

Secrets from the Yo-yo Lady

Formula:

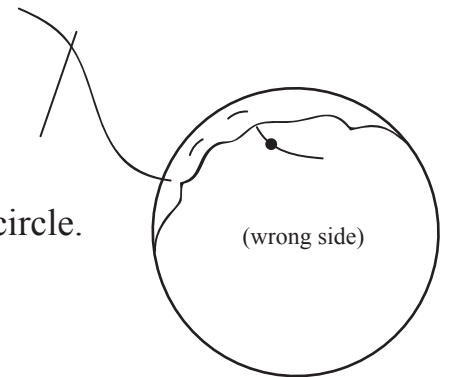
- Determine the finished size of the Yo-yo.
- Double that measurement and add $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- This is the circumference of the fabric circle.

Principles:

- The longer the basting stitch, the smaller the hole. This is a “closed” Yo-yo.
- The shorter the basting stitch, the larger the hole. This is an “open” Yo-yo.
- Use extra strong thread for basting.

Construction:

- Hold the fabric circle with the wrong side facing you.
- Tie a heavy-duty knot in the thread.
- Using a running stitch, baste a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance around the circle.
- Gently pull the thread, gathering the Yo-yo.
- Adjust the gathers and check for puckers and dents.
- After one last pull of the thread, tie off discreetly.

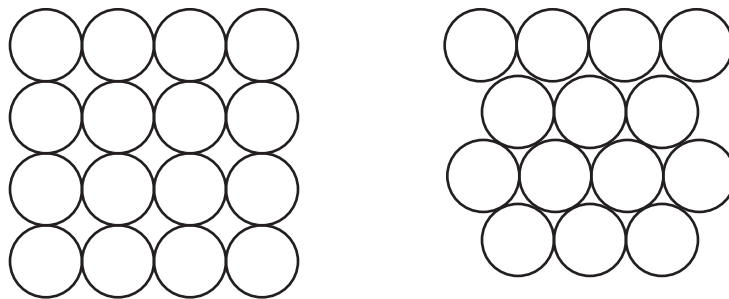


Variations:

- Make an open Yo-yo with a small circle of contrasting fabric tucked in the center.
- Use buttons, beads, French knots, ribbon bows and heat-set blingbling in the centers.
- Yo-yos can embellish quilts, edges, clothing, pillows, fabric art and scrapbook pages.

Settings:

- Vertical settings will yield clean lines, boxed units or edges with 90° angles.
- Diagonal settings yield hexagons, 60° diamonds, teardrop edges and more.



Yo-yo Lady has designs:

- Quarter inch graph paper is handy for designing vertical settings. Equilateral triangle graph paper is handy for designing diagonal settings.
- As embellishments, Yo-yos can be placed randomly as long as they are well attached to the background and, as Yo-yo Lady suggests, pleasing to the eye.
- Remember that the definition of a quilt is “batting between two layers of fabric, the three layers being held together with stitching.” Technically, a Yo-yo “quilt” s a coverlet unless it has been treated according to the definition of a quilt.