

Halloween Cat Block

Origin

This simple cat block is a contemporary quilt block that was first published in BLOCK Magazine, Spring 2017, Vol.4, Issue 2. This is the primary block in Missouri Star's Pins & Paws quilt pattern. Now widely available in the free domain, you can find an excellent tutorial on this block at <https://www.missouriquiltco.com/land/tutorials/pins-paws-cat-quilt/index.html>

<u>Fabric Requirements</u>	
Cat Fabric	10 x 10" square; to be subdivided into one 5"x 9 ½ piece (body); one 3" x 5" piece (head); two 2 ½" squares (ears)
Background Fabric	- One 2 ½" square (tail) - One 2 ½" x 5" piece for the ear area - One 5" x 5" square
- Since this is for Halloween, your cat fabric should be predominantly black or predominantly orange. Solids or prints are both welcome. - If possible, choose a Halloween themed background or some color typically associated with Halloween décor. Whatever you choose, make sure your cat stands out against the background. - Have fun with this! It's simple and quick. <u>A group of cats is called a clowder. (fun fact)</u>	

Sewing tips from Sandy and Sue (BOTM table chairs):

- Use ¼" scant seams
- Your cat can be facing either way, just make sure the location of the head and tail are anatomically correct.

Directions

- Cut the 10" x 10" cat fabric half to make two 5" x 10" rectangles.
- Trim ½" off the end of one rectangle to make a 5" x 9 ½ "rectangle (the cat's body), set aside.
- From the second rectangle, cut one end to make a 3" x 5" rectangle for the cat's head.
- Next cut a 2 ½ x 5" rectangle from what's left. Cut this rectangle in half so that you have two 2 ½" squares for the cat's ears. Draw a pencil line across the back diagonally on the 2 ½" squares.
- Return to the 5" x 9 ½" rectangle and sew the 2 ½" background fabric square to the upper left corner (or right corner depending on how you want your cat to face) to create the cat's body. See images. Trim your seam to ¼" and press towards the larger piece.
- Next sew on the pencil lines of your 2 ½" squares of cat fabric to the 2 ½" x 5" piece of background fabric so that your cat ears will be point upward. See below right. Double check your work before trimming and pressing your seam. There is a purposeful gap between the two

square sewing lines on the top of the cat's head. Press towards the square pieces. Once you're satisfied with the cat's ears, attach them to the 3" x 5" piece of cat fabric to complete the cat's head.

- Your last background piece is the 5" x 5" square. Sew this to the left of the cat's head if your cat is looking right. Sew this piece to the right of the cat's head if your cat is looking left. This background square should line up with the tail piece on the cat's body.
- Join the 2 halves of the block together
- Trim to a 9 ½" unfinished square as needed



