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Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster

Sewing Tutorial



Finished Size

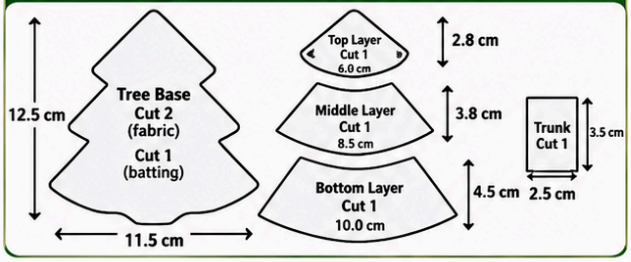


Materials

- Cotton fabric (100% cotton):
  - Tree base: 1 piece (green/red) 15 cm x 13.5 cm
  - Tree layers: 3 prints (e.g., red, green, cream) 10 cm x 8 cm each
  - Trunk: brown fabric 3.5 cm x 2.5 cm
- Batting (thin): 15 cm x 13.5 cm
- Lining fabric: 15 cm x 13.5 cm
- Matching sewing thread
- Fabric scissors or rotary cutter
- Pins or fabric clips
- Sewing machine (or hand sewing)
- Iron



Pattern and Measurements (with 0.7 cm Seam Allowance)



Sewing Key – Main Methods (USA)

- **Sewing line:** where to stitch (standard straight stitch).
- **Seam allowance:** extra fabric (0.7 cm) around the pattern.
- **Turn right side out:** flip the piece to the front.
- **Press:** use an iron to flatten seams and layers.
- **Topstitch:** a visible stitch close to the edge (about 0.2–0.3 cm).
- **Cut:** cut on the solid line.
- **Pin:** hold pieces in place before sewing.
- **Batting:** adds body and softness.
- **Right sides together (RST):** the printed sides of the fabrics facing each other.

Step-by-Step: How to Make It

1 Cut the Pieces



Cut all fabrics according to the pattern and measurements.

2 Prepare the Layers



On each layer, sew 0.7 cm around the edges, turn right side out, press, and topstitch 0.2–0.3 cm from the edge.

3 Make the Trunk



Fold the trunk piece in half (lengthwise), sew, turn right side out, press, and topstitch around it.

4 Assemble the Layers



On the front tree base, arrange the three layers and the trunk. Pin in place.

5 Stitch the Appliqué



Topstitch each layer around the edges (0.2–0.3 cm), securing them to the tree base.

6 Sandwich the Layers



Place the front (with layers) right side up, the batting in the middle, and the lining fabric right side down (RST with the front).

7 Sew Around



Sew around the entire tree, leaving a 4–5 cm opening at the bottom for turning. Use a 0.7 cm seam allowance.

8 Turn and Press



Turn the piece right side out through the opening. Press well with an iron.

9 Close the Opening



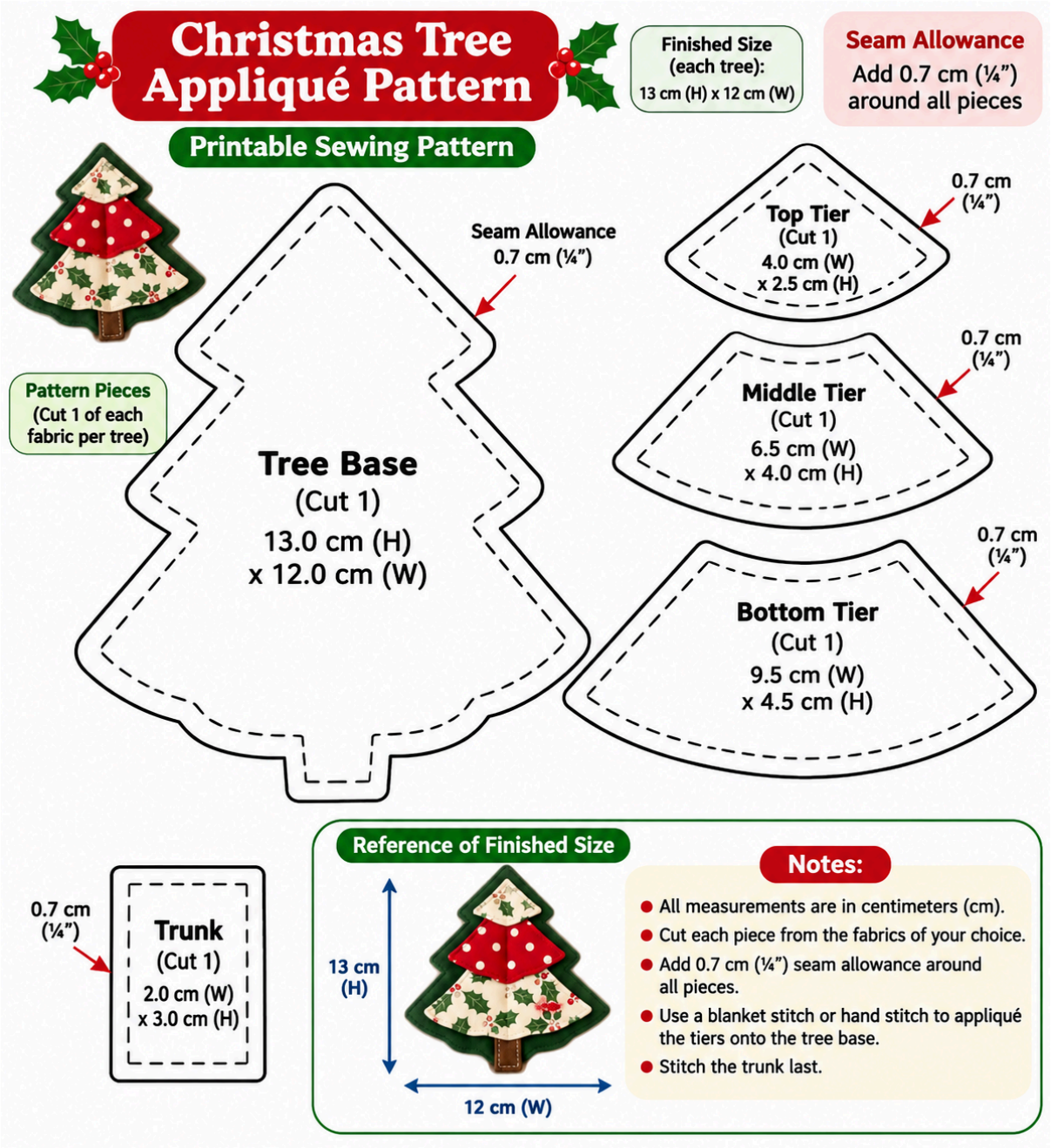
Fold in the raw edges of the opening and close it with a blind stitch (hand stitch) or a close topstitch.

10 Finished Project



Your **Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster is ready!**

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Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster Sewing Tutorial – Complete Step-by-Step Guide 🎄

Creating a Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster is a wonderful way to combine holiday decorating with practical sewing skills. This festive project features a Christmas tree silhouette, three

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colorful fabric appliqué layers, a small brown trunk, and a neatly finished border. The combination of Christmas prints, decorative stitching, and soft batting creates a charming handmade coaster that can brighten a holiday table or become a thoughtful Christmas gift.

This Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster Sewing Tutorial follows the illustrated pattern and explains every stage, from preparing the fabric pieces to completing the final stitches. The instructions use sewing techniques commonly practiced in the United States, including right sides together (RST), a 0.7 cm seam allowance, appliqué stitching, topstitching, and turning through an opening. All measurements are provided in centimeters.

The finished coaster measures approximately 12.5 cm tall and 11.5 cm wide. It is an approachable project for beginners who want to practice fabric layering, machine sewing, hand finishing, and decorative appliqué. You can use traditional Christmas colors such as red, green, and cream or personalize the design with your favorite seasonal cotton fabrics.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials and Prepare the Christmas Tree Pattern ✂️

Before beginning your Christmas tree coaster sewing project, organize your materials on a clean, flat work surface. Preparing everything in advance will help you sew accurately and keep the decorative layers aligned.

Materials Needed

- **100% cotton fabric: One green or red piece measuring 15 cm × 13.5 cm for the tree base, with enough fabric to cut two matching bases.**

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- Christmas cotton prints: Three different fabrics for the decorative tree layers, approximately 10 cm × 8 cm each.
- Brown cotton fabric: A small piece measuring 3.5 cm × 2.5 cm for the tree trunk.
- Thin batting: One piece measuring 15 cm × 13.5 cm.
- Lining fabric: Enough cotton fabric to cut one 15 cm × 13.5 cm rectangle.
- Matching sewing thread.
- Fabric scissors or a rotary cutter.
- Fabric marking pen or tailor's chalk.
- Sewing pins or fabric clips.
- Sewing machine or hand-sewing needle.
- Iron and ironing board.
- Ruler and paper for preparing the pattern.

For a beginner-friendly result, choose medium-weight quilting cotton. It is easy to cut, press, and sew, and it holds its shape well. Avoid very stretchy fabrics because they can distort the Christmas tree outline.

Pattern Measurements

The illustrated tutorial provides the following measurements:

Pattern piece	Measurement	Quantity
Christmas tree base	12.5 cm × 11.5 cm	2 fabric pieces
Tree-shaped batting	Matching base shape	1

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Top decorative layer	6 cm wide × 2.8 cm tall	1
Middle decorative layer	8.5 cm wide × 3.8 cm tall	1
Bottom decorative layer	10 cm wide × 4.5 cm tall	1
Brown tree trunk	3.5 cm × 2.5 cm	1

Important: The illustrated pattern specifies a 0.7 cm seam allowance. Its measurements are a guide to the template shapes; for an accurately sized finished coaster, prepare the cutting templates with the required seam allowance included. The original graphic does not provide a full-scale printable template, so draw the shapes using its proportions rather than treating the illustration as a calibrated printout.

Drawing the Christmas Tree Base

On pattern paper, draw a symmetrical Christmas tree approximately 12.5 cm tall and 11.5 cm wide. The tree should have a pointed top, several stepped branches, and a gently curved bottom edge.

Fold the paper vertically and draw one side of the tree. Cut through both layers of paper to create a symmetrical shape. Open the paper and check that both sides match.

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This will be your main Christmas tree sewing pattern. Use the same template for the front fabric, backing fabric, and batting.

Preparing the Decorative Layers

Draw three curved decorative pieces that resemble overlapping sections of a Christmas tree. The smallest layer belongs at the top, the medium layer in the center, and the largest layer at the bottom.

The top section should be approximately 6 cm wide, the middle section 8.5 cm wide, and the bottom section 10 cm wide. Their curved lower edges create the layered Christmas tree appearance.

Understanding the Main Sewing Techniques

The tutorial uses several common American sewing terms:

- **RST (Right Sides Together): Place the printed or finished sides of two fabric pieces facing each other.**
- **Seam allowance: The distance between the fabric's raw edge and the stitching line.**
- **Topstitch: A visible line of stitching sewn close to a finished edge.**
- **Appliqué: A decorative fabric shape attached to a larger fabric background.**
- **Batting: A soft layer placed between fabrics to provide thickness and cushioning.**
- **Turn right side out: Pull a sewn piece through an opening so its finished side faces outward.**
- **Press: Use an iron to flatten seams and shape the fabric.**

These techniques are essential for producing a neat, durable, and professional-looking handmade fabric Christmas coaster.

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Step 2: Cut the Fabric and Prepare the Decorative Tree Layers 🧵

Cut All the Fabric Pieces

Place your prepared paper patterns on the selected fabrics. Pin the templates securely or hold them in place with pattern weights.

Cut two matching Christmas tree shapes from your main fabric. In the illustrated design, both pieces are green, creating a coordinated front and back.

Next, cut one matching Christmas tree shape from the thin batting. Keep the batting flat and avoid stretching it while cutting.

Cut the three decorative appliqué layers from your Christmas-print fabrics. For a traditional holiday appearance, choose cream fabric with holly leaves for the top, red fabric with white polka dots for the middle, and another festive cream print for the bottom.

Finally, cut the brown fabric rectangle for the trunk. Check that every piece matches its corresponding pattern before beginning to sew.

Prepare the Top Decorative Layer

Take the smallest Christmas tree layer and place it on your ironing board.

To obtain the clean, finished edges shown in the illustration, the decorative sections must be sewn and turned before being attached to the tree base.

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If you are using a single fabric piece, cut a matching backing piece for that section. Place the two pieces RST and sew around the shaped edges using a 0.7 cm seam allowance.

Leave a small opening for turning. Carefully trim excess fabric at the corners, clip the seam allowance where necessary, and turn the piece right side out.

Use a blunt turning tool to shape the corners without piercing the fabric. Press the piece flat and close the turning opening with a narrow topstitch or hand stitches.

Prepare the Middle Decorative Layer

Repeat the same procedure for the medium-sized layer.

Place the printed fabric and its matching backing RST. Sew around the edges, leaving a small turning opening.

Turn the piece right side out, gently shape the curved edges, and press.

Add a narrow topstitch approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from the finished edge. This decorative stitching helps maintain the curved shape and keeps the seam allowances neatly enclosed.

Prepare the Bottom Decorative Layer

The largest appliqué piece forms the lower branches of the Christmas tree.

Prepare it in the same way as the smaller pieces, making sure its lower edge has a smooth, rounded curve.

Because this section is wider, take extra care when sewing around the curved bottom edge. Guide the fabric slowly and avoid pulling it through the machine.

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After turning and pressing, topstitch around the finished edge. Check that the fabric lies flat without puckering.

Press All Three Decorative Pieces

Place the completed appliqué layers on the ironing board and press them individually.

Use an appropriate cotton setting and avoid stretching the fabric while pressing. If your fabric contains metallic printing or delicate decorations, use a pressing cloth.

Proper pressing makes a significant difference in the final appearance of your Christmas fabric appliqué project.

Check the Layer Arrangement

Lay the three finished decorative sections on the front tree base without stitching them yet.

Position the smallest layer at the top, the medium layer below it, and the largest layer at the bottom. The sections should overlap slightly, creating the appearance of a decorated Christmas tree.

Make sure the base fabric remains visible around the outer edges, forming a consistent green border.

Step 3: Make the Trunk and Assemble the Christmas Tree Appliqué 🎄

Prepare the Brown Fabric Trunk

Take the brown fabric rectangle measuring approximately 3.5 cm × 2.5 cm.

Fold it lengthwise with the right sides together, aligning the long edges. Sew along the long edge using a narrow seam allowance.

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Turn the fabric tube right side out and press it flat. Position the seam toward the back so it will not be visible from the front.

If necessary, fold the short raw ends inward to produce a neat rectangular trunk.

Topstitch the Trunk

Using brown or coordinating thread, sew a narrow line of topstitching around the exposed edges of the trunk.

Keep the stitching approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from the edge, as shown in the graphic.

This decorative stitching gives the trunk a finished appearance and helps maintain its rectangular shape.

Position the Trunk on the Tree Base

Lay one green Christmas tree base flat with its right side facing upward.

Center the brown trunk at the bottom of the tree. The upper portion of the trunk should extend underneath the bottom decorative layer, while the lower portion remains visible.

Keep the visible trunk centered and straight. Secure it temporarily with a pin or a few basting stitches.

Arrange the Three Appliqué Layers

Begin with the largest decorative layer.

Position it near the bottom of the green Christmas tree base, covering the upper portion of the trunk. Adjust it so the green base remains visible around its sides and bottom.

Next, position the middle layer above the bottom section, allowing it to overlap slightly.

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Finally, place the smallest layer at the top of the tree. Its pointed shape should align with the tip of the green base.

The three layers should create a balanced design, with the smaller pieces overlapping the larger ones in the same arrangement shown in the illustration.

Secure the Fabric Layers

Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, pin the decorative layers to the green tree base.

Use fine sewing pins and place them away from the stitching lines. Fabric clips can also be helpful around the edges, although pins generally work better for securing appliqué pieces in the center of the fabric.

Make sure the layers remain flat and do not extend beyond the green tree base.

Stitch the Appliqué Layers

Attach the decorative pieces using a straight stitch approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from their finished edges.

Start with the bottom layer, then sew the middle layer, and finish with the top layer.

Stitch along the visible edges, lifting the presser foot with the needle down when you need to turn at corners.

Keep the stitching even and avoid catching unwanted folds from the overlapping sections.

Secure the trunk as needed with additional topstitching. When finished, the three colorful appliqué pieces and the brown trunk should be firmly attached to the green front tree base.

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Step 4: Assemble the Coaster, Sew the Edges, and Finish the Project ✨

Prepare the Fabric Sandwich

Once the front appliqué is complete, place it on your work surface with its right side facing upward.

Position the second green tree-shaped fabric piece over it with the right side facing downward. The right sides of the two green fabric pieces should now be facing each other.

Place the tree-shaped batting against the wrong side of the backing fabric.

The layers should be arranged in this order:

1. **Front Christmas tree fabric, right side facing up.**
2. **Backing fabric, right side facing down.**
3. **Batting on top of the backing fabric.**

This arrangement follows the illustrated tutorial and allows the finished appliqué to appear on the outside after turning.

Pin the Layers Together

Carefully align the edges of the two tree-shaped fabric pieces and the batting.

Pin around the entire perimeter, paying special attention to the pointed top, stepped branches, and curved bottom.

Make sure the brown trunk and decorative appliqué remain positioned inside the fabric sandwich.

Check that the trunk will not accidentally be caught in an unwanted section of the perimeter seam.

Sew Around the Christmas Tree

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Using a sewing machine, stitch around the Christmas tree shape with a 0.7 cm seam allowance.

Begin near the lower edge of the tree and sew slowly around the outline.

When approaching a corner, stop with the needle lowered into the fabric. Lift the presser foot, pivot the fabric, lower the foot, and continue sewing.

Repeat this technique around the stepped branches and pointed top.

Leave a 4–5 cm opening along the bottom edge for turning the coaster right side out.

Backstitch at both ends of the opening to prevent the seam from unraveling.

Trim and Clip the Seam Allowances

Before turning, inspect the stitching and remove any loose threads.

Trim excess seam allowance around bulky corners, taking care not to cut through the stitches.

At inward corners, make small clips toward the stitching line without cutting through it.

At the pointed top and outward corners, carefully reduce excess fabric to prevent unnecessary bulk.

These small adjustments help the Christmas tree maintain its shape after turning.

Turn the Coaster Right Side Out

Reach through the 4–5 cm opening and gently pull the Christmas tree through.

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Work slowly to avoid damaging the seams or stretching the fabric.

Use a blunt turning tool, such as a wooden chopstick or point turner, to gently push out the pointed top and branch corners.

Do not use sharp scissors for this step, as they can puncture the fabric.

Once the entire coaster has been turned, the decorative appliqué should appear on the front, with the plain green fabric forming the back.

Press the Finished Shape

Place the turned Christmas tree coaster on the ironing board.

Carefully roll the seams between your fingers so the edges sit evenly.

Press the entire coaster, working from the center toward the outer edges.

Pay special attention to the curved bottom and the stepped branches.

The thin batting should provide a soft, lightly padded structure without making the coaster excessively bulky.

Close the Turning Opening

Fold the raw edges of the 4–5 cm opening inward by approximately 0.7 cm, following the original seam allowance.

Press the folded edges so they align with the rest of the tree's lower edge.

Close the opening using a blind stitch (ladder stitch) by hand. Insert the needle alternately through the folded edges, pulling the thread gently to bring them together.

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Alternatively, use a narrow machine topstitch along the opening.

A hand-sewn ladder stitch is a good choice if you prefer an almost invisible closure.

Add the Final Topstitching

For an additional decorative finish, sew a narrow line of topstitching around the outer edge of the coaster, approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from the edge.

Use matching green thread to blend the stitches into the fabric or choose contrasting thread for a more decorative appearance.

This final topstitching is optional, but it helps flatten the perimeter and gives the coaster a tidy, professional finish.

Inspect Your Finished Christmas Tree Coaster

Your Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster is now complete!

The finished design should feature a green Christmas tree outline, three colorful overlapping fabric sections, and a small brown trunk.

The coaster should measure approximately 12.5 cm × 11.5 cm, depending on your cutting accuracy, fabric thickness, and seam allowances.

Check that the appliqué pieces are secure, the edges are smooth, and no loose threads remain.

Your handmade Christmas tree coaster is ready to decorate a festive table, accompany a holiday gift, or become part of a coordinated set of Christmas sewing accessories.

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Frequently Asked Questions About Fabric Christmas Tree Coasters

Is this Christmas tree coaster suitable for beginners?

Yes. This beginner-friendly Christmas sewing project uses basic cutting, straight stitching, appliqué, and turning techniques. The shaped edges require patience, but the project is manageable for anyone with basic sewing experience.

What is the best fabric for a Christmas tree coaster?

100% quilting cotton is an excellent choice because it is easy to cut, sew, and press. It also comes in many festive prints, including holly leaves, snowflakes, Christmas plaid, and polka dots.

Can I sew this coaster entirely by hand?

Absolutely. Use a small backstitch for structural seams and a running stitch or backstitch for decorative topstitching. A ladder stitch works well for closing the turning opening.

Why is batting included in the coaster?

Batting provides softness, structure, and a small amount of cushioning. Thin cotton batting is particularly suitable because it keeps the coaster relatively flat. Batting alone does not guarantee protection from high heat.

Can I use this coaster for hot cups?

You can use it for ordinary mugs and cups, but avoid placing extremely hot cookware on it. If heat protection is important, choose batting specifically rated for the intended temperature and follow the manufacturer's instructions. This decorative project should not be treated as a potholder.

How do I prevent the appliqué layers from shifting?

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Secure the pieces with fine pins or temporary fabric basting before sewing. Stitch slowly and keep the fabric flat while guiding it under the presser foot.

What seam allowance should I use?

The illustrated tutorial specifies a 0.7 cm seam allowance for the main construction seams. Decorative topstitching is placed approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from the finished edges.

Can I wash my finished Christmas coaster?

If all materials are washable, gently wash the coaster in cool water with mild detergent. Lay it flat to dry and press if needed. Prewashing cotton fabrics before sewing can help reduce shrinkage and color bleeding.

Can I make a matching set of Christmas coasters?

Yes. Use the same Christmas tree pattern and change the decorative fabrics for each coaster. A coordinated set in red, green, cream, and gold can make an attractive handmade holiday gift.

Can I enlarge the pattern?

Yes. Enlarge all pattern pieces by the same percentage to maintain their proportions. Recheck the seam allowances and adjust the placement of the decorative layers before sewing.

Conclusion 🎄

Making a Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster is a rewarding way to practice essential sewing techniques while creating a beautiful seasonal decoration. By carefully cutting the tree-shaped pieces, preparing the decorative fabric layers, attaching the appliqué, assembling the batting and backing, and finishing

the edges, you can produce a charming handmade coaster with a polished appearance.

This Fabric Christmas Tree Coaster Sewing Tutorial can also serve as the starting point for many creative variations. Experiment with Christmas fabrics, decorative stitching, different color combinations, and coordinated coaster sets to create personalized holiday accessories.

Whether you are sewing for your own Christmas table, preparing handmade gifts, or practicing fabric appliqué, this festive project combines creativity, useful sewing skills, and the joy of making something special by hand.