



Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel

Step-by-Step Tutorial ♥

Sew • Appliqué • Quilt • Enjoy!

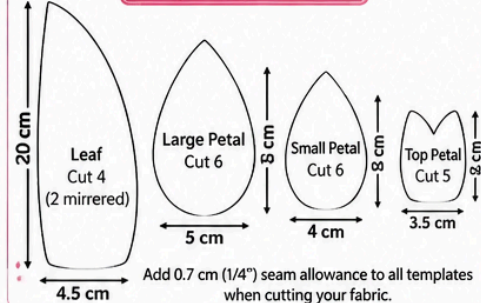
A beautiful flower panel for quilts, cushions, bags and more!

Finished Size

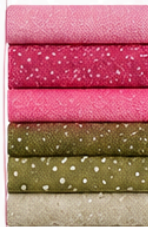
30 cm x 32 cm



Templates (actual size)



Materials (U.S. fabrics and tools)



100% cotton fabric (quilting cotton)

- Cream background fabric: 35 x 37 cm
- Assorted pink fabrics (light, medium, dark): 20 x 25 cm each
- Green fabric (with dots): 25 x 30 cm
- Matching thread
- Needle, pins, scissors
- Fusible web (HeatnBond® or similar)
- Iron and ironing board
- Quilting supplies (batting and backing)

Main Sewing Methods Used

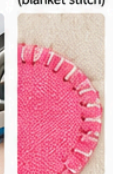
Trace and cut



Fuse the pieces



Appliqué stitch (blanket stitch)



Basic straight stitch



Quilting



Stitch Guide



Blanket Stitch
Use 2 or 3 strands of embroidery floss or a matching thread. Keep stitches even and spaced.

1 Cut the Fabric



Using the templates, cut all pieces from your chosen fabrics. Remember to add a 0.7 cm seam allowance when cutting.

2 Prepare the Pieces



Trace the templates on the fusible web, fuse to the wrong side of the fabric and cut out. Remove the paper backing.

3 Arrange the Design



Arrange the flowers, leaves and stems on the background fabric (30 x 32 cm). Adjust the position until you are happy with the design.

4 Fuse in Place



Fuse the pieces with a hot iron according to the fusible web instructions.

5 Appliqué the Petals



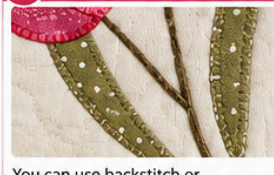
Stitch around each petal using a blanket stitch.

6 Appliqué the Leaves and Stems



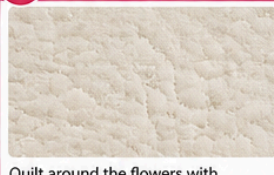
Stitch the leaves and stems in the same way. Take your time to keep the stitches even.

7 Add the Flower Stems



You can use backstitch or straight stitch for the stems. Use 2 strands of embroidery floss or matching thread.

8 Quilt the Background



Quilt around the flowers with a free-motion or walking foot. Simple loops or meandering stitches work beautifully.

9 Trim and Square



Trim the panel to 30 x 32 cm, making sure all edges are even.

10 Add Backing (optional)



Layer with batting and backing fabric, then quilt as desired.

11 Finished!

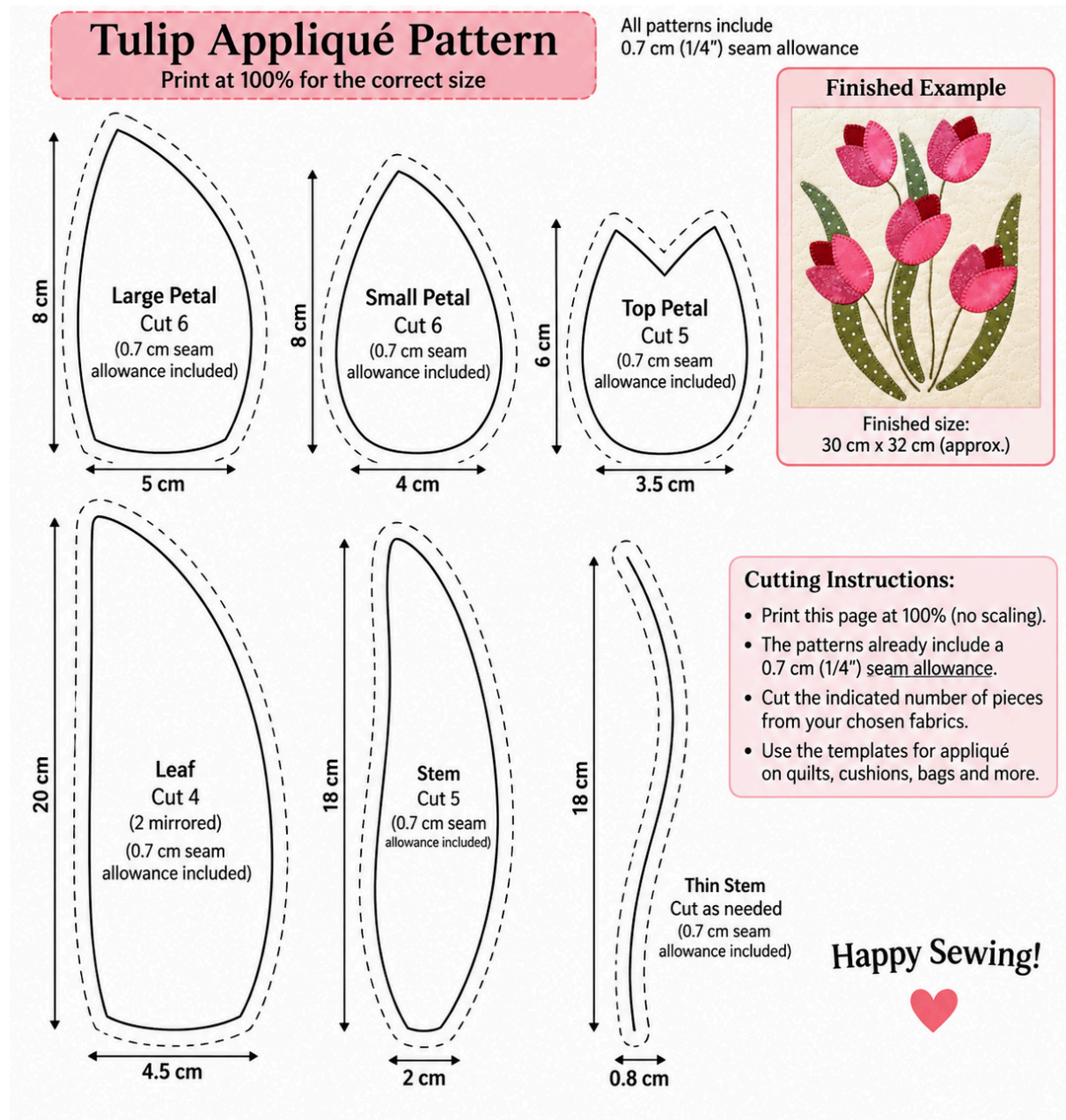


Your Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel is complete! Use it in a quilt, cushion, tote bag, wall hanging and more.

Tips for Success

- ✓ Use 100% cotton quilting fabrics for best results.
- ✓ Fusible web makes appliqué easier and more accurate.
- ✓ Keep your stitches small and even.
- ✓ Mix different fabric prints for a unique look.
- ✓ This design is perfect for quilts, pillows, table runners, bags and home décor.

♥ Happy Sewing!



Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel – Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial

This Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel is a charming sewing project that combines traditional appliqué, blanket stitching, simple embroidery, and quilting. The finished panel measures approximately 30 cm x 32 cm (11.8 x 12.6 inches) and features

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five pink tulips surrounded by long green leaves and delicate embroidered stems.

The project is suitable for confident beginners as well as experienced quilters. You can complete most of the appliqué by hand, as shown in the design, or use your sewing machine for portions of the construction. The combination of several shades of pink fabric with dotted olive-green leaves gives the panel a warm handmade appearance.

For the closest result to the tutorial graphic, use 100% quilting cotton, which is widely available in U.S. quilt shops and fabric stores. A lightweight fusible web such as HeatnBond® or a similar appliqué product makes positioning the individual pieces much easier before they are permanently stitched.

Step 1: Gather Your Fabrics, Tools, and Supplies

Before cutting anything, prepare all of your materials. Having everything ready makes it easier to keep the appliqué pieces organized as you work.

For the project shown, you will need:

- Cream quilting cotton: approximately 35 × 37 cm (13.8 × 14.6 in) for the background
- Assorted pink quilting cottons: light, medium, and dark shades, approximately 20 × 25 cm (7.9 × 9.8 in) of each
- Green dotted quilting cotton: approximately 25 × 30 cm (9.8 × 11.8 in)
- Red or deep-pink fabric scraps: for the small upper tulip petals
- Lightweight fusible web: such as HeatnBond® or a comparable product
- Matching or contrasting embroidery thread
- Neutral or coordinating sewing thread

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- Hand-sewing needle
- Fabric scissors
- Small sharp appliqué scissors
- Pins or appliqué clips
- Fabric marking pencil
- Iron and ironing board
- Quilting batting
- Backing fabric
- Sewing machine, if desired
- Walking foot or free-motion quilting foot for quilting

Prewash your quilting cotton if that is your normal quilting practice. Press all fabrics before tracing or cutting so there are no wrinkles that could distort the shapes.

The cream background should initially be larger than the final 30 × 32 cm measurement. Starting with approximately 35 × 37 cm gives you some extra fabric for quilting and final squaring.

Do not trim the background to its final dimensions yet. Quilting can cause slight shrinkage or distortion, so final trimming is best saved until the quilting has been completed.

Step 2: Prepare and Cut the Tulip Appliqué Pieces

The graphic uses three primary appliqué shapes for each tulip: a large front petal, a smaller side petal, and a small top petal. The leaves are long and gently curved.

The approximate template dimensions shown in the tutorial are:

Leaf: 20 cm high × 4.5 cm wide

Large Petal: 8 cm high × 5 cm wide

Small Petal: 8 cm high × 4 cm wide

Top Petal: approximately 6–8 cm high × 3.5 cm wide,

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depending on how much of the piece will be hidden beneath the other petals

When using a traditional turned-edge method, add approximately 0.7 cm (¼ inch) around the template as a seam allowance. If you are making raw-edge fusible appliqué, you generally do not need a traditional seam allowance because the edges remain visible and are secured with stitching.

The tutorial graphic indicates approximately six large petals, six small petals, five top petals, and four main leaves, with two leaf shapes mirrored. Because the finished composition contains five flowers, arrange and trim individual pieces as necessary to reproduce the overlapping effect of the reference design.

Trace each shape onto the paper side of the fusible web. Remember that fusible appliqué reverses the design when the fabric is turned right side up. This is particularly important for the curved leaves.

Rough-cut around each traced shape, leaving a little fusible web around the outline. Place the adhesive side against the wrong side of the corresponding fabric.

Follow the fusible-web manufacturer's temperature and pressing instructions. Avoid sliding the iron back and forth. Instead, press and lift it so the pieces do not become distorted.

Allow everything to cool completely before cutting precisely along the template lines.

Step 3: Build Each Tulip Before Positioning the Bouquet

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Lay the cream background fabric on a large, clean work surface. Find the vertical center and use the original design as your placement reference.

Each flower is created through overlapping layers rather than a single tulip-shaped piece.

Start with the darker or patterned side petal. Position the small dark-red top section behind it. Then place the large light-pink petal over the front so that its rounded lower edge forms the dominant part of the flower.

The overlap is important because it creates the dimensional appearance seen in the original panel.

Make five tulips using slightly different combinations of your pink fabrics. Mixing solids, tonal prints, and small-scale patterns will give the bouquet more visual interest while keeping the overall design coordinated.

Before fusing anything permanently, assemble all five flowers and place them approximately where they will appear on the background.

The composition has two flowers toward the top, one central flower slightly lower, and two flowers toward the lower left and lower right.

Step 4: Arrange the Leaves, Flowers, and Stems

Now arrange the long green leaves.

The original composition uses sweeping leaves that begin near the bottom center and curve outward. These large shapes frame the flowers and give the bouquet its characteristic tulip-garden appearance.

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Place one long leaf toward the left edge and another toward the right. Position the remaining green shapes through the center, allowing them to rise between the flowers.

Mirror some of the leaf templates instead of cutting every leaf in the same direction. Mirrored pieces create a more natural arrangement.

Leave a comfortable amount of cream background around the entire bouquet. The appliqué should not reach the final cutting edge of the panel.

Next, plan the thin flower stems. These can be made with narrow fabric strips, bias stems, or embroidery. The reference graphic uses slender brownish stitched lines, so backstitch or a small straight stitch with embroidery floss is an excellent choice.

Take a photo of your arrangement before moving anything. This gives you an easy placement reference if the pieces shift during fusing.

Step 5: Fuse the Appliqué Pieces in Place 🔥

Once you are satisfied with the entire arrangement, remove the paper backing from the fusible-web pieces.

Work systematically rather than trying to fuse the whole bouquet at once.

Begin with the pieces that sit underneath other appliqués. Generally, this means the leaves and rear portions of the flowers should be positioned first.

Place a pressing cloth over the appliqué if recommended by the fusible manufacturer.

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Press each section according to the manufacturer's directions. Avoid excessive heat or pressing time because too much heat can make some fusible products stiff or cause adhesive to spread beyond the fabric edges.

After fusing, allow the panel to lie flat until completely cool.

Check every edge with your fingertips. If a corner or curved edge has not bonded properly, press that small area again before beginning the decorative stitching.

Step 6: Blanket Stitch Around the Tulip Petals

The blanket stitch is one of the defining visual features of this project.

Thread a hand-sewing needle with matching pink embroidery floss. The tutorial suggests using two or three strands of embroidery floss, although ordinary coordinating sewing thread can also produce a more delicate result.

Bring your needle from the back of the background so the knot remains hidden.

Work around the curved edge of the first petal with small, evenly spaced blanket stitches. Try to keep the depth and spacing consistent.

For a handmade appearance similar to the reference, approximately 2–3 mm between stitches works nicely. This is a practical guideline rather than a strict measurement.

Follow the contour slowly around tight curves. Avoid pulling the thread too tightly because this can pucker the background.

Complete one petal before moving to the overlapping piece. Where two appliqué fabrics overlap, stitch only the visible edges that need securing.

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Repeat the process around all five tulips.

You can also reproduce this effect by machine using a blanket/appliqué stitch. Test the machine settings on scrap fabric first and shorten the stitch if necessary for the small curves.

Step 7: Appliqué the Green Leaves

Use the same technique to secure the green leaves.

Choose an olive, khaki, brown, or coordinating green thread. A contrasting thread will emphasize the handmade outline, while a closely matching color produces a softer finish.

Begin near the bottom of one leaf and work steadily around the outside.

The long curves are easier to sew than the tulip petals, but consistent spacing remains important. Take your time around the narrow pointed ends.

If machine stitching, stop with the needle down whenever you need to reposition the panel. Raise the presser foot, pivot the fabric slightly, lower the foot, and continue.

Repeat until every green appliqué shape is securely attached.

Inspect the complete panel before proceeding. There should be no loose fabric edges or sections of fusible web lifting away from the background.

Step 8: Embroider the Flower Stems

The delicate stems provide the visual connection between the flowers and the bottom of the bouquet.

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Using a removable fabric marker, lightly draw the stem lines before stitching. Allow the lines to curve naturally from the flowers toward the lower center.

Thread your needle with two strands of brown, olive, or coordinating embroidery floss.

Use backstitch for a continuous hand-embroidered line. Alternatively, use a small straight stitch if you prefer a slightly more rustic appearance.

Keep the stitches short around curves so the stem remains smooth.

Do not pull the embroidery floss too tightly. The background should remain completely flat.

Continue until each tulip has a clearly defined stem. Several stems can visually converge near the bottom center, just as they do in the reference design.

Step 9: Prepare the Quilt Sandwich

After all appliqué and embroidery work is finished, press the panel gently from the wrong side.

Now create your quilt sandwich.

Place the backing fabric wrong side up on a flat surface. Put the batting over it and position the appliqué panel right side up on top.

The batting and backing should extend slightly beyond the background fabric on all sides.

Smooth the three layers carefully from the center outward.

Secure the sandwich using safety pins, basting spray, or your preferred quilting-basting method.

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Check the front one more time to make sure there are no wrinkles trapped beneath the appliqué panel.

Step 10: Quilt the Cream Background

The reference panel features subtle quilting across the cream background while leaving the tulips visually prominent.

You can use free-motion quilting to create small loops, gentle curves, meandering lines, or another simple texture.

If you are new to free-motion quilting, practice on a scrap sandwich first.

A walking foot is another excellent option. Instead of free-motion designs, sew gentle straight or slightly curved lines through the background.

Quilt around the flowers and leaves rather than heavily stitching across them. This creates a slight dimensional effect because the appliqué shapes remain more prominent than the surrounding quilted background.

Work from the center outward whenever possible.

Frequently check the back of the project for folds or puckers.

Continue until the cream background has an even distribution of quilting.

Step 11: Trim and Square the Panel

Place the finished quilted panel on a cutting mat.

Using a quilting ruler and rotary cutter, square the piece to approximately 30 × 32 cm (11.8 × 12.6 inches).

Check each corner with the ruler to maintain accurate 90-degree angles.

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Before cutting, verify that there is enough cream background between the appliqué and the cutting lines.

Trim one side at a time rather than attempting to align all four edges simultaneously.

After trimming, sew a narrow machine basting stitch approximately 3–5 mm from the raw edge if desired. This helps keep the quilt sandwich together until the panel is incorporated into its final project.

Step 12: Finish and Use Your Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel



Your Tulip Appliqué Quilt Panel is now complete.

At approximately 30 × 32 cm, it is an excellent size for incorporating into a decorative pillow or cushion front. You can add coordinating fabric borders if you need a larger finished piece.

It can also become the center block of a quilt, a tote-bag panel, wall hanging, table decoration, or another patchwork project.

For a wall hanging, add borders and binding and install a hanging sleeve on the back.

For a cushion, add fabric strips around the panel until it reaches your desired pillow size, then construct an envelope or zippered backing.

For a quilt, surround the tulip panel with complementary blocks or simple fabric borders so the appliqué remains the focal point.

The most important details are the layered pink petals, curved green leaves, blanket-stitched edges, embroidered stems, and

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softly quilted cream background. Together, these elements create the handmade character of the original design.

 Sew slowly, keep your stitches small and even, and enjoy the process. Your finished tulip panel does not need to look mechanically perfect—the small variations in hand stitching are part of what makes appliqué quilting so beautiful. Happy Sewing!