

Necktie BowTies

by Shelly Pagliai

Finished size 82" x 94"



Necktie BowTies is the first quilt created for the Necktie Social Project sponsored by Prairie Moon Quilts. It is made from men's neckties that were donated to the project, combined with a consistent background and border fabric. You can read more about the Necktie Social project on our website at: www.prairiemoonquilts.com

This quilt is a great way to use up scraps, or you can pick coordinating fabrics to make your own version. There are many possibilities for the block arrangement as well. I recommend that you read through all the instructions before beginning to cut and sew.

Materials Needed:

An assortment of scraps to equal 4 1/4 yards for the bowties

4 1/3 yards of background fabric, which is also used for the outer border (if you want a different border fabric, you'll only need 3 1/3 yards of background, and a separate 1-yard piece for the border)

1 1/2 yards for inner border and binding

9 yards of 44" wide fabric or 3 yards of 90"-wide quilt backing fabric

Queen Size (90" x 108") batting

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

From the outer border fabric, cut:

10 strips 3 1/2" wide by the width of the fabric (WOF)

From the inner border and binding fabric, cut:

10 strips 2 1/4" x WOF (for binding)

9 strips 2 1/2" x WOF (for inner border)

For each block, you will need to cut the following:

From the background fabric:

2 squares 3 1/2" x 3 1/2"

From the block fabric:

2 squares 3 1/2" x 3 1/2"

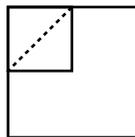
2 squares 1 3/4" x 1 3/4"

To make the quilt as shown, you will need 168 blocks.

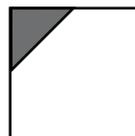
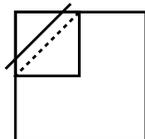
SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

All seam allowances are 1/4", unless otherwise specified.

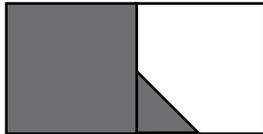
To each background 3 1/2" square, match up a print 1 3/4" square to a corner of it, right sides together. Stitch a diagonal line across the small square, as shown.



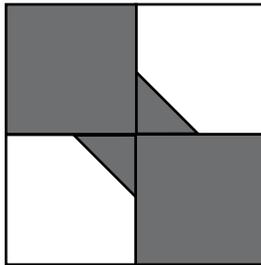
Trim off the excess 1/4" outside the stitched line. Press the little square out flat. You will make two units like this for each block.



Then join each of these units to a print square, as shown. Make two.



Join these two halves together to complete the block. Repeat for as many blocks as you'll need. The sample quilt uses 168 blocks.



The blocks in the sample quilt were set into 14 rows of 12. They are arranged in a barn-raising configuration. You can refer to the photo of the finished quilt for an idea on how to place them. However, there are many possibilities for how these blocks can be arranged, so feel free to make up your own design for setting them together.

Once you have them set together, it's time to add the borders.

To make the border strips, piece the strips together to make longer strips, then follow the steps below to add the border strips to the quilt.

Step 1: Measure the quilt (being careful not to pull or stretch) through the center from top to bottom. Make sure to measure very carefully. Cut two of the border strips to this length.

Step 2: Sew these 2 strips to the side edges of the quilt, easing the quilt to fit the border strip if necessary.

Step 3: Now measure the quilt through the center from side to side, including the border strips you just added. Cut the remaining two border strips to this length.

Step 4: Sew these 2 strips to the top and bottom edges of the quilt, easing the quilt to fit the border strips, if necessary.

Step 5: Repeat this process for your outer borders, and any additional borders you may wish to add.

You are now ready to layer and baste the quilt and quilt it with the design of your choice. The sample quilt was machine quilted with an all-over stipple design. Use the strips you cut in the beginning to bind the quilt when finished. And don't forget to add a label!

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