

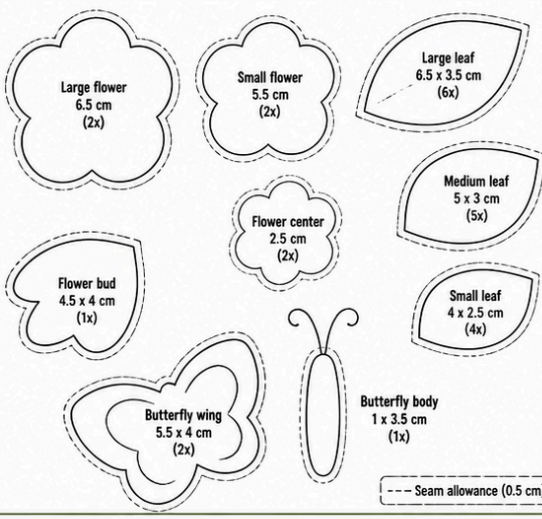
Fabric Appliqué Flower and Butterfly Pattern



Finished Size

15 cm

Templates with Seam Allowance



Large flower 6.5 cm (2x)

Small flower 5.5 cm (2x)

Large leaf 6.5 x 3.5 cm (6x)

Medium leaf 5 x 3 cm (5x)

Small leaf 4 x 2.5 cm (4x)

Flower center 2.5 cm (2x)

Flower bud 4.5 x 4 cm (1x)

Butterfly wing 5.5 x 4 cm (2x)

Butterfly body 1 x 3.5 cm (1x)

--- Seam allowance (0.5 cm)

Materials

- ♥ 100% cotton fabric (quilting cotton)
- ♥ Scraps of fabric in the colors shown
- ♥ Lightweight fusible web (e.g. Heat n Bond)
- ♥ Background fabric (minimum 25 x 25 cm)
- ♥ Matching thread for sewing
- ♥ Embroidery thread for details
- ♥ Sharp fabric scissors
- ♥ Sewing needle or sewing machine
- ♥ Iron and ironing board

Suggested Fabrics (U.S. quilting cotton)

Red	Dark Red	Pink	Yellow
Orange	Brown	Light Green	Olive Green
Dark Green	Background (Beige/Cream)		

Main Sewing Stitches (U.S. terms)

Running Stitch (temporary stitch)	Backstitch (strong stitch)	Blanket Stitch (for appliqué edges)
Whip Stitch (optional)	Straight Stitch (sewing machine)	French Knot (for small details)

Step by Step Instructions

- 1** Prepare the fabrics



Choose the fabrics and iron them. Use 100% cotton quilting fabric.
- 2** Trace the templates



Print the templates, cut them out and trace each piece onto the wrong side of the fabric.
- 3** Cut the pieces



Cut all the pieces following the traced lines. Include 0.5 cm seam allowance.
- 4** Apply fusible web



Fuse the pieces to the wrong side of the fabric using fusible web, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- 5** Arrange the design



Position all the pieces on the background fabric until you are happy with the composition.
- 6** Stitch the pieces



Stitch each piece using blanket stitch or your preferred appliqué stitch.
- 7** Stitch the leaves and stem



Sew the leaves and stem. Use matching thread and blanket stitch.
- 8** Sew the butterfly



Stitch the butterfly wings, body and antennae. You can use a backstitch for the antennae.
- 9** Add details



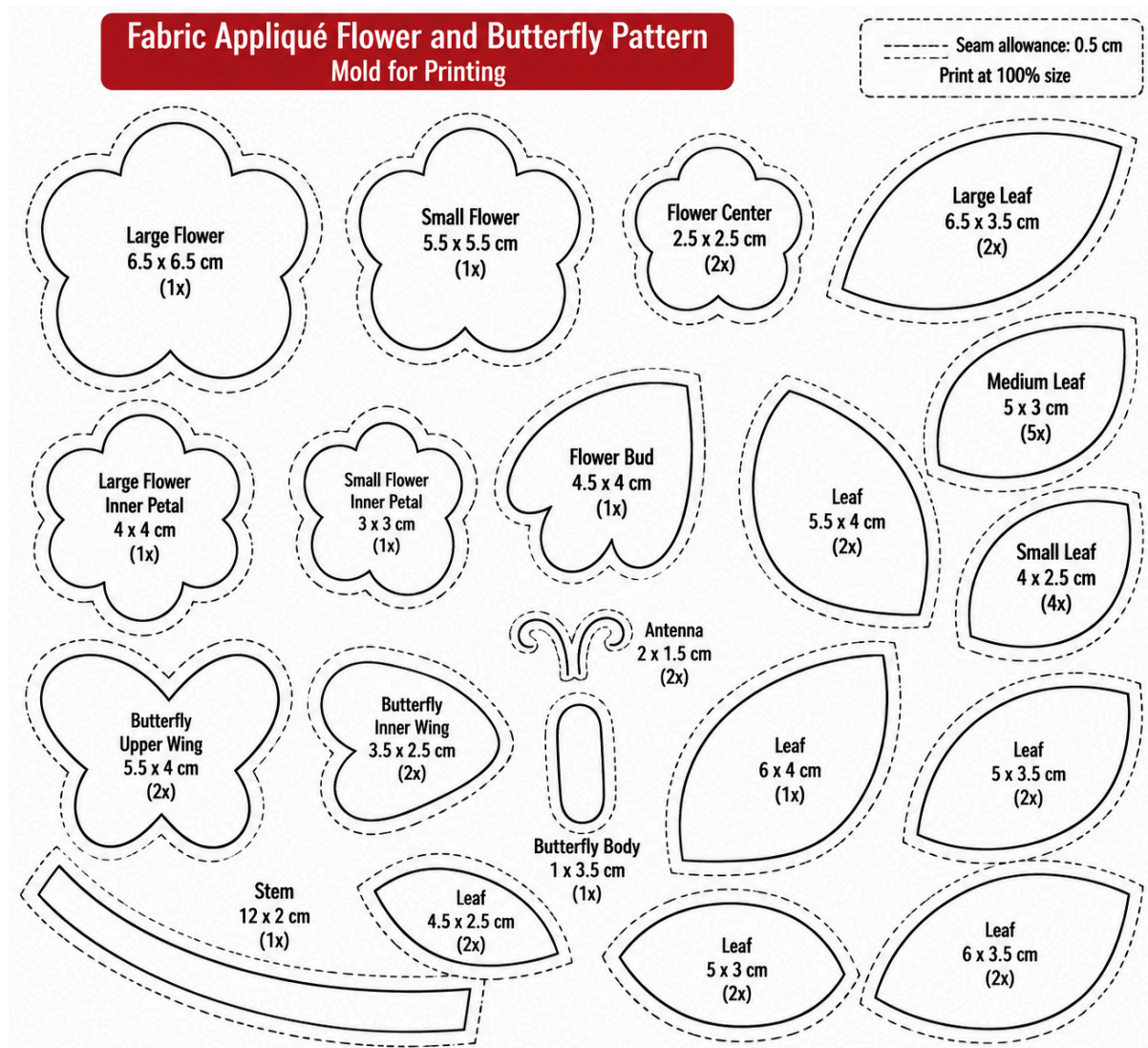
Add details such as French knots in the flower center and embroidered lines on leaves.
- 10** Final look



Your fabric appliqué flower and butterfly is ready!
- 11** Use it in projects



Use the design on quilt blocks, pillow covers, tote bags, table runners and more.



Fabric Appliqué Flower and Butterfly Pattern – Complete Sewing Tutorial

This Fabric Appliqué Flower and Butterfly Pattern creates a cheerful floral arrangement using quilting cotton, fusible web, hand or machine appliqué, and simple embroidery. The finished design shown in the reference graphic is approximately 15 cm wide, and it combines layered flowers, leaves, a curved stem, a flower bud, and a butterfly.

This project is suitable for confident beginners as well as experienced sewists. You can stitch the appliqué entirely by

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hand for a traditional look or use a sewing machine for faster construction. All measurements below are in centimeters (cm), while sewing techniques and terminology follow common U.S. sewing and quilting terms.

Step 1 – Gather Your Materials

Before cutting anything, prepare all your fabrics and sewing supplies. Using 100% cotton quilting fabric is recommended because it is stable, easy to cut, and works especially well with fusible appliqué.

For the color palette shown in the reference design, gather scraps in red, dark red, pink, yellow, orange, brown, light green, olive green, and dark green. You will also need a piece of beige or cream cotton for the background.

For a comfortable working area, cut your background fabric to at least 25 × 25 cm. This gives you extra space around the approximately 15 cm finished motif and makes handling the appliqué easier.

You will need:

- 100% cotton quilting fabric
- Assorted fabric scraps
- Lightweight fusible web, such as HeatnBond or a similar product
- Beige or cream background fabric, minimum 25 × 25 cm
- Matching sewing thread
- Embroidery floss for decorative details
- Sharp fabric scissors
- Sewing needle and/or sewing machine
- Iron and ironing board
- Pencil or fabric marking tool
- Paper for printing or tracing the templates

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

Step 2 – Prepare the Printable Templates

The reference pattern includes templates with an approximately 0.5 cm seam allowance indicated by a dashed outline.

Prepare the following pieces according to the graphic:

Large Flower: approximately 6.5 cm, cut 2.

Small Flower: approximately 5.5 cm, cut 2.

Flower Center: approximately 2.5 cm, cut 2.

Flower Bud: approximately 4.5 × 4 cm, cut 1.

Large Leaf: approximately 6.5 × 3.5 cm, cut 6.

Medium Leaf: approximately 5 × 3 cm, cut 5.

Small Leaf: approximately 4 × 2.5 cm, cut 4.

Butterfly Wing: approximately 5.5 × 4 cm, prepare 2 wing sections.

Butterfly Body: approximately 1 × 3.5 cm, cut 1.

When printing a template, make sure the printer is set to 100% or Actual Size rather than “Fit to Page.” Check at least one known measurement with a ruler before cutting all the pieces.

The flower and leaf quantities can also be adjusted slightly if you want to personalize the arrangement, but following the quantities in the reference will produce the closest result.

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Step 3 – Choose and Prepare the Fabrics

The color arrangement is an important part of this project.

For the two main flowers, use combinations of red, dark red, and pink. Yellow and orange work beautifully for the flower centers and butterfly.

Use a mixture of light green, olive green, and dark green for the foliage. Combining several green shades prevents the leaves from blending together and gives the arrangement more depth.

Brown works well for the butterfly body and may also be used for subtle stem or embroidered details.

Place each scrap on your ironing board and press it flat. Avoid stretching the fabric while pressing.

If the fabric is very lightweight, fusible web will provide additional stability.

Step 4 – Trace the Templates

Print or draw the template pieces onto paper and cut them out.

For fusible appliqué, follow the instructions supplied with your fusible web. Usually, the template shape is traced onto the paper side of the fusible product.

Remember that a traced fusible shape may become reversed after it is fused and cut. For symmetrical flowers this usually makes little difference, but direction matters more with leaves and butterfly pieces.

Leave a little space between traced shapes.

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For pieces that will be fused directly and finished with blanket stitching, you can normally cut close to the finished appliqué outline.

If you prefer traditional turned-edge appliqué rather than raw-edge fusible appliqué, retain the approximately 0.5 cm allowance around the template so that the edge can be turned under.

Step 5 – Apply the Fusible Web

Place the adhesive side of your lightweight fusible web against the wrong side of each selected fabric.

Follow the manufacturer's temperature and pressing instructions because different fusible products require different heat settings and pressing times.

Do not slide the iron back and forth as though ironing clothing. Instead, place the iron down, press, lift it, and move to another area.

Allow the fabric to cool before cutting.

This cooling period is useful because the adhesive needs a moment to stabilize.

Once fused, the small flowers, leaves, butterfly wings, and other components should be easier to cut accurately.

Step 6 – Cut All Appliqué Pieces

Using sharp fabric scissors, carefully cut each shape along its appropriate outline.

Small, smooth cuts are better than long chopping motions when cutting curved petals.

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For leaves, rotate the fabric while keeping your scissors relatively steady. This helps create cleaner curves and pointed ends.

Cut the layered flowers individually. The reference design uses contrasting layers, creating dimension without requiring complicated piecing.

Cut the butterfly wings carefully so the left and right sides remain balanced.

Once everything has been cut, place all pieces on a clean surface and compare them with your template list before proceeding.

Step 7 – Arrange the Entire Design

Lay your 25 × 25 cm or larger background fabric flat with the right side facing upward.

Do not fuse anything immediately.

Begin by arranging the major elements. Position the two main flowers first, leaving enough room for the leaves, stem, bud, and butterfly.

The reference arrangement places a pink/red flower toward the upper left and a larger layered red flower toward the upper-right/center portion of the composition.

Place the flower bud toward the lower-left area.

Arrange the curved stem so that it visually connects the foliage.

Distribute large, medium, and small leaves around the flowers and stem. Alternate the green shades to maintain visual contrast.

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Finally, position the butterfly near the lower portion of the arrangement.

Stand back and inspect the composition before fusing. This is the easiest stage for making changes.

Step 8 – Build the Layered Flowers

Each main flower is constructed in layers.

Place the largest flower shape first. Add the smaller contrasting flower layer over it, keeping the petals visually balanced.

Position the approximately 2.5 cm flower center in the middle.

The center can be a simple fabric circle or embellished later with embroidery.

For the red flower shown in the graphic, combining dark red and brighter red layers creates a rich dimensional appearance.

The other flower can incorporate pink and red tones.

When you are satisfied with each flower, fuse the layers according to your fusible-web instructions.

Step 9 – Fuse the Design to the Background

Once you are completely satisfied with the arrangement, remove the paper backing from the fusible pieces if required by your product.

Fuse the pieces to the background gradually rather than trying to press the entire design at once.

Start with pieces that sit underneath other elements.

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Fuse the stem and lower foliage before overlapping additional leaves where appropriate.

Next, fuse the flowers, flower bud, and remaining leaves.

Finish with the butterfly.

**Protect delicate fabrics with a pressing cloth if necessary.
Allow the entire appliqué to cool completely before sewing.**

Step 10 – Stitch Around the Appliqué Pieces

The reference graphic recommends several familiar U.S. sewing stitches.

The primary decorative finish is the blanket stitch, which works especially well around raw-edge appliqué.

Bring the needle up close to the appliqué edge, form the characteristic blanket-stitch loop, and maintain consistent spacing around the shape.

Use coordinating thread when you want subtle stitching.

Use contrasting thread when you want the stitches to become part of the decorative design.

A straight stitch can be used when sewing by machine. Stitch slowly around curves and stop with the needle down whenever you need to pivot.

A whip stitch is another optional hand-sewing technique and can create a simpler finish.

The running stitch can be useful for temporary sewing or decorative accents, while backstitch produces stronger continuous embroidered lines.

Step 11 – Sew the Leaves and Stem

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Stitch around every leaf using blanket stitch or your chosen appliqué stitch.

Try to maintain the same stitch length throughout the project.

When approaching a pointed leaf tip, place one stitch directly at or very near the point before changing direction.

The graphic also shows decorative lines inside some leaves. These can be recreated using embroidery floss.

A simple straight stitched line down the center resembles the main leaf vein.

Smaller angled stitches can be added on either side if you want additional texture.

For the stem, use a narrow appliqué strip or embroidered line depending on how you prepared your pieces.

Step 12 – Sew the Butterfly

Position the yellow/orange butterfly wings first.

Make sure both sides appear balanced before permanently stitching them.

Secure the outer wing edges using blanket stitch.

The reference butterfly also contains decorative inner wing lines. These can be embroidered using backstitch or another neat outline stitch.

Position the approximately 1 × 3.5 cm brown body vertically between the wings.

Stitch around the body securely.

For the antennae, use brown embroidery floss and backstitch two curved lines extending from the top of the butterfly's body.

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The antennae do not need to be perfectly identical. Slight variation gives the handmade butterfly a natural appearance.

Step 13 – Add the Flower Bud

The small flower bud measures approximately 4.5 × 4 cm in the reference template.

Position it toward the lower-left section of the floral arrangement.

Use a dark red or burgundy fabric to visually connect it with the larger flowers.

Fuse it in place if you are using fusible appliqué.

Finish the edge with blanket stitch.

A few subtle embroidery stitches can be added inside the bud to suggest overlapping petals.

Step 14 – Add Embroidered Details

Now you can transform the basic appliqué into a more textured textile design.

Use embroidery floss to add veins to selected leaves.

Add decorative stitching inside the butterfly wings.

The graphic also suggests using French knots for small flower details.

To create a French knot, bring your embroidery needle through the fabric, wrap the floss around the needle, hold the wraps gently against the fabric, and return the needle very close to the original entry point.

Do not pull excessively tight.

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Several French knots grouped together can create a beautifully textured flower center.

You can also combine French knots with small straight stitches to give the flowers more dimension.

Step 15 – Check and Finish the Appliqué

Place the finished work on a flat surface and inspect every element.

Look for loose threads, missed appliqué edges, incomplete blanket stitches, or areas where the fusible web has not fully bonded.

Secure loose thread ends on the back.

Trim unnecessary threads carefully.

Give the project a final gentle press from the wrong side when appropriate for your chosen fusible product.

Avoid crushing dimensional embroidery such as French knots. If necessary, place the appliqué face down on a soft pressing surface.

Your finished Fabric Appliqué Flower and Butterfly Pattern should now measure approximately 15 cm across the main motif, depending on the final positioning of the leaves.

Step 16 – Turn the Appliqué Into a Finished Project

One advantage of making the appliqué on a generous background square is that the completed panel can be incorporated into many different sewing projects.

For a quilt block, trim the background to the dimensions required by your quilt pattern after the appliqué is complete.

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For a pillow cover, center the motif on the front panel and construct the pillow using your preferred envelope or zipper closure.

For a tote bag, use the finished appliqué panel as the outer front section and add interfacing before constructing the bag.

The design can also decorate table runners, wall hangings, fabric organizers, placemats, or other handmade accessories.

You can even enlarge the templates to create a more dramatic centerpiece.

Sewing Stitch Guide – U.S. Terms

Blanket Stitch: The main recommended stitch for finishing appliqué edges. It creates visible perpendicular stitches around the fabric shape and gives the project a classic handmade appearance.

Backstitch: A strong embroidery stitch that creates an almost continuous line. It is excellent for the butterfly antennae and decorative outlines.

Running Stitch: A basic in-and-out stitch. It can be used for temporary sewing or decorative details.

Straight Stitch: The standard sewing-machine stitch and a practical option for securing appliqué pieces quickly.

Whip Stitch: A simple hand stitch that passes over an edge repeatedly. It can substitute for blanket stitch when you prefer a less decorative finish.

French Knot: A small raised embroidery knot that works beautifully in flower centers and other tiny decorative areas.

Helpful Tips for a Professional Finish 🌻

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Always test your fusible web on a scrap before using it on the actual project. Some adhesives can become stiff if they are overheated.

Keep your blanket stitches as even as possible, but do not worry about tiny differences. Slight variations are part of the charm of handmade appliqué.

Use a smaller needle for delicate pieces. A fine needle gives you greater control around narrow leaves and curved flower petals.

When machine stitching, reduce your speed around tight curves.

For a richer design, combine several shades of the same color rather than making every leaf or petal identical.

Most importantly, complete the arrangement before permanently fusing the pieces. Once the fusible adhesive has been activated, repositioning a piece can damage both the appliqué and background fabric.

With the final embroidery completed, you will have a colorful flower and butterfly fabric appliqué that closely follows the reference graphic and is ready to become a quilt block, pillow, tote bag, table runner, wall hanging, or another creative sewing project.