



Big O Quilt Block

Block directions and guidelines for the December 2014 Block Lotto

Big O is a 14-inch square (finished size) quilt that is made from four 7-inch quarter-O units, sewn together to form the O, as shown here.

For the Block Lotto, we will be making and entering the quarter-O units to make it quicker to make during this busy season and easier to mail.

This block is well suited for using up scraps and for using large-scale prints.

You can make a **MAXIMUM** of **TWELVE BLOCKS** for the drawing in December.

Use the tag **Big-O** for your posts on Blocklotto.com about this block.

Fabric Guidelines for the Block Lotto

This month we will continue to use very dark or black background fabrics with quilter's choice of fabrics for the O.

The **BACKGROUND** fabric is very dark. It can be black solids or black-on-black prints or **VERY DARK** fabrics in other colors in solids or tone-on-tone prints.

The O fabric is quilter's choice. You may use your choice of quilter's cotton for the O.

You make multiple blocks, you can use the same **VERY DARK BACKGROUND** fabric in multiple blocks, but the quilter's choice O fabric in each quarter units should be unique.

Cutting for One Quarter O

From **O** fabric, cut:

- One 4-by-7 ½ -inch rectangle
- One 4-inch square
- One 2-inch square

From **BACKGROUND** fabric, cut:

- Two 4-inch squares

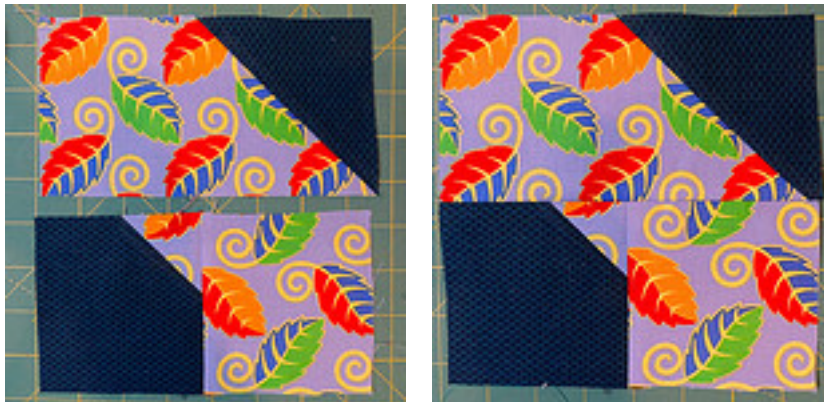


Sewing the Block

1. Stack a BACKGROUND square on top of the O fabric rectangle, with the outside edges aligned at one end. Right sides of the fabrics are together.
2. Draw a line across the diagonal of the BACKGROUND square, and then sew ON the line.
3. Stack a small O fabric square on top of a BACKGROUND square, in a corner, with the outside edges aligned. Right sides of the fabrics are together.
4. Draw a line across the diagonal of small square, and then sew ON the line.
5. Trim, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch beyond the sewn line.
6. Press toward background fabric.
7. Add the remaining square of O fabric and layout the block



8. Sew the two square units together.
9. Press toward the O fabric
10. Sew the two halves of the block together and press (toward the rectangle unit). You're done.



Alternative Method

You may want to consider this alternative method if:

- You are using smaller scraps or charm squares
- You want to eliminate waste from the snowball corners
- You are making these quarter-O units for yourself and will make multiples from the same O-fabric(s).

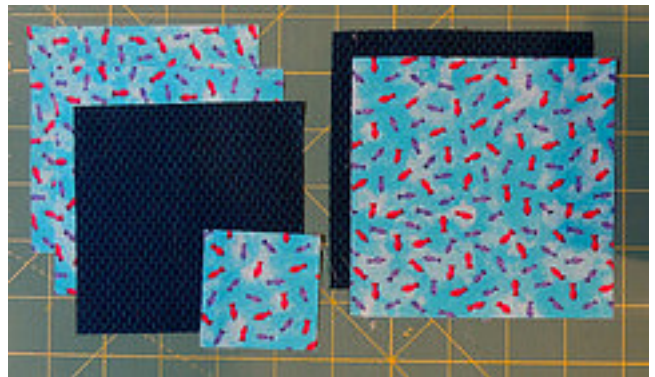
Alternative Cutting for One Quarter O

From **O** fabric, cut:

- One 4 ½ -inch square
- Two 4-inch squares
- One 2-inch squares

From **BACKGROUND** fabric, cut:

- One 4 ½ -inch square
- One 4-inch square



Alternative Assembly

1. Use the two large squares to create two 3 ½ -inch (finished size) half-square triangle (HST) units by putting them together right sides together, drawing a line diagonally across the pair of fabrics.
2. Stitch ¼ inch on each side and CUT ON the line.
3. Press and square up the HST units to 4 inches square.
4. Stack a small O fabric square on top of a BACKGROUND square, in a corner, with the outside edges aligned. Right sides of the fabrics are together.
5. Draw a line across the diagonal of small square, and then sew ON the line.
6. Trim, ¼ inch beyond the sewn line.
7. Press toward background fabric.
8. Lay out the quarter-O and assemble as a 4-patch. Use the extra HST for a second block. (But not for the Block Lotto, where each must use a unique O-fabric).
9. Press.
10. You're done!

