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How to Make an Appliqué Cat – Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial

This **Appliqué Cat Tutorial** teaches you how to make a charming handmade cat using **fabric appliqué, fusible web, hand embroidery, blanket stitch, quilting, and optional binding**. The finished appliqué cat measures approximately **19 cm tall by 16 cm wide**.



How to Make a Appliqué Cat

♥ Step-by-Step Tutorial ♥

A charming appliqué cat using quilt techniques. Perfect for quilts, pillows, wall hangings and more!



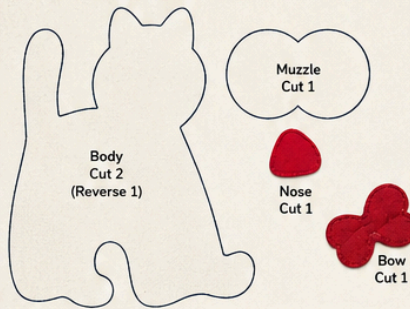
1. MATERIALS

- Cotton fabrics:
 - Body (Navy with dots)
 - Muzzle (Cream)
 - Nose (Red)
 - Bow (Red)
- Fusible web
- Embroidery floss (black, white)
- Needle for hand sewing
- Scissors
- Pins or clips
- Quilt batting (optional)
- Background fabric



* Seam allowance: 0.7 cm

2. PATTERN PIECES (Add 0.7 cm seam allowance)



3. CUTTING GUIDE (cm)

Piece	Fabric	Cut	Size (cm)
Body	Navy with dots	2	21 x 17
Muzzle	Cream	1	7.5 x 7
Nose	Red	1	3 x 3
Bow	Red	1	5 x 3.5
Background	Any	1	25 x 25
Batting (opt.)	Any	1	25 x 25

4. STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. PREPARE

Iron fusible web (adhesive side) to the wrong side of all appliqué fabrics. Let cool and cut out pattern pieces.



2. POSITION

Place pieces on the body to arrange the cat's face and bow. Adjust until you like the placement.



3. FUSE

Fuse the pieces in place using a dry iron (no steam). Press from the front.



4. APPLIQUÉ

Blanket stitch around all appliqué pieces using matching thread.



5. EMBROIDER DETAILS

Embroider whiskers (straight stitches) and add eyes (French knots or small buttons).



6. PREPARE BACKGROUND

Cut background fabric 25 x 25 cm. Center the appliqué cat on the background.



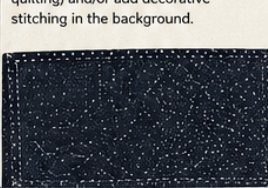
7. LAYER & BASTE

Layer: Background (right side up) + Batting (optional) + Appliqué (right side up). Pin or baste together.



8. QUILT

Quilt around the cat (outline quilting) and/or add decorative stitching in the background.



9. TRIM

Trim the background square to your desired finished size.



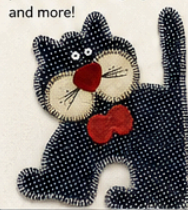
10. BIND (OPTIONAL)

Bind all edges with 2.5 cm fabric strips for a clean quilted finish.



11. FINISH

Your appliqué cat is complete! Use it on quilts, pillows, wall hangings and more!



STITCH GUIDE (USED)

- Blanket Stitch (For appliqué)
- Straight Stitch (For whiskers)
- French Knot (For eyes)
- Quilting Stitch (Outline or echo)



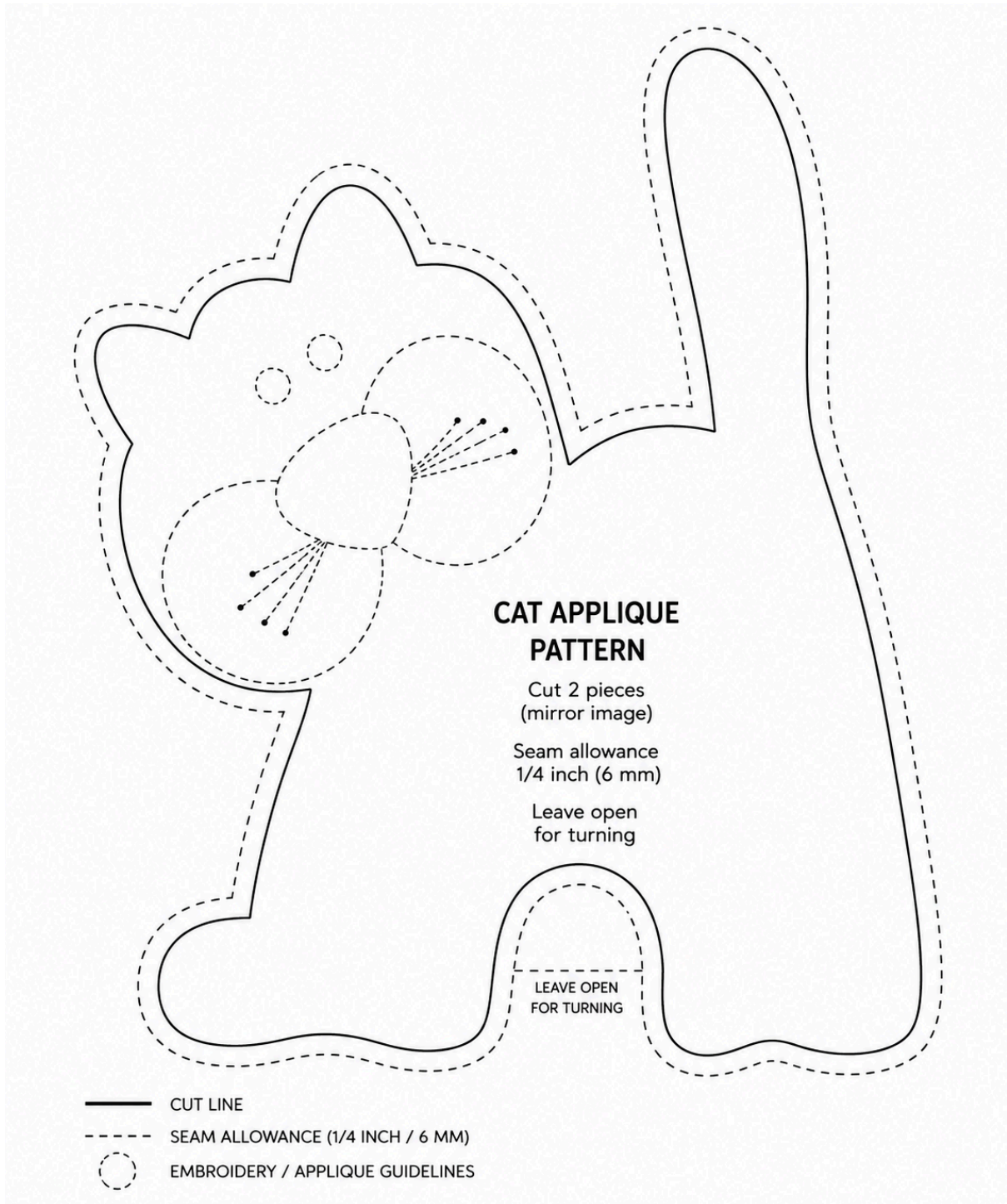
QUILT METHODS (USA)

- Appliqué
Fusible web + hand blanket stitch.
- Embroidery
Add details with hand embroidery.
- Quilting
Layer, baste, and quilt for dimension.
- Binding
Finish edges for durability and style.

TIPS

- Use a light box or window to help with placement.
- Press fabrics before cutting for better results.
- Take small stitches for a neat blanket stitch.
- Practice on scraps before starting your project.
- Have fun and make it your own!

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1. Materials Needed

To make this appliqué cat, prepare the following materials:

Cotton fabrics:

Navy fabric with white dots for the cat body

Cream fabric for the muzzle

Red fabric for the nose and bow

Background fabric for the quilt block or wall hanging

You will also need:

Fusible web

Embroidery floss in black and white

Needle for hand sewing

Scissors

Pins or clips

Quilt batting optional

Iron

Pencil or fabric marker

Thread for appliqué

Ruler or measuring tape

Use a **0.7 cm seam allowance** when preparing and cutting the appliqué pattern pieces.

2. Finished Size

The finished cat appliqué should measure about:

Height: 19 cm

Width: 16 cm

This size is perfect for **quilts, pillows, wall hangings, tote bags, baby blankets, sewing gifts, and handmade home décor.**

3. Pattern Pieces

You will need the following appliqué pieces:

Cat body: cut 2 pieces from navy dotted fabric, reverse 1 piece

Muzzle: cut 1 piece from cream fabric

Nose: cut 1 piece from red fabric

Bow: cut 1 piece from red fabric

The cat body is the largest piece. It includes the ears, head, tail, legs, and curved body shape.

The muzzle is a rounded double-lobed shape placed on the cat's face.

The nose is a small rounded triangle placed in the center of the muzzle.

The bow is placed on the cat's chest.

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4. Cutting Guide

Cut the pieces using these approximate measurements:

Body: navy fabric with dots, cut 2, size **21 cm x 17 cm**

Muzzle: cream fabric, cut 1, size **7.5 cm x 7 cm**

Nose: red fabric, cut 1, size **3 cm x 3 cm**

Bow: red fabric, cut 1, size **5 cm x 3.5 cm**

Background: any fabric, cut 1, size **25 cm x 25 cm**

Batting: optional, cut 1, size **25 cm x 25 cm**

5. Prepare the Fusible Web

Place the fusible web with the adhesive side facing the wrong side of each appliqué fabric.

Press it gently with an iron according to the fusible web manufacturer's instructions.

Do not use too much steam. A dry iron is usually best for this step.

Let the fabric cool completely before cutting.

After cooling, trace or place your pattern pieces on the prepared fabric.

Cut each appliqué piece carefully along the pattern lines.

6. Arrange the Cat Face and Bow

Place the cat body on your work surface.

Position the cream muzzle on the cat's face area.

Place the red nose in the center of the muzzle.

Position the red bow on the lower front part of the cat body.

Before fusing, move the pieces around until the cat looks balanced and cute.

The muzzle should sit evenly on the face, the nose should be centered, and the bow should sit slightly below the face.

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7. Fuse the Appliqué Pieces

Once you like the placement, remove the paper backing from the fusible web.

Place each appliqué piece onto the cat body.

Cover the appliqué with a pressing cloth if needed.

Press with a dry iron.

Hold the iron still instead of sliding it, so the pieces do not shift.

Fuse the muzzle first, then the nose, then the bow.

Let everything cool before sewing.

8. Sew the Appliqué Edges

Use **blanket stitch** around all appliqué pieces.

Sew around the muzzle, nose, bow, and cat body edges.

You may stitch by hand for a handmade look or use a sewing machine with a blanket stitch setting.

For a traditional quilt-style finish, hand blanket stitch gives a beautiful decorative edge.

Use small, even stitches.

Try to keep the spacing consistent around the curves.

9. Add Embroidery Details

Use black embroidery floss to stitch the whiskers.

Make straight stitches coming out from each side of the nose.

Use small stitches to create the mouth lines if desired.

For the eyes, use **French knots**, small buttons, or tiny embroidered circles.

White embroidery floss can be used to highlight the eyes.

Keep the face simple and expressive.

The embroidery gives the cat personality and charm.

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10. Prepare the Background Fabric

Cut the background fabric to **25 cm x 25 cm**.

Press it flat before placing the appliqué cat.

Center the finished cat appliqué on the background fabric.

Leave enough space around the edges for trimming, quilting, or binding.

Pin or lightly baste the cat in place.

Make sure the cat is straight and centered before moving to the next step.

11. Layer and Baste

Create a quilt sandwich:

Place the backing fabric right side down.

Add the batting on top if you are using it.

Place the background fabric with the appliqué cat right side up.

Smooth all layers carefully.

Pin or baste the layers together.

This keeps everything stable while quilting.

12. Quilt Around the Cat

Quilt around the cat shape using outline quilting.

You can quilt close to the appliqué edge to help the cat stand out.

You may also add decorative stitching in the background.

Echo quilting around the cat creates a soft handmade effect.

Keep the quilting simple if you want the appliqué cat to be the main focus.

Use matching or contrasting thread depending on your preferred style.

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13. Trim the Block

After quilting, trim the background square to your desired finished size.

Use a ruler to keep the edges straight.

Trim away extra batting and backing fabric.

Be careful not to cut too close to the appliqué.

The trimmed block can be used as a quilt block, pillow front, wall hanging, or fabric panel.

14. Bind the Edges Optional

Binding is optional, but it gives the project a clean finished edge.

Cut fabric strips about **2.5 cm wide**.

Sew the binding around the edge of the quilted block.

Fold the binding to the back and stitch it down.

This step is ideal if you are making a mini quilt or wall hanging.

For pillows or larger quilt projects, you may skip binding and sew the block into another project.

15. Final Finish

Your appliqué cat is complete! 🐱❤️

Use it on:

Quilts

Pillows

Wall hangings

Tote bags

Baby blankets

Handmade gifts

Sewing room décor

Press the finished piece gently from the back.

Do not press too hard over embroidery or raised stitches.

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Stitch Guide Used

Blanket Stitch: used around appliqué edges.

Straight Stitch: used for whiskers and small details.

French Knot: used for eyes.

Quilting Stitch: used around the cat and on the background.

Main Quilt Methods Used

Appliqué: attaching fabric shapes onto a background or base fabric.

Fusible Web: adhesive material used to hold appliqué pieces in place before stitching.

Hand Embroidery: decorative stitching used to add eyes, whiskers, and personality.

Quilting: stitching through fabric layers to add texture and stability.

Binding: finishing the edges with fabric strips for durability and style.

Helpful Tips

Press fabrics before cutting.

Use sharp scissors for clean appliqué edges.

Use a light box or window to help with placement.

Practice blanket stitch on fabric scraps first.

Use small stitches for a neat handmade finish.

Let fused pieces cool before stitching.

Choose high-contrast fabrics so the cat stands out.

Most importantly, have fun and make it your own! ❤️