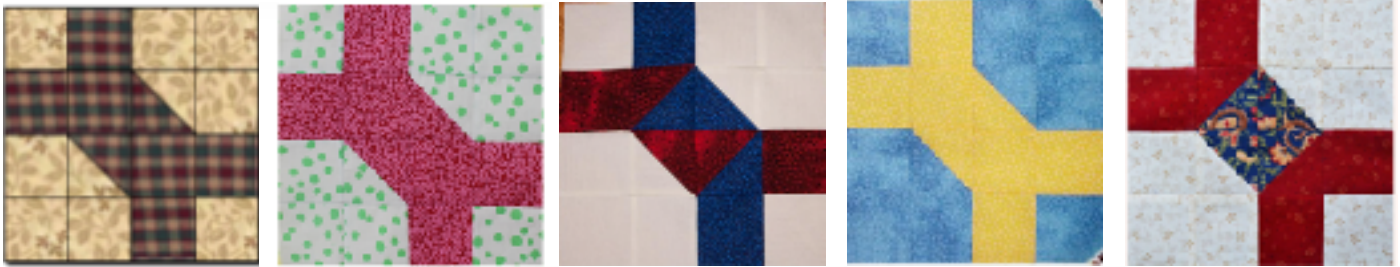


April BOM - Mr. Roosevelt's Necktie

This block, with all of its variations, has been around for a long time. But who's necktie is it? Teddy's or Franklin's? I've seen both. Eleanor Burns showed this block combined with a appliqué of Teddy's dog, Fala. A pattern was published in Clara Stone's 1910 Pattern Catalog as Mr. Roosevelt's Necktie, pattern #113, just after Teddy's Presidential term. So we're going with Teddy and his wife, Edith.



Edith Kermit Carrow was born into a wealthy family on August 6, 1861. Her father was a chronic gambler and her mother was a hypochondriac, so much of Edith's childhood was spent with relatives. Fortunately, Martha and Theodore Roosevelt Sr (Teddy's parents) were neighbors. Edith became best friends with Teddy's younger sister, Corinne. The Roosevelt children were homeschooled and Edith received much of her early education with them. Teddy & Edith bonded over their love of literature and developed romantic feelings for each other, even after Teddy went to Harvard. Something caused a falling out between them in Aug 1878. By the time they resolved their friendship a year and a half later, Teddy was engaged to Alice Hathaway, who he married in 1880. After the death of his wife and his mother on the same day, Teddy isolated himself in the Dakotas. After returning to the East coast, he and Edith rekindled their affection and married in London in 1886. Together they had 5 children. Edith insisted that Teddy's first child, also named Alice, live with them, though they did not get along too well.

Facts about Edith

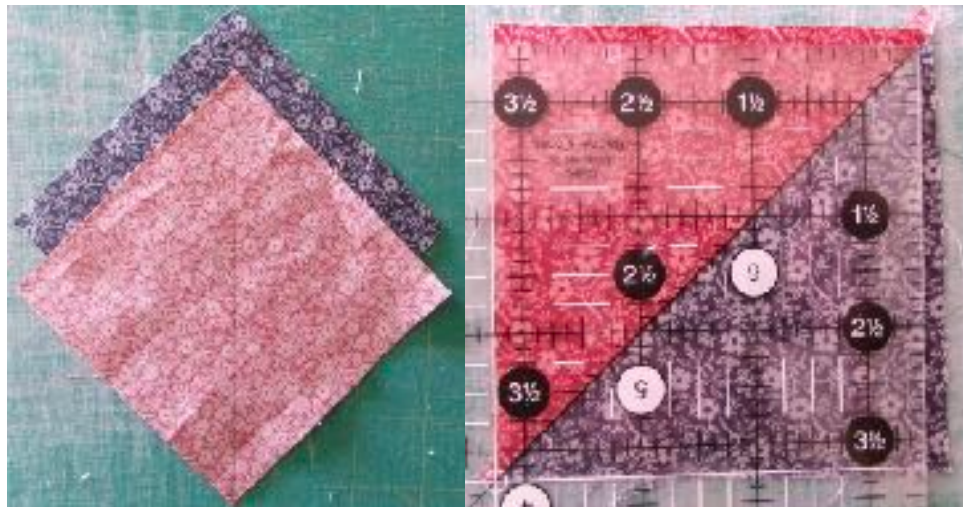
- *Was First Lady of New York when Teddy became its governor.
- *Was 2nd Lady when Teddy was elected as Vice President under McKinley
- *Became 1st Lady when Teddy assumed Presidency upon McKinley's death then again when Teddy was elated President.
- *Held Tuesday meetings with wives of Cabinet members during their meetings, to plan White House entertainment
- *Oversaw construction of a separate living quarters for the First Family, something long desired by previous 1st ladies
- *Hired Belle Hagner as a social secretary, creating the first formalized office staff for the 1st Lady
- *Disliked the White House Annual Easter Egg because it ruined the grass and left a lingering rotten egg smell behind.

There are lots of color options with this block, including how the center square is portrayed. It's all squares and half-square triangles (HST) so super easy ! Pick out your colors and let's get started ! I will use a 3-color option: red and blue for the bowtie, white/cream print or tonal for the background. Cutting and assembly are the same for 2 or 3 color versions. You will just need to make adjustments for which colors you are cutting.

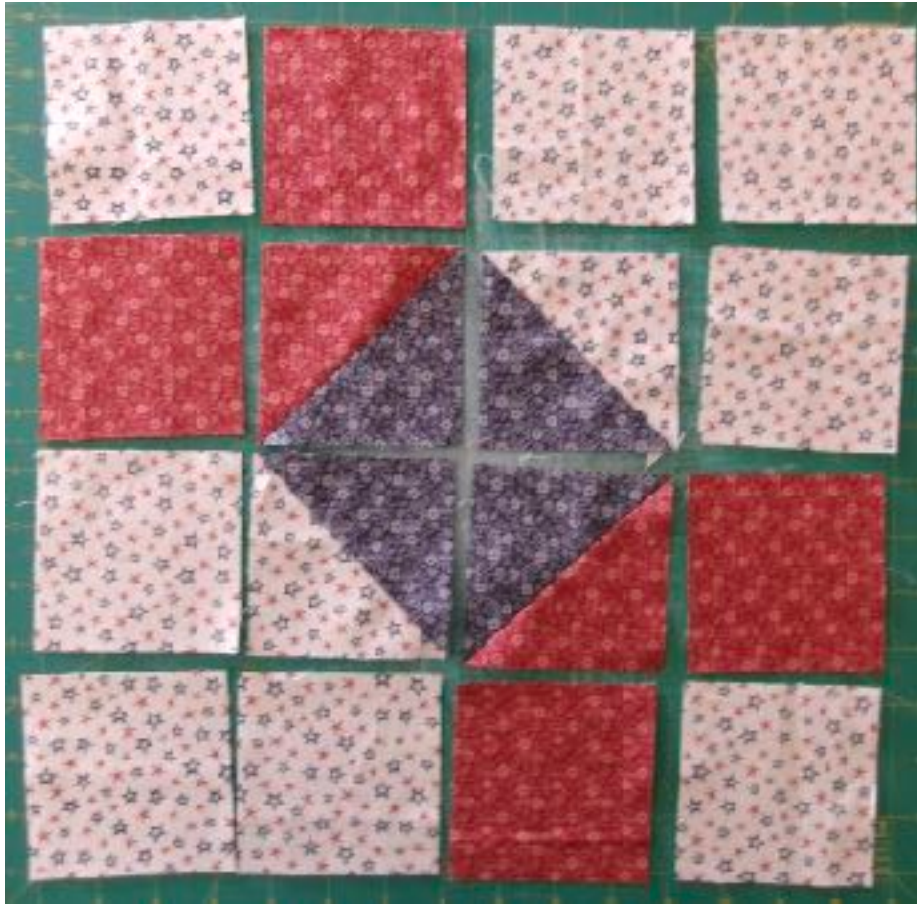
4 red 3.5" squares
8 white 3.5" squares

1 red 4.25" square
1 white 4.25" square
2 blue 4.25" squares

With 1 red and 1 blue 4.25" square, draw a diagonal line on back of red square. Place squares RST, sew 1/4 inch on both sides of the diagonal. Cut on line and press to RED. Trim to 3.5 inches. Repeat steps with a white and a blue 4.25 squares, pressing to blue.



Lay out squares and HST as shown. Sew rows together (HST seams will nest). Press row seams in opposite directions and sew rows together



PRESTO ! MR. Roosevelt's Necktie is ready to go.

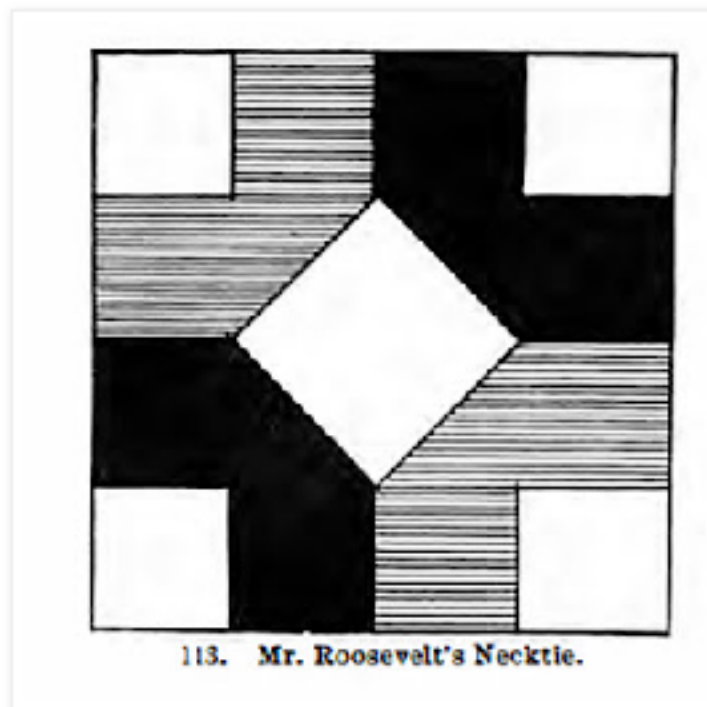


Want to give yourself a bit more of a challenge? Try these color layouts.

For the outside pieces, cut four 3.5" squares of each color.
You can still do HST for the center using sizes given in pattern.

OR

Make a Square in a Square block that trims to 6.5 inches (finish at 6")
Cut your center square a precise 4.75 inches. Cut 1 square 4.5 of each of
the corner colors and cut on the diagonal to yield 2 triangles for the
corners.



113. Mr. Roosevelt's Necktie.

Yeah! Well what about Mr. [Theodore] Roosevelt's Necktie
from the Clara Stone newspaper group about 1910.