

# Colorful Cow Quilt – Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial



This **Colorful Cow Quilt** is a finished quilt block measuring **45 cm x 57 cm**. The design uses **appliqué, free-motion quilting, straight stitch details, binding, and a quilt sandwich** to create a cheerful fabric cow block.

## Colorful Cow Quilt

Step-by-Step Tutorial

Block Size  
45 cm x 57 cm

### 1. FINISHED SIZE

Block size:  
45 cm x 57 cm

### 2. FABRIC & CUTTING (seam allowance 0.7 cm included)

Light plaid (forehead)	12 x 18 cm
Coral pink (cheek)	10 x 16 cm
Pink floral (cheek)	10 x 16 cm
Black (eye patch)	8 x 10 cm
White (eye)	3 x 3 cm
Blue (head top)	10 x 10 cm
Aqua (muzzle)	14 x 10 cm
Navy (muzzle border)	16 x 11 cm
Purple floral (left ear front)	16 x 12 cm
Mint floral (left ear back)	16 x 10 cm
Magenta (right ear strip)	8 x 6 cm
Green floral (right ear back)	16 x 10 cm
Neck large floral	20 x 25 cm
White background	50 x 62 cm
Hair strands (brown)	6 x 1 cm each
Top hair (blue/purple/pink)	6 x 0.7 cm each
For batting & backing	50 x 62 cm

### 3. APPLIQUE PATTERN (actual size)

- A Black eye patch
- B Blue head top
- C Plaid forehead
- D Coral pink cheek (with flowers)
- E Eye (white + black)
- F Aqua muzzle
- G Navy muzzle border (with stars)
- H Right inner ear (magenta)
- I Left ear front (purple floral)
- J Right ear back (green floral)
- K Neck large floral
- L Top hair (3 pieces)
- M Whiskers (brown)

### 4. STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Trace all pieces on the wrong side of the fabric.
- 2 Cut all the pieces carefully.
- 3 Arrange all pieces on the background (white fabric).
- 4 Pin or baste pieces in place.
- 5 Applique each piece with a small zigzag stitch.
- 6 Add details:
  - Eyes (black with white highlight)
  - Nostrils on the muzzle
- 7 Add whiskers (M) and top hair (L) with straight stitch or free motion.
- 8 Quilt the background using free motion (meander or pebble).
- 9 Trim excess fabric behind.
- 10 Layer: quilt top + batting + backing. Baste.
- 11 Bind all around with 6.5 cm wide binding.

### 5. SEWING & QUILTING METHODS (US Quilt)

<b>Applique</b>  Machine applique with small zigzag stitch (Width 1.5–2.0 mm) Length 1.5–2.0 mm	<b>Turned Edge Applique (another option)</b>  Turn raw edges under 0.5 cm and hand stitch with invisible stitch.	<b>Free Motion Quilting</b>  Meander / stipple all over the background.	<b>Straight Stitch</b>  Use straight stitch to sew hair strands.
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### 6. TIPS

- ✓ Use starch or Best Press to stabilize fabric.
- ✓ Use small stitches for neat applique.
- ✓ Backstitch at the beginning and end.
- ✓ Press each piece before stitching.
- ✓ Use good quality thread (40 wt).
- ✓ Quilt slowly and follow the curves.

### QUILT SANDWICH (order)

← Backing (wrong side)  
 ← Batting  
 ← Quilt Top (right side)

### BINDING

Strip: 6.5 cm wide x length of the perimeter + 10 cm (about 260 cm)

Mitered corners

### METHODS USED (US QUILT TERMINOLOGY)

<b>Applique</b> (zigzag stitch) 	<b>Turned Edge Applique</b> (hand stitch) 	<b>Free Motion Quilting</b> (meander/stipple) 	<b>Straight Stitch</b> (detail work) 	<b>Basting</b> (safety pins or spray baste) 	<b>Binding</b> (mitered corners) 	<b>Pressing</b> (every step) 
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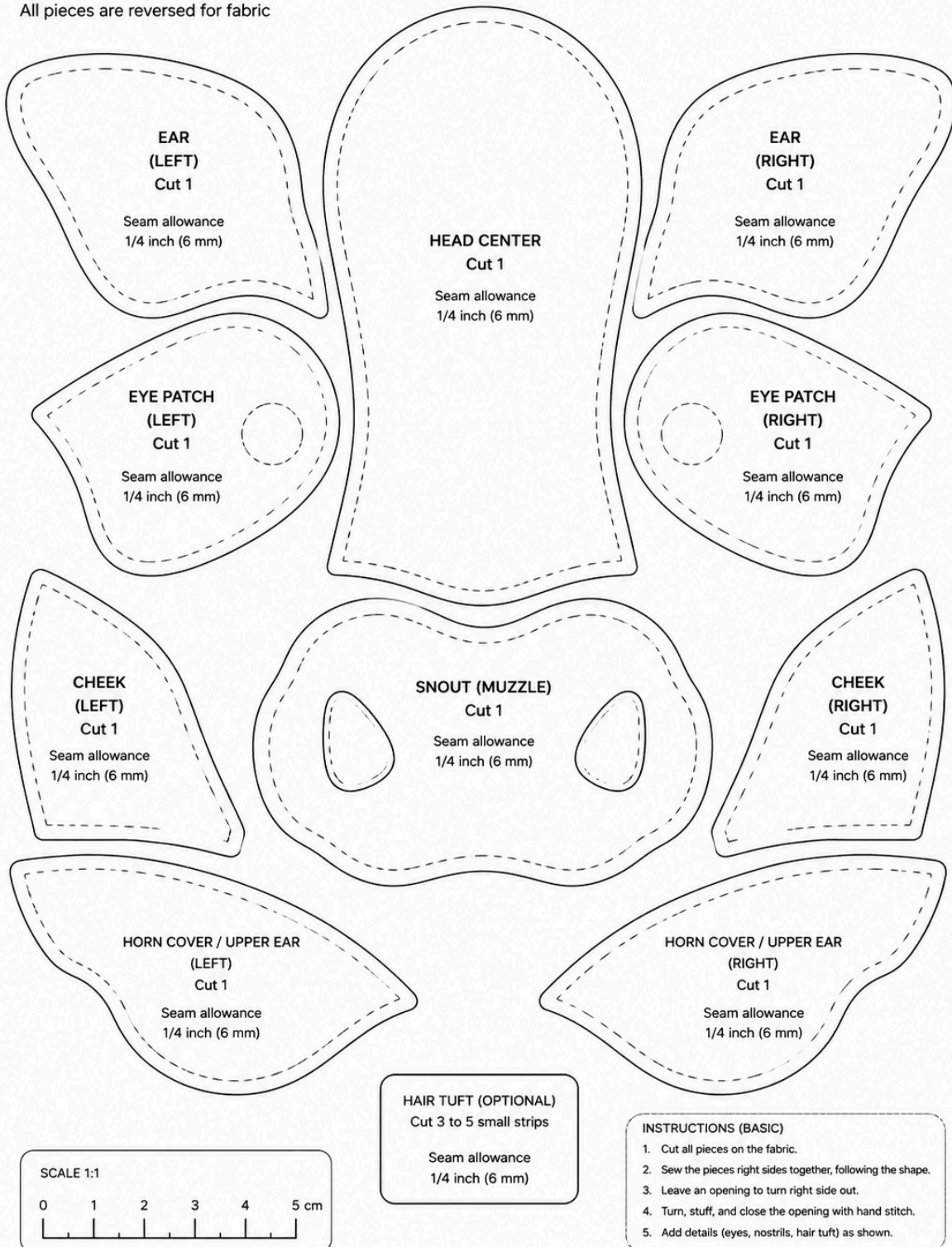
### CARE INSTRUCTIONS

 Machine wash cold	 Gentle cycle	 Do not bleach	 Tumble dry low	 Iron if needed
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# PATCHWORK COW – PATTERN

Seam allowance included (1/4 inch / 6 mm)

All pieces are reversed for fabric



## 1. Finished Size

The finished block size is:

**45 cm wide x 57 cm tall**

This tutorial is written using **US quilt terminology**. Seam allowance is already included where needed, and the suggested seam allowance is **0.7 cm**.

## **2. Fabric and Cutting List**

Cut the pieces as follows:

Light plaid fabric for the forehead: **12 x 18 cm**

Coral pink fabric for one cheek: **10 x 16 cm**

Pink floral fabric for the other cheek: **10 x 16 cm**

Black fabric for the eye patch: **8 x 10 cm**

White fabric for the eye: **3 x 3 cm**

Blue fabric for the top of the head: **10 x 10 cm**

Aqua fabric for the muzzle: **14 x 10 cm**

Navy fabric for the muzzle border: **16 x 11 cm**

Purple floral fabric for the left ear front: **16 x 12 cm**

Mint floral fabric for the left ear back: **16 x 10 cm**

Magenta fabric for the right ear strip: **8 x 6 cm**

Green floral fabric for the right ear back: **16 x 10 cm**

Neck fabric: **20 x 25 cm**

White background fabric: **50 x 62 cm**

Brown fabric or thread for hair strands: **6 x 1 cm each**

Pink, blue, and purple fabric for top hair: **6 x 0.7 cm each**

Batting and backing fabric: **50 x 62 cm each**

## **3. Prepare the Appliqué Pattern**

Trace all pattern pieces from the chart onto the wrong side of the fabrics.

Use the actual-size appliqué shapes for each section:

A: black eye patch  
B: blue head top  
C: plaid forehead  
D: coral pink cheek  
E: eye  
F: aqua muzzle  
G: navy muzzle border  
H: right inner ear  
I: left ear front  
J: right ear back  
K: neck floral fabric  
L: top hair pieces  
M: brown whiskers

Cut every piece carefully, keeping the curves smooth.

## 4. Arrange the Cow Design

Place the white background fabric flat on your table.

Arrange the cow pieces on top before sewing. Start with the larger shapes first: neck, ears, head, forehead, cheeks, muzzle, and eye patch.

Check the position of every piece before pinning. The cow should sit diagonally, with the ears reaching outward and the muzzle centered near the lower face.

Pin or baste the appliqué pieces in place.

## 5. Appliqué the Fabric Pieces

Use a **small zigzag stitch** to sew around each appliqué piece.

Suggested machine settings:

Width: **1.5–2.0 mm**

Length: **1.5–2.0 mm**

Sew slowly around curves. Turn the fabric gently so the stitches stay close to the raw edges.

For an optional cleaner finish, use **turned edge appliqué** by folding the raw edge under about **0.5 cm** and hand stitching it invisibly.

## 6. Add the Cow Details

Add the eye using the white fabric circle and black detail.

Sew nostrils onto the aqua muzzle using black fabric or thread.

Add the navy muzzle border around the aqua muzzle.

Place and sew the top hair pieces using pink, blue, and purple strips.

Add the brown whiskers with a straight stitch or free-motion stitching.

## 7. Trim the Back of the Appliqué

After appliqué is finished, turn the quilt top over.

Carefully trim excess fabric from behind layered appliqué areas.

This reduces bulk and helps the quilt block lie flatter.

Be careful not to cut the front appliqué stitches.

## 8. Make the Quilt Sandwich

Layer the quilt in this order:

Backing fabric, wrong side up

Batting in the middle

Quilt top, right side up

Smooth all layers so there are no wrinkles.

Baste the layers together using safety pins or spray baste.

## 9. Quilt the Background

Use **free-motion quilting** over the white background.

A meander or stipple pattern works well.

Quilt slowly and follow the open spaces around the cow design.

This gives the block texture and helps the colorful cow stand out.

## 10. Add Straight Stitch Details

Use straight stitch for the hair strands and small detail lines.

Backstitch at the beginning and end of each line.

You can also add extra stitching around the ears, muzzle, or neck to give the design more definition.

## 11. Bind the Quilt Block

Cut binding strips **6.5 cm wide**.

You need enough binding for the full perimeter plus about **10 cm extra**, around **260 cm total**.

Sew the binding around the quilt edges.

Fold the corners neatly into **mitered corners**.

Finish the binding by machine or hand stitching.

## 12. Pressing and Finishing

Press the quilt block carefully after each major step.

Use starch or Best Press to stabilize fabric before appliqué.

Use good-quality thread, around **40 wt**, for clean stitching.

Quilt slowly, follow the curves, and keep the design smooth.

## Care Instructions

Machine wash cold.

Use a gentle cycle.

Do not bleach.

Tumble dry low.

Iron if needed.

## Final Result

Your **Colorful Cow Quilt** block is now complete. This project combines bright fabrics, appliqué, quilting, and playful details to create a fun handmade cow design perfect for wall décor, gifts, quilt blocks, or craft displays.