

Strawberry Patchwork Potholder

STEP BY STEP TUTORIAL

Finished Size
Height: 20 cm
Width: 16 cm



MATERIALS



CUTTING MEASUREMENTS (CM)



1 CUT THE FABRIC PIECES



2 SEW THE PATCHWORK SQUARE



3 PRESS THE PATCHWORK



4 MAKE THE STRAWBERRY SHAPE



5 QUILT THE FRONT



6 TRIM AND FINISH



7 MAKE THE LEAVES



8 MAKE THE STEM



9 ATTACH THE LEAVES



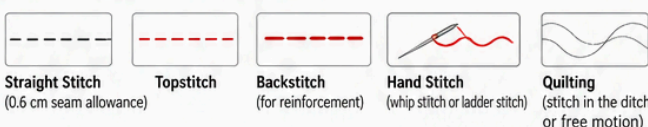
10 SEW THE LEAVES



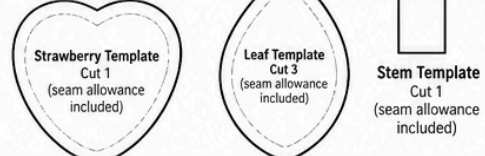
11 FINAL RESULT

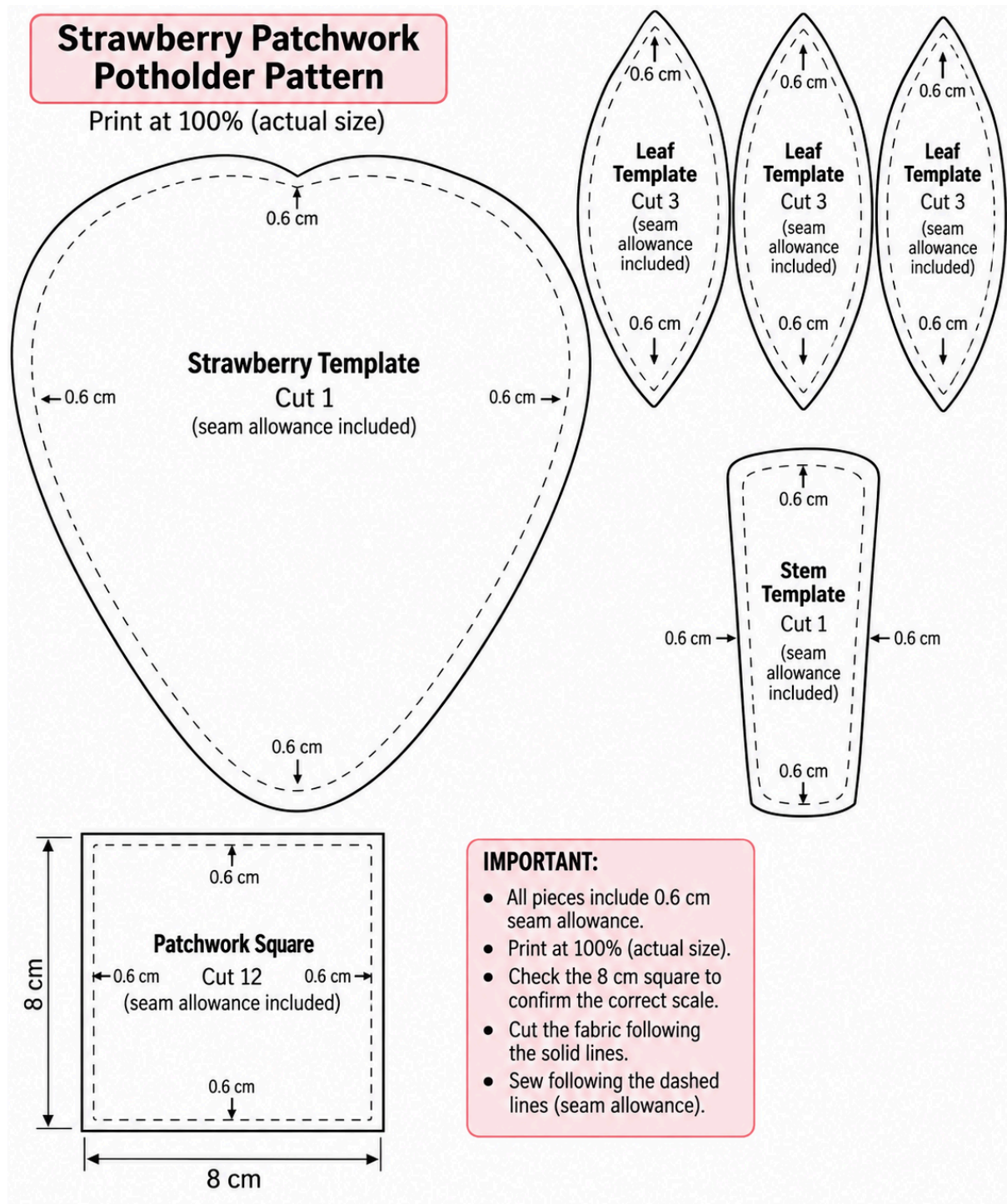


MAIN SEWING METHODS USED



TEMPLATE (Print at 100%)





Strawberry Patchwork Potholder – Complete Sewing Tutorial 🍓

This Strawberry Patchwork Potholder is a cheerful sewing project made from small pieces of red, pink, and green cotton

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fabric. The design combines patchwork, quilting, topstitching, and simple appliqué-style construction to create a practical strawberry-shaped potholder measuring approximately 20 cm high × 16 cm wide.

The tutorial below follows the measurements and construction shown in the provided graphic. All measurements are given in centimeters (cm), while the sewing terminology uses familiar U.S. sewing terms.

Step 1 – Gather Your Materials

Before cutting anything, prepare all of your materials. Using 100% cotton fabric is a good choice for this project because it presses easily, handles patchwork well, and gives the finished strawberry a traditional quilted appearance.

You will need:

- Assorted red and pink 100% cotton print fabrics
- Green cotton prints for the leaves
- Brown cotton fabric for the stem
- Cotton fabric for the backing
- Thin quilt batting or cotton batting
- Coordinating sewing thread
- Sewing machine
- Hand-sewing needle
- Fabric scissors or rotary cutter
- Cutting mat and quilting ruler
- Straight pins or sewing clips
- Iron and ironing board
- Fabric marking pen or pencil
- Strawberry and leaf templates

For the patchwork section, choose several coordinating prints rather than using only one fabric. Strawberry prints, gingham,

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hearts, dots, flowers, and small geometric patterns work especially well.

The finished project shown in the tutorial is approximately 20 cm × 16 cm.

Step 2 – Cut the Patchwork Fabric Pieces

Begin with the red and pink fabrics.

Cut:

12 squares measuring 8 cm × 8 cm each.

Try to distribute your prints so neighboring pieces have enough contrast. For example, place a small floral print beside gingham and position polka dots beside a strawberry print.

The squares will eventually be trimmed into the strawberry silhouette, so some portions near the outside edges will disappear. This is normal.

Do not try to cut each patchwork piece into a strawberry shape individually. First construct a larger patchwork panel, and then use the strawberry template to establish the final shape.

This approach is much easier and creates the irregular patchwork appearance seen in the finished example.

Step 3 – Sew the Patchwork Panel

Arrange the 12 fabric squares on your work surface until you like the distribution of colors and prints.

The graphic uses a 0.6 cm seam allowance.

Place neighboring squares right sides together, carefully matching their raw edges. Sew using a straight stitch approximately 0.6 cm from the edge.

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Continue joining the squares into rows. After completing the individual rows, sew the rows together to produce one larger patchwork panel.

Backstitch briefly at the beginning and end of important seams so they do not separate while the panel is being handled.

Accuracy helps here, but the project is forgiving because the large patchwork panel will later be cut into a curved strawberry shape.

Step 4 – Press the Patchwork Seams

Take the completed patchwork panel to your ironing surface.

Press the seams carefully. You may press them open or press each seam toward one side.

If pressing to one side, alternating seam directions between neighboring rows can reduce bulk where several seams intersect.

Rather than aggressively sliding the iron across the fabric, use an up-and-down pressing motion. This helps prevent the small patchwork pieces from stretching or becoming distorted.

Check the front afterward. The panel should lie flat without puckering around the intersections.

A neatly pressed panel makes the next steps considerably easier.

Step 5 – Create the Strawberry Shape

Place the strawberry body template over your finished patchwork panel.

The final body should be approximately:

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20 cm high × 16 cm wide

Position the template strategically before tracing. Because the fabrics are decorative, moving the template slightly can change which prints appear prominently in the finished strawberry.

Trace around the template using a removable fabric marker.

Pin the layers if necessary and cut carefully around the outside line.

Keep the strawberry's bottom point smooth and rounded rather than making it excessively sharp. At the top, maintain the gentle dip that gives the silhouette its recognizable strawberry shape.

Step 6 – Prepare the Batting and Backing

You now need three main layers:

Top: strawberry patchwork panel

Middle: thin quilt batting or cotton batting

Bottom: cotton backing fabric

The tutorial indicates approximately 20 cm × 16 cm for the backing and batting, although cutting them slightly oversized before final trimming can make quilting easier.

Lay the backing fabric down smoothly.

Position the batting over it, followed by the patchwork strawberry front.

Smooth the layers from the center outward and secure them using quilting pins or clips.

Make sure the batting reaches every edge of the strawberry body.

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Step 7 – Quilt the Strawberry Front

Quilting joins the decorative patchwork front, batting, and backing while giving the potholder its softly padded appearance.

You can use stitch-in-the-ditch quilting, sewing along or very close to the existing patchwork seam lines.

Alternatively, add simple straight quilting lines that follow the geometry of the patchwork.

Start near the center and gradually work toward the outer edges. This reduces the possibility of wrinkles forming between the layers.

Keep the fabric flat as it passes under the presser foot. Do not pull the fabric aggressively because that can stretch the strawberry body.

The objective is a secure but softly padded result.

Step 8 – Trim and Finish the Strawberry Body

Once quilting is complete, trim any batting or backing extending beyond the strawberry shape.

Follow the outline carefully.

The graphic shows a neat stitched finish around the outside edge. Depending on your preferred sewing method, you can finish the perimeter with a narrow binding, a turned construction method, or a carefully secured edge finish.

If using binding, work slowly around the strawberry's curves.

Smooth curves are easier to achieve when you stop frequently with the needle down, lift the presser foot slightly, reposition the fabric, and continue sewing.

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Topstitching around the perimeter can provide additional reinforcement and create the crisp handcrafted appearance visible in the example.

Step 9 – Cut the Green Leaf Pieces

The leaves create the distinctive strawberry top.

According to the tutorial graphic, prepare:

3 leaf pieces, approximately 10 cm × 6 cm each.

Use several coordinating green fabrics for a richer patchwork effect. Floral green cotton, gingham, tiny dots, and botanical prints are excellent choices.

The finished leaves should have an elongated pointed oval shape.

If your template includes the seam allowance, cut directly around its outer line. If it does not, remember to add the appropriate allowance before cutting.

For a dimensional leaf made from two layers, place the fabric pieces right sides together before sewing.

Step 10 – Sew and Turn the Leaves

Place each pair of leaf pieces right sides together.

Sew around the curved edges while leaving a small opening for turning.

Use the same approximately 0.6 cm seam allowance indicated throughout the graphic.

Trim excessive bulk from the seam allowance if necessary, particularly near the pointed ends. Be careful not to cut through your stitching.

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Turn each leaf right side out.

Use a blunt turning tool to gently shape the pointed ends without pushing through the fabric.

Press each leaf flat.

Topstitch close to the outside edge to keep the shape crisp.

For additional detail, sew a line through the center of each leaf to imitate a vein. Small diagonal lines can also be added if you want a more botanical appearance.

Prepare three finished leaves.

Step 11 – Make the Brown Stem

Cut one brown fabric piece approximately:

5 cm × 3 cm

Fold the stem piece lengthwise.

The tutorial instructs you to sew, turn right side out, and topstitch the stem.

After sewing, carefully turn the narrow piece to the right side and press it.

Topstitching helps flatten the small tube and gives it additional strength.

The stem should remain relatively short because only a small portion needs to extend above the leaves.

Brown cotton with a wood-grain, textured, or subtle tonal print can make the stem especially attractive.

Step 12 – Position the Leaves and Stem

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Place the finished strawberry body on a flat surface with the patchwork side facing upward.

Position the three leaves across the upper section.

The graphic uses two wider leaves extending toward the left and right sides and another smaller leaf pointing downward through the center.

Slightly overlapping the leaves gives the top a natural layered appearance.

Insert the brown stem behind the leaves so that it extends upward from the center.

Experiment with the arrangement before sewing anything permanently.

Once you are satisfied, secure all pieces with pins or clips.

Step 13 – Attach the Leaves

The leaves can be attached using a sewing machine or by hand.

For machine sewing, carefully topstitch the areas of the leaves that overlap the strawberry body. Reinforce the center because this is where several layers meet.

For hand sewing, use a whip stitch, ladder stitch, or another small concealed stitch with coordinating thread.

The outer portions of the leaves can remain somewhat free instead of being completely stitched flat. This creates the dimensional effect visible in the original project.

Make sure the central portions are securely attached because the potholder will be handled frequently.

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Step 14 – Secure the Stem

Position the brown stem between or behind the green leaves.

Sew across its lower edge several times.

A short backstitch at the beginning and end provides extra reinforcement.

If necessary, add several small hand stitches where the stem meets the leaves.

The stem should appear to emerge naturally from the center rather than simply sitting on top of the finished project.

Trim loose threads after securing it.

Step 15 – Add the Final Topstitching

Inspect the entire potholder.

Add topstitching anywhere that needs additional reinforcement.

Pay particular attention to:

- **The strawberry perimeter**
- **Leaf edges**
- **Leaf centers**
- **Stem attachment**
- **Patchwork seam intersections**

The tutorial graphic identifies several important sewing methods.

Straight Stitch: used for joining patchwork pieces, generally with the 0.6 cm seam allowance shown in the pattern.

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Topstitch: visible stitching placed near a finished edge. It is useful around the leaves and strawberry body.

Backstitch: several reverse stitches used to reinforce the beginning and end of a seam.

Hand Stitch: useful for attaching areas that are difficult to reach by machine.

Quilting: stitching through the front, batting, and backing layers. Stitch-in-the-ditch or simple free-motion quilting can be used.

Step 16 – Press and Inspect the Finished Potholder

Give the completed strawberry a gentle final pressing.

Avoid crushing the batting with excessive pressure. The goal is simply to smooth the cotton fabrics and sharpen the leaves.

Check that every patchwork seam is secure.

Look around the strawberry perimeter for loose threads or missed stitches.

Check the three leaves and gently pull on the stem to make sure they are firmly attached.

Your finished piece should measure approximately 20 cm high × 16 cm wide, although small variations are perfectly acceptable in handmade sewing.

Finished Strawberry Patchwork Potholder 🍓 ✨

Your Strawberry Patchwork Potholder is complete!

The combination of 12 colorful patchwork squares, three green leaves, a brown fabric stem, batting, backing, quilting, and

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decorative topstitching produces a charming strawberry-shaped project with plenty of handmade character.

One of the nicest features of this pattern is how easily it can use leftover cotton pieces. Every strawberry can look different simply by changing the fabric combination. Traditional strawberry prints create a playful kitchen style, while red florals, gingham, dots, and vintage-inspired fabrics can produce an entirely different look.

For the closest match to the graphic, keep the main body in red and pink prints, use several complementary green fabrics for the three leaves, and finish the top with the small brown stem. With careful cutting, a consistent 0.6 cm seam allowance, good pressing, and neat topstitching, even a relatively new sewist can recreate the project from beginning to end.