

### Fabric Pumpkin Stitched Appliqué Tutorial



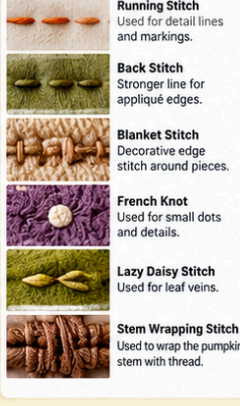
**Finished Size**  
20 cm (W) x 19 cm (H)

#### Materials



- Cotton fabric (patchwork fabrics)
- Felt or cotton base fabric
- Lace trim
- Embroidery thread (matching colors)
- Sewing needle (hand sewing)
- Fabric scissors
- Pins
- Optional: lightweight fusible interfacing
- Stuffing or padding (if desired)

#### Main Stitches Used (Hand Sewing)



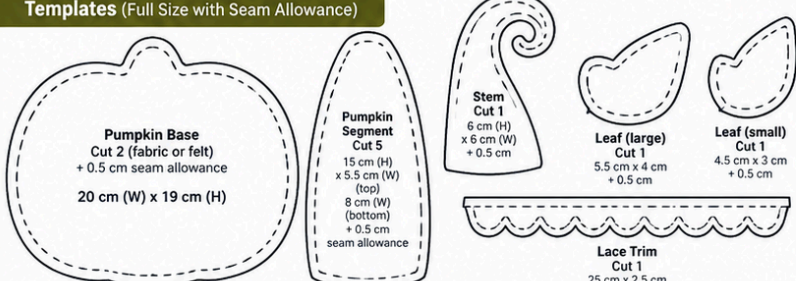
- Running Stitch**  
Used for detail lines and markings.
- Back Stitch**  
Stronger line for appliqué edges.
- Blanket Stitch**  
Decorative edge stitch around pieces.
- French Knot**  
Used for small dots and details.
- Lazy Daisy Stitch**  
Used for leaf veins.
- Stem Wrapping Stitch**  
Used to wrap the pumpkin stem with thread.

#### Color Guide (Fabrics)



- Orange fabric (polka dots and plain)
- Purple fabric (with white dots)
- Beige fabric (herringbone or plain)
- Green fabric (textured or plain)
- Yellow fabric (for leaf)
- Lace trim (approx. 25 cm)

#### Templates (Full Size with Seam Allowance)



**Pumpkin Base**  
Cut 2 (fabric or felt)  
+ 0.5 cm seam allowance  
20 cm (W) x 19 cm (H)

**Pumpkin Segment**  
Cut 5  
15 cm (H) x 5.5 cm (W) (top)  
8 cm (W) (bottom)  
+ 0.5 cm seam allowance

**Stem**  
Cut 1  
6 cm (H) x 6 cm (W)  
+ 0.5 cm

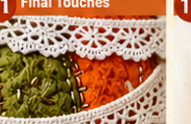
**Leaf (large)**  
Cut 1  
5.5 cm x 4 cm  
+ 0.5 cm

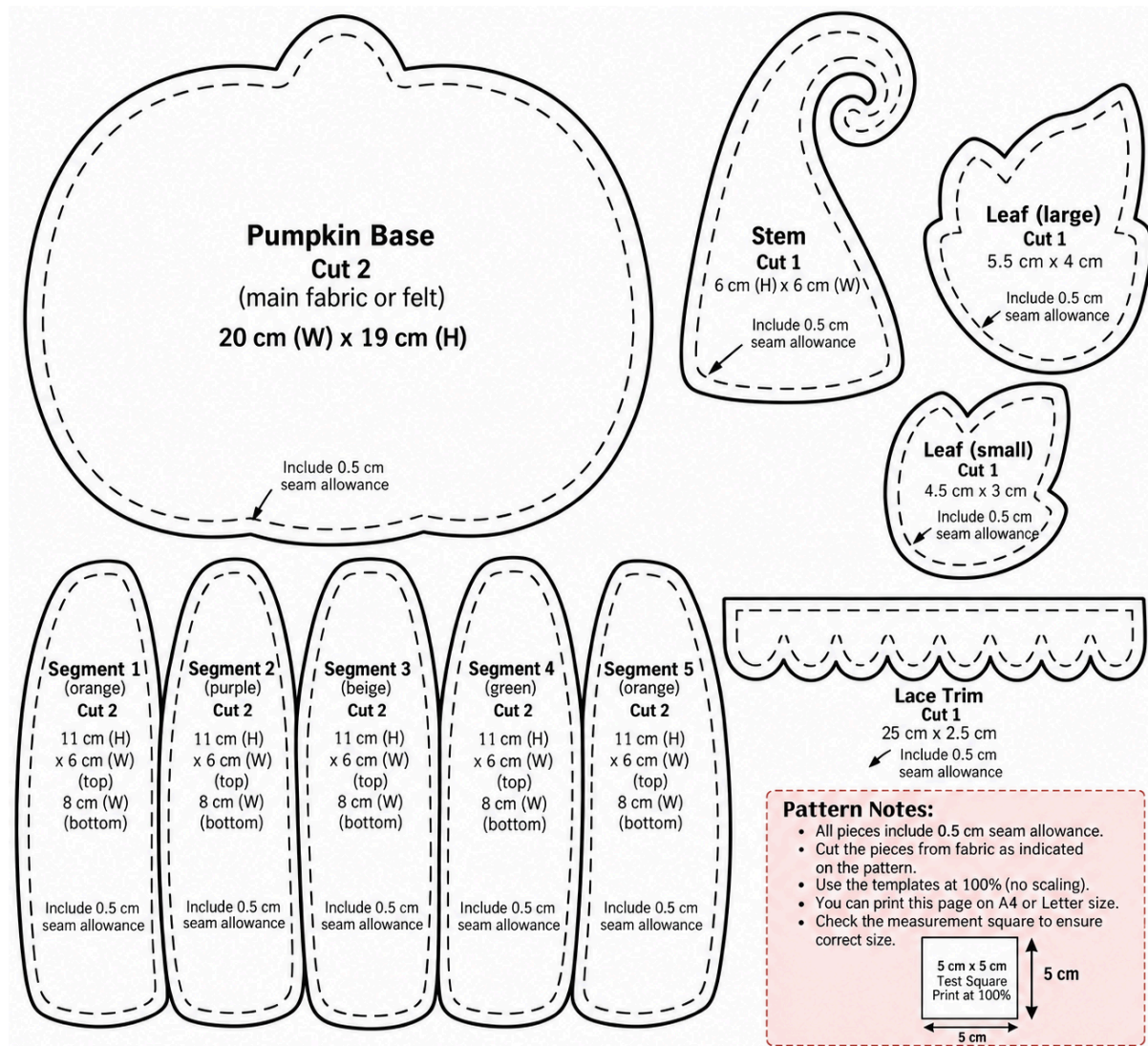
**Leaf (small)**  
Cut 1  
4.5 cm x 3 cm  
+ 0.5 cm

**Lace Trim**  
Cut 1  
25 cm x 2.5 cm

#### Cutting the Fabric Pieces



|                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Cut the Pieces</b><br> <p>Cut all fabric pieces using the templates. Add 0.5 cm seam allowance.</p> | <b>2 Prepare the Segments</b><br> <p>Fold and press the curved edges of each segment (0.5 cm seam allowance).</p>        | <b>3 Join the Segments</b><br> <p>Sew the segments together using a back stitch or small running stitch.</p>                                          | <b>4 Add Lace Trim</b><br> <p>Position the lace trim across the pumpkin and hand sew with small stitches.</p>                              | <b>5 Make the Stem</b><br> <p>Sew the stem, stuff lightly (if desired) and wrap with embroidery thread.</p>                          | <b>6 Make the Leaves</b><br> <p>Sew the leaves using blanket stitch and add leaf veins with lazy daisy stitch.</p> |
| <b>7 Attach the Stem and Leaves</b><br> <p>Position and hand sew the stem and leaves at the top.</p>     | <b>8 Add Decorative Stitches</b><br> <p>Use decorative stitches around each segment and add French knots if desired.</p> | <b>9 Prepare the Back</b><br> <p>Cut a back piece the same size as the front. Place right sides together and sew around, leaving a small opening.</p> | <b>10 Add Padding (Optional)</b><br> <p>Turn right side out and add light padding for a soft effect. Then hand sew the opening closed.</p> | <b>11 Final Touches</b><br> <p>Check all stitches and adjust details. Make sure the lace, stem and leaves are securely attached.</p> | <b>12 Finished Project</b><br> <p>Your beautiful fabric pumpkin is ready!<br/>Size: 20 cm (W) x 19 cm (H)</p>      |



## Fabric Pumpkin Stitched Appliqué Tutorial 🎃

This Fabric Pumpkin Stitched Appliqué is a cozy fall sewing project made from several coordinating fabric sections, decorative hand embroidery, lace trim, a dimensional curved stem, and two appliqué leaves. Following the measurements shown in the tutorial graphic, the finished pumpkin is approximately 20 cm wide × 19 cm high.

The project works beautifully as an autumn wall decoration, small quilted panel, seasonal table accent, or handmade gift.

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The combination of orange, purple, beige, olive green, and golden yellow fabrics gives the pumpkin a warm patchwork appearance, while the visible hand stitching adds a charming handmade finish.

This tutorial uses familiar U.S. sewing and embroidery terminology, including running stitch, backstitch, blanket stitch, French knots, and lazy daisy stitch. A 0.5 cm seam allowance is included when cutting the fabric pieces.

## **Step 1 – Gather the Materials and Prepare the Fabrics**

Before cutting anything, gather all your supplies. Using fabrics with different textures and small prints will make the individual pumpkin sections easier to distinguish and will create the rich patchwork effect shown in the reference.

You will need cotton patchwork fabrics in orange, purple, beige, olive green, and golden yellow. Small scraps are enough for most of the decorative sections, so this is an excellent project for using leftover quilting fabric.

You will also need a piece of felt or cotton base fabric large enough for the pumpkin front and back. For the finished dimensions shown in the graphic, prepare enough fabric for two pumpkin-shaped base pieces measuring approximately 20 cm × 19 cm.

For embellishment, prepare approximately 25 cm of cream or white lace trim, about 2.5 cm wide. You can use cotton crochet lace, scalloped lace, or another lightweight trim with a vintage appearance.

Gather embroidery floss or decorative thread in colors that coordinate with the fabrics. Brown, tan, cream, orange, olive, and muted pink work particularly well. You will also need a hand-sewing needle, fabric scissors, pins or clips, and an iron.

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For a slightly raised pumpkin, prepare a small amount of polyester fiberfill or thin batting. Lightweight fusible interfacing is optional but useful when working with thin cotton fabrics that need additional stability.

## **Step 2 – Prepare the Templates and Cut the Pumpkin Pieces**

Begin with the main pumpkin template. The tutorial uses a finished pumpkin body measuring approximately 20 cm wide × 19 cm high. Cut two pumpkin base pieces: one for the front foundation and one for the back.

Transfer the pumpkin shape onto your fabric using a removable fabric marker or tailor's chalk. Add the indicated 0.5 cm seam allowance around the perimeter if it is not already included in your template.

Next, prepare the individual vertical pumpkin segments. The tutorial graphic shows five main decorative sections arranged across the pumpkin: orange, purple, beige, green, and orange. The center sections are approximately 15 cm high, with a narrower top and a wider lower portion.

When adapting the individual segments to your own printed template, keep approximately 0.5 cm of seam allowance around each piece. The exact width can be adjusted slightly so all five sections fit smoothly across the 20 cm pumpkin base.

Cut the curved stem from brown, tan, or olive fabric. The stem template is approximately 6 cm high × 6 cm wide, including the curled upper section. Cut one stem piece, or two mirrored pieces if you want to sew and lightly stuff the stem for additional dimension.

Finally, cut one large leaf measuring approximately 5.5 × 4 cm and one smaller leaf measuring approximately 4.5 × 3 cm. The

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graphic uses an olive green large leaf and a golden yellow smaller leaf. Include the 0.5 cm seam allowance where required.

### **Step 3 – Prepare and Arrange the Pumpkin Segments**

Place all five fabric segments on your work surface before sewing. Arrange them from left to right as orange, purple, beige, green, and orange. This arrangement reproduces the balanced color layout shown in the tutorial graphic.

Press each piece carefully with a warm iron. If you are using traditional turned-edge appliqué, gently turn the curved raw edges toward the wrong side by approximately 0.5 cm and press them into position.

For easier construction, especially for beginners, you can instead use lightweight fusible interfacing. Apply it to the wrong side of each segment according to the manufacturer's instructions, then trim the pieces precisely to shape.

Position the beige section approximately at the center of the pumpkin. Add the purple piece beside it, followed by the green section on the opposite side. Finish with the two orange outer pieces.

Pin or temporarily baste all sections to the pumpkin foundation. Make sure the bottom curves follow the shape of the pumpkin and that the upper edges meet neatly near the future stem position.

Check the complete arrangement before permanent stitching. The pumpkin should have a gently rounded, dimensional appearance rather than perfectly straight vertical divisions.

### **Step 4 – Sew the Fabric Segments to the Pumpkin**

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Starting with the center section can make alignment easier. Secure the beige fabric segment to the foundation using a small running stitch, backstitch, or decorative appliqué stitch.

Continue with the adjacent purple and green pieces. Keep the spacing between stitches reasonably consistent. Visible hand stitching is part of the design, so there is no need to hide every stitch.

Attach the two orange outer sections last. Follow the pumpkin's rounded outer contour carefully so that each piece remains smooth without puckering.

For a rustic look, use contrasting embroidery thread around the sections. Brown or tan thread looks especially attractive against orange, purple, beige, and olive fabrics.

You can add small decorative stitches beside the seams after the pieces are attached. Short straight stitches placed perpendicular to the seam lines imitate the handcrafted details visible in the tutorial graphic.

Once all five segments are secure, press the piece lightly from the back. Avoid flattening dimensional embroidery or textured fabric by using a pressing cloth and gentle pressure.

## **Step 5 – Add the Decorative Hand Embroidery**

A running stitch is one of the easiest decorative stitches for this project. Bring the needle up through the fabric, move it forward a short distance, take it back down, and continue with evenly spaced stitches.

Use backstitch where you want a stronger continuous outline. Bring the needle up, stitch backward into the previous stitch position, then bring it forward again. This creates a clean, nearly continuous embroidered line.

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The blanket stitch is ideal around appliqué edges. Bring the thread around the edge while keeping the working thread underneath the needle before pulling the stitch tight. Repeat at regular intervals.

Small French knots can be added as decorative dots. Bring the needle to the front, wrap the thread around the needle once or twice, insert the needle very close to the original point, and gently pull it through while controlling the wraps.

Use the lazy daisy stitch for leaf veins and small decorative details. Create a loose loop of thread and secure the tip with a tiny anchoring stitch. Several lazy daisy stitches can form a simple embroidered leaf motif.

Do not worry about making every stitch mechanically identical. Slight variations reinforce the handmade appearance of the finished Fabric Pumpkin Stitched Appliqué.

## **Step 6 – Attach the Lace Trim**

Cut a strip of lace approximately 25 cm long × 2.5 cm wide. Before trimming the excess, position it across the assembled pumpkin to determine the best placement.

The main decorative lace band should travel across the front of the pumpkin in a gentle curve. The scalloped edge can point downward to emphasize its decorative shape.

Pin the lace at the center first. Then work toward each side, smoothing it carefully without stretching it.

Hand sew the upper edge using tiny stitches in a matching cream or white thread. Catch only small sections of the lace so the attachment stitches remain discreet.

The reference design also includes smaller lace details near the upper shoulders of the pumpkin. You may add short

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matching pieces here if you want to reproduce that layered vintage appearance.

Trim the ends only after the lace is securely positioned. Turn the raw ends underneath when possible and stitch them firmly so they cannot fray or lift.

## **Step 7 – Make the Curved Pumpkin Stem**

Transfer the stem template to brown, tan, or muted olive fabric. The approximate template area is 6 × 6 cm, with the upper end curling inward.

For a flat appliqué stem, stabilize the fabric, turn the edges under, and attach it directly above the pumpkin. Use blanket stitch or backstitch around the perimeter.

For a dimensional version, cut two mirrored stem pieces. Place them right sides together and sew around the perimeter while leaving a small opening.

Turn the stem right side out carefully. A blunt turning tool can help shape the narrow curled portion without damaging the fabric.

Add only a small amount of fiberfill. The stem should look gently padded rather than heavily stuffed.

Wrap several sections with brown embroidery floss or decorative cord. These horizontal wraps create the bundled, textured appearance shown in the graphic.

## **Step 8 – Sew and Embroider the Leaves**

Prepare the 5.5 × 4 cm large leaf and 4.5 × 3 cm small leaf. Stabilize the pieces if necessary so the edges remain crisp.

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The larger leaf can be made from olive green fabric, while the smaller one can use golden yellow or mustard fabric. These colors complement the pumpkin's autumn palette.

Turn the seam allowance underneath or use a raw-edge appliqué technique. Stitch around each leaf with blanket stitch.

Create the central vein using backstitch or stem stitch. Begin near the leaf base and work toward the tip.

Add several smaller veins branching from the center. Lazy daisy stitches or simple straight stitches work well for these details.

Position the leaves beside the stem, with the larger green leaf leaning toward one side and the smaller golden leaf toward the opposite side. Hand sew them securely to the pumpkin.

## **Step 9 – Attach the Stem and Leaves**

Place the completed stem at the upper center of the pumpkin. The bottom portion should overlap the top of the fabric segments slightly so there is no visible gap.

Pin the stem securely before stitching. If it is padded, sew around its lower portion with small hidden stitches rather than stitching through the center.

Position the large green leaf next to the stem and slightly behind it. This creates a natural layered effect.

Add the smaller golden leaf on the opposite side. Angle it outward so the two leaves frame the curved stem.

Secure both leaves around their outer edges. Reinforce the areas close to the stem because these points receive more handling.

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Inspect the upper assembly and add extra embroidery where needed. A few brown wrapping stitches around the lower stem can visually connect all three elements.

## **Step 10 – Prepare the Back and Add Optional Padding**

Place the finished pumpkin front over your backing fabric and cut the back to exactly the same outer shape. The two layers should align from edge to edge.

Place the front and back right sides together if you plan to turn the project. Pin around the perimeter, paying special attention to the pumpkin's lower curves.

Sew around the edge while leaving a small opening along an inconspicuous section. Maintain approximately the same 0.5 cm seam allowance used throughout the project.

Clip carefully into deep curves without cutting through the stitching. This allows the seam to spread correctly after turning.

Turn the pumpkin right side out. Use a blunt tool to gently shape the curves. If desired, insert a thin layer of batting or a modest amount of fiberfill through the opening.

Do not overstuff the pumpkin. The goal is a soft padded appliqué appearance. Once you are satisfied with the shape, close the opening by hand using a ladder stitch or slip stitch.

## **Step 11 – Complete the Final Decorative Details**

Examine every fabric segment and reinforce any loose decorative stitches. The vertical seams should remain visible and visually balanced.

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Check the lace carefully. If any scalloped areas lift too far from the surface, add a few tiny anchoring stitches using matching thread.

Inspect the stem and leaves as well. Make sure the leaf tips are secure while preserving a little dimensional texture.

You can add a few additional French knots to plain fabric sections if you want more visual interest. Keep them relatively sparse so they do not compete with the patterned fabrics.

If the project will be displayed as a wall hanging, attach a small fabric loop to the back near the upper center. Make sure the loop is securely anchored to the backing.

Give the finished pumpkin a final gentle shaping by hand. Avoid pressing directly over dimensional stitches, lace, padding, or the stuffed stem.

## **Step 12 – Finish and Display Your Fabric Pumpkin** 🎃 ✨

Your finished Fabric Pumpkin Stitched Appliqué should measure approximately 20 cm wide × 19 cm high, although slight differences are completely normal with handmade work.

The finished design combines patchwork fabric, appliqué, embroidery, lace, and optional padding in one approachable autumn sewing project.

Display it on a wall, place it on a seasonal table arrangement, or incorporate it into a larger fall quilt or fabric panel.

You can also adapt the same template into several pumpkins. Try burgundy, cream, brown, forest green, or muted blue fabrics for different autumn color schemes.

For a more traditional farmhouse style, choose gingham, ticking stripes, tiny florals, herringbone, and neutral linen-look

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cotton. For a brighter project, use contrasting quilting cottons from your scrap collection.

Most importantly, allow the visible stitching to remain part of the character of the piece. The combination of hand embroidery, fabric texture, decorative lace, curved appliqué sections, and autumn colors is what gives this pumpkin its warm handcrafted appearance.