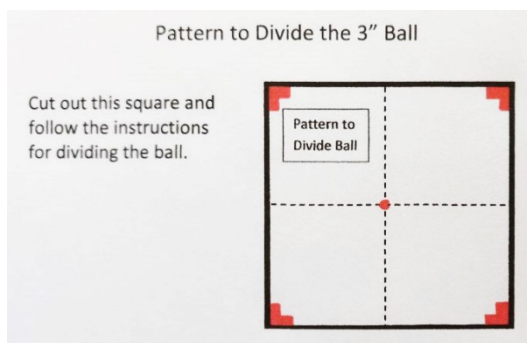


Picture Ornaments

Dividing the Ball

To make an all-fabric “picture” ornament, you will begin by dividing your 3” Styrofoam or Smoothfoam™ ball. This is an important step to help you keep your triangles straight on both sides of your ornament when viewing it from the side band.

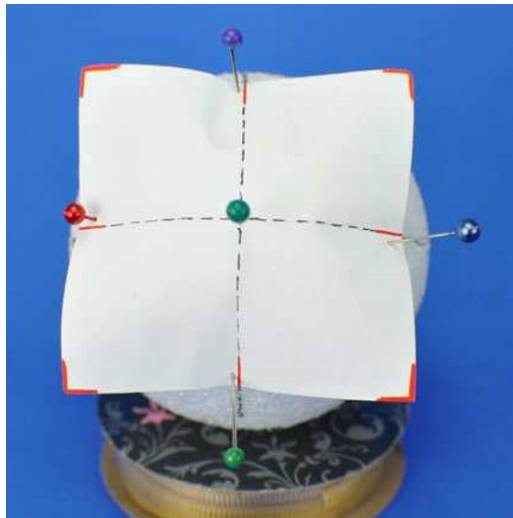


Use a paper pattern, as shown in this example, to help you divide your ball into 8 sections. This square paper pattern is 2.5” X 2.5”.

You will need a string, and a leather string works best, to draw the lines on your ball using a felt tip pen. If you don't

have a leather string, you can use a rubber band.

Draw a dot, using your felt tip pen, anywhere on your ball, and make that the Center Dot. If you are using a Smoothfoam™ ball, make your Center Dot on the opposite end of the hole in the ball.



Line up the center of the square with your Center Dot using a pin and pin each side to the ball.

Draw 8 small lines on the ball following the lines on the paper pattern and the corners of the pattern.

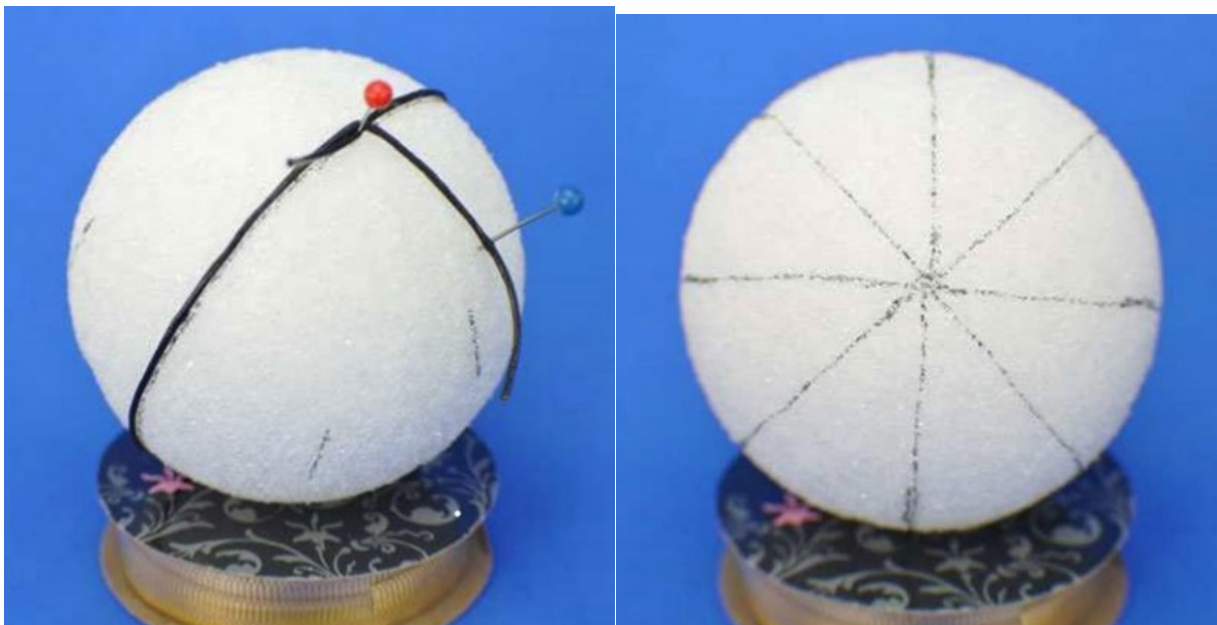


Wrap the string around the entire ball to find the diameter of the ball and then cut it in half. Tape or pin one end of

the half string to the Center Dot and wrap around the ball to make an “X” at the opposite end of the bottom of the ball.



Now wrap another string around the entire ball, starting at the Center Dot and following the “mark lines” you made and passing through the “X” at the bottom of the ball. Using your felt tip pin, draw along the side of the string. Do this 8 times, following the small “mark lines” you have drawn, until you have divided the ball into 8 sections.





Picture ornaments are created using fabric circles that are about 4" in diameter. Most often a picture is placed on each side of the ornament. You can use the same picture on each side or different images. It is important that the image you want to feature on your 3" ball, be only about 2 1/2" in diameter, even though your inner circle will be 3".

The following pictures are examples of several different "Picture" ornaments.





I like to use a roll of blue painter's tape that's about 1/2" thick. This makes for a great template that is easy to trace around your fabric with a pen or pencil.

The area inside the template ring is the area that will show when your ornament is complete.



Once you find a picture that you want to use, find the center point of that picture and place your template ring on top of the fabric picture. Trace the outside of the template and cut the picture circle out. Once I do this, I like to make a photocopy of the fabric so I can divide the circle into 8 sections by drawing lines on my paper template. You want to do this so you can keep your picture straight on your ball. These lines will follow the lines that you have drawn on your ball when you divided the ball.

Now that you have chosen your picture, you will want to cut out two – 2 1/2" felt squares. One to go behind each picture. You need this felt square for two reasons. First, so you won't see the lines you have drawn on your ball through the fabric. Second, to smooth out the picture, especially if you are using rough-textured

Styrofoam. If my picture fabric is dark, I use a dark felt square and if the picture is a light fabric, I use a white felt square.



Start by folding your 2 1/2" felt square in half and then in half again to find the center, represented by the white pin in the center of the picture. Line up the fold lines on the felt with the lines you have drawn on your ball. The white pin you see in the picture is placed on the "center dot" and will eventually be removed. Smooth over the ball and secure your felt square with one pin

on each corner.

Following your paper template, find the center of your fabric picture and line it up with the center dot on the felt square. In this picture, you can see the felt square under the circle.

You will use your thumb to smooth out the fabric circle on the ball and



you be using about 50 to 60 straight pins to form and secure your circle over the ball. Start by placing a pin at every other line. Remember, your template lines need to follow the lines on your ball to keep your picture straight.

The picture to the left shows the first 4 pins that are placed on the lines drawn on your ball.

Next, you will place a pin on the other 4 lines drawn on the ball until you have 8 pins around the circle to secure the picture. Push the pins into the ball.



Continue to place pins around the edge of the circle, smoothing the circle out until you have placed about 50 to 60 pins around the edge of the picture. You want to smooth it out so you don't have puckers in the fabric around your picture area. Do this on both sides.



TIP: Make sure when you place your picture on the other side, you have it going in the same direction. So, before you place your 50+ pins, make sure you have it straight with the picture on the other side.

Once you have your pictures in place, you will be adding 2 or 3 layers of 8 triangles on each side. I place my layers about 1/8" to 1/4" apart. I don't measure these layers, I just eyeball them. It is most important when you place your layers around your picture, that you follow the drawn lines on your ball with the lines on your paper template.

The first layer is the most important and I place a triangle at the top of the ball and then at the bottom of the ball and then one triangle on each side. I hold the ornament up to look at it to see that I have these triangles straight. Sometimes a little adjustment can be made to make sure they are all straight.

Materials

To create the triangles around this picture ornament, you will use folded rectangle-shaped fabric that measures $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and 3" long. If you are using 2 layers on each side, you will need 16 triangles of two different fabrics, preferably two different solid fabrics, plus a band that is the same color as your first layer. If you want 3 layers on each side, you will need 32 triangles the same color as your band, and 16 triangles in a contrasting color.

For the band, cut a piece of the same solid fabric that is in the first layer closest to the picture, 2" wide and at least $10\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Your band, when folded, will measure $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide.

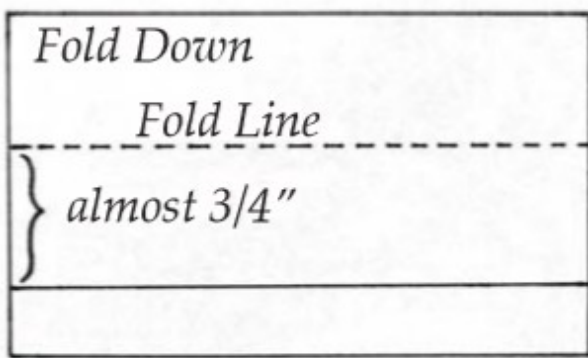
I like to use a double band to add a little shadow to the band. In this case, make the bottom or shadow band 2" wide and at least $10\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Folded, this band will be $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. The top band will be made from fabric that is $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and at least $10\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Folded this band will be $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide and will be the same color as your first layer closest to the picture in a 3-layer ornament. If you are doing a 2-layer ornament, the top band will be the same color as layer #2.

It is best to use a light to medium weight cotton fabric to make all the triangles in your ornament. To create the bow with hanger, you will want two different ribbons that coordinate with your chosen fabrics. I recommend using $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide ribbon for the bottom bow and $\frac{1}{4}$ " for the top bow and hanger.

To complete your No-Sew quilted picture ornament, you will need about 350+ Flat Head Straight Pins, all $1\frac{1}{6}$ " long. When using the solid Smoothfoam™ balls, you may find it easier to use Sequin Pins that are shorter, about $\frac{3}{4}$ " long. Don't use the $\frac{5}{8}$ " Sequin Pins as they are difficult to pick up and handle with ease.

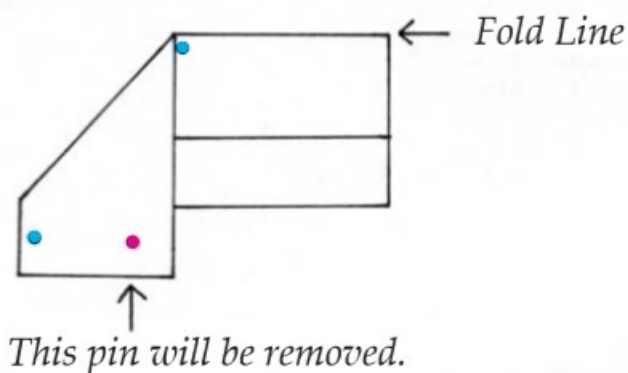
You will need a small pair of scissors, a small ruler (metal sewing gauge works great), and a metal thimble to help you push the pins into the ball.

Folding A Triangle



Fold over your rectangle fabric piece almost $3/4$ ".

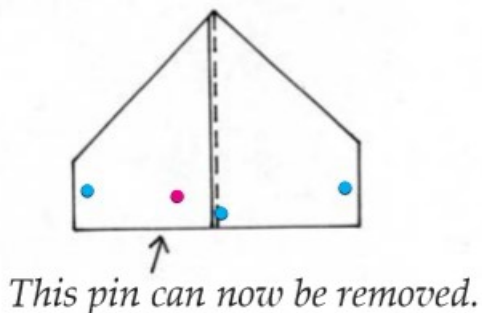
Press the fold line with your fingers. No need to measure with your ruler as it does not need to be exact measurements.



Once you have folded over the top half of the rectangle, fold again from edge to edge to find the center. Push your pin through the folded fabric at the center fold, about $1/16$ " down from the folded edge. That pin will be pushed into the ball that will create the point of each triangle.

Next, fold the left side or right

side down to start your triangle. This depends on whether you are left-handed or right-handed as to which side you fold first. It makes no difference, so do what is best and comfortable for you.



To complete the triangle, place a temporary pin at the bottom of the side you folded first (red pin in photo), then fold over the other side. Notice that you will be overlapping the fabric just slightly along the center line. For this reason, you will only need to use one pin to hold

the fabric together at the center bottom of the triangle. When you do this, your pin at the top point of the triangle will not show. To secure each triangle, place a

pin on each lower corner (blue dots) and remove the pin (red dot) that held the fabric in place on the first fold. This is how you will complete each triangle as you work each layer of your ornament.

Layer #1



As illustrated in this picture, place your first 4 triangles around the picture, lining up the center fold of each triangle with the lines drawn on your ball. If you are designing your own ornament, where you place the first four triangles is really up to how you want the ornament to look. It is very important that these triangles are straight across from each other and I

make the point of each triangle the same distance from the center dot. Notice the pin in “Rudolph’s” eye, that is the center dot. You can remove that pin when you have placed the complete first layer of 8 triangles.



Secure all four triangles with pins.

Next, place the last four triangles between your first four triangles lining them up with the black lines on the ball.



Secure all 8 triangles with pins and do the same on the other side.

Layer #2



Layer #3

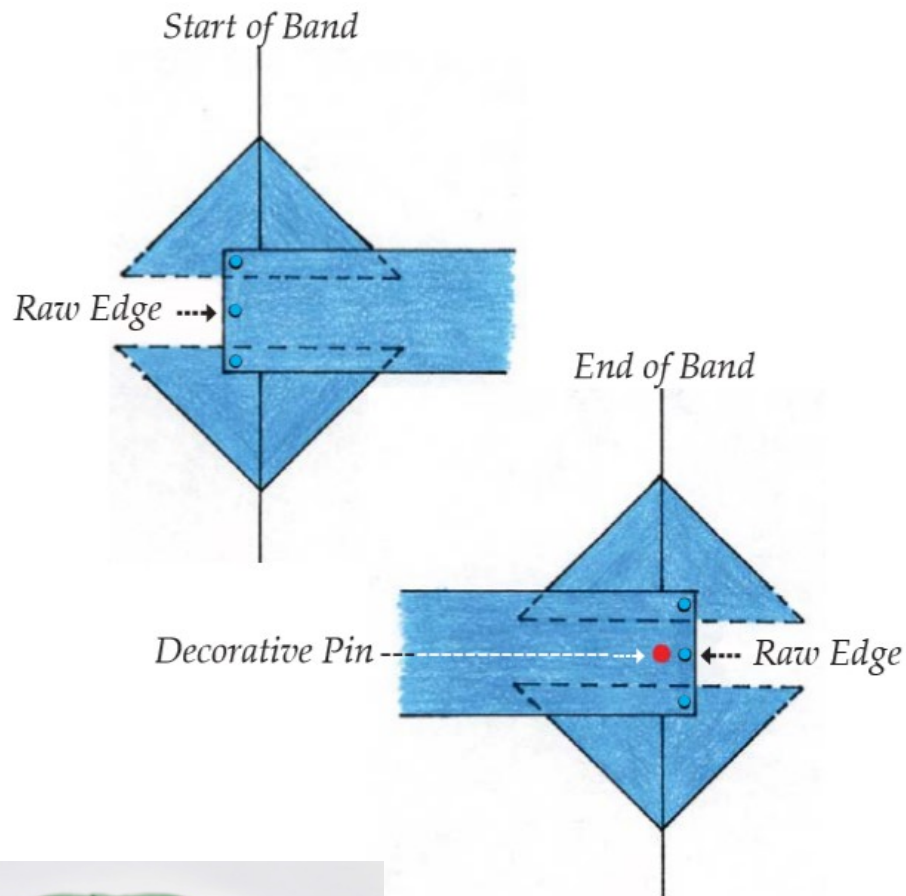


When making each layer of 8 triangles, do one side and then the same on the other side before going on to the next layer. With layer #2 and #3, sometimes you will need to trim the fabric at the bottom of each triangle. I trim as I make each fold.

Each layer is about 1/4" from the previous layer and I just eye-ball the distance between each layer when making my ornament.

The Bands

Once you have completed all of your triangle layers, you are ready to apply the band or double bands. This “Rudolph” ornament has a double band. The band is placed around the center to cover your pins showing in your last layers on each side. Find the top of your ornament to start your bands.



Your bottom shadow band will be $\frac{3}{4}$ " when folded. To make sure you have your measurements exact on these bands, I use my iron and ironing board along with my sewing ruler as I make each fold. To make your band $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, fold one side over $\frac{5}{8}$ " and the other side over $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Next, fold the top band from your fabric that is $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and at least $10\frac{1}{2}$ " long. This top band will be $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide. Fold one side between $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Then fold the other side $\frac{1}{2}$ " and that will create a band that is $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide.

Follow the illustration above and place 3 pins to secure your band. Pull the bands around your ornament, making sure you keep the bands in the center between the triangles. Extend the band about $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the center at the top of the ornament and secure with 3 more pins.

The Bows

Included with most ornament kits on my website, are two ribbons for the bows that will adorn the top of each ornament. The bottom ribbon is $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and I



include one yard. For the top bow, I use ribbon that is $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide and I also include one yard plus a few extra inches for the hanger. I cut my hangers $6\frac{1}{2}$ " long before I fold it into a circle and pin it. Some people like a fuller bow, but I prefer to use about 24" to 26" for my bottom bow and even less for the top bow. You want your bows to accent and adorn your ornament, not overpower it.

I start with one continuous piece of ribbon and create six loops, pinning each loop, one at a time, and make three loops on each side. I like this method because I want the bows to look the same on each ornament.



Sometimes pushing a pin through several layers of grosgrain ribbon is difficult. If I have that problem, I use a push pin first to break through the layers of ribbon to start my holes for the straight pins.



Congratulations!



You have now completed your beautiful quilted picture ornament!

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