



Cute Fox Appliqué

Step-by-Step Tutorial

A charming and easy sewing project for quilts, cushions, bags and more!

Finished Size



18 cm
14 cm

The finished fox measures 18 cm tall x 14 cm wide (approximate).

Materials



- Cotton fabric (quilting fabric)
- Fusible web (appliqué)
- Fabric for background
- Matching thread
- Embroidery floss (black)
- Two decorative buttons
- Scissors, pins, needle
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Iron

Main Techniques Used

- Appliqué (fusible or needle-turn)
- Blanket stitch
- Straight stitch
- Curved piecing
- Hand embroidery
- Quilting

1 Choose Fabrics



Select coordinating fabrics for the fox body, face, tail, legs and ears. Use cotton quilting fabrics.

2 Prepare the Pieces



Trace the templates on the paper side of fusible web. Fuse to the wrong side of the fabrics and cut out all the pieces.

3 Cut the Pieces



Cut all pieces carefully using the templates.

4 Arrange and Fuse



Arrange the pieces on the background fabric. When you are happy with the placement, fuse them with a hot iron.

5 Stitch the Appliqué



Stitch around each piece using a blanket stitch (by hand or machine) with matching thread.

6 Add Embroidery



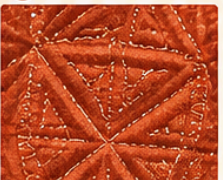
Embroider the eyes, nose and whiskers with black embroidery floss.

7 Sew the Buttons



Sew two decorative buttons on the tail.

8 Quilt (Optional)



Add quilting around the fox to give texture and a beautiful finish.

9 Final Look



Your cute fox appliqué is ready! Use it on quilts, pillows, tote bags, table runners and more.

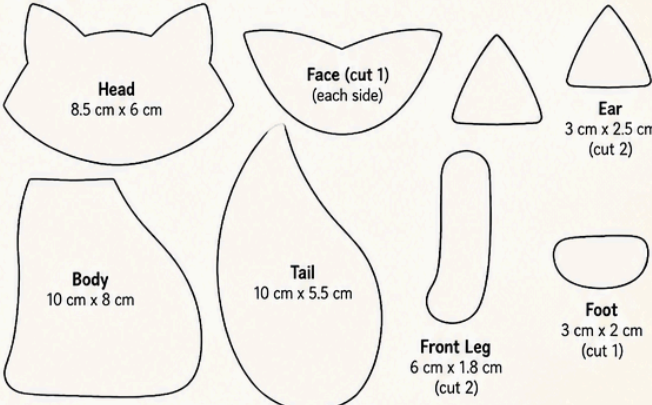


Small Details Make Big Creations!



Templates (Actual Size)

Print at 100% (no scaling)



Templates include 0.5 cm seam allowance.

Color Guide (from the example)

	Main body (rust/orange print)		Tail tip (cream floral)
	Face and chest (cream floral)		Tail (rust/orange print)
	Ears, legs and foot (brown stripe)		Buttons (orange with white dots)

Helpful Tips

- Use cotton quilting fabric for best results.
- Fuse well to prevent shifting.
- A blanket stitch gives a beautiful handmade look.
- You can make the fox larger or smaller by resizing the templates.
- This design is perfect for quilts, pillows, bags and wall hangings!

Happy Sewing! ♥

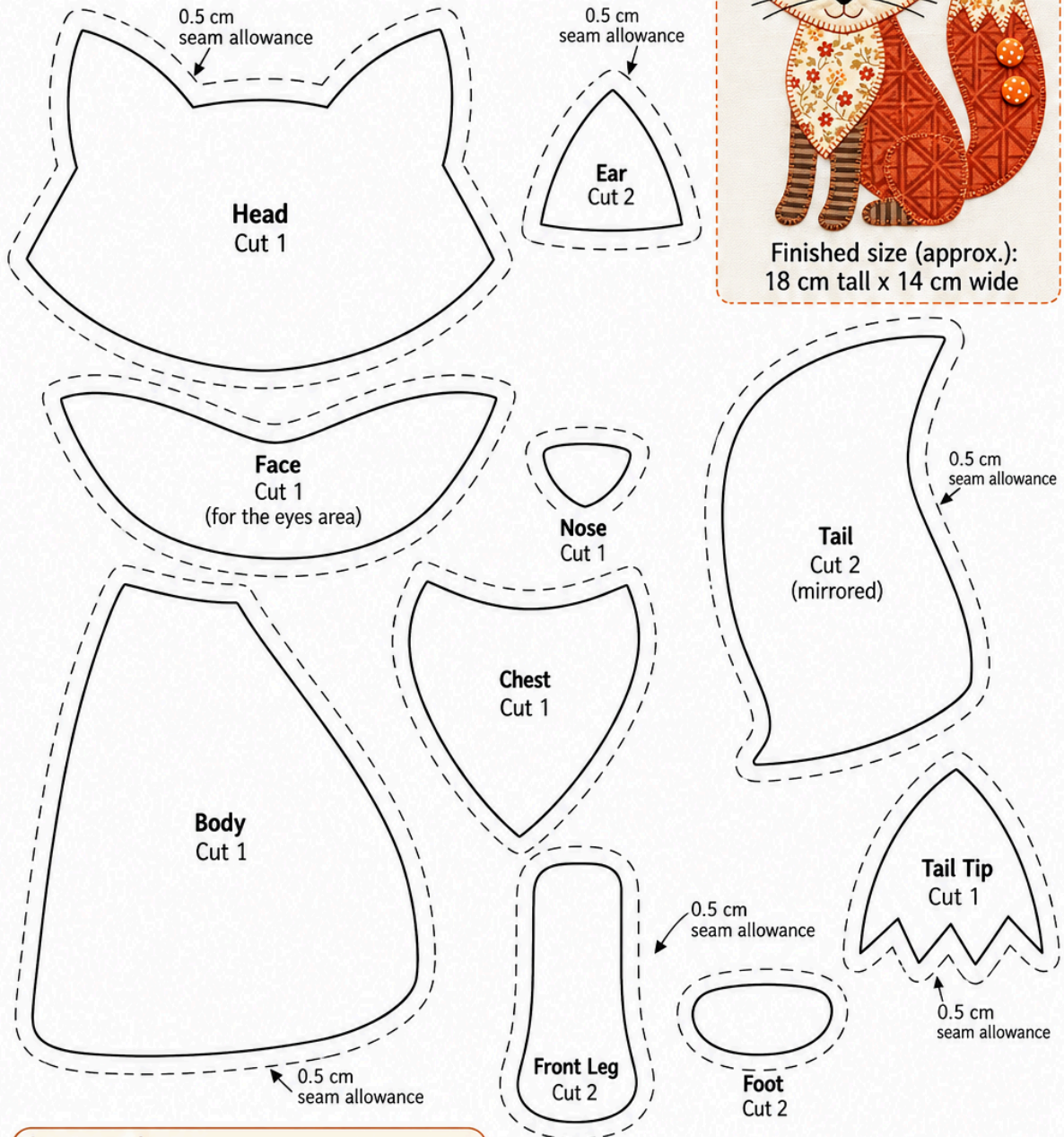




Fox Appliqué

Pattern for Printing

Includes 0.5 cm seam allowance



Finished size (approx.):
18 cm tall x 14 cm wide

Instructions:

1. Print the pattern at 100% (no scaling).
2. Each piece includes a 0.5 cm seam allowance.
3. Cut the pieces from your chosen fabrics.
4. Use fusible web (appliqué) to attach the pieces.
5. Sew by hand or machine using appliqué stitch.
6. Add embroidery for the eyes, whiskers and mouth.
7. Attach decorative buttons to the tail (optional).
8. Enjoy your cute fox appliqué! ❤️

Legend

- Cutting line (actual size)
- - - Seam allowance (0.5 cm)

❤️
Small pieces
create
big happiness!
❤️

Cute Fox Appliqué – Complete Step-by-Step Sewing Tutorial

This Cute Fox Appliqué is a charming sewing project that combines traditional appliqué, embroidery, decorative stitching, and optional quilting. Based directly on the tutorial graphic, the finished fox measures approximately 18 cm tall × 14 cm wide (7.1 × 5.5 inches). It works beautifully as an appliqué for quilts, pillows, tote bags, wall hangings, table runners, and other handmade sewing projects.

The design uses several coordinating quilting cottons to create the fox's warm patchwork appearance. The example combines a rust/orange geometric print, a cream floral print, and a brown striped fabric. Two orange polka-dot buttons decorate the tail, while black embroidery creates the eyes, nose, mouth, and whiskers.

This tutorial uses techniques familiar to quilters and sewists in the United States, especially fusible appliqué, blanket stitch, straight stitch, hand embroidery, and optional quilting. The instructions below take you through the project from preparing the templates to adding the final decorative details.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials and Choose the Fabrics



Before cutting anything, gather all your materials so you can complete the Cute Fox Appliqué without interruptions.

You will need:

- Cotton quilting fabric in three coordinating prints
- Rust/orange print for the main fox body, head, and tail
- Cream floral print for the face, chest, and tail tip
- Brown striped fabric for the ears, legs, and foot

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- Fabric for the background
- Fusible web suitable for appliqué
- Matching sewing thread
- Black embroidery floss
- Two decorative buttons
- Fabric scissors
- Small embroidery scissors
- Pins
- Sewing needle
- Embroidery needle
- Iron and ironing surface
- Sewing machine, if desired
- Printed fox templates
- Pencil or fabric marking tool

For the closest result to the tutorial image, choose 100% cotton quilting fabric. Quilting cotton is easy to cut, presses well, and is particularly suitable for fusible appliqué.

The fabrics do not have to be identical to those shown. The important part is maintaining enough contrast between the fox's body, face, chest, legs, and tail tip.

A rust, burnt orange, or terracotta fabric makes a traditional-looking fox. The cream floral fabric softens the design, while the dark striped fabric provides visual contrast.

Press all fabrics before beginning. Wrinkles can distort small appliqué pieces and make accurate tracing and cutting more difficult.

If your fabrics are new, you may prewash them if you normally prewash quilting cotton. The most important thing is to use the same preparation method for all fabrics in the project.

Step 2: Prepare and Print the Fox Templates 

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Print the templates at 100% or Actual Size. Do not select “Fit to Page,” because automatic scaling can change the proportions of the pieces.

According to the tutorial graphic, the primary template measurements are approximately:

Head: 8.5 × 6 cm

Body: 10 × 8 cm

Tail: 10 × 5.5 cm

Ear: 3 × 2.5 cm — cut 2

Front leg: 6 × 1.8 cm — cut 2

Foot: 3 × 2 cm

The face insert, chest, and tail-tip shapes should follow the proportions shown in the pattern graphic.

The finished appliqué should measure approximately 18 × 14 cm after all the pieces are arranged.

If you are making a larger pillow, quilt block, or wall hanging, you can enlarge the templates together. Always resize every template by the same percentage so the proportions remain consistent.

The graphic indicates a 0.5 cm seam allowance on the templates. Follow that allowance when using a turned-edge appliqué method.

For raw-edge fusible appliqué, however, the solid template shape can instead serve as the finished appliqué edge. In that method, you generally do not need to turn the 0.5 cm allowance underneath. This is an important distinction because the tutorial graphic mentions both fusible and needle-turn appliqué techniques.

Step 3: Apply Fusible Web and Cut the Fabric Pieces

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For an easy version suitable for beginners, use the fusible appliqué method.

Place the paper side of the fusible web over your templates and trace each required shape. Remember that fusible-web appliqué usually reverses a shape when it is transferred to the front of the fabric.

For this fox, most symmetrical pieces are unaffected. However, the body and curved tail should be mirrored when necessary so they face in the correct direction when assembled.

Rough-cut around each traced shape, leaving a little fusible web outside the drawn line.

Place the adhesive side of the fusible web against the wrong side of the corresponding fabric. Follow the fusible-web manufacturer's temperature and pressing instructions rather than automatically using the highest iron setting.

After the pieces have cooled, cut each one accurately along its traced outline.

Prepare all pieces before assembly. You should have the main head, cream face area, two ears, main body, cream chest, two front legs, foot, large tail, and cream floral tail tip.

Keep the pieces together in a small tray or container. The ears and foot are relatively small and can easily disappear on a busy sewing table.

Step 4: Arrange the Complete Fox Before Fusing

Place your background fabric on a flat surface and arrange the entire fox before permanently attaching anything.

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Begin with the main body. Position it slightly to the right of the fox's center because the front legs and chest will occupy the left side.

Place the head above the body. The lower portion of the head should overlap the upper body slightly so the finished fox appears continuous rather than assembled from disconnected pieces.

Position the two front legs underneath the cream chest area. In the reference design, the legs extend vertically downward and are made from brown striped fabric.

Place the small striped foot at the bottom of the body.

Now position the large curved tail on the right. The tail should rise alongside the fox and curve outward before tapering toward the top.

Place the contrasting cream floral tail tip over the upper section of the tail.

Step away from the project and look at the overall silhouette. Make small adjustments until the head, body, legs, and tail look balanced.

Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, carefully remove the fusible-web paper backing and return every piece to its position.

Fuse the appliqué pieces according to the manufacturer's directions. Use an up-and-down pressing motion instead of sliding the iron, which can shift small pieces.

Allow the entire appliqué to cool before stitching.

Step 5: Stitch Around the Appliqué Pieces

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The tutorial graphic uses a decorative blanket stitch around the appliqué edges. This creates the handcrafted appearance visible around the fox.

You can make the blanket stitch by hand or with a sewing machine that has an appliqué or blanket-stitch setting.

Choose thread that coordinates with the fabrics. For an appearance similar to the reference, warm rust or brown thread works especially well around the orange and cream pieces.

Begin stitching along an inconspicuous section of the body rather than at a highly visible point such as the center of the face.

Work slowly around curves. When machine stitching, stop with the needle down whenever you need to pivot the fabric.

The ears, face, chest, legs, body, foot, tail, and tail tip should all have clean, secure edges.

For tight curves, shorten the stitch length slightly if necessary. A smaller stitch can make rounded areas look smoother.

Do not pull the fabric while stitching. Let the feed dogs move the work naturally through the machine.

If the background begins to pucker, consider using a lightweight stabilizer behind the appliqué while stitching.

Hand stitching is another excellent choice. A hand-worked blanket stitch gives the fox the cozy folk-art character seen in the original design.

Step 6: Embroider the Fox's Face

The facial embroidery is what transforms the fabric shapes into the cheerful fox shown in the tutorial.

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Use black embroidery floss for the facial details.

Begin with the eyes. The fox has two gently curved closed eyes. Use a backstitch, stem stitch, or carefully spaced straight stitches to form each curved line.

Add several short eyelashes to the outside of each eye.

Create the nose in the center of the face. You can embroider a small black triangular or rounded nose using satin stitch.

From the bottom of the nose, stitch a short vertical line downward.

Create the smiling mouth using two small curved lines extending from that central point.

Next, add the whiskers. Use long, clean straight stitches extending outward from both cheeks.

Avoid pulling the embroidery floss too tightly. Excessive tension can gather the cream fabric and cause puckering around the face.

Secure all thread ends neatly on the back.

Step 7: Add the Decorative Tail Buttons

The tutorial includes two orange buttons with white dots on the fox's tail.

Position the buttons vertically along the center-right portion of the tail, leaving comfortable spacing between them.

Before sewing, check that their placement complements the shape rather than interfering with the decorative appliqué stitching.

Hand-sew each button securely using strong thread.

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These buttons are primarily decorative, so you can substitute wooden buttons, fabric-covered buttons, plain orange buttons, or another style that coordinates with your fabric.

If the finished project will be used by a baby or very young child, consider omitting detachable buttons and using appliquéd fabric circles or embroidery instead.

Once attached, check that both buttons lie flat against the tail.

This small detail adds dimension and makes the fox look particularly playful.

Step 8: Add Optional Quilting

If the fox will become part of a quilt, pillow, table runner, wall hanging, or quilted bag, you can add quilting for extra texture.

Create the usual quilt sandwich: backing fabric, batting, and the appliquéd top.

Baste the layers using your preferred quilting method.

Quilt around the outline of the fox to emphasize its silhouette. This is sometimes called outline quilting or echo quilting, depending on the placement of the stitching.

You can also quilt inside larger orange sections.

The geometric fabric in the tutorial naturally lends itself to straight-line or geometric quilting.

Keep dense quilting away from delicate embroidered facial features so they remain clearly visible.

The quilting should complement the appliqué rather than overpower it.

After quilting, inspect the back and remove loose threads.

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Step 9: Finish and Press the Cute Fox Appliqué

Your fox should now be approximately 18 cm tall × 14 cm wide, although small variations are completely normal depending on the appliqué technique and template printing.

Check every appliqué edge to make sure it has been stitched securely.

Trim loose threads from both the front and back.

Check the embroidery and make sure the eyes, eyelashes, mouth, and whiskers are firmly secured.

Inspect the buttons and reinforce them if necessary.

Give the completed work a final press from the back whenever possible. Use a pressing cloth if needed, particularly around dimensional buttons and embroidery.

Do not place a hot iron directly over plastic buttons or other heat-sensitive embellishments.

Your Cute Fox Appliqué is now ready to become part of a larger sewing project.

You could center it on a quilt block, turn it into a decorative pillow front, appliqué it onto a tote bag, incorporate it into a child's quilt, or frame it as textile wall art.

Quick Technique Guide for U.S. Sewists

Fusible appliqué: A heat-activated adhesive bonds the fabric shapes temporarily or permanently to the background before edge stitching.

Blanket stitch: A decorative edge stitch that secures the appliqué while creating the handmade outline visible in the tutorial.

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Straight stitch: Useful for embroidery details, whiskers, quilting, and other decorative lines.

Hand embroidery: Used here primarily for the fox's eyes, eyelashes, nose, mouth, and whiskers.

Curved piecing/appliqué placement: Careful positioning and stitching around rounded shapes keeps the head, body, and tail smooth.

Quilting: Optional stitching through the quilt top, batting, and backing adds texture and secures the layers.

For the closest match to the graphic, keep the palette warm and coordinated: rust/orange for the main body and tail, cream floral fabric for the face/chest and tail tip, and brown striped fabric for the ears, legs, and foot.

The most important beginner tip is to assemble the entire fox before fusing anything permanently. A few millimeters of adjustment to the head, chest, legs, or tail can noticeably improve the finished composition.

With all the appliqué securely stitched, the expressive face embroidered, and the two decorative tail buttons added, your Cute Fox Appliqué is complete. 🦊 🧵 ❤️ **Happy Sewing!**