

# 12 Awesome Free Quilt Patterns and Small Quilted Projects 

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#### Abstract

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## Applique Quilt Patterns

## Crow on Berry Branch Applique

By: Joanne Mitchell from Thread Head

The Crow on Berry Branch Applique tutorial is a versatile applique pattern that you can use to create blocks for a quilt top, an applique wall hanging, or an applique pillow. This tutorial uses freezer paper to stabilize the appliques.

Block Size: 9 inches wide x 9 inches long


Time to Complete: In an evening

## MATERIALS:

- 10 " $\times 10$ " square of background fabric
- Scraps of fabric for appliques
- Freezer paper
- Glue stick
- Fabric basting glue (optional)
- Invisible thread (or Invisafil thread)


## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Print the pattern on page (there is a 1 " scale on the pattern to make sure the pattern is relatively accurate). You could also enlarge on a photo copy.
2) Trace all the pattern pieces onto the dull side (paper side) of freezer paper (a plastic coated paper), except for the stem - it is a $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " wide bias strip of fabric, about 7 " long. With this applique method, the pattern is traced on the right side of the pattern (for some techniques it is the reverse).

3) The 5 berries are traced around a nickel (about 3/4") to make it easier.

4) Cut out all the paper pieces. Lightly, in pencil, on the plastic/shiny side of the paper, label the three leaves. I also marked the crow's feet to make sure not to add the seam allowance in that section.

5) Apply a couple small dabs of glue stick to the dull/paper side of the pattern and stick it to the wrong side of the fabric.

6) Trim the fabric around the pattern leaving an extra $1 / 4$ " (approximately). Notice on the bird there is not much extra where the feet are - this is because it will be behind the stem and doesn't need a seam allowance.

7) Repeat for all pattern pieces.

8) To make pressing the seam allowance around the berries easier, run a small basting stitch in the seam allowance. I leave a long tail on the thread when I start and gently pull both ends of the thread to gather the fabric - I am less likely to bend the paper this way.

9) With a hot, dry iron, carefully press the seam allowance so that it sticks to the melted plastic on the freezer paper. I find that it takes longer to heat on gathered pieces like circles than regular pieces.

10) Carefully press all the seam allowances on all the applique pieces. Your fingers will get hot! That is why no steam is a good idea. You can use a stitch ripper to help hold the seams. Use just the tip and edge of the iron - a mini iron would be good for this.


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11) Clip curves. Press down points first. Work around just the edges of the pieces; you don't want to run the iron over the plastic on the paper. (Remember no seam allowance at the bird's feet).

12) On outside curves I stick a few sections down and then ease the rest of the fabric in.


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13) Don't worry too much about the points and curves for this applique - it is in a "Primitive" style.

14) Press the bias (a $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " wide bias strip of fabric about 7 " long) strip for the stem in half, wrong sides together. All the pieces are ready for sewing.

15) Starting with the bird, pin the appliques in the correct position. I fold the background square of fabric in quarters and press to make center marks that correspond to the pattern. You could make a tracing of the pattern on a clear plastic sheet/transparency to help you with the placement of pieces but this is a very forgiving pattern so I wouldn't worry about it too much.

16) Lift the edges of the pinned piece, and using the glue-baste glue, apply small drops on the seam allowance. The bottle comes with a needle applicator, but it needs to be cleaned all the time, so I just use a large pin dipped into the glue. You can omit this step and just pin the piece, or maybe try regular white glue. Glue just makes the piece lie flat and makes sure it doesn't shift. The glue dries very fast.


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17) For appliqueing you can use invisible thread (these ones are Sulky polyester mono-filament and are softer than nylon - I think they can take more heat too) in clear or smoke depending on the colour of the fabric.

18) You can also use Invisafil thread in the appropriate colour (I bought a couple of the mini packs and they match everything!). I find the Invisafil softer than invisible thread, and it tends to reflect the light less and so is less visible. The bobbin thread should match the background fabric. I use a \#70 Microtex needle, but a universal needle works fine.

19) Set your machine to a very small zig-zag and decrease the tension. I use stitch length 2 and width 1 , with the tension set to 3 . Try a test sample for your machine. The needle should zig a few fabric threads onto the applique piece, and zag just off the applique piece and into the background.

20) Use the open toe/embroidery foot on your machine (in the picture the needle is just off the applique). Carefully stitch around the whole applique piece (for the bird I started at the foot because it doesn't need to be stitched down across that section).

21) On the back of the piece, carefully cut out the background fabric using small scissors and leaving $1 / 4$ " seam allowance.

22) Remove the freezer paper; tweezers help get all the little pieces out. Take care not to pull the seam allowances or stitching.

23) Pin the stem in place. The folded edge is on the bottom in the picture (it has to do with the curve and working with bias). The stem will be stitched $1 / 4$ " from the top/cut edge so make sure the feet of the crow won't be stitched through - trim that edge if need be.

24) Stitch $1 / 4$ from the cut edge along the stem.

25) Trim the seam to $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$.

26) Make sure the crow's feet are not in the seam, but that the edge will be covered by the stem.

27) Press the stem over.


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28) Pin the stem down and position the leaves. Trim the ends of stem if any extends beyond where the leaves will be. The leaves should cover the ends of the stems. (You could make bias tubes and use presser bars to make stems also.)

29) Remove the leaves and stitch down both long sides of the stem with the applique stitch. The stem would be too narrow to use freezer paper and try to remove it from the back.


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30) Glue on two leaves and the wing. Stitch around these three pieces.
31) On the back trim and remove the freezer paper. You will be cutting through the bird applique and the ends of the stem.

32) Attach the third leaf.
33) This picture shows the small scissors that I use. Make a little snip in the fabric to get started.

34) The berries are next - I put drops of glue on little pieces before I set them in place. I find that they are too small to use pins. Stitch around all five berries.

35) Remove the paper.

36) The applique is complete. Press (be careful depending on the thread that you used).

37) Trim the block down to $9 \frac{1}{2}$ " (it will be 9 " when finished).


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38) Finished Block:


## How to Applique + 20 Free Applique Designs

Plus learn all about the different types of applique when you check out our collection of quilting videos and applique quilt patterns.


Crow on Berry Branch by Joanne Thread Head

## Bug Jar Quilt

By: Deborah Schlegel from Art Threads

The Bug Jar Quilt is a whimsical quilt that's fun for adults and children alike! This bug jar quilt pattern is great for making summer quilts that will remind you of sunny days spent bug collecting in the backyard.

Quilt Size: 48 inches wide $\times 40$ inches long

Time to Complete: Weekend Project


## MATERIALS:

- At least 9 different types of bug (or creepy crawly) cotton material. I made my quilt top with 9 jars, but you could add another jar per row for 12 jars if you wanted. A fat quarter of each is good.
- Grayish fabric for the jar tops (about $1 / 2$ yard)
- 1-1/2 yards top material
- $1-1 / 2$ yards backing material
- Crib-sized quilting batting
- Large safety pins - to baste if you're using non-iron on batting
- 5 yards binding - I used Satin Blanket Binding
- Steam-A-Seam 2
- Thread to match or coordinate with your top fabric
- Quilting machine needles - these are sharper and work much, much better than regular sewing machine needles when you're going through all those layers.
- Chalk or other removable fabric marker.
- Quilting foot with line guide for your machine - this foot helps all the quilting layers move under the needle at the same rate so you don't end up with puckers. It grips the top layer as the feed dogs move the bottom layer along.



## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Wash and dry all your fabric. I find it easier to make appliques if the fabric is ironed smooth.
2) Cut nine jars from bug fabric and nine lids. I also cut a bug out of one of the fabrics to make an open jar on the bottom:

3) Attach one side of the Steam-A-Seam 2 to the back of the jars and lids. This leaves the sticky back side showing. It's helpful to have this side sticky when you are placing the pieces.
4) Place your jars and lids on the quilt top. My rows are 7 inches apart and the jars in each row are 5-1/2 inches apart. How far in from the edges will depend on the width of your quilt top material.

5) When you have the jars and lids placed where you want them to be, iron into place.

6) Zigzag stitch around each jar/lid. I used a .2 length and 3.5 width (make a test on scrap first). I started at the bottom of one lid, went all the way around the outside of the jar and lid until I got back to where I started and then sewed across the bottom of the lid.

7) Find a large, flat spot to lay out your pieces. Lay the backing on the bottom and the batting on top. At this point, I like to pin the backing to the batting.

8) Lay the quilt top on top of the batting.

9) If you are using iron on batting, follow the instructions for ironing/fusing it. If you are using regular batting, place safety pins about every six inches apart to hold it together

10) Remove the regular foot from your sewing machine. You may need to take off the regular shank to put your quilting walking foot on. Use the screwdriver that came with your accessories and take off the screw that holds the regular shank on. Put the quilting foot on. I like to have the line guide on the left since it's hard to bunch the quilt up against the machine and still use the quilting foot.


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11) Draw a line with chalk or some other removable marking tool down the center of your quilt.

12) Sew a straight line along the line you just marked. Because you're sewing through a lot more layers than usual, it's a good idea to sew on a test piece to make sure your tension is okay.

13) Guiding the quilt can be tough - some people use quilting gloves to help hold the fabric. You can buy them, or you can buy a cheap pair of gloves at the dollar store and use puffy paint to put "grabbing" lines along them.

14) Line your guide up on the line you just quilted. Quilt your next line.

15) Continue in this way until you have quilted the first half. Turn your quilt the other way and use the line guide to quilt the other half. You'll need to keep readjusting the pins to keep from getting puckers. If you're using iron-on batting you'll most likely need to reposition it a couple of times.
16) When the entire quilt is finished, trim the edges.

17) Next, attach the binding. Binding has one side that's shorter than the other. You'll want to pin the shorter side on the top of the quilt. This helps you make sure you're catching the bottom layer of binding in the sewing. First, pin binding along one side and sew it in place. Don't cut the extra off.

18) To make a mitered corner, fold the corner as shown below.

19) Make sure the back of the corner looks as nice as the front, pin, and sew along the next quilt edge.

20) When you get to the end of the binding or the end of the quilt, turn end under about $1 / 4$ inch.

21) Fold as shown below.


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22) Put mitered edge over the already sewn edge and pin. Sew binding on and then hand sew the diagonal seam in a hem stitch. Depending on the length of your binding, you'll probably have to do this twice.

23) Iron and enjoy!


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Bug Jar } \\
& \text { Applique } \\
& \text { Template }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Autumn Applique Wall Hanging

By: Accuquilt
This beautiful autumn quilted wall hanging pattern is the perfect project to welcome autumn in your home! The Autumn Applique Wall Hanging features applique pumpkins, oak and maple leaves, and acorns against a background of warm fall colors.

Quilt Size: 6 inches wide $\times 34$ inches long
Time to Complete: Weekend Project

## MATERIALS:

- Background fabric- $1 / 4$ yard
- Appliqué fabrics-fat quarters and scraps
- Dark half square triangle fabric-3/8 yard (includes binding)
- Light half square triangle fabric-fat quarter
- Fusible web-1 yard
- Backing-1/3 yard
- Batting-10" x 39"
- Accuquilt die cutting machine
- Accuquilt Go! Fall Medley (55041)
- Accuquilt 6" x 12" mat (55112)
- Accuquilt Strip Cutter-212" (55017)
- Accuquilt Half Square-2" Finished Triangle (Die packaged with fabric cutter)


## INSTRUCTIONS:

## Cutting Directions:

Background Fabric:

- Cut $1-61 / 2$ " $\times 301 / 2$ " rectangle


Dark Half Square Triangle Fabric:

- Cut 3-21/2" strips across width of fabric for binding
- Cut 6-2" half square finished triangles

Light Half Square Triangle Fabric:

- Cut 6-2" half square finished triangles

Appliqué Fabrics (with fusible web backing):

- Cut 4-maple leaves
- Cut 5-oak leaves
- Cut 3-pumpkins
- Cut 3-acorns and caps


## Sewing Directions:

1) Pin and sew six light and dark half square triangles right sides together. Press seams toward darker triangles.
2) Pin and sew half square triangles into two sets of three following orientation in image.
3) Remove paper backings from appliqué shapes.
4) Position leaves, pumpkins and acorns on background rectangle. Fuse according to manufacturer's instructions.
5) Machine appliqué edges of shapes with matching thread and a narrow zigzag or narrow satin stitch. Add detail as desired.
6) Layout sections of wall hanging according to diagram.
7) Pin and sew sections together.
8) Press seams toward background.

## Quilting and Finishing:

1) Layer batting between wall hanging top and backing.
2) Pin or baste layers together.
3) Machine quilt details on appliqué.
4) Add binding, mitering corners.

## Darling Daisies Applique Quilt

By: Cheryl A. Adam for FreeSpirit

Daisy quilt patterns are beautiful projects to make for spring and summer! Fuse oversized blooms onto the Darling Daisies Applique Quilt using these applique patterns for a simple but gorgeous quilt that you can set out as a throw or hang on a wall. This piece is quilted using an all-over leaf design that complements the daisy appliques. The fabrics used in this quilt are from the Daisies collection by Donna Dewberry for FreeSpirit.

Quilt Size: 46 inches wide x 46 inches long

Time to Complete: Weekend Project

## Notes:



- Unless otherwise noted, seam allowances are $1 / 4$ "
- LOF= length of fabric
*** follow fusing directions before cutting


## MATERIALS AND CUTTING DIRECTIONS:

- $1 \frac{1}{2}$ yds. DD10 Black
- Qty 2-6 $1 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 441 / 2{ }^{\prime \prime}$
- Qty 2-6 $1 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 46^{\prime \prime}$
- Qty 6- Desired width by LOF for binding
- 3/4 yd. DD19 Black
- Qty 1-30 ½"x $401 / 21$
- $1 / 2 \mathrm{yd}$. DD18 Pink
- Qty 2-2 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 401 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
- Qty 2-2 $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 341 / 2{ }^{\prime \prime}$
- Qty 6- large flower petals***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD19 Pink
- Qty 6- large flower petals***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD19 Orange
- Qty 6- small flower petals***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD18 Orange
- Qty 6- small flower petals***
- $1 / 4$ yd. DD13 Orange
- Qty 6- small flower petals***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD22 Orange
- Qty 6- small flower petals***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD18 Green
- Qty 3- leaves***
- $1 / 4$ yd. DD11 Green
- Qty 2- leaves***
- $1 / 4 \mathrm{yd}$. DD14 Green
- Qty 1- large center circle***
- Qty 3- small center circles***
- 3 yds. fusible webbing
- 3 yds. backing fabric
- Qty 2-1 $1 / 2 \mathrm{yd}$. pieces
- 50 " $\times 60$ " batting
- Applique patterns on page 22 and 23


## INSTRUCTIONS:

## Fusing Instructions:

1) On the paper side of the webbing, trace 22 large petals, 24 small petals, 5 leaves, 3 small center circles, and 1 large center circle. Leave about $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ between pieces. Roughly cut out pieces.
2) Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the pattern pieces to the wrong side of the fabric. Use the above cutting instructions as a guide for what fabric to use. When cool, cut out individual pieces.

## Center Panel Construction:

1) Remove the paper from the back of the pattern pieces.
2) Using the quilt picture as a guide, arrange the flower pieces on the $301 / 2{ }^{\prime \prime} \times 401 /{ }^{\prime \prime}$ DD19 Black. The petals of some of the flowers will hang off the edge of the background.
3) Using the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the flowers to the background. Be careful not to fuse the flower pieces that hang off the background to the ironing board.
4) When cool, trim off the excess flower pieces.
5) Use your favorite stitch on the sewing machine to sew around all the flower petals, leaves, and centers.

## Adding the Borders:

1) Sew the $2-2 \frac{1}{2 \prime \prime} \times 40 \frac{1}{2 \prime \prime}$ DD18 Pink to the long sides of the center. Press.
2) Sew the $2-21 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 34 \frac{1}{2 \prime \prime}$ DD18 Pink to the top and bottom of the center. Press.
3) Sew the 2- $61 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 441 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ DD10 Black to the long sides of the center. Press.
4) Sew the 2- $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " $\times 46^{\prime \prime}$ DD10 Black to the top and bottom of the center. Press.

Finishing:

1) Sew the two, 1-1/2 yard pieces together along the selvedge edge to make the backing.
2) Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Quilt by hand or machine, as desired.
3) Sew the binding strips together to form one long strip. Fold the binding in half, lengthwise, with wrong sides together and press. Sew the raw edges of the binding to the edges of the right side of the quilt.
4) Turn the folded edge of the binding to the back side of the quilt and stitch in place by hand, mitering the corners.

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## Patchwork Quilt Patterns Concentric Diamonds Patchwork Quilt

By: Accuquilt
Despite its simple and repetitive pattern, the Concentric Diamonds Patchwork Quilt creates a beautiful, impressionistic look when made with patterned fabrics in coordinating colors. Use this free quilt pattern to make a decorative bedspread!

Quilt Size: 45.5 inches wide x 72 inches long Time to Complete: a week or two

## MATERIALS:

- Fabrics \#1 through \#4-1/3 yard each
- Fabrics \#5 through \#8-5/8 yard each

- Fabrics \#9 through \#12-1 yard each
- Fabric \#13-1-3/4 yards (includes binding)
- Backing-2-7/8 yards
- Batting-50" x 77"
- Coordinating thread
- Accuquilt die cutting machine
- Accuquilt Strip Cutter - 2-1/2" (\#55017)
- Accuquilt 6" x 12" mat (\#55112)
- Accuquilt Diamonds - 4" x 4" (\#55040)



## INSTRUCTIONS:

Fabric \#1:
Cut 1-diamond
Fabric \#2:
Cut 4-diamonds
Fabric \#3:
Cut 12-diamonds

Fabric \#4:
Cut 14-diamonds
Fabric \#5:
Cut 18-diamonds
Fabric \#6:
Cut 22-diamonds
Fabric \#7:
Cut 26-diamonds
Fabric \#8:
Cut 30-diamonds
Fabric \#9:
Cut 34-diamonds
Fabric \#10:
Cut 38-diamonds
Fabric \#11:
Cut 42-diamonds
Fabric \#12:
Cut 46-diamonds
Fabric \#13:
Cut 50-diamonds
Cut 7-2-1/2" x 40" strips for binding

Tip: For diamonds, cut strips of each color 11 " wide across the width of the fabric. Fan fold into $41 / 2{ }^{\prime \prime}$ folds with up to six layers of fabric, place on die, and cut.

## Sewing Directions:

1) Quilt is sewn in diagonal rows. Follow the quilt diagram on page 26 starting at the upper right corner.
2) Pin and sew two Fabric \#13 diamonds together for first row. Press seam in one direction.
3) Pin and sew the next diagonal row. One Fabric \#13, two Fabric \#12, and one Fabric \#13 diamonds. Press seams in opposite direction from first row.
4) Pin and sew row one to row two matching diagonal seams. Press seam toward the first row.

Tip: Offset seam intersections $1 / 4$ " and check accuracy by placing a pin through the seam intersections of both rows.
5) Continue to pin and sew diamonds together for each row. Press seams of each row in opposite directions.
6) Pin and sew each row to the growing quilt top. Press seams of rows one through 13 toward first row. Press seams of rows 14 through 25 toward row 25 . This results in better seam allowances on the outside edges of the quilt top for adding binding later.

## Quilting and Finishing:

1) Layer batting between quilt top and backing.
2) Pin or baste layers together.
3) Model was machine quilted with an all-over large stippled design.
4) With large ruler mark straight lines $1 / 4$ " beyond seam intersections of outermost diamonds as shown by dotted lines on diagram.
5) Add binding, aligning the raw edge of binding strip with the marked line on quilt, mitering corners.
6) Trim excess edges of shapes and finish binding.

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## Glorious Garden Floral Quilt

By: Lucy A. Fazely for FreeSpirit

Make the Glorious Garden Floral Quilt for the nature lover or gardener in your life! The piecework in this flower garden quilt incorporates different floral prints for a patchwork garden. This quilt will luxuriantly cover a full size bed.

Quilt Size: 80 inches wide $\times 104$ inches long

Time to Complete: a month or more

## Notes:



- This pattern calls for fabric from the Glorious Garden collection by Donna Dewberry for FreeSpirit Fabrics. Fabrics are coded in materials list.
- Fabric requirements and cutting directions are based on 44" wide fabric.


## MATERIALS AND CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

- 2-1/4 yards Fabric A (\#DD41-Black) -- Cut nine 7" x 44" strips for second border; Cut eight 6-1/8" squares
- Fat Quarter Fabric B (\#DD41-Tan) -- Cut four 6-1/8" squares
- $1 / 2$ yard Fabric C (\#DD42-Black) -- Cut eight 6-1/8" squares
- Fat Quarter Fabric D (\#DD42-Tan) -- Cut four 6-1/8" squares
- $1 / 4$ yard Fabric E (\#DD43-Pink) -- Cut one $4-7 / 8^{\prime \prime} \times 44$ " strip, then recut into eight $4-7 / 8$ " squares*
- $1 / 2$ yard Fabric F (\#DD43-Red) -- Cut two $4-7 / 8^{\prime \prime} \times 44$ " strips, then recut into sixteen $4-7 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ squares*
- 5/8 yard Fabric G (\#DD44-Black) -- Cut three 4-7/8" x 44" strips, then recut into eighteen 4-7/8" squares*
- 1/4 yard Fabric H (\#DD44-Tan) -- Cut one 4-7/8" x 44 " strip, then recut into eight 4-7/8" squares*
- 2-1/8 yards Fabric I (\#DD45-Green) -- Cut twenty-eight 2-1/2" x 44" strips
- 1-1/2 yards Fabric J (\#DD45-Pink) -- Cut ten 2-1/2" x 44 " strips for binding. Cut seven 2-7/8" x 44 " strips, recut into ninety-six 2-7/8" squares*
- 2/3 yard Fabric K (\#DD45-Purple) -- Cut nine 2" x 44" strips for first border
- 1/2 yard Fabric L (\#DD45-Yellow) -- Cut four 3-3/8" x 44 " strips, recut into forty-eight 3-3/8" squares
- 5/8 yard Fabric M (\#DD46-Tan) -- Cut three 4-7/8" x 44 " strips, then recut into twenty 4-7/8" squares*
- Fat Eighth Fabric $N$ (\#DD47-Black) -- Cut one 6-1/8" square
- 1/2 yard Fabric O (\#DD47-Tan) -- Cut ten 6-1/8" squares
- 2-1/4 yards Fabric P (\#DD49-Black) -- Cut seventeen 4-1/2" x 44 " strips
- 7-2/3 yards fabric for backing
- 90" x 114" quilt batting
- Template plastic
*Cut 2-7/8" and 4-7/8" squares as indicated:



## INSTRUCTIONS:

## Templates:

1. Trace templates from page 31 onto template plastic.
2. Cut out and label.

## Quilt Blocks:

1. From the $2-1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 44$ " Fabric I strips, cut 164 Corner Template (template right side up on right side of fabric). Cut another 164 reverse Corner Template (template right side down on right side of fabric).

2. From the $4-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ Fabric $P$ strips, cut 82 Diamond Templates.

3. Stitch two Fabric I corner pieces and two Fabric I reverse corner pieces to each of the Fabric $P$ diamonds.

4. Stitch four Fabric J 2-7/8" half-square triangles to the sides of each of the 3-3/8" Fabric L squares.

5. Using the $6-1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ squares and $4-7 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ half-square triangles, make the following number of each floral block configuration:


## Assembly:

1) Referring to Block Layout Diagram, lay out the blocks into fifteen horizontal rows of eleven blocks each. Stitch the blocks into rows. Sew rows together.

2) Make four borders each with two $2^{\prime \prime} \times 44^{\prime \prime}$ Fabric K strips sewn together end-to-end. Cut remaining 2 " x 44" Fabric K strip into two equal lengths. Sew each half-length strip end-to-end to two of the double-length borders. Stitch the long borders to the right and left sides of quilt center. Press and trim excess from these and all successive border additions. Add double-length borders to top and bottom of quilt.
3) Make and add a 7" fabric A border in the same manner as the first border.

## Finishing:

1) Cut backing into three equal lengths. Sew the three lengths together along selvage edges, creating a quilt backing three fabric widths wide.
2) Prepare binding from ten $2-1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 44$ " Fabric J strips. Sew strips together into one long binding strip. Press strip in half lengthwise.
3) Carefully trim backing and batting even with quilt top.
4) Leaving an 8 " tail of binding, sew binding to top of quilt through all layers matching all raw edges. Miter corners. Stop approximately 12" from where you started. Lay both loose ends of binding flat along quilt edge. Where these two loose ends meet, fold them back on themselves and press to form a crease. Using this crease as your stitching line, sew the two open ends of the binding together right sides together. Trim seam to $1 / 4$ " and press open. Finish sewing binding to quilt.
5) Turn binding to back of quilt and blind stitch in place.


## Four Color Apple Core Throw

By: Accuquilt

The Four Color Apple Core Throw from Accuquilt is a simple and stylish easy lap quilt pattern. Out of all the quilt patterns to sew, this throw is one of the quickest with minimalist piecework and a classic geometric pattern.

Quilt Size: 51.5 inches wide $\times 51.5$ inches long

Time to Complete: Weekend Project

MATERIALS:

- 1-1/2 yards Fabric A (gray)
- 2 yards Fabric B (light blue)(includes binding)

- 1-1/8 yards Fabric C (white)
- 1-1/8 yards Fabric D (dark blue)
- Accuquilt die cutting machine
- Accuquilt Apple Core die cut (\#50068)
- Accuquilt Apple Core die cut (\#50040)
- Batting $-51.5 \times 51.5$ inches
- Coordinating thread
- Fabric for backing (about $54 \times 54$ inches)


## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Cut 36 Apple Core shapes from Fabric A and 36 Apple Core shapes from Fabric B.
2) Cut 30 Apple Core shapes from Fabric C and 30 Apple Core shapes from Fabric D.
3) Cut 250 inches of 2.5 -inch-wide bias binding strips from Fabric $B$.
4) Layout apple core shapes for top row of quilt according to quilt diagram and color photo:

5) Pin and sew one apple core shape to the next apple core shape, matching center notches. Press seam toward curve as shown by arrow:

6) Continue to pin and sew apple core shapes to complete top row.
7) Repeat for a total of 11 rows.
8) Pin and sew rows together to form quilt. Continue to press seams toward concave curves. Curved seam construction can yield lumps where all the seams intersect. Pinwheeling the intersection of these seams can help the rows lay flatter. Press all the seams toward the concave curves. Gently scrape your fingernail across the intersection to unsew the few stitches sewn in the seam allowance.

9) Layer quilt top, batting, and backing. Quilt as desired. Model was machine quilted with an overall curly floral design.
10) Bind with bias binding following curves of apple core shapes and mitering corners.

## Check out these other quilting collections for more free quilting patterns you are going to love:

- 17 Free Applique Patterns \& Applique Quilt Patterns
- 24 Traditional Quilt Patterns: Free Traditional Quilt Blocks and Vintage Patterns
- Easy Baby Quilt Patterns: 15 Surprising Baby Quilt Ideas


## Small Quilted Projects

## Zigzag Table Runner

By: Accuquilt

The Zigzag Table Runner from Accuquilt is one of our more simple, modern quilted table runner patterns. With clean lines and geometric sensibility, this pieced table runner highlights bold colored fabrics to accent your dining room decor.

Quilt Size: 18 inches wide $\times 48$ inches long

Time to Complete: Weekend project

## MATERIALS:

- Fabric 1 (pink)-5/8 yard
- Fabric 2 (green) -1 yard (includes binding)
- Fabric 3 (blue) $-5 / 8$ yard
- Backing- $11 / 2$ yards
- Batting-22" $\times 52$ "
- Accuquilt die cutting machine

- Accuquilt Chisels die (\#55039)
- Accuquilt 6" $\times 12$ " mat (\#55112)
- Accuquilt Strip Cutter die - 6-1/2" (\#55017)
- Coordinating thread



## INSTRUCTIONS:

## Cutting Directions:

Fabric 1 (pink):
Cut 12 pairs of chisels
Fabric 2 (green):
Cut 12 pairs of chisels
Cut $4-2 \frac{1}{2}$ " strips across the width of fabric for binding
Fabric 3 (blue):
Cut 12 pairs of chisels

## Sewing Directions:

1) Layout chisel shapes for first row.
2) Pin and sew one chisel to the next chisel, right sides together, along diagonal edge matching squared off tips as shown. This shape is designed to be sewn with an accurate $1 / 4$ " seam allowance. If the sewn rectangle edges are not even along the long sides, adjust your seam allowance so they are even. Rectangles should measure $31 / 2$ " $\times 91 / 2$ ", raw edge to raw edge.

3) Press seam as sewn by placing the iron on top of seam allowance. Finger press seam allowance to one side and press in place. Try not to distort rectangles as you press.
4) Pin and sew shapes together to complete row one. Press seam allowances in one direction.
5) Continue to pin and sew rows of table runner. Press seam allowances of each row in opposite directions.
6) Pin and sew rows together to complete table runner top.

7) Press seams in one direction.

## Quilting and Finishing:

1) Layer batting between table runner top and backing.
2) Pin or baste layers together.
3) Machine quilt with an all-over design.
4) Add binding, mitering corners.


# Plus, find even more table toppers and stunning table décor in our collection of 12 Free Table Runner Quilt Patterns and Table Topper Designs. 

## Spring Table Topper

By: Deborah Schlegel from Art Threads

Springtime quilts are a great way to usher in a new season! Make this Spring Table Topper to remind you of blooming flowers and bright blue skies during the first months of spring. Use this quilted table topper to show off a vase of fresh flowers!


Time to Complete: Weekend project

## MATERIALS:

- 1-1/2 yards of fabric for top and bottom
- Small amounts of fabric for appliques -

2 or 3 oranges
2 or 3 purples
2 or 3 greens

- embroidery thread
- Fusible fleece or low loft batting
- Steam-A-Seam 2
- 2-1/2 yards bias tape



## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Print the patterns on pages 40 and 41 , and cut them out. To make the patterns actual size, use newspaper. For the top/bottom pattern, use a folded piece of newspaper.

2) Fold the top right corner of the newspaper down to the bottom left corner and crease.

3) Do this one more time.

4) Place the fold edge of the printed pattern along the solid fold of the newspaper. Trace the top curve of the pattern and cut along that line.

5) Open up and it should look like this:

6) Fold top/bottom fabric with cut edges meeting so you'll have a double layer big enough for the pattern. Pin the pattern on and cut out.
7) Fold the top piece into quarters and make a mark at the point (where my finger is pointing).

8) Trace the rest of the patterns onto one side of Steam-A-Seam 2 and iron onto the wrong side of the appropriate color of fabric. You'll need 4 of poppy petal \#1, 4 of poppy petal \#2, 4 of poppy petal \#3, 4 poppy leaves, 4 poppy stems, 1 lupine leaf, and 60 lupine petals. Cut out the pieces and remove the Steam-A-Seam 2 backing.
9) Lay the lupine leaf directly in the center of the top piece. Arrange the poppy stems underneath the lupine leaf. Put poppy petal \#1 at the top of the poppy steam.

10) Lay poppy petal 2 over the edge of petal 1 . Lay poppy petal 3 over the edge of petal 2.

11) Add poppy leaves.

12) Between each poppy, lay two lupine petals - one overlapping the other just slightly. Add two more on top of the first two. Continue layering lupine petals until you have 1 left; layer this last one on top pointing up.

13) Adjust the pieces until you like the arrangement and iron into place.
14) You can finish the applique edges with a machine zigzag stitch or with hand embroidery. To give a bit of a folk art feel, I used three strands of embroidery thread and finished the edges with a blanket stitch. I also used a feather stitch down the center of each poppy leaf and added three French knots to poppy petal \#1.

15) Using the top/bottom pattern, cut a piece of fusible felt. Fuse to the top. Layer the pieces and pin into place, working from the middle out.

16) Free motion quilt.


Find hundreds of free quilt patterns, tips, tutorials and more at www.FaveQuilts.com.
17) Finish the edges with bias tape.

18) Iron and enjoy!




## Bright Stripe Bag

By: Pat Sloan

Use four, bright coordinating fabrics to create a beautiful stripe bag adorned with ribbons, ric-rac and embellishments. This colorful stripe bag by Pat Sloan would be a cherished present for your closest friends.

## MATERIALS:

- 4-1/8 yard pieces coordinating prints (flap)

- $1 / 2$ yard red print (bag, strap)
- $1 / 3$ yard green print (bag and flap linings)
- $12 \times 50$ " thin cotton batting
- $1 / 4$ yard fusible fleece
- 7 or more 10 " lengths of ribbon, yarn, rickrack, or other trim
- Assorted embellishments such as beads, charms, and antique buttons

Finished Bag: 7-1/2x8-1/4"

Quantities are for 44/45"-wide, $100 \%$ cotton fabrics. All measurements include a 1/4" seam allowance. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Cut the Fabrics- To make the best use of your fabrics, cut the pieces in the order that follows.

From each of four coordinating prints, cut:

- 2 -- 1-1/2x9" strips

From red print, cut:

- 2 -- $2 \times 42$ " strips
- $2-8 \times 9-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles

From green print, cut:

- 1 -- 8-1/2" square
- 2 -- 8x10-1/2" rectangles

From thin cotton batting, cut:

- 1 -- $3 / 4 \times 48^{\prime \prime}$ strip
- 1 -- 9 " square

From fusible fleece, cut:

- 2 -- 8x9-1/2" rectangles


## Assemble and Embellish Flap

1) Referring to Diagram 1 , cover the 9 " batting square with the eight coordinating print $1-1 / 2 \times 9$ " strips, overlapping strip edges by about $3 / 8$ ". Topstitch through all layers along each strip raw edge to make flap front.


DIAGRAM I
2) Cover raw edges where strips overlap with 10 " lengths of ribbon, yarn, rickrack, or other trim; machine-stitch in place. To couch yarn or small cording, zigzag over it with clear monofilament thread. Sew wide ribbons in place with a straight stitch along both edges or a wide zigzag stitch. Attach rickrack and other narrow trims with a straight stitch down the center. If beaded trim has a decorative header (like this purse trim's satin ribbon), you don't have to hide it in a seam; straightstitch in place instead.
3) Hand-stitch any small beads or charms as desired, placing them at least 1" away from the flap front raw edges. (Attaching these small embellishments now ensures that most knots will be hidden inside the finished flap.)
4) Trim flap front to $8-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square. With right sides together, sew the flap front and the green print 8$1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ square on all sides, leaving an opening for turning in the center of the top edge (Diagram 2). Turn right side out and press, turning under raw edges. Topstitch $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ from all edges to complete the flap.


DIAGRAM 2


## Assemble Bag Body and Lining

1) Following the manufacturer's instructions, press the fusible fleece $8 \times 9-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles onto backs of the red print $8 \times 9-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ rectangles; let cool. Sew together red print rectangles along both 9-1/2"-long edges (the sides) and one 8 " edge (the bottom) to make the bag body (Diagram 3). Press seams open.

2) To box a bottom corner of the bag body, match the bottom seam and side seam; stitch across the resulting triangle 1 " from the point (Diagram 4). Trim the seam allowance to $1 / 4$ ". Repeat to box the remaining bottom corner. Turn bag body right side out.


DIAGRAM 4
3) Join green print rectangles along 10-1/2"-long edges (the sides) and one 8" edge (the bottom) to make the bag lining. Press seams open.
4) Repeat Step 2 to box the bottom corners of the bag lining. Do not turn bag lining right side out.
5) With wrong sides together, insert bag lining into the bag body; the lining should extend 1 " above bag body. Fold lining top edge under $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ twice; topstitch through all layers close to folded edge of lining (Diagram 5).

6) Referring to Diagram 6, lap the top edge of the flap 1-1/2" over the top edge of the bag back; flap will extend slightly beyond bag side edges. Being careful not to catch bag front in stitching, topstitch across flap two or three times to secure.


## Finish Bag

1) Cut and piece red print $2 \times 42^{\prime \prime}$ strips to make a $2 \times 49$ " handle strip.
2) Press under $1 / 4$ " along each long edge of the red print handle strip. Insert the batting $3 / 4 \times 48$ " strip under one fold; batting strip should end $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ from handle strip ends. Fold the handle strip in half along the batting edge and topstitch $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ from folded edges to make the handle (Diagram 7).

3) Turn under handle ends 1/2". Referring to Diagram 8, position ends along flap top edge, 3/4" from flap sides. Topstitch in place, being careful not to catch bag front in stitching.

4) Hand-stitch buttons and larger charms to flap, stacking two or more buttons if desired.

## How to Make a Patchwork Pillow

By: Corinne from Heart of Mary

If you're brand new to quilting and patchwork, free patchwork pillow patterns like this one are a great place to start. The How to Make a Patchwork Pillow tutorial will get you familiar with piecing squares and adding a border.

Pillow Size: 15.5 inches wide $\times 15.5$ inches tall

Time to Complete: In an evening


## MATERIALS:

- $18-5^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime}$ cotton quilting squares in assorted prints
- approximately $18^{\prime \prime} \times 25$ " plain cotton fabric for borders (I used natural linen)
- polyester filling
- sewing essentials such as matching thread, needle, sewing machine, ruler, marker, pins, etc.

Seam Allowance: $3 / 8$ inch throughout

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Cut plain cotton fabric in the following manner:

- 4 pieces $-2-3 / 4$ " $\times 13-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ for top and bottom edges of pillow
- 4 pieces $-17-1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 2-3 / 4$ " for right and left sides of pillow

2) Position nine squares into 3 rows of 3 squares each row until desired layout is achieved.

3) Assemble top row by stitching the squares right sides together. Press the seams down to the right.

4) Stitch the middle and bottom rows in the same way. Press the seams down in alternating directions.


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5) Stitch rows right sides together along the long sides to complete the 3 by 3 patchwork square. Be sure that all seamlines are aligned. Press the horizontal seams open.

6) With right sides together, sew top and bottom strips to patchwork square. Press top seam upward and bottom seam downward.

7) With right sides together, sew right and left strips to the patchwork square. Press right seam to the right and left seam to the left.


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8) Repeat steps 2 to 7 for the other side of the pillow using the remaining squares and strips.

9) With right sides together, sew front and back of pillow all around but leave a 3" opening in the bottom for turning. Clip corners.


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10) Turn pillowcase right side out, pushing corners out well. Stuff firmly with polyester filling.

11) Slipstitch the opening closed.


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12) There you have it, you're all done! Easy, wasn't it? Enjoy your new, one-of-a-kind patchwork pillow!


## We have even more quilted home décor ideas in our eBook, DIY Home Decor: How to Make Placemats and Other Easy Sewing Projects for a Country Kitchen.

## Baby Bird Quilted Wall Art

By: Vanessa from Lella Boutique

The Baby Bird Quilted Wall Art piece is made by quilting a few scraps of fabric and batting together and then hand appliqueing shapes and letters on top. This tutorial makes an adorable handcrafted baby decoration for nurseries. You will applique the shapes using iron-on adhesive and embroider an
 outline for a finished look.

Time to Complete: In an evening

## MATERIALS:

- Fabric scraps in assorted colors and prints for background and appliques
- A frame
- Basting spray or basting pins
- A lightbox (or sunlit window)
- Scrap of $1 / 8$ "-thick batting
- Heat N' Bond iron adhesive
- Scissors
- Xacto knife (optional)
- Embroidery thread
- Pen or pencil



## INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Remove the glass from the frame and trace around it on the "wrong" side of the background scrap. Also trace the glass outline onto your scrap of batting. Carefully cut these shapes out.

2) Lay the background fabric on top of the batting, making sure the edges line up. Then, "glue" the layers together using a sticky basting spray.
3) Print out the applique templates from page 54. Trace the images onto the paper side of the iron adhesive, tracing the mirror image of what you want. You will want to make sure you have one bird, one wing, one branch, five hearts, and at least six leaves.

4) For the lettering, I created a custom document on my computer and printed it out to trace. Feel free to play around with different fonts on your computer until you find something you love. Just keep in mind that you will have to cut these letters out, which is extremely difficult if you choose something with thin lines.

5) Trace the mirror image of the letters onto the paper side of the iron adhesive along with the other silhouettes.

6) Next, cut the iron adhesive into sections. Pair each section with its corresponding scrap.

7) Heat your iron according to the iron adhesive package instructions. Iron the gritty side of the iron adhesive to the "wrong" side of your fabric.

8) Carefully cut out each silhouette along the traced lines.


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9) The letters can be slightly trickier--especially when you have an enclosed part that needs to be removed. I used an Xacto knife to remove it.

10) Once all the silhouettes are cut out, peel off the paper from the back.

11) Arrange the silhouettes onto your background. Iron the images in place. The heat from the iron will cause them to permanently adhere to the fabric.

12) Cut a strand of embroidery thread a few feet long. A strand of embroidery thread is made up of six threads and is a little thicker than what I want for my lettering. Three threads should be perfect, so I split the strand in half. Thread a needle with one of the halves and tie a knot at the end.

13) Since I want a hard outline to make these letters stand out, I am going to utilize a backstitch. I begin by bringing the needle up one "space" away from the edge.

14) Next, I insert the needle down into the fabric to the left of where it came up.

15) Bring the needle up one "space" to the right of the completed stitch. Then go back down to the left. Get it? You're backstitching!



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16) I've used a backstitch around all my lettering, hearts, and leaves. I didn't feel like the bird silhouette needed a hard outline, so I have just used a simple running stitch to give it a more simple outline. A running stitch is the simplest stitch of all. Just move the needle in and out in a line, no fancy tricks. For the branch, I also did a running stitch, but it's inside of the branch. You can do whatever stitch you think will look best--I've just shown you a couple of the possibilities that exist. Also, I stitched a button "eye" onto the bird, using blue embroidery thread (all six strands) for the bird's eye color.

17) Machine quilt the piece as desired.
18) Insert the piece into the frame, and you're done!



12 Awesome Free Quilt Patterns and Small Quilted Projects

## FAVEQUILTS

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