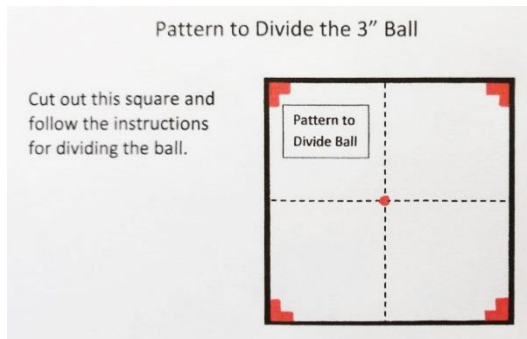


Ribbon Ornaments

4-Layer Quilted Ornament

Dividing the Ball

To make an ornament using all-ribbon, or ribbon and fabric combined, 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.

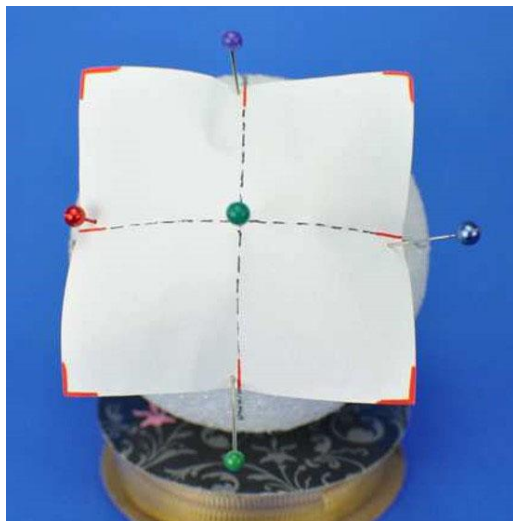


Use a paper pattern, as shown in this example, to help you divide your ball into 8 sections. This square paper pattern is 2.5" X 2.5".

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.



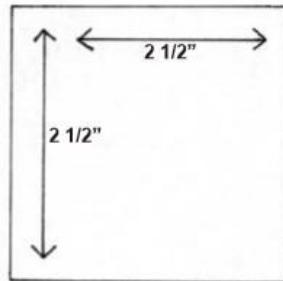
Now wrap another string around the entire ball, starting at the Center Dot and following the “mark lines” you made and passing through the “X” at the bottom of the ball. Using your felt tip pin, draw along the side of the string. Do this 8 times, following the small “mark lines” you have drawn, until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



“Traditional” vs. “Better Way” Methods

There are two ways to make quilted ornaments using fabric or ribbon. When creating ribbon ornaments, many times you will use both the “Traditional” method and what I call the “Better Way” method to make your triangles. Both methods create the same triangles and look the same when finished. A 4-layer ornament consists of 32 triangles using a patterned fabric or ribbon and 24 solid colored triangles.

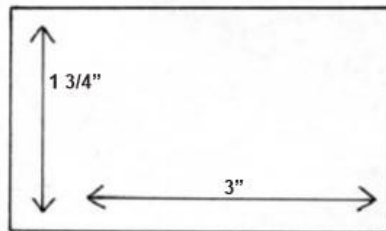
Traditional Way:



A triangle made in the “Traditional Way” method uses a square that is $2\frac{1}{2}"$ X $2\frac{1}{2}"$.

When using ribbon with a curly or flat edge to create this square, you will need to cut off the edges. This will make your square about $2\frac{1}{4}"$ X $2\frac{1}{2}"$.

Better Way:

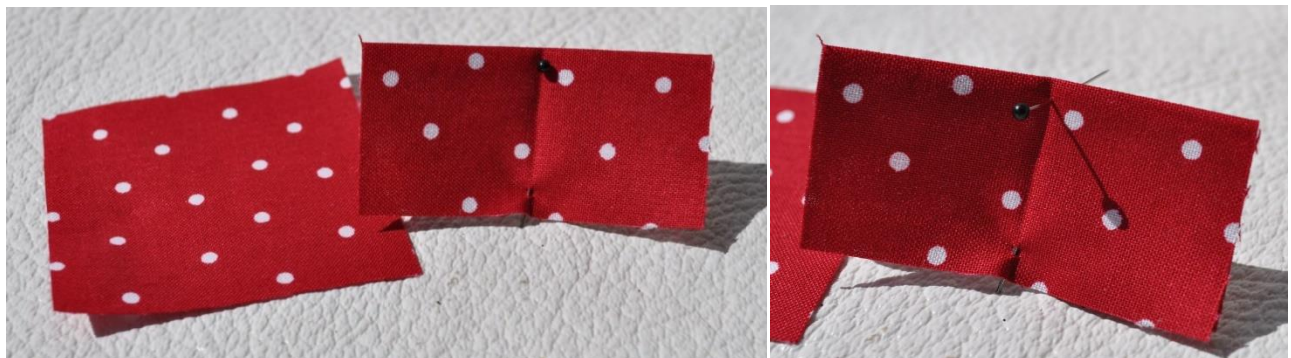


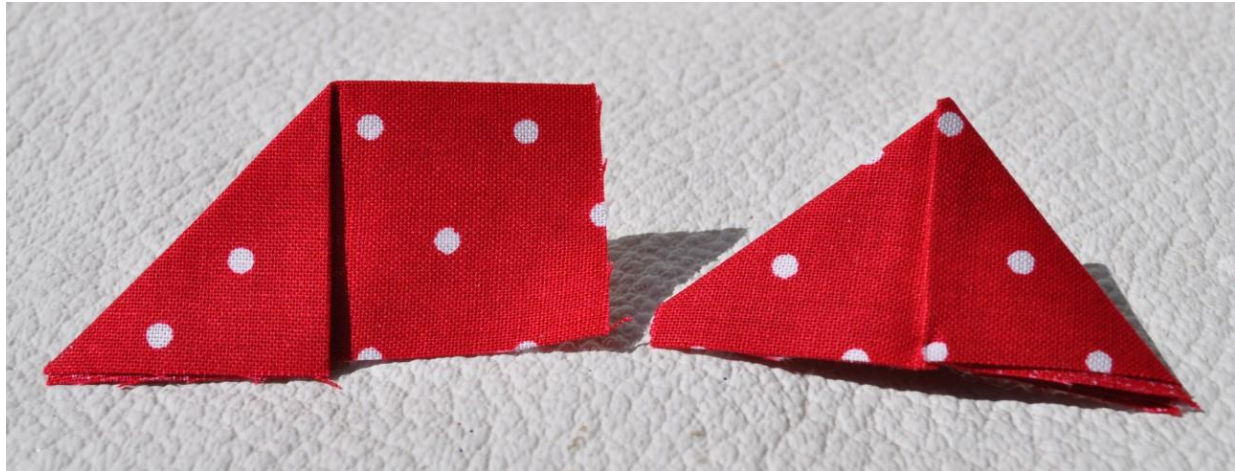
When using fabric or ribbon, the “Better Way” method uses a rectangle that is $1\frac{3}{4}"$ wide and $3"$ long to create the triangle. When using ribbon,

you may need to cut off the edges, and that will reduce the width of the ribbon. The “Better Way” rectangle can be as narrow as $1\frac{1}{4}"$ wide X $3"$ long. If this is the size of your ribbon, you would only fold under $1/4"$.

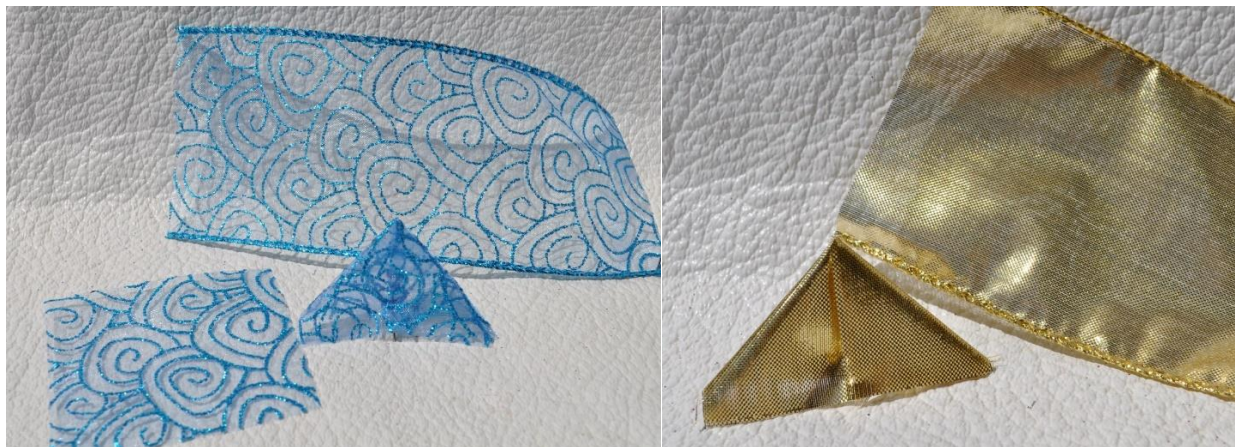
“Traditional” Method

This is an example of a “Traditional” $2\frac{1}{2}"$ square folded into a triangle.



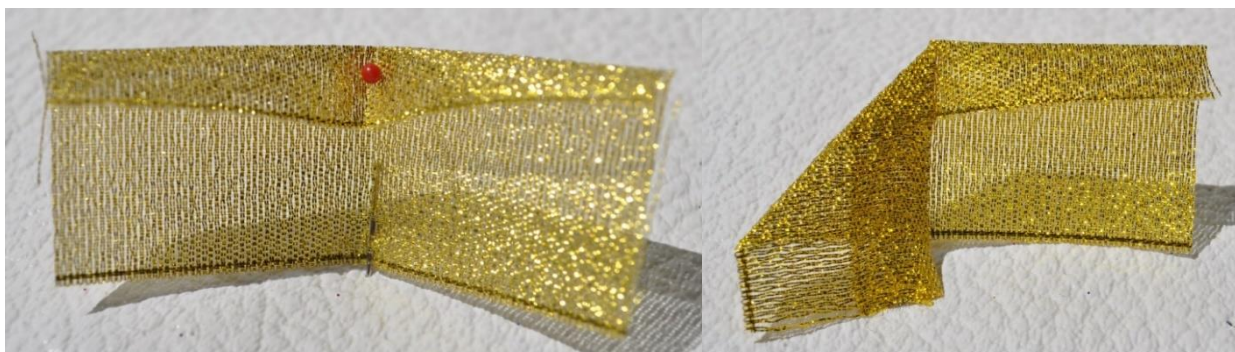


The next two photos show a 2 1/2" wide ribbon used in the "Traditional" method. The curly edge of each side of the ribbon has been cut off.

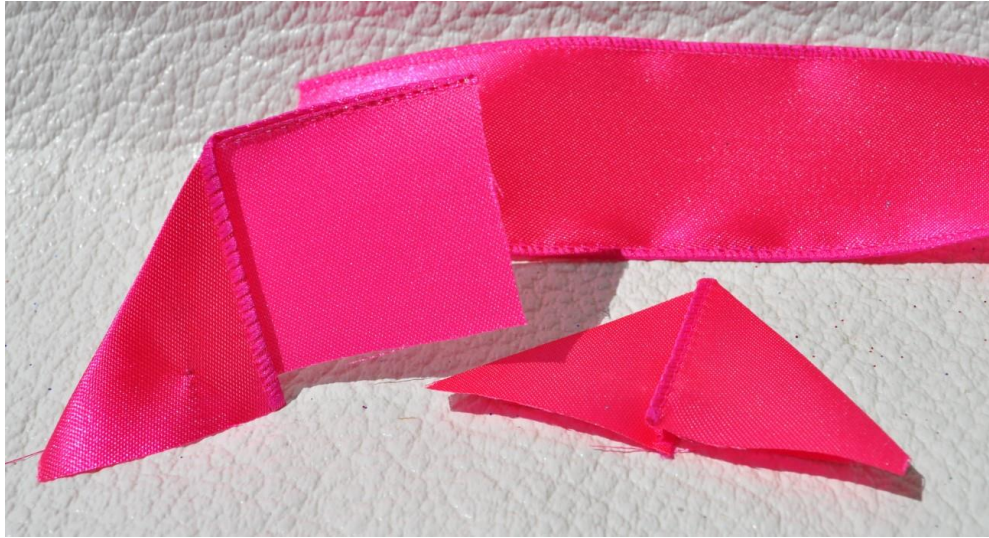


"Better Way" Method

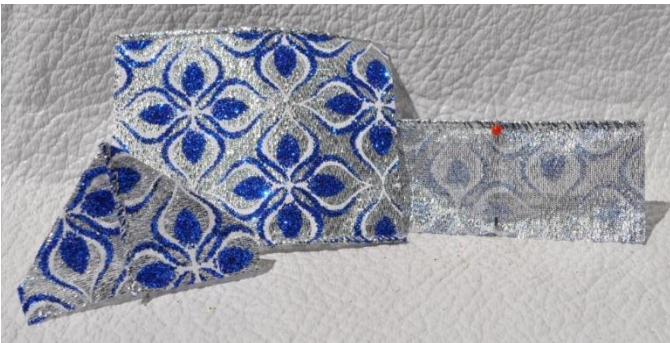
An example of 1 1/2" wide ribbon folded like fabric. The top is folded over 3/8". The red pin shows where you would place your flat-head pin.



In this photo, the pink ribbon is an example of a 1 1/2" wide satin ribbon folded the "Better Way" method. The wire has been removed and the curly edge has been cut off on one side.



This photo shows an example of where you will place your pins when using the "Traditional" and "Better Way" methods. Notice that you only use one pin to secure the folded curly edge at the base of the triangle.



These two photos are an example of a 2 1/2" wide ribbon with a wired curly edge. This is very common in high-quality ribbons. The first photo shows the front of the triangle and the second photo shows the back side of the triangle.



Remove the wire and cut the wide ribbon in half and then each piece should be cut 3" long. Notice how the pin is placed just below the curly edge

on the middle fold. The red ball pin is used only as an example of where you will place your flat-head pin.

If you are working with a really thin mesh ribbon, as many of the solid gold ribbons are, catch a little of the threads of the curly edge with your pin. This will help secure the pin from pulling out.

Ribbon Materials



Ribbon comes in all sizes and textures. The widest ribbon in these photos is 2 1/2" wide and the narrow ribbon is only 1 1/2" wide. The solid blue ribbon in front comes from a discount store and is only 2" wide. This 2" wide ribbon should only be used as "squares" that will be placed behind layer #1.



The most important feature in deciding how to use your ribbon is the edge of the ribbon. This blue glitter ribbon is 2 1/2" wide and the edge is a thick flat wired metal that must be cut off. When the silver edge is removed the size of the square will be about 2 1/8" X 2 1/4". This ribbon can be folded using the "Traditional" method.

TIP: Most decorative ribbons at your local craft store, such as Hobby Lobby or Michaels, comes on a roll that is 2 1/2" wide by 30' long. There are 360" in a 30' roll. For the patterned ribbon design (layer #2 and #4),

when using the “Better Way” method, you need about 63” (59” plus 4” extra for cutting). A 30’ roll will give you a little over 5 1/2 ornaments. If you used that same 30’ roll and made your ornament using the “Traditional” method, you would need 95” (91” plus 4” extra for cutting). That same roll would only make a little over 3 1/2 ornaments.

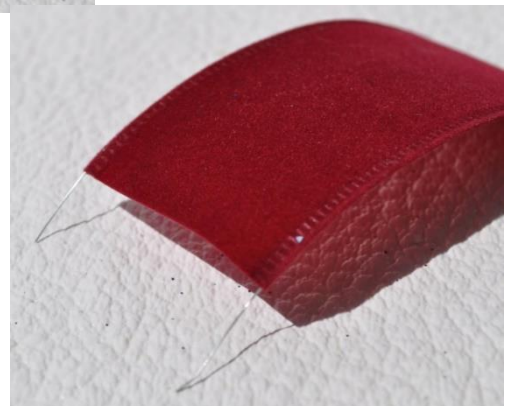
For the solid color ribbon using a 30’ roll and making it from the “Better Way” method, you would need 45” (36” plus 5” for two squares and 4” extra for cutting). A 30’ roll would make 8 ornaments. If you used the same 30’ roll and made your ornament using the “Traditional” method, you would need 70” of solid ribbon (60” plus 5” for two squares and 5” extra for cutting). This ribbon roll would only make a little over 5 ornaments.

You can see why the “Better Way” method will allow you to get more ornaments from your expensive rolls of ribbon. A 30’ roll might cost around \$10. Rolls of ribbon from discount stores cost less, but usually only come in 18ft rolls.



Look at these examples of ribbon with a flat edge. The pink and the blue ribbon have the flat silver edge that needs to be cut off. You would fold these narrow ribbons using the “Better Way” method.

The green and red velvet ribbon has flat edges but doesn’t need to be cut off because the edges are soft. Remove the thin wire and fold them using the “Better Way” method, just as you would fabric.





This is an example of a ribbon folded in the “Better Way” method with the edges cut off. It is folded just like the fabric rectangles, but since this ribbon is now only 1 1/4” wide, you would only fold over about 1/4”.

To complete your No-Sew quilted ornament, you will need about 250+ Flat Head Straight Pins, all 1 1/6” long. Use quality pins! Cheap pins from China that you often find on eBay in large quantity, are more like small thin nails and you don’t want to have to use a hammer!



If you use the solid Smoothfoam™ balls, you may find it easier to use Sequin Pins that are shorter, about 3/4” long. Don’t use the 1/2” or 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. I like to make my ornaments on my pillow table that I bought on Amazon. It includes a cup holder that’s perfect to hold the ball!



Let’s Make an Ornament!

I am going to show you, step-by-step, how to make this beautiful all-ribbon ornament!



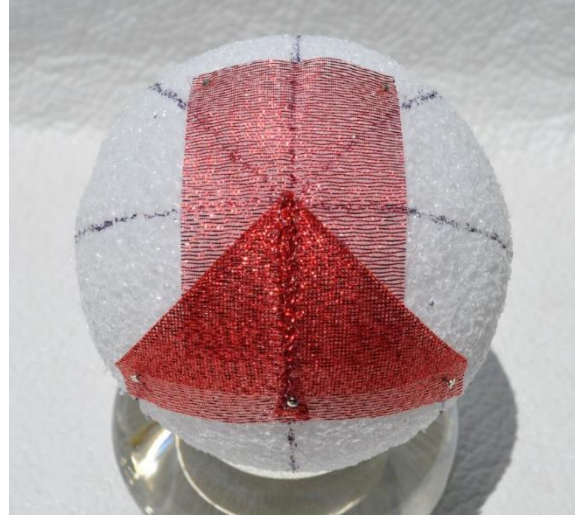
This is called a 4-layer ornament and ribbon ornaments look best when you use 4 layers. Layer #1 is the red ribbon and I call that the “Star.” You will need 8 pieces of red ribbon with a curly edge. Layer #2 is the patterned ribbon and you will need 32 pieces with the curly edge, plus a matching band that is 2” wide and 10 1/2” to 11” long. Layers #1, #2, and #4 will use the “Better Way” method. Layer #3 is the green ribbon and it is cut using the 2 1/2” square, known as the “Traditional” method. I made this ornament on a 3” Styrofoam ball.

These are the ribbon rolls that I used, but notice something very unique about this beautiful ribbon. The curly edge on one side of the patterned ribbon is red and the other side is green. This is why I chose to use a red and green solid ribbon. Notice I placed the green curly edge against the solid red ribbon and the red curly edge against the solid green ribbon.



TIP: Be very careful when working with ribbon. Most ribbon does not need to be ironed. If it does, use very low heat. Ribbon will melt in a second!

The first step is to divide your ball as shown at the beginning of this pattern. This step is very important to keep your triangles straight on both sides when viewing from the side of the band. I like to make layer #1 and #2 on one side and turn the ball over and do the same on the other side. Then I make layer #3 on each side and last, I make layer #4 on each side.



With fabric ornaments, you place a 2 1/2" square on each side under layer #1, but ribbon comes in several sizes and you want the "square" to be the same material as layer #1.

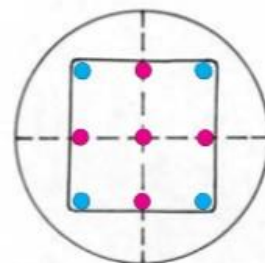
Here are examples of different sizes of "squares." The yellow is a 2 1/2" fabric square and the other

examples are all different sizes of ribbon, but are referred to as "squares."

To begin creating your ornament, take one of the ribbon "squares" and fold it in half and then in half again until you have found the center of the square. The square will be placed behind layer #1 on both sides to prevent the Styrofoam from showing, just in case you don't get the 4 triangles close enough together at the center dot in layer #1.

Now that you have folded your "square," place a pin in the center and secure all 4 corners, as shown in the illustration.

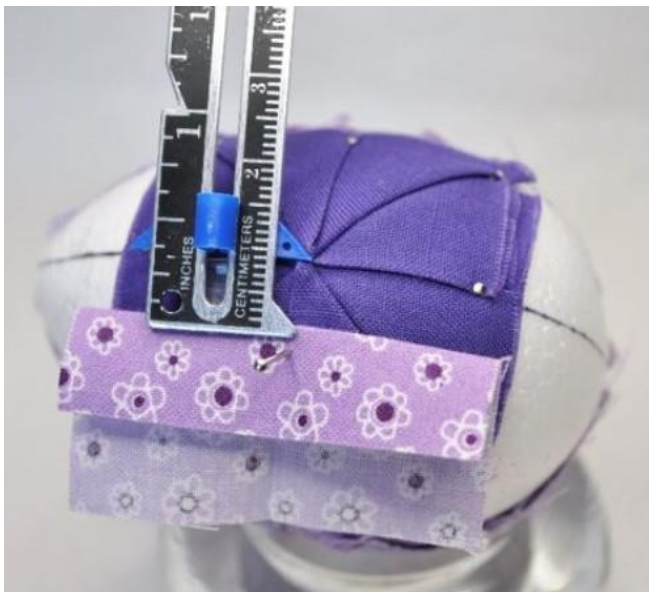
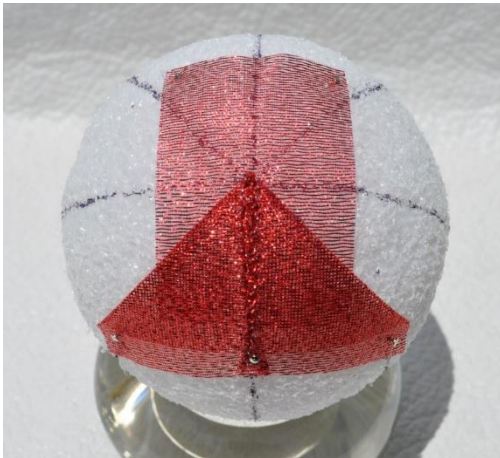
- Pins that will be removed.
- Pins to be left in the ball.



Leave the pin in the center where all 4 points of each triangle will come together in layer #1. Once you have placed your first triangle, you can remove the center pin. I refer to this center as the “center dot.” Notice how you will line up your “square” with the lines you have drawn on your ball.

Layer #1

When you start to place your first triangle, remove your “center dot” pin and in that same hole, put your pin that holds the point of your triangle. Now turn your ball around and place another triangle on the opposite side. When placing my triangles, I often overlap the point of each triangle so I can get that first layer close together. Once you have completed layer #1, we will do layer #2 before starting the other side. Notice how the center fold of each triangle follows the lines on your ball.

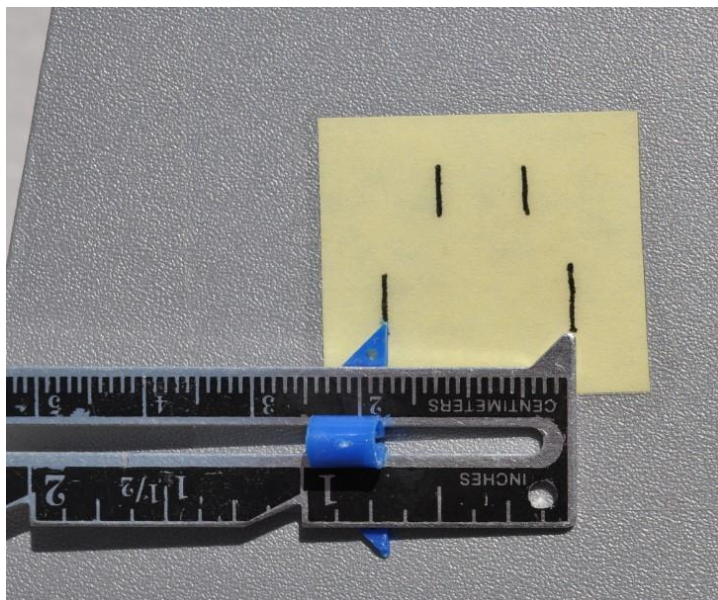
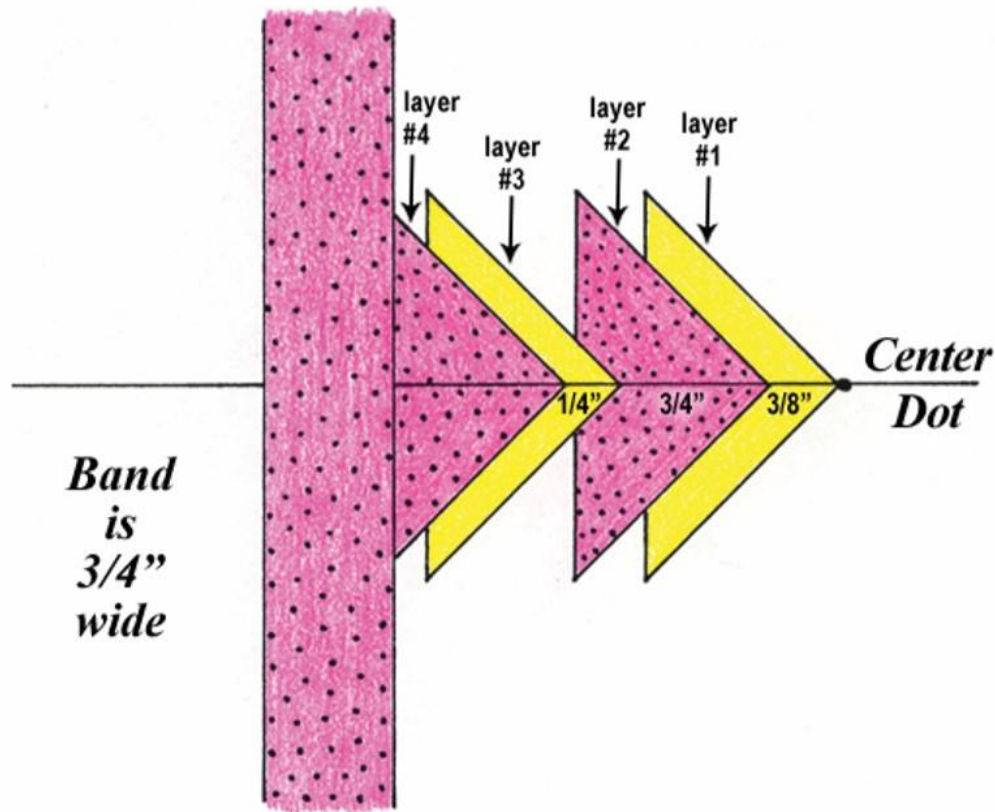


TIP: How to Measure Between Layers

This photo shows you an example of how to measure between each layer using your sewing gauge ruler. Even though the ruler is overlapping the folded fabric, when the triangle is completed, the desired measurement will be perfect. This is the same with fabric or ribbon ornaments.

Your 4-layer ornament will be created using the following measurements on each side.

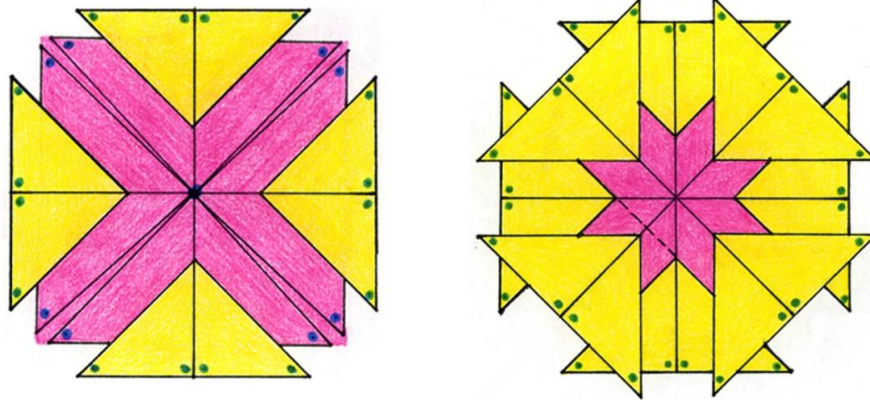
Measurements for the 4-layer ball:



TIP: In my pattern booklet, I show the measurement for layer #2 to be 5/8" for the "Traditional" method and 3/4" for the "Better Way" method.

Since writing that pattern booklet several years ago, I have started using the measurement between 5/8" and 3/4" as shown in the photo.

Each layer, except layer #1, consists of eight triangles, two sets of four. When making each layer, do the first set of 4 underneath triangles and then the top 4 triangles as shown in the following examples.



Layer #2

To create layer #2, use the patterned ribbon to make each triangle. Make the first set of 4 triangles and then complete the layer with the second set of triangles. The points of each triangle in layer #2 will be $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the center dot points in layer #1. When you have completed layer #1 and layer #2 on the first side, turn the ball over and do the same on the other side. Notice in the last photo how the center fold of each triangle follows the lines drawn on the ball.



Layer #3



I place my flat-head pin on top of the fold in the middle, as shown in the photo above. The black ball pin was used so you can see where to place your pin.

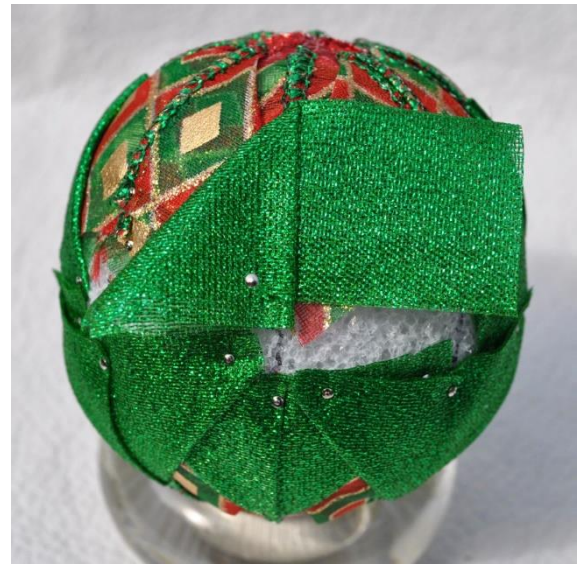
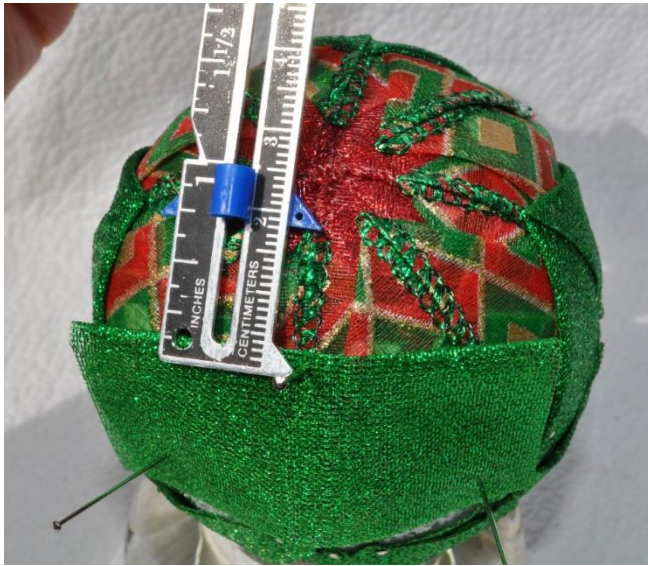
By placing your pin on top of the folded fabric or ribbon, you then create a beautiful triangle when it is folded.

To create layer #3, use the green solid ribbon to make each triangle. As shown in this fabric example, this layer will be created in the “Traditional” method of using 2 1/2” squares. You take the 2 1/2” square and fold it in half and then in half again to find the center.

The true “Traditional” method teaches you to place your pin under the fold. I don’t do that because when you do, this is what you will end up with...a gap!



Make the first set of 4 triangles and then complete this layer with the second set of triangles. The points of each triangle in layer #3 will be $\frac{3}{4}$ " from layer #2. When you have completed layer #3 on one side, turn the ball over and do the same on the other side. Make sure the center fold of each triangle follows the lines drawn on the ball.



Layer #4



To create layer #4, use the patterned ribbon to make each triangle. Once again, make the first set of 4 triangles and then complete the layer with the second set of triangles. The points of each triangle in layer #4 will be $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the green layer #3. When you have completed layer #4 on one side, turn the ball over and do the same on the other side. Make sure the center fold of each

triangle follows the lines drawn on the ball. If you have trouble seeing the lines on the ball at this point, follow the center fold line of the other triangles.



When working with layer #4, each piece will need to be trimmed on the end just a little when folded over. You will be trimming from $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each folded side.

You want layer #4 on both sides to meet in the middle so all ribbon and pins will be covered by the band.



The Band

Once you have completed all of your triangles on both sides, you are ready to apply the band that will be placed around the center to cover your pins showing on layer #4. At this point, take a good look at both sides of the ball and decide where you want the top of the ornament to be, depending on the design of the pattern of the ribbon.

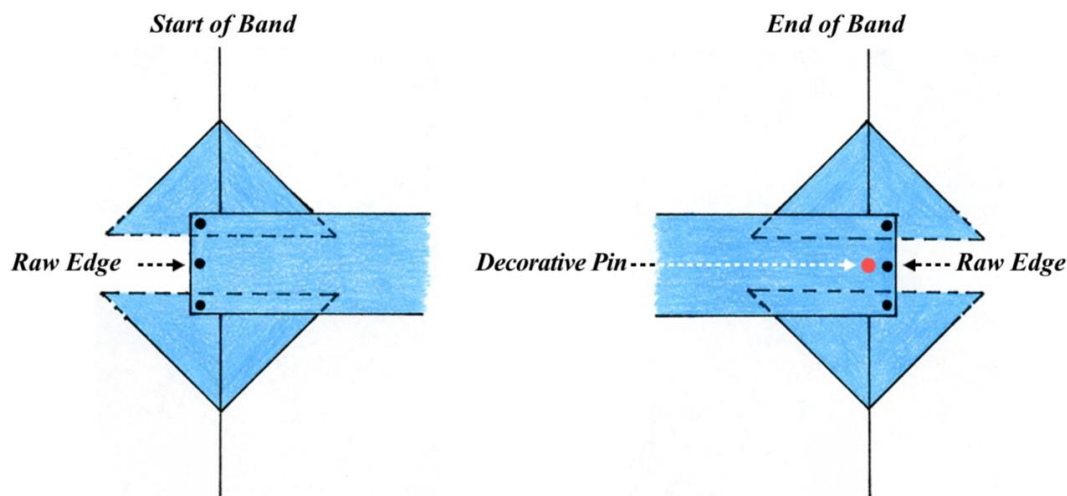


This band was created from the patterned ribbon that measures 2" wide and at least 10 1/2" long. With this ornament, I left the curly edge on one side and removed the wire, but you usually cut off both edges. Often you can fold the band and press down the fold on

each side with your thumbs, but for this ribbon, I used a very low-heat iron. I folded the band so the curly edge was right down the middle.

For most bands, you would fold under one side of the band 5/8" and then fold under the other side 1/2". This makes your band 3/4" wide.

In this case, when you use the curly edge on one side, fold over the raw edge, 3/4". Then fold over the curly edge a little more than 3/8" and that will allow the curly edge to run down the center of the band.





Center and place the raw edge of one end of the band at the top of your ornament, just a little left of the center lines as shown in the illustrations above. Secure with 3 pins.

Then pull your band around the center of the ball, making sure you cover all the pins in layer #4 and keep the band as straight as possible, centered between your triangles. Don't pull the band too tight, because the layers of ribbon and pins

underneath will cause it to look lumpy from the side view, and you want your band to be smooth.



When you have pulled the band around the ball, extend the other edge of the band a little past the center line. Secure with three pins and trim the excess material.

The Bows



To create the bow with hanger, you will want two different ribbons that coordinate with the colors of your chosen ribbon ornament. I recommend using 3/8" wide ribbon for the bottom bow and 1/4" for the top bow and hanger.

TIP: You can use 5/8" organza ribbon as the bottom bow, but if you are using a thick grosgrain ribbon, I wouldn't use any size larger than 3/8". Remember

that your bow is to accent your ornament, not overpower it. All of the kits from Pattern Please! website includes at least 1 yard of each bow ribbon, but on my ornaments, I only use about 26" or less for each bow. The bow is your personal taste and design.

There are many ways to make bows, but I like to use one continuous piece of ribbon, making loops and pinning each loop, one at a time. I make 6 total loops, 3 on each side. By doing this, you can control the look of the bow and how it lays on top of the ornament. I like to use several pins, pinning each loop, one at a time. Keep your pins close at the center area of the band, but stay away from the very center where your decorative pin will go to hold the hanger.



When both bows are in place, cut the hanger ribbon from a piece that is 6 1/4" long. Overlap the hanger ribbon about 1/4" and push your decorative ball pin into the ribbon and then into the center of the ball to make a 6" hanger.

Congratulations!

You have now completed your beautiful quilted ornament!

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