

Nicola Dodd

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COUNTDOWN TO Christmas



AINGREDIENTS

6" Block

From white fabric, cut (1) 2½" x 5" piece, (1) 2½" x 3" piece, (1) 2" x 4½" piece, (1) 2" square, (1) 1½" square, (1) 1" x 3" piece, (1) 1" x 1½" piece and (1) 1" square

From solid red fabric, cut (1) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5" piece, (1) 2" x 4" piece, (2) 2" x 3" pieces and (1) 1" square

12" Block

From white fabric, cut (1) 4½" x 9½" piece, 4½" x 5½" piece, (1) 3½" x 8½" piece, (1) 3½" square, (1) 2½" square, (1) 1½" x 5½" piece, (1) 1½" x 2½" piece and (1) 1½" square
From red print fabric, cut (1) 4½" x 9½" piece, (1) 3½" x 7½" piece, (2) 3" x 5" pieces and (1) 1½" square

▲ GARNISHES

- White embroidery floss
- Embroidery/chenille needle
- Water soluble pen to mark your design

AINSTRUCTIONS

Sizes are given for the 12" block, with the sizes for the 6" block in brackets {}. Directions are given to make a red horse on a white background, but feel free to reverse the colours.

1. To create the horse's body, mark a diagonal line on the back of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " $\{1^{n}\}$ background square and pin, right sides together, on the top right-hand corner of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " $\{2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5"} red piece. Stitch on the line, flip 'open' and press, trimming away the back layers $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the seam, to make an Easy Corner Triangle (ECT).



2a. To create the horse's legs, first prepare the (2) 3" x 5" $\{2" \times 3"\}$ red pieces by placing them right sides together and marking a point $1\frac{1}{4}$ " $\{\frac{3}{4}"\}$ along the short side (marked in blue). Trim diagonally, discarding the smaller portions. You should have two mirror image pieces.

2b. Prepare the $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ " ($2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5") background piece by marking points 2" (1") from both corners of the long side and 1" ($1\frac{1}{2}$ ") from both corners of the opposite side. Using those points, mark placement lines, shown in blue. 2c. Position a trimmed red piece right sides down on the placement line and stitch a $1\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the edge before flipping 'open' and pressing (the stitching line is marked in blue). Turn your unit to the wrong side and trim, using the background piece as a guide. Repeat to create the other leg.



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Original Recipe can be found at www.modabakeshop.com

Recipes are sometimes altered to correct errors. Please ensure that you have downloaded the most recent Printer Friendly Version before starting your project. If you find a mistake in this pattern, please contact modabakeshop@unitednotions.com.

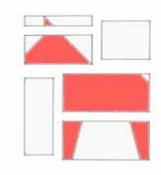
3. To create the horse's head form an ECT (as described in step 3) with the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " {2"} white square at one end of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $7\frac{1}{2}$ " {2" x 4"} red piece, taking care with the placement, as shown. Then form an ECT with the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " { $1\frac{1}{2}$ "} white square at the other end, again as shown.





4. To create the horse's ear form an ECT with the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " {1"} red square at one end of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " {1" x 3"} white piece, taking care with the placement as shown. Then join a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " {1" x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "} piece, pressing away from the ear. 5a. To assemble the block, join the legs to the body, pressing away from the leg, then join a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ " {2" x $4\frac{1}{2}$ "} white piece to the side, pressing away from the front leg.

5b. Join the ears to the head, pressing away from the ear, then join a $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " { $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3"} white piece to the side, pressing away from the mane. Finally, join both sections together, pressing towards the head.



6. If you'd like to, add the reins and saddle with white embroidery floss. I used simple back-stitch and running-stitch to embroider the 6" block and you can download the template I used here">here.



This block finishes at 6" or 12" square.

I'm hoping to use my blocks to make some Christmas gift bags and I'll be sharing a tutorial on my blog next week if you'd like to do the same. Small gift bags would be perfect to use as an advent calendar, using all of the gorgeous blocks posted this month! But however you use yours, do come and say hello on Instagram and share your blocks with the #mbscountdowntochristmas hashtag.

Wishing you all very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

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Countdown to Christmas Dala Horse Embroidery Template

Template shown for 6" block. Enlarge by 200% for use with a 12" block.

