

# PATCHWORK QUILT – FISH TUTORIAL

## Step-by-Step Guide to Create a Colorful Patchwork Fish

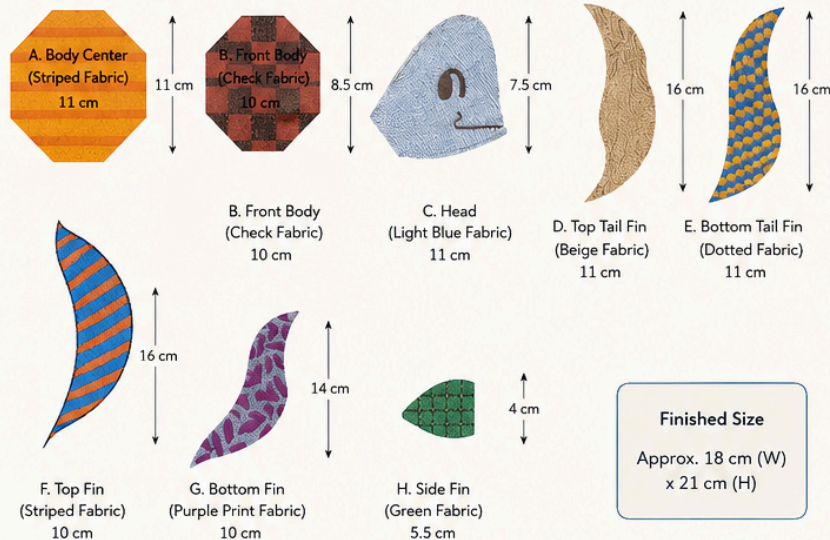
### 1. MATERIALS

- Cotton fabric (various colors and prints)
- Fusible interfacing (lightweight)
- Thread to match fabrics
- Sewing machine
- Scissors / Rotary cutter
- Iron and ironing board
- Marking pen or chalk
- Quilt batting
- Backing fabric
- Binding fabric
- Pins or fabric clips

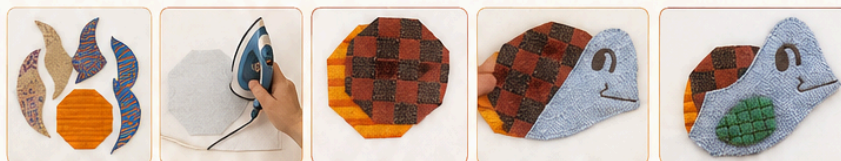
### 2. MAIN SEWING METHODS USED

-  Straight Stitch (1/4" seam allowance)
-  Appliqué (Fusible or needle-turn)
-  Pressing (Use iron to set seams)
-  Edge Topstitch (For a clean finished look)
-  Quilting (Through all layers for durability)

### 3. PATTERN PIECES & MEASUREMENTS (Add 0.5 cm seam allowance)



### 4. STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS



**1. Prepare the Pieces**  
Cut all fabric pieces according to the measurements above.



**6. Attach Top and Bottom Fins**  
Sew pieces F (Top Fin) on top and G (Bottom Fin) on the bottom of the body.

**2. Fuse (Optional)**  
Apply fusible interfacing on the wrong side of each piece. This gives stability and a crisp look.



**7. Attach Tail Fins**  
Sew piece D (Top Tail Fin) on the top back and piece E (Bottom Tail Fin) on the bottom back.

**3. Appliqué the Body**  
Place piece B (Front Body) on top of piece A (Body Center). Appliqué or sew with a small seam.



**8. Check All Edges**  
Ensure all pieces are securely stitched. Trim any loose threads.

**3. Appliqué the Body**  
Place piece B (Front Body) on top of piece A (Body Center). Appliqué or sew with a small seam.



**9. Prepare the Quilt Sandwich**  
Layer the quilt top, batting, and backing fabric. Baste them together.

**4. Attach the Head**  
Place and sew piece C (Head) to the front of the body. Appliqué around the edge.



**5. Add Side Fin**  
Place and appliqué piece H (Side Fin) on the head.



**10. Quilt as Desired**  
Quilt around the fish and in the background as desired. Straight lines or echo quilting work great!

### 5. FINISHING



1. Trim the edges evenly.
2. Bind the quilt using your favorite binding method.
3. Press the quilt flat with an iron.

Your beautiful patchwork fish quilt is complete!

### 6. COLOR & FABRIC IDEAS



Use bright and contrasting fabrics to make your fish pop!

### TIPS

- Use small stitches for clean appliqué.
- Press each piece before attaching for best results.
- You can hand sew the appliqué for a traditional quilt look.
- Customize the size by scaling the pattern pieces up or down.

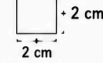
ENJOY YOUR  
CREATIVE  
QUILTING!



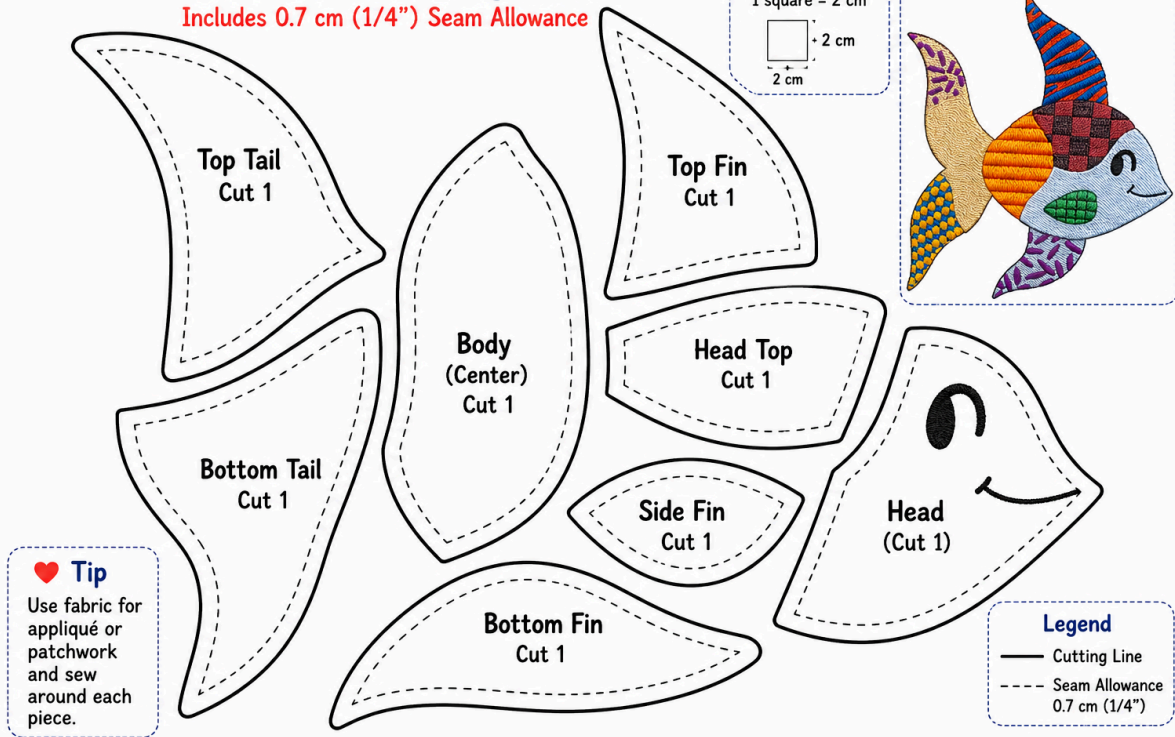
## ♥ Patchwork Fish – Sewing Pattern ♥

Includes 0.7 cm (1/4") Seam Allowance

Print at 100%  
1 square = 2 cm



Assembled Example



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## Patchwork Quilt – Fish Tutorial

### Complete Step-by-Step Guide to Create a Colorful Patchwork Fish Quilt Block 🐟🧵

Creating a **Patchwork Quilt Fish** is a wonderful project for beginners and experienced quilters alike. This cheerful fish design combines **traditional patchwork**, **fusible appliqué**, and **machine quilting** techniques into a fun and rewarding project. Whether you want to make a wall hanging, baby quilt, table runner, cushion cover, or simply practice your appliqué skills, this tutorial will guide you through every step in detail.

This guide follows the pattern layout shown in the tutorial chart, including the materials, measurements, sewing methods, assembly order, quilting process, and finishing techniques. By following each step carefully, you'll be able to create a beautiful fish quilt block from start to finish.

The finished fish measures approximately:

- 18 cm (7 inches) wide
- 21 cm (8¼ inches) tall

Remember to **add a 0.5 cm (¼ inch) seam allowance** to every pattern piece before cutting.

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## Materials You'll Need

Before beginning, gather all of your supplies.

### Fabrics

- Cotton quilting fabrics in assorted colors and prints
- Light blue fabric for the head
- Orange striped fabric for the body center
- Brown check fabric for the front body
- Beige fabric for the upper tail fin
- Blue and yellow dotted fabric for the lower tail fin
- Blue striped fabric for the top fin
- Purple printed fabric for the bottom fin
- Green fabric for the side fin

### Stabilizers

- Lightweight fusible interfacing (optional)
- Fusible web for appliqué (recommended)

### Sewing Supplies

- Sewing machine
- Coordinating thread
- Fabric scissors
- Rotary cutter
- Cutting mat
- Quilting ruler
- Iron
- Ironing board
- Fabric marking pen or tailor's chalk
- Straight pins or fabric clips
- Quilt batting
- Backing fabric
- Binding fabric

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## Understand the Pattern Pieces

Before cutting any fabric, identify each piece.

### **Piece A – Body Center**

- Orange striped fabric
- Width: **11 cm**
- Octagon shape

### **Piece B – Front Body**

- Brown check fabric
- Width: **10 cm**
- Octagon shape
- This piece overlaps Piece A.

### **Piece C – Head**

- Light blue fabric
- Height: **11 cm**
- Width: **7.5 cm**

### **Piece D – Top Tail Fin**

- Beige fabric
- Height: **16 cm**
- Width: **11 cm**

### **Piece E – Bottom Tail Fin**

- Blue and yellow dotted fabric
- Height: **16 cm**
- Width: **11 cm**

### **Piece F – Top Fin**

- Blue striped fabric
- Height: **16 cm**
- Width: **10 cm**

### **Piece G – Bottom Fin**

- Purple printed fabric
- Height: **14 cm**

- Width: **10 cm**

### **Piece H – Side Fin**

- Green fabric
- Width: **5.5 cm**
- Height: **4 cm**

Transfer each pattern onto template plastic or cardstock for repeated use.

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## **Cut All Fabric Pieces**

Place each template on the wrong side of its corresponding fabric.

Trace around every template.

Remember to add:

- **0.5 cm (¼ inch) seam allowance** if your template does not already include it.

Cut:

- 1 Piece A
- 1 Piece B
- 1 Piece C
- 1 Piece D
- 1 Piece E
- 1 Piece F
- 1 Piece G
- 1 Piece H

If using fusible appliqué, also cut matching pieces from fusible web.

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## **Prepare the Pieces with Fusible Interfacing**

For cleaner appliqué edges and better stability, fuse lightweight interfacing or fusible web to the wrong side of each fabric piece.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.

Allow all pieces to cool completely before removing the paper backing.

This step is optional but highly recommended, especially for beginners.

## Press Every Piece 🧺

Good pressing makes quilting much easier.

Using a dry iron:

- Remove wrinkles.
- Flatten every piece.
- Press—not slide—the iron to avoid stretching the fabric.

Well-pressed pieces align much more accurately during assembly.

## Assemble the Fish Body 🐟

Begin with Piece A.

Lay the orange octagon flat.

Position Piece B directly on top of Piece A as shown in the diagram.

The lower portion of Piece A remains visible while Piece B covers the upper section.

Check alignment carefully.

Fuse temporarily with an iron or pin in place.

Using your sewing machine:

- Stitch around Piece B using a narrow appliqué stitch.
- A blanket stitch, zigzag stitch, or straight stitch all work well.

## Attach the Head 😊

Position Piece C against the front of the body.

The rounded side faces forward.

The flat edge overlaps the front body.

Pin or fuse into position.

Appliqué completely around the head using your preferred stitch.

Take your time around the curved edges.

## **Add the Side Fin**

Locate Piece H.

Position it on the lower portion of the fish's head exactly as shown.

The pointed end should face toward the body.

Fuse or pin.

Sew completely around the fin.

## **Attach the Top and Bottom Fins**

Next, attach the swimming fins.

### **Top Fin (Piece F)**

Place it behind the upper body.

Only part of the fin should remain visible.

Secure it with pins.

Sew into place.

### **Bottom Fin (Piece G)**

Position beneath the body.

Align the curved shape with the fish.

Fuse or pin.

Appliqué around the edges.

The fish should now have its characteristic swimming shape.

## Attach the Tail Fins

The tail consists of two separate pieces.

### Top Tail (Piece D)

Place behind the back of the fish.

The curved point extends upward.

### Bottom Tail (Piece E)

Place behind the lower body.

The curved point extends downward.

Both tail pieces slightly overlap behind the body.

Secure them with pins or fusible web.

Stitch completely around each tail section.

## Check the Entire Fish

Before quilting, inspect every piece.

Look for:

- Loose threads
- Uneven stitching
- Gaps
- Lifted fabric edges
- Missed stitches

Trim excess threads carefully.

If needed, press the block once again.

## Prepare the Quilt Sandwich

Now create the quilt sandwich.

Layer in this order:

1. Backing fabric (right side down)
2. Quilt batting
3. Fish quilt top (right side up)

Smooth every layer.

Remove wrinkles.

Pin or baste all three layers together.

Use safety pins or temporary spray adhesive.

## Quilt the Fish

Now it's time to quilt.

There are many quilting options.

### **Straight-Line Quilting**

Sew evenly spaced straight lines across the block.

Perfect for beginners.

### **Echo Quilting**

Follow the outline of the fish repeatedly.

This makes the fish stand out beautifully.

### **Free-Motion Quilting**

If your machine allows it, quilt:

- Waves
- Water ripples
- Bubbles
- Swirls
- Pebbles

Quilt the background more densely than the fish so the design pops.

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## Trim the Quilt

After quilting:

Trim away the excess batting.

Trim the backing fabric.

Square all edges using a quilting ruler.

The block should now be neat and even.

## Bind the Quilt

Prepare binding strips.

Join the strips if necessary.

Fold in half lengthwise.

Attach the binding to the front of the quilt.

Fold it over to the back.

Hand stitch or machine stitch to finish.

Miter the corners neatly for a professional appearance.

## Press the Finished Quilt

Give your finished project one final press.

Avoid pressing directly onto heavy quilting stitches.

Instead:

- Lift the iron.
- Press gently.
- Allow the quilt to cool flat.

This helps the quilt maintain its shape.

## Fabric and Color Ideas

The tutorial uses cheerful fabrics, but you can personalize your fish.

Some beautiful combinations include:

- Ocean blue with turquoise fins
- Rainbow scraps for a playful fish
- Pastel fabrics for a baby quilt
- Batik fabrics for a tropical look
- Bright polka dots for children's décor
- Floral fabrics for a cottage style
- Modern geometric prints for a contemporary quilt

Mix solids with prints to create contrast and visual interest.

## Helpful Quilting Tips

- Prewash fabrics if shrinkage is a concern.
- Use 100% cotton quilting fabric for the best results.
- Replace your sewing machine needle before starting.
- Test stitches on fabric scraps first.
- Press after every major step.
- Keep seam allowances consistent.
- Trim threads frequently for a cleaner finish.
- Use matching thread for invisible appliqué or contrasting thread for decorative stitching.
- Work slowly around curves.
- Don't stretch the fabric while sewing.
- Take breaks to maintain accuracy.

## Creative Project Ideas

Once you've completed your fish block, you can incorporate it into many different quilting projects:

- Baby quilts
- Wall hangings
- Children's bedroom décor
- Pillow covers
- Tote bags

- Table runners
- Mug rugs
- Mini quilts
- Beach-themed quilts
- Ocean-themed nursery decorations
- Quilt samplers
- Seasonal summer quilts

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