How to Set-in Seams

Sometimes you may find that some blocks are not simply put together with straight seams or in rows. Some patterns require the pieces to be set-in or sewn in two steps. Let’s look at the set-in square between two diamond shapes.

There are two steps in the set-in seam process. The square is stitched into its place by first stitching one square seam, then whilst keeping the needle in the down position, changing the fabric position and stitching the second square seam.

The first step when sewing this set-in square between two diamond shapes is to pin one side of the square on one side of the star point, with right sides together and matching the corners.

Start sewing from the outside and sew towards the centre of the diamond shape. When you reach to centre point, keep the machine needle in the down position, still situated in the fabric.

The second step is performed whilst keeping the needle in the down position, still situated at the centre point in the fabric, turning the fabric piece around to the adjacent side of the unit and pin to the next diamond shape, matching seams.

Continue to stitch along the second star shape on the stitching line, commencing from the centre to the outside edge.

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