

# Exploding Block

For instructions to make an Exploding Block quilt using Layer Cakes, please refer to the tutorial on the Missouri Star Quilt Company Website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHV-x4e500s>

**For each 6 1/2" block you will need:**

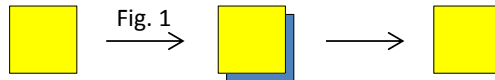
Two (2) 4" squares

One (1) 5" square

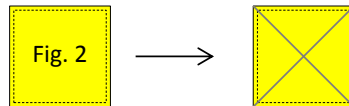


**Directions:**

1. Place two 4" squares of contrasting fabrics, right sides together. (Fig 1)

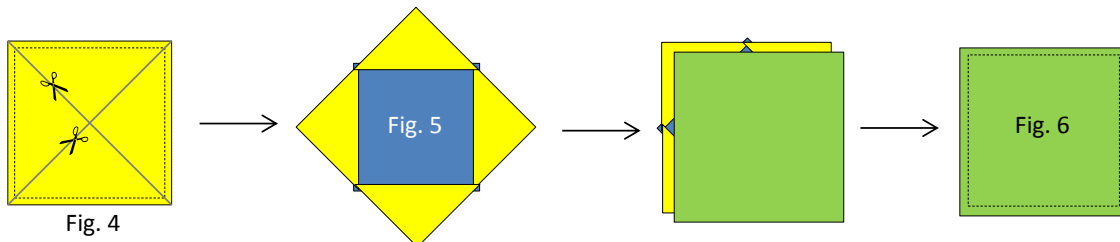


2. Sew a 1/4" seam, all the way around all four edges. You can pivot at the corner or sew off the end of each side – whatever you prefer. (Fig 2)

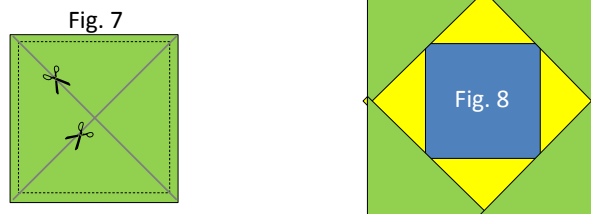


3. Decide which square will be your center square of the block and then draw two diagonal lines from corner to corner on the opposite side. In this example, the blue square will be the center of the block so we will draw an "X" on the yellow square. (Fig 3)

4. Pull the fabrics apart so that you can easily cut ONLY the marked side being careful not to accidentally catch the underside fabric square (blue square) as you are cutting. Cut on the pencil lines all the way to the corners. (Fig 4)



5. Press all 4 sides open. You will now have a 5" block, set on point. (Fig 5)
6. Put the 5" square, right sides together with the 5" block you just created. Sew a 1/4" seam all the way around the edge as in Step 2. Use the 5" square as your guide for your 1/4" seam if your "square in a square block" is a little smaller than 5" square. (Fig 6)



7. Repeat Step 3 and draw the "X" again, corner to corner and cut on the pencil line. (Fig 7) Press open. (Fig 8) Your block should now measure approximately 6 1/2".
8. If you would like to continue "exploding" your block, simply measure the size of the block you just pressed open and cut another contrasting square the same size. (For this block you would add a 6 1/2" square.) Then repeat the process in Steps 2-5.