



BOTM September 2023: Spool Block (Sew Many Notions W/Quilt in a Day)

September BOTM is a Spool block. This block can be one solid color for the spool or you can strip a piece from light to dark using the fabrics in your stash. There are 3 main fabrics: the spool, thread, and background.



What you need:

- 3 main fabrics (or more for thread):.
 - a. **Thread:** Cut (6) $1\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips of coordinating fabrics or (1) $6\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inch block
 - b. **Spool:** Cut (2) $2\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips
 - c. **Background:** Cut (2) 2×10 inch outer sides, (2) $1\frac{3}{4} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips for top and bottom, (2) $1\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inner sides, (4) $1\frac{1}{2}$ square

How To Make:

1. Thread: If you're not using coordinating strips go to step 2. If you're using coordinating strips: Sew your (6) $1\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips together lengthwise with a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam (I found mine was a little small so I would suggest a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam). Press them in one direction. Your block should measure $6\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ when finished.
2. Sew your inner sides ($1\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ strips) to your thread
3. Draw a diagonal line on the background of your $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares
4. Place one square on each end of your spool strips ($2\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips) and sew on your diagonal line. Trim excess $\frac{1}{4}$ and press seams toward background
5. Add spool ends to thread and press seams toward spool
6. Add outer sides and then add top and bottom and press seams toward background (which I did not pay attention to since I rushed to get a sample done so my blocks may be pressed wrong oops)

Here is a link to directions with photos from the free block pattern:

<https://www.quiltinaday.com/eleanorandcompany/events/Spoolblock.pdf>