



## **ELEMENTARY (Quilt-As-You-Go) QUILT**

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Just a reminder - if you're working with young children or maybe you don't like the possibility that you might be stuck with one of these pins - then instead of pinning with straight pins, you can replace these with safety pins.

We're going to be sewing little stitches across this "X". The stitches need to be between a 1/16 and an 1/8 of an inch big. An inch, 1/2 inch or you might be able to get by with a 1/4" long but if you make our stitches any longer than that, they're very easy to catch on to things and then the stitches get ripped out. So shoot for about 1/16 or an 1/8 of an inch.

The thread that you're going to use can be contrasting thread like this one or it can match. That's a personal preference. I like to use a single strand thread, which means I have threaded my needle and one of the strands is loose and the other strand is going to get a knot in it like this.

Now, if you are working with someone who is a beginner sewer, this is very easy to pull out your thread while you are sewing. So if you are a new sewer or if you work (as I said) with small kids - I would recommend using two stranded thread which means here's both of the ends and I am going to take those and knot those together. So then if I pull with my thread or with my needle then I don't have to worry about the needle becoming unthreaded.

So I start off with hiding my knot. And to hide my knot, I am going to lift this up and I am going to use my thumb as like a guide; come up from underneath - just this one piece of fabric. And I'm going to start stitching about a thumb over from the edge. So the back of it looks like this. I have not stitched through the back nor have I stitched through this batting. I don't have to do this if I am machine sewing. I just need to do this when I am sewing by hand because later on we're going to cut through some stitches and you don't want to lose your whole .....