

EXPLODING BLOCKS

12 squares @ 4"

6 squares @ 5"

Select your six 4" centre squares and set aside. Prepare the remainder of the squares by carefully cutting diagonally in each direction using your rotary cutter and ruler (making an "X"), but STOPPING ½" from each corner. Layer a prepared 4" square RST on a 4" centre square and stitch all of the way around. With scissors, carefully cut from your prepared slits to the stitching in each corner. Press triangles outward. Repeat to make 5 more units. Using the same technique, place a prepared 5" square RST on top of each unit just completed, sew around, clip to corners, and press outward. Stitch together in two rows of 3 squares. Layer, quilt, attach label and bind.



Note: If you don't want to pre-cut your "X's", you can mark the wrong sides of the squares to be cut, and carefully cut the X up to the stitching with scissors after sewing around the block.