

Project: Heartfelt Ornaments

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Spread your love this holiday season with heart shapes that brighten a bowl, your tree, and gift packages. Iron-on fabric scraps and a few embroidery stitches make the ornaments easy to craft in multiples.

## Project: Heartfelt Ornaments

### Materials to Make Three Ornaments

- 1/8 yard linen (ornament fronts)
- 1/8 yard red polka dot (ornament backs, appliqués)
- Fusible web
- Embroidery floss: red, white, and ecru
- Polyester fiberfill

**Finished ornaments:** approximately 4x5"

**Measurements** include 1/2" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

### Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns are on page 3. To make template of Pattern A, see *Make and Use Templates*, page 4.

To use fusible web for appliquéing, complete the following steps.

1. Lay fusible web, paper side up, over patterns B, C, D, E, and F. Use a pencil to trace each pattern once, leaving 1/2" between tracings. Cut out each fusible-web shape roughly 1/4" outside traced lines.
2. Following the manufacturer's instructions, press fusible-web shapes onto wrong side of red polka-dot fabric; let cool. Cut out fabric shapes on drawn lines. Peel off paper backings.

#### From linen, cut:

- 3 of Pattern A

#### From red polka dot, cut:

- 3 of Pattern A
- 1 each of patterns B, C, D, E, and F

### Assemble Star Ornament

1. Center red polka dot B star on one linen A heart. Fuse in place following manufacturer's instructions.

2. Using two strands of white embroidery floss, blanket-stitch along the outside of the star.
3. With right sides together and using a 1/2" seam allowance, sew the linen Pattern A to the red polka-dot Pattern A. Leave 2" opening for turning along one straight edge. Clip across bottom point of heart and clip almost to seam line at top center in order to turn right side out.
4. Stuff heart with fiberfill and hand-sew closed.

### Assemble Red Bird Ornament

1. Center red polka dot C bird on one linen A heart. Fuse in place.
2. Using two strands of red embroidery floss, use a running stitch to sew the bird's legs and feet.
3. Repeat steps 3 and 4 of Assemble Heart Ornament to make red bird ornament.

### Assemble Ecru Bird Ornament

1. Referring to photo on page 1, position red polka dot D, E, and F shapes on one linen A heart. Fuse in place.
2. Using two strands of red embroidery floss, use a running stitch to sew the bird's body, beak, legs, and feet. Make a French knot for an eye.
3. Repeat steps 3 and 4 of Assemble Heart Ornament to make ecru bird ornament.

### Finish Ornaments

Using six strands of ecru floss, thread the floss through a small section of the top of the ornament. Tie a knot.

### Embroidery Stitches

#### Blanket Stitch

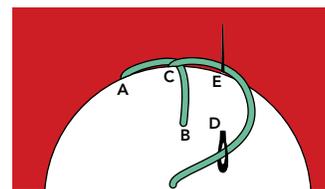
Bring needle up at A, form a reverse L shape with floss, and hold angle of the L shape in place with your thumb. Push needle down at B and come up at C to secure the stitch. Repeat to make as many blanket stitches as desired.

#### French Knot

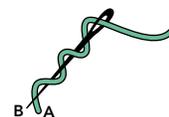
Bring needle up at A. Wrap floss around needle two or three times without twisting it. Insert tip of needle into fabric at B, about 1/16" away from A. Gently push wraps down needle to meet fabric. Pull needle and floss through fabric slowly and smoothly.

#### Running Stitch

Pull needle up at A, and insert it back into fabric at B, about 1/8" from A. Bring needle up at C, about 1/8" from B, and insert it back into fabric at D.



BLANKET STITCH DIAGRAM

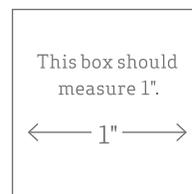
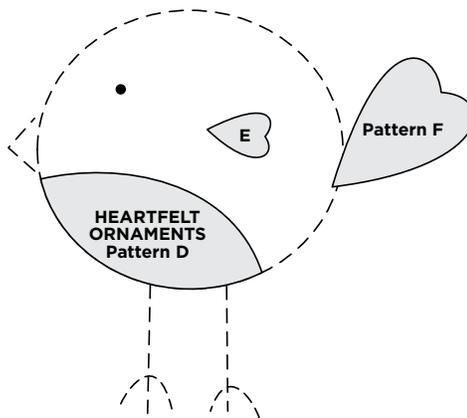
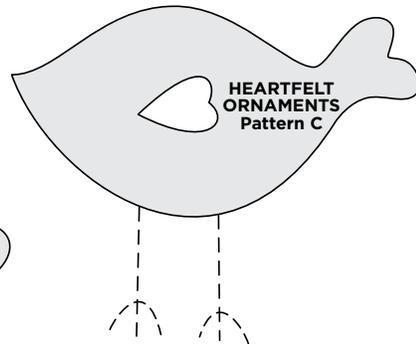
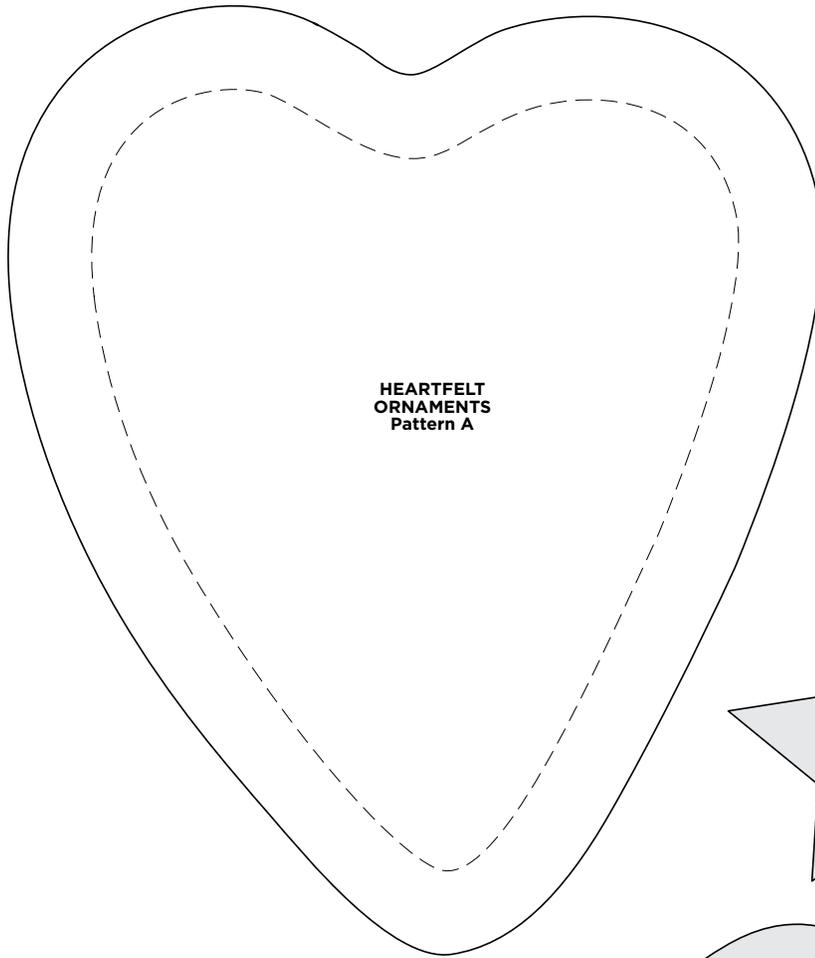


FRENCH KNOT DIAGRAM



RUNNING STITCH DIAGRAM

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**\* NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

## Make and Use Templates

### Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

### Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

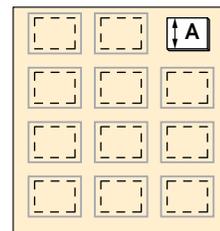


DIAGRAM 1

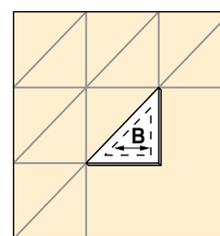


DIAGRAM 2