from the Left side making sure the folded square is caught in the seam without puckering. You may have to adjust the inside folded square a few times to ensure it doesn't pucker and sews up smoothly.



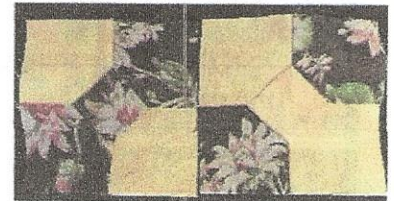
6. When you are finished sewing, open the block, press, and enjoy your 5 Square Bow Tie Block.



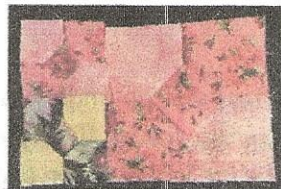
Variations:



1. Use a smaller size square for the center square.
2. Alternate bow tie colors in same project.



3. Mix small and large blocks.



4. Use $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles.



5. Make a Cathedral-type block using a center square $\frac{1}{2}$ inch smaller than the combined size of the other 4 blocks (i.e. if using a $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares to make block, make the center square $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. $3.5 + 3.5 = 7$. Take away $\frac{1}{2}$ inch = $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches). When sewing block together, leave $\frac{1}{4}$ inches unsewn at bottom of squares enabling you to build on the block.

