How to...

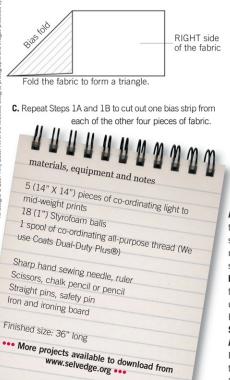
MAKE A FABRIC NECKLACE

Step 1: Cut out and attach the bias strips together

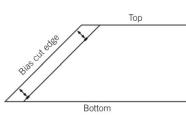
From each of the five co-ordinating fabrics: Cut one bias strip from each of the prints – measuring 18 1/2" in length.

A. Place fabric on a flat surface with the RIGHT side up. Fold the fabric RIGHT sides together, matching the opposite corners and making a triangle shape. Press a crease on the fold. Open the fabric and cut along the creased edge.

B. Starting on the RIGHT side at the cut bias edge measure and mark 4" at the top and bottom edge of the fabric. Match the marks and draw a line between them. Cut along the marked line to create a bias strip.

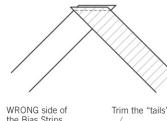


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D. Join the strips into one long piece in a random pattern. Lay the strips perpendicular to each other with the RIGHT sides together. Stitch across the diagonal edges of the strips with a 1/4" seam and press the seam allowances open. Trim any small "tails" of fabric at the seam of the bias strips. Repeat until you have joined them all, making a bias strip 90" long.

E. Cut off the slanted edges on each end of the attached bias strip by cutting straight across, squaring off the end. Step 2: Make the bias tube



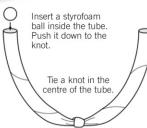
the Bias Strips

Trim the "tails"

A. Fold one of the short ends of the bias strip 1/2" in toward the WRONG side and press. Then fold the bias strip in half lengthwise with the RIGHT side together matching the long edges and pin them. Stitch a 1/2" seam along the pinned edge. Backstitch at each end.
B. Turn the bias strip RIGHT side out. Attach a safety pin to one end of the tube. Insert the pin into the tube and using it as a guide, push it through itself. Once turned RIGHT side out, press the tube flat.

Step 3: Make the fabric necklace

A. Tie a knot at the centre of the tube and pull it taut. Insert a Styrofoam ball inside the tube and push it down to the knot. Tie a knot on the other side of the ball. Continue until you reach one end of the tube. Then



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repeat on the opposite side of the center knot (approximately 16-18 balls).

B. With a knot close to each end of the tube, insert the last Styrofoam ball inside the end of the tube that has not been turned under. Place the folded end of the tube over the raw end and pin it in place. Slipstitch around the tube to close. •••

Fabric shown is from Amy Butler's Belle Collection from Rowan, www.amybutlerdesign.com

