



Pumpkin Quilt Panel Tutorial

Step by Step – Easy Appliqué and Quilting

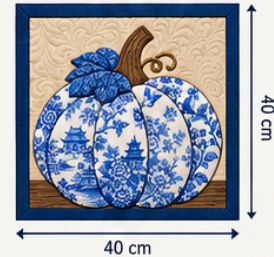
A beautiful fall quilt panel with classic blue and white fabrics!

Materials (U.S. Fabrics)

- 100% cotton quilting fabric
- Fabric for pumpkin (blue & white prints)
- Fabric for leaves (blue print)
- Fabric for stem (brown)
- Background fabric (beige)
- Bottom strip fabric (brown – wood look)
- Border fabric (navy blue)
- Batting
- Backing fabric
- Thread (matching colors)
- Fabric glue or fusible web (optional)
- Rotary cutter, scissors, pins, sewing machine

Finished Size

40 cm x 40 cm



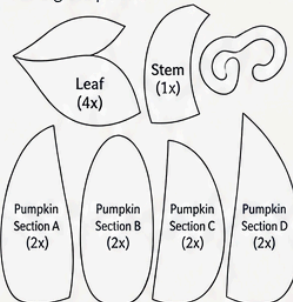
1 Cut the Fabrics

Cut the fabrics according to the measurements below.



2 Print and Cut the Pattern

Use the pattern below. Add a 0.5 cm seam allowance when cutting the pieces.



3 Prepare the Pieces

Cut all pieces from the chosen fabrics. You will have:



4 Appliqué the Pumpkin

Arrange the pieces on the background fabric. Pin or use fabric glue, then appliqué each piece using your preferred method (straight stitch, blanket stitch or raw-edge appliqué).



5 Add the Leaves and Stem

Position the leaves, stem and tendrils. Appliqué in place. Add stitching details to the stem and leaves.



6 Quilt the Background

Quilt free-motion feathers or swirls in the background to add texture. You can also quilt along the pumpkin segments.



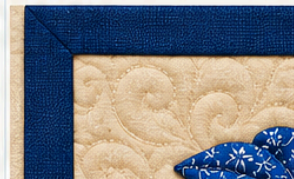
7 Add the Bottom Strip

Sew the brown strip (42 cm x 8 cm) to the bottom of the background. This creates the table/wood surface.

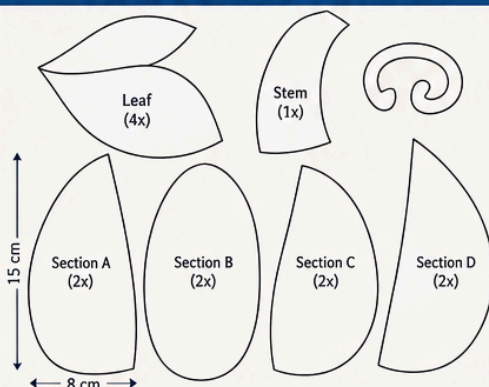


8 Add the Border

Sew the side borders (4 cm x 42 cm) to the left and right. Then sew the top and bottom borders (4 cm x 40 cm). Press well.



Full-Size Pattern Pieces (Without Seam Allowance)



Sewing Methods Used



Finished Panel!



A charming quilt panel for your home, perfect for fall décor!

Tips for Success

- Use 100% cotton quilting fabric.
- Press your pieces before appliqué.
- Use fabric glue to hold small pieces.

- A walking foot helps with quilting.
- Practice the quilting design on a scrap.
- Adjust the size of the pattern to make pillows, table runners or larger quilts.

Happy Sewing!



Pumpkin Quilt Panel Pattern

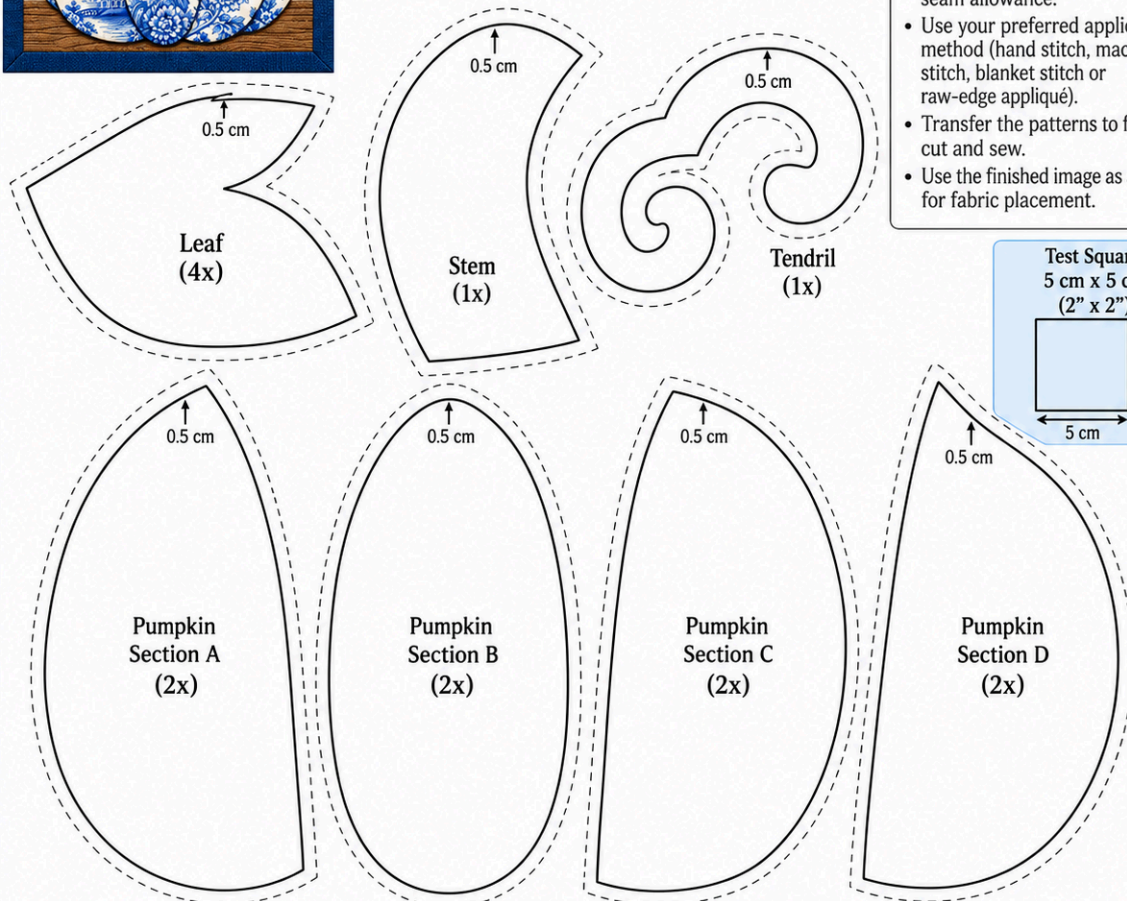
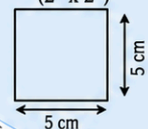
Full-Size Pattern for Appliqué
Print at 100% (No Scaling)

Includes 0.5 cm
seam allowance
(all around each piece)

Sewing Tips:

- Print at 100% (no scaling).
- Each piece includes a 0.5 cm seam allowance.
- Use your preferred appliqué method (hand stitch, machine stitch, blanket stitch or raw-edge appliqué).
- Transfer the patterns to fabric, cut and sew.
- Use the finished image as a guide for fabric placement.

Test Square
5 cm x 5 cm
(2" x 2")



Pumpkin Quilt Panel Tutorial – Step by Step Easy Appliqué and Quilting

This Pumpkin Quilt Panel is a beautiful sewing project that combines appliqué, quilting, decorative stitching, and traditional quilt finishing. The finished design features a large segmented pumpkin made from classic blue-and-white prints,

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layered blue leaves, a brown stem and tendril, a softly quilted beige background, a wood-look bottom strip, and a navy border.

Following the measurements shown in the tutorial graphic, the finished panel is approximately 40 cm × 40 cm (15.75" × 15.75"). The instructions below keep the project consistent with the graphic while explaining each stage in enough detail for a U.S. sewist to reproduce the project from beginning to end.

For best results, use 100% quilting cotton, the standard woven cotton commonly sold in U.S. quilt shops. Prewash only if that is your normal quilting practice; more importantly, press all fabrics before measuring, tracing, or cutting.

Step 1 – Gather the Fabrics, Tools, and Supplies

The original design uses a restrained blue, cream, and brown palette. You do not need to find the exact prints shown in the image. A blue-and-white toile, chinoiserie, floral, bird, or scenic quilting cotton will create a similar appearance.

For the main project, prepare approximately:

- Beige quilting cotton: cut a 42 cm × 42 cm background
- Brown wood-look fabric: cut one 42 cm × 8 cm bottom strip
- Navy quilting cotton: cut 2 strips at 4 cm × 42 cm and 2 strips at 4 cm × 40 cm
- Blue-and-white printed cotton: enough for the pumpkin sections
- Dark blue printed cotton: enough for four leaves
- Brown cotton: enough for one stem and one tendril
- Batting: slightly larger than the panel
- Backing fabric: slightly larger than the panel

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- Coordinating sewing thread
- Quilting thread
- Fusible web or temporary fabric glue, optional
- Rotary cutter
- Cutting mat
- Acrylic quilting ruler
- Fabric scissors
- Pins or quilting clips
- Iron and ironing surface
- Sewing machine
- Walking foot, recommended
- Free-motion quilting foot, optional

The graphic uses centimeters, so the tutorial does too. For U.S. sewists working with inch rulers, 40 cm is approximately 15.75", 42 cm is approximately 16.5", 8 cm is approximately 3.15", 4 cm is approximately 1.57", and 0.5 cm is approximately 3/16".

The illustrated pumpkin pattern is divided into four basic shapes: Pumpkin Section A, Section B, Section C, and Section D. The diagram indicates cutting each section twice. It also shows four leaves, one stem, and one tendril.

The reference pattern gives the pumpkin pieces an approximate working height of 15 cm and an approximate width of 8 cm for the indicated section. Treat the supplied pattern/template as your primary guide rather than trying to construct the curved pieces entirely from measurements.

Step 2 – Prepare and Cut the Background Fabric

Press the beige background fabric carefully. It needs to lie completely flat because nearly every other component will eventually be positioned on it.

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Square the fabric using a quilting ruler and rotary cutter, then cut it to:

42 cm × 42 cm

Next, prepare the brown bottom strip:

42 cm × 8 cm

This brown fabric represents the wood or tabletop surface beneath the pumpkin. A brown print with subtle horizontal lines or a wood-grain appearance works particularly well.

Prepare the navy border strips as shown in the graphic:

2 strips – 4 cm × 42 cm

2 strips – 4 cm × 40 cm

Keep the border pieces aside until the appliqué and background quilting have been completed.

Before cutting the decorative pieces, press the blue-and-white, dark blue, and brown fabrics. If you are using fusible appliqué, apply the fusible web according to the manufacturer's instructions before cutting the final appliqué shapes.

Avoid stretching the fabric while pressing. Curved appliqué pieces can distort surprisingly easily, particularly when portions of their edges run along the bias.

Step 3 – Print, Trace, and Cut the Pumpkin Pattern

Print the pattern at 100% or Actual Size. Do not select "Fit to Page" because that can change the proportions.

The pattern consists of:

Pumpkin Section A – cut 2

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Pumpkin Section B – cut 2

Pumpkin Section C – cut 2

Pumpkin Section D – cut 2

Leaf – cut 4

Stem – cut 1

Tendrils – cut 1

The tutorial graphic instructs the maker to add a 0.5 cm seam allowance when cutting the pattern pieces. Follow that specification when using a turned-edge method.

Trace the templates onto the wrong side of the appropriate fabrics. Arrange the pumpkin templates strategically over the printed fabric before tracing. This is called fussy cutting when you deliberately position a particular flower, bird, building, or scenic motif inside a pattern piece.

Fussy cutting is especially effective here because the original pumpkin uses the large blue-and-white motifs as an important part of the finished composition.

Cut slowly around every curve with sharp fabric scissors. Accurate curves make it considerably easier to reproduce the smooth pumpkin shape.

For fusible raw-edge appliqué, follow the requirements of your fusible product and appliqué technique. The graphic presents the 0.5 cm allowance as the project standard, but raw-edge appliqué normally does not require a turned-under seam allowance.

Step 4 – Arrange the Pumpkin Sections on the Background

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Before sewing anything permanently, lay the 42 cm × 42 cm beige background on a flat surface and begin arranging the pumpkin.

The pumpkin should occupy most of the lower and central portion of the panel while leaving enough beige background visible around the upper portion for the stem, leaves, tendril, and quilting.

Start with the outer pumpkin sections and work inward.

The curved segments should overlap visually so that the pumpkin appears rounded and dimensional rather than looking like unrelated pieces placed beside one another. Use the finished-project image as the placement guide.

Experiment with your blue-and-white prints before securing anything. If one section contains an especially attractive bird, flower, pagoda, or landscape, position it where the motif will remain visible after neighboring sections overlap it.

Once you are satisfied with the composition, photograph the arrangement with your phone. This gives you a useful placement reference if the pieces move during construction.

Pin the sections securely, use small amounts of temporary fabric glue, or fuse them according to the appliqué system you selected.

Step 5 – Appliqué the Pumpkin

The graphic identifies several suitable sewing methods, including straight stitch and blanket stitch.

For a clean machine-appliqué finish, sew slowly around the curved perimeter of each pumpkin section. Keep the stitch line consistent from the edge.

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A straight stitch produces a simple contemporary appearance. A narrow blanket stitch adds a more visibly decorative outline and is particularly attractive on traditional quilt projects.

If using turned-edge appliqué, turn the prepared seam allowance underneath and stitch the folded edge to the background. Needle-turn appliqué can also be used if you prefer hand sewing.

For raw-edge fusible appliqué, fuse each piece according to the manufacturer's directions and secure the perimeter with your chosen machine stitch.

As you add neighboring sections, preserve the overlapping structure. The visible curved boundaries between the pieces are important because those lines create the characteristic lobes of the pumpkin.

Do not rush through tight curves. Reduce the sewing-machine speed and stop with the needle down whenever you need to reposition the fabric.

After completing the appliqué, press from the wrong side whenever possible. This protects the stitched surface and reduces the risk of flattening dimensional details.

Step 6 – Make and Attach the Leaves, Stem, and Tendril



Cut four dark blue leaves using the leaf template. The finished image shows them clustered near the upper-left portion of the pumpkin.

Arrange the leaves so that they overlap slightly. Changing their angles makes the cluster appear natural and dimensional.

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Position the brown stem behind or above the upper center of the pumpkin. Its curved shape should rise toward the top of the panel.

Attach it with the same appliqué technique used for the pumpkin.

The tutorial graphic also recommends topstitching on the stem and leaves. Decorative lines of stitching can imitate the natural veins in the leaves and vertical texture in the stem.

Next, add the curled tendril beside the stem.

Because this element is narrow, you may find it easier to create it from bias tubing, cord, narrow fabric, or a carefully cut appliqué piece rather than attempting a heavily turned seam allowance.

Secure the tendril carefully so that its spiral remains smooth.

When everything is attached, inspect the top of the pumpkin. The leaves, stem, and tendril should read as one integrated cluster rather than separate decorative elements.

Step 7 – Build the Quilt Sandwich

Once the appliqué is complete, prepare the project for quilting.

Lay the backing fabric wrong side up on a clean flat surface. The backing should extend beyond the project on every side.

Place the batting over the backing.

Position the appliquéd quilt top right side up over the batting.

Smooth all three layers outward from the center. Remove wrinkles without stretching the fabrics.

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Baste the layers together using safety pins, temporary basting spray, or your preferred quilting method.

The layers should remain stable during quilting. Poor basting can produce puckers on the back, particularly when quilting densely around appliqué shapes.

A walking foot is helpful for straight or gently curved quilting because it feeds the quilt layers more evenly through the machine.

Step 8 – Quilt the Beige Background

The graphic recommends free-motion quilting for the beige background, particularly feather and swirl designs.

Start quilting in a comfortable central area and gradually work outward.

The objective is not simply decorative. Background quilting compresses the batting around the appliqué, helping the pumpkin appear more dimensional.

Suitable motifs include:

Feathers

Swirls

Loops

Gentle vines

Meandering curves

If you are new to free-motion quilting, practice the design on a scrap sandwich made from leftover fabric, batting, and backing before quilting the actual panel.

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Keep your movements smooth rather than trying to make every curve mathematically perfect. Consistency matters more than absolute symmetry.

Avoid quilting heavily through the decorative pumpkin print unless you specifically want a flatter appearance. The graphic suggests quilting the background and optionally quilting along the pumpkin segments.

One effective option is stitching in the ditch or quilting close to the segment edges. This reinforces the pumpkin's curved structure without obscuring the printed fabric.

Check the back frequently for thread nests, skipped stitches, or puckering.

Step 9 – Add the Brown Bottom Strip

The brown 42 cm × 8 cm strip creates the visual surface beneath the pumpkin.

Following the tutorial graphic, position this strip along the bottom portion of the background.

Keep the strip straight and parallel with the lower edge of the project.

Sew it securely in place using your selected construction or appliqué method, depending on how you have assembled the panel.

The brown print should remain subordinate to the pumpkin. It provides visual grounding without competing with the blue-and-white fabric.

If your brown fabric has a wood-grain print, orient the grain horizontally. This reinforces the illusion of a wooden tabletop or shelf.

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Press carefully after sewing.

Step 10 – Add the Navy Border

The dark navy frame gives the project its strong finished appearance.

Use the prepared 4 cm-wide border strips.

Following the sequence shown in the graphic, sew the side borders first and then the top and bottom borders. Keep the edges aligned carefully.

Pin before sewing so that the border does not shift.

After attaching a border, press the seam neatly before adding the next piece.

The reference design uses a dark navy fabric that coordinates closely with the blue pumpkin prints. A solid navy or subtle tone-on-tone quilting cotton is ideal.

Pay particular attention to the corners. They should remain square and flat.

The illustrated finished size is approximately:

40 cm × 40 cm

Because actual finished dimensions can vary slightly according to appliqué method, seam allowances, quilting density, trimming, and border construction, square the completed piece carefully before final finishing.

Step 11 – Finish the Panel and Check the Details

Trim excess backing and batting only after all quilting is complete.

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Square all four sides using a large acrylic ruler. Check both diagonals if necessary to make sure the panel has not become distorted during quilting.

Inspect the appliqué edges.

Clip loose threads.

Check the stem and leaves for any unsecured areas.

Make sure the tendril is firmly attached.

Examine the back for thread nests.

Press the finished panel gently rather than aggressively flattening it. One of the attractive features of this design is the dimensional contrast between the quilted beige background and the fuller pumpkin appliqué.

If the piece is going to be displayed as a wall quilt, add a hanging sleeve to the back. If it will become the front of a cushion, table topper, or another project, complete the finishing appropriate for that item.

Step 12 – Sewing Methods Used in This Project

Several common American quilting and sewing techniques work together in this design.

Straight Stitch Appliqué: A simple line of stitching secures appliqué pieces near their edges. It works particularly well when you want the printed fabric to remain the visual focus.

Blanket Stitch Appliqué: This decorative stitch secures the appliqué while creating a clearly defined border around each shape. It can be done by machine or by hand.

Topstitching: Visible stitching is added to the stem and leaves to create texture and definition.

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Free-Motion Quilting: With the feed dogs lowered or covered as appropriate for your machine, the maker guides the quilt freely to create feathers, swirls, and other flowing background designs.

Fussy Cutting: Specific portions of a printed fabric are deliberately centered inside individual pattern pieces. This is particularly useful for the blue-and-white scenic fabric shown in the project.

Layered Appliqué: Pieces are positioned in an intentional overlapping order. This creates depth and makes the segmented pumpkin appear rounded.

The combination of these methods gives the panel its distinctive handcrafted character.

Final Tips for a Professional Result ✨

Use good-quality 100% cotton quilting fabric. The stable weave makes accurate cutting, appliqué, and quilting easier.

Always press the fabrics before cutting. A small wrinkle can change the shape of a curved template.

Make a test block or scrap sandwich before committing to your decorative stitching. This is particularly important for blanket stitch settings and free-motion quilting.

Match the needle to the fabric and thread. A fresh quilting or universal needle can dramatically improve stitch quality.

Use a walking foot when quilting straight lines through multiple layers.

For free-motion work, practice the feather or swirl design on scrap fabric first.

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Most importantly, arrange the entire pumpkin before permanently attaching the pieces. The success of this design depends heavily on the relationship between the individual printed sections.

The completed Pumpkin Quilt Panel should combine a richly patterned blue-and-white pumpkin, dimensional dark blue leaves, a textured brown stem, delicate tendril, cream quilted background, brown lower strip, and deep navy frame. By working carefully from the pattern and building the project one layer at a time, even a sewist making this style of appliqué panel for the first time can reproduce the project from start to finish.

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