

Baby Elephant on a Moon – Quilt Tutorial

Finished size: 60 cm x 60 cm (23.6" x 23.6")



MATERIALS

- 100% cotton fabric (colors below)
- Batting 62 cm x 62 cm
- Backing fabric 62 cm x 62 cm
- Binding fabric 250 cm x 6 cm
- Thread to match
- Appliqué thread
- Sewing needle
- Pins / Clips
- Fabric marker
- Rotary cutter
- Quilting ruler
- Iron

FABRIC COLORS

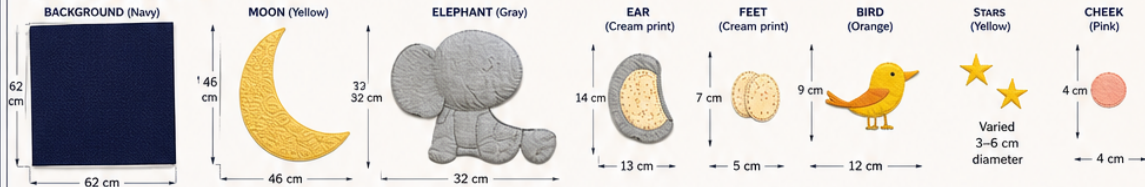


QUILT LAYERS (from bottom to top)



CUTTING GUIDE (all measurements include 0.75 cm seam allowance)

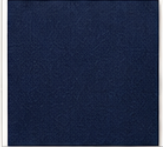
All pieces are cut from cotton fabric.



Note: You can resize the pieces slightly to suit your preference, but keep proportions balanced.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. PREPARE THE BACKGROUND



Cut a 62 cm x 62 cm square of navy fabric for the quilt top background.

2. APPLIQUÉ THE MOON



Center the yellow moon on the background. Appliqué in place using a blanket stitch.

3. APPLIQUÉ THE ELEPHANT



Place the elephant on the moon. Appliqué around all edges with a blanket stitch.

4. ADD EAR & FEET



Appliqué the ear and feet pieces using a blanket stitch.

5. ADD CHEEK & EYE



Appliqué the pink cheek. Embroider the closed eye with a back stitch.

6. ADD BIRD



Appliqué the bird on top of the elephant's head.

7. ADD STARS



Appliqué the stars around the elephant using blanket stitch.

8. QUILTING



Quilt the background with free-motion swirls and around the appliqué pieces.

9. TRIM & SQUARE



Trim the quilt to 60 cm x 60 cm, squaring the edges.

10. BINDING



Attach binding strips (6 cm wide). Fold to the back and hand stitch or machine sew.

QUILTING METHODS (US QUILT STYLE)

1. APPLIQUÉ



Use the blanket stitch to appliqué each piece.

2. BACK STITCH (Outline)



Use back stitch for details like eyes and bird legs.

3. FREE-MOTION QUILTING



Use free-motion quilting to create swirls in the background.

4. STRAIGHT QUILTING (Optional)



You can add straight lines or echo quilting around the moon.

ASSEMBLY & FINISHING

1. Layer the backing (wrong side up), the batting, and the quilt top (right side up). Pin or baste.
2. Quilt as desired.
3. Trim the quilt to 60 cm x 60 cm.
4. Join binding strips end to end.
5. Sew binding to the front, miter corners.
6. Fold binding to the back and hand stitch or machine stitch.



SEWING & QUILT METHODS LEGEND

Running Stitch
For basting or gathering.

Back Stitch
Strong stitch for details and outlines.

Blanket Stitch
For appliqué edges.

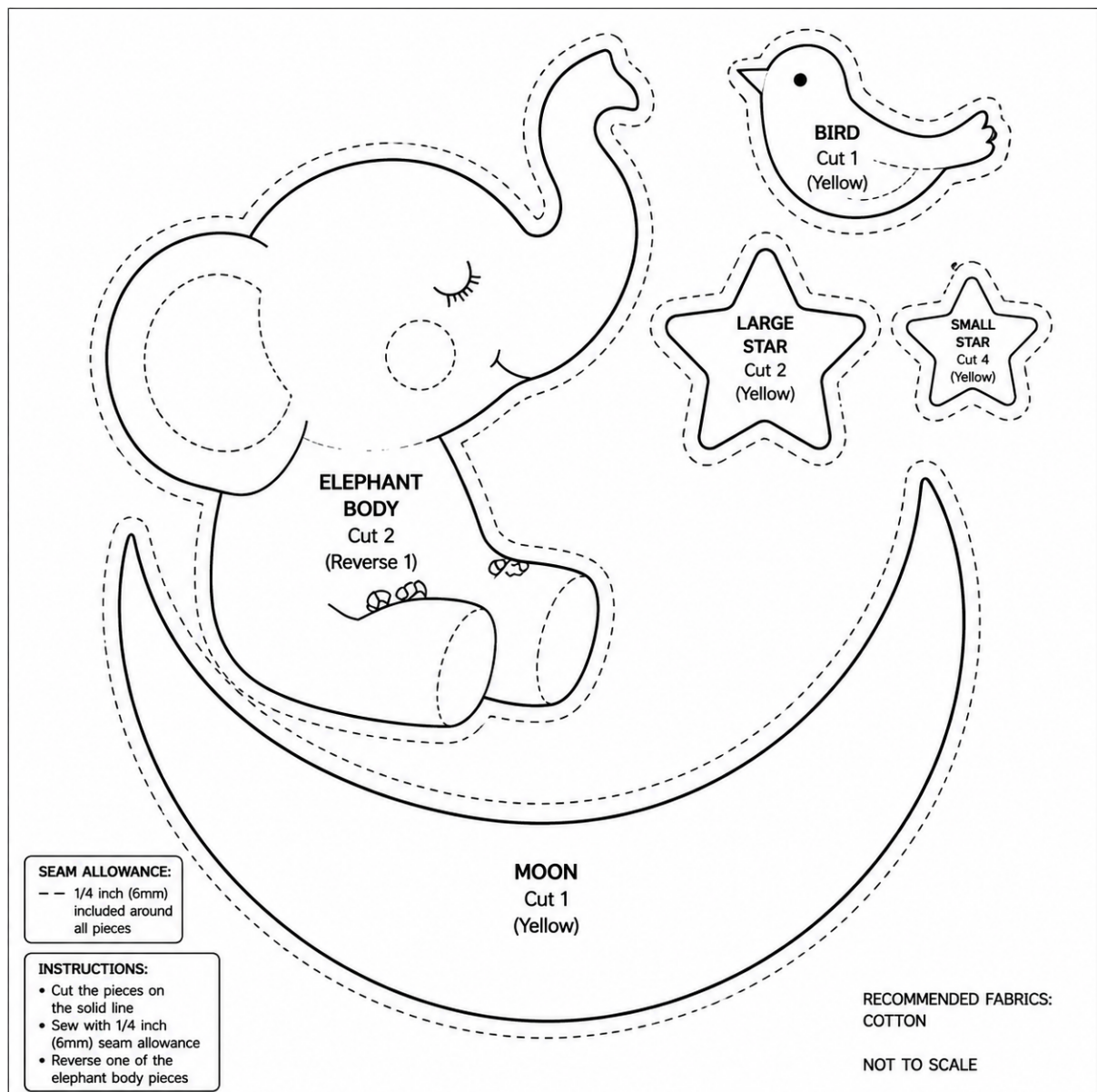
Straight Stitch
For piecing and seams.

Free-Motion Quilting
For decorative quilting.

Mitered Corner
Fold binding at 45°.

TIPS

- Use fabric glue or pins to hold appliqué pieces before stitching.
- Press each step carefully.
- Take your time with quilting for a beautiful finish.
- Have fun and enjoy the process!



<https://creative.craftsforlove.com/> - **SEE THE BEST PATTERNS**

Baby Elephant on a Moon Quilt Tutorial

  **Finished Size: 23.6" × 23.6" (60 × 60 cm)**

Create this adorable Baby Elephant on a Moon Quilt using fusible appliqué, simple quilting techniques, and beginner-friendly construction methods. This tutorial follows

the original project layout as closely as possible while expanding every step with detailed explanations so that anyone in the United States—from beginners to experienced quilters—can successfully complete the quilt from start to finish.

The project combines fusible appliqué, blanket stitching, free-motion quilting, and traditional quilt binding into one beautiful wall quilt or nursery decoration.

The finished quilt features:

-  A gray baby elephant
-  A yellow crescent moon
-  Decorative stars
-  A small orange bird
-  A navy quilted night sky

The instructions below are written using standard quilting terminology commonly used in the U.S.

Materials

Prepare all materials before beginning.

Fabrics

- 100% cotton quilting fabric

Fabric Colors

- Navy (background)
- Gray (elephant)
- Yellow (moon and stars)
- Orange (bird)
- Cream print (ear and feet)
- Light yellow accent fabric

- **Pink fabric for the cheek**

Batting

- **24.4" × 24.4" (62 × 62 cm)**

Backing Fabric

- **24.4" × 24.4" (62 × 62 cm)**

Binding Fabric

- **98" × 2³/₈" (250 × 6 cm)**

Thread

- **Matching cotton thread**
- **Appliqué thread**
- **Quilting thread**

Tools

- **Sewing machine**
- **Rotary cutter**
- **Self-healing cutting mat**
- **Quilting ruler**
- **Fabric scissors**
- **Fabric marker**
- **Pins or quilting clips**
- **Iron**
- **Ironing board**
- **Temporary fabric glue (optional)**

Quilt Layers

Build the quilt sandwich in the following order:

- 1. Backing fabric (wrong side facing up)**

- 2. Cotton batting**
- 3. Quilt top (right side facing up)**

Smooth every layer carefully before quilting.

Cutting Guide

All measurements already include a $\frac{3}{4}$ cm (approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ ") seam allowance.

Background

Cut:

- **1 Navy square**
- **24.4" × 24.4" (62 × 62 cm)**

Moon

Cut:

- **1 Yellow crescent**
- **Approximately 18" high × 18" wide**
- **(46 × 46 cm)**

Elephant

Cut:

- **1 Main elephant**
- **Approximately 12½" × 12½"**
- **(32 × 32 cm)**

Ear

Cut:

- **1 Gray outer ear**
- **5½" × 5"**

- (14 × 13 cm)

Ear Insert

Cut:

- 1 Cream print inner ear

Feet

Cut:

- 2 Cream print foot pads
- Approximately 2³/₄" × 2"
- (7 × 5 cm)

Bird

Cut:

- 1 Orange bird
- Approximately 4³/₄" long
- (12 cm)

Stars

Cut several stars measuring:

- Between 1¹/₄" and 2³/₈"
- (3–6 cm)

Cheek

Cut:

- 1 Pink circle
- Approximately 1¹/₂"
- (4 cm)

Prepare the Fabric Pieces

Wash and press all fabrics before cutting.

Using either paper templates or freezer-paper templates, trace every shape onto the wrong side of the fabric.

If using fusible web, follow the manufacturer's instructions before cutting.

Carefully cut every appliqué piece along the traced lines.

Organize all pieces into separate groups before beginning assembly.

This makes placement much easier later.

Prepare the Background

Cut the navy background square to 24.4" × 24.4" (62 × 62 cm).

Press thoroughly.

If desired, lightly starch the fabric to improve stability.

Mark the vertical and horizontal center lines using a removable fabric marker.

These guidelines help position the moon and elephant accurately.

Position the Moon 🌙

Lay the yellow crescent moon near the bottom center of the background.

Leave a comfortable border around every edge.

Adjust the curve so the elephant will naturally appear seated inside it.

Once satisfied with the placement:

- **Fuse using an iron (if using fusible web), or**
- **Pin securely.**

Sew around the entire moon using a blanket stitch.

Take your time around the narrow points of the crescent.

Keep the stitch spacing consistent.

Position the Elephant

Place the elephant directly on top of the moon.

The body should overlap the moon naturally.

Check that:

- **Both feet rest on the moon.**
- **The trunk curves upward.**
- **The head remains centered.**

Fuse or pin the elephant.

Sew around every outside edge using a blanket stitch.

For extra definition, use matching gray thread.

Add the Ear and Feet

Place the cream ear insert inside the gray ear.

Attach with a blanket stitch.

Position the ear behind the elephant's head.

Next, attach both cream foot pads.

These small details make the design much more dimensional.

Carefully stitch around each piece.

Slow stitching produces smoother curves.

Add the Cheek and Embroider the Eye 😊

Place the small pink cheek circle beneath the eye area.

Fuse or pin.

Stitch around the circle.

Using black embroidery thread:

- **Stitch one sleepy curved eye.**
- **Add several small eyelashes.**

Finish by embroidering the mouth using a back stitch.

These tiny facial details give the elephant its adorable expression.

Add the Bird 🐦

Position the small orange bird above the elephant's head.

Angle the bird slightly so it appears to be looking toward the elephant.

Fuse into place.

Blanket stitch around the entire bird.

Use matching orange thread whenever possible.

Add the Stars ★

Arrange the stars throughout the background.

Scatter them naturally across the sky.

Mix different sizes.

Avoid perfectly even spacing.

Once satisfied with the layout:

Fuse or pin every star.

Blanket stitch around each one.

Small stars are easier to sew using a shorter stitch length.

Assemble the Quilt Sandwich

Lay the backing fabric wrong side up.

Place the batting on top.

Finally, place the quilt top right side up.

Smooth every wrinkle carefully.

Use quilting safety pins or spray basting to hold all three layers together.

The smoother the quilt sandwich, the easier quilting becomes.

Quilt the Background

This design uses decorative free-motion quilting.

Quilt flowing swirls across the navy background.

Avoid quilting directly over the appliqué pieces except where desired for texture.

Try to keep the swirl size fairly consistent.

Move slowly while quilting.

Relax your shoulders and let the machine feed naturally.

The dense quilting helps the appliqué stand out beautifully.

Optional Straight-Line Quilting

If free-motion quilting feels intimidating, you may instead quilt:

- **Straight vertical lines**
- **Straight horizontal lines**
- **Echo quilting around the moon**
- **Gentle curved lines following the crescent**

Any of these methods work well.

Trim the Quilt

After quilting, trim all four sides.

Square the quilt carefully.

The finished quilt top should measure:

23.6" × 23.6" (60 × 60 cm).

Use a large quilting ruler for accuracy.

Check all four corners.

Prepare the Binding

Cut enough binding strips to equal:

98" × 2³/₈" (250 × 6 cm).

Join the strips using diagonal seams.

Press the seams open.

Fold the entire binding strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together.

Press well.

Attach the Binding

Begin sewing the binding to the front of the quilt.

Use a 1/4" seam allowance.

When reaching each corner:

- **Stop sewing 1/4" before the edge.**
- **Fold the binding upward.**
- **Fold it back down.**
- **Continue sewing.**

This creates clean mitered corners.

After sewing completely around the quilt, join the beginning and ending tails.

Fold the binding to the back.

Hand stitch or machine stitch in place.

Quilt Assembly Summary

The complete quilt is assembled in this order:

- 1. Backing fabric**
- 2. Batting**
- 3. Quilt top**
- 4. Free-motion quilting**
- 5. Trim to size**
- 6. Attach binding**
- 7. Finish by hand or machine**

Sewing Stitches Used

Running Stitch

Used mainly for temporary basting.

Blanket Stitch

Used around every appliqué piece.

This is the primary decorative stitch in the quilt.

Back Stitch

Used for facial details and outlines.

Straight Stitch

Used for piecing and binding.

Free-Motion Quilting

Creates the swirling decorative background.

Mitered Corners

Used when finishing the quilt binding.

Helpful Tips 💡

- **Press every fabric piece before sewing.**
- **Test your stitch length on scraps first.**
- **Use matching thread colors whenever possible.**
- **Keep appliqué edges smooth while stitching.**
- **Shorten your stitch length on small curves.**
- **Quilt from the center outward to avoid puckers.**
- **Replace rotary blades frequently for clean cuts.**
- **Use quilting gloves if free-motion quilting.**
- **Square the quilt carefully before binding.**
- **Take your time—accuracy is more important than speed.**

Finished Quilt

Once completed, your quilt will feature:

- 🌙 **Bright yellow crescent moon**
- 🐘 **Sweet gray baby elephant**
- 🐦 **Small orange bird**
- ★ **Golden stars**
- 🌌 **Rich navy quilted night sky**
- 🧵 **Decorative free-motion quilting**
- ✨ **Clean professional binding**

The finished Baby Elephant on a Moon Quilt measures 23.6" × 23.6" (60 × 60 cm) and makes a beautiful nursery decoration, baby gift, wall hanging, or keepsake quilt. By following each

step carefully, even a beginner can confidently complete this charming appliqué quilt from start to finish while achieving a polished, professional-looking result.