

ABC EMBROIDERED *Baby Blocks*

BY SHANNON MILLER

Looking for a special baby gift? These ABC baby blocks are as simple as one, two, three! Select prints and colors that coordinate with your recipient's nursery for a keepsake toy that is sure to "wow" at the baby shower.



What you need:

- > Embroidery templates (available in Templates & Techniques section at the end of this issue)
- > Cotton fabric, prints and solids (samples shown use prints from "Crazy Love" by Sis Boom with coordinating solids)
- > Thin cotton batting
- > Fiberfill
- > Thread
- > Embroidery floss
- > Embroidery needle
- > Pins
- > Blue water-soluble marker
- > Temporary basting spray (such as Sulky KK2000)
- > Scissors
- > Rotary cutter
- > Cutting mat
- > Ruler
- > Iron
- > Point turning tool or dull knitting needle
- > Sewing machine

How to create:

All seams are $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Instructions are for creating one baby block. Repeat to create a set of three.


1. Use provided template to trace embroidery design onto solid fabric with blue water-soluble marker. Stitch design with two strands of embroidery floss. Moisten to remove blue marker and press.
2. Cut embroidered fabric into a 5-inch square so that embroidered design is centered on square. Cut various print fabrics into five 5-inch squares. Cut thin cotton batting into six 5-inch squares.
3. Adhere each 5-inch fabric square to a 5-inch square of batting using temporary basting spray (such as Sulky KK2000). NOTE: *You will treat each piece as one during rest of block construction. Backing cotton fabric with batting will ensure a smoother finish when block is stuffed with fiberfill.*
4. Place one print square on top of embroidered square with right sides together and sew together along left or right edge. Repeat on opposite edge of embroidered square and press seams open (fig. 1).
5. Sew print squares to top and bottom edges of embroidered square as described in step 4; press seams open (fig. 2).
6. Place remaining print square on top of bottom print square with right sides together and bottom edge aligned. Sew together along bottom edge and press seam open (fig. 3).
7. As labeled in figure 3, place side A to side B with right sides together. Sew together along edge. Repeat to sew side B to side C; side C to side D; and side D to side A.
8. Your piece should now resemble an inside-out box with a flap. Maneuver piece so that right sides of top and side edges are together and sew together, leaving an opening along one edge for turning (fig. 4).
9. Turn block right side out, using a point turner or dull knitting needle to push out seams and corners. Stuff with fiberfill until fairly firm.
10. Stitch opening closed by hand. 



FIGURE 1

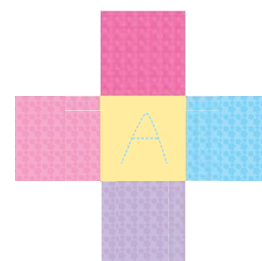


FIGURE 2

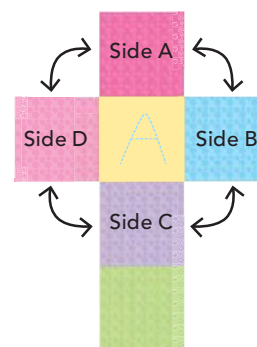


FIGURE 3

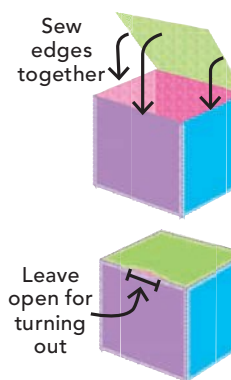


FIGURE 4

