

2022 AQS Christmas Countdown with Janome



Block Thirteen: Wrapped with a Bow

Finished Block Size: 8½" x 8½" Unfinished Block Size: 9" x 9"

By Sarah Ann Smith

Supplies

Piecing thread

Optional: Add-A-Quarter Ruler

Your favorite Janome Sewing Machine

If you have it, the HP Acufeed foot and throat plate for the piecing

Printed Foundation Paper Piecing Bow pattern



Cutting Instructions

I am not a paper piecer, but this design called out for that process. I rough-cut wedges and triangles for the bow section at the top of the block before paper piecing. If your bow shapes and points come out a little different, that's fine!

As always, with this sort of piecing, it's good to use a shorter-than-usual stitch length. A shorter stitch makes it easier to remove the paper.

For paper piecing the Bow section, you'll need a fat eight or less of the background fabric.

For paper piecing the Ribbon, you'll need scraps of ribbon fabric at least 1½" wide. I cut my checked fabric on the bias to get the checks on the diagonal.

From the background fabric, cut:

(2) 1¾" x 4½" rectangles

(2) 1½" x 1¼" rectangles

From the table fabric, cut:

(1) 9" x 1¾" rectangle

From the box/lid fabric, cut:

(2) 3¼" x 4½" rectangles for the box

(2) 3½" x 1¼" rectangles for the lid

From the ribbon fabric, cut:

(1) 1" x 4½" rectangle

(1) 1" x 1¼" rectangle

Bow Instructions

Cut the bow pattern sections into five parts, keeping like numbers together. I worked on mine one section at a time. I pinned rough-cut segments, folding the paper out of the way and used an Add-A-Quarter Ruler to trim each piece, then sew them together with quarter inch seams. Be sure to leave extra fabric for the width on the end sections so you can center the bow on the box. Feel free to use the method that works best for you!



Notice that I cut my bow fabric on the bias to get nice diagonal squares.

The numbering in the diagram shows the sequence of stitching. Press the seams toward the bow fabric. Sew each numbered piece to the other pieces in that section, then join the five sections:

- Sew 1a to 1b. Press. Sew 1c to the right side and 1d to the left side. Press.
- Sew 2a to 2b. Press.
- Repeat with 3a and 3b.
- Sew 4a to 4b. Press. Then 4c to the right side and 4d to the left side. Press.
- Repeat with section 5.
- Sew the sections together: 5 is at the far left (do not trim the side of this section that runs along the edge of the block), then 3, then 1, then on the right section 2 and 4 (do not trim the side of this section that runs along the edge of the block).

Wait to trim the Bow unit until the bottom portion of the block is complete so the bow can be centered on the box.

Box, Lid & Table Instructions

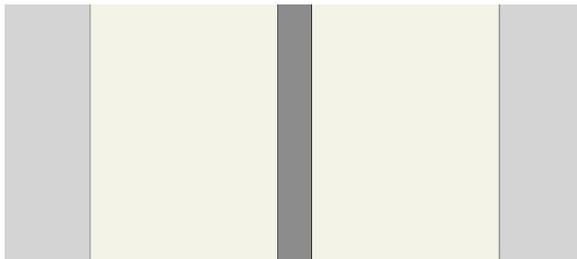
The lid, box, and table are traditionally pieced.

1. Sew a lid $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle to each side of the ribbon 1 " x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle, then sew a background $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle to each end as shown below. Press the seams toward the center of the block.



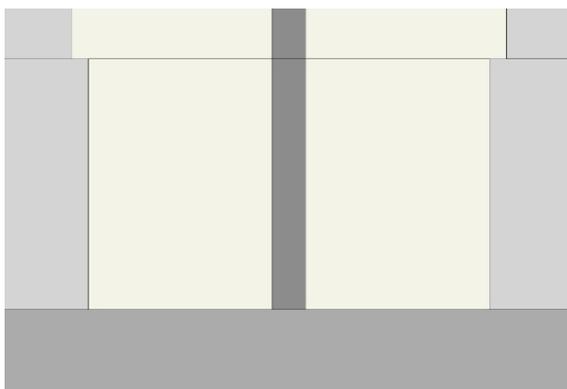
Lid unit measures 9 " x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle.

2. Sew a box $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to each side of the ribbon 1 " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle, then sew a background $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle to each end as shown below. Press the seams toward the outer edges of the block.



Box unit measures 9 " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle.

3. Sew the box unit to the lid unit, then sew the table 9 " x $1\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle to the bottom as shown below.



The traditionally pieced portion of the block measures 9 " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ " rectangle.

4. Center the Bow unit with the ribbon on the box, flip and pin right sides together. Sew the Bow unit to the block. If there is extra, trim the seam allowance for the Bow unit to match the lid.
5. Trim the block to 9" x 9" unfinished.

Wrapped with a Bow

