Yo-yos turn common foam eggs into holiday treasures. Gather a selection of spring fabrics, make yo-yos, and secure them to eggs with buttons and bead-topped pins to create an easy holiday centerpiece.

Materials for One Egg
- 9—18×22" pieces (fat quarters) assorted green prints (yo-yos)
- 62 pearl-finish two-hole buttons, ⅜" to ⅝" in diameter
- Foam egg, 3½×4⅞"
- Straight pins, 1" long
- Seed beads: green

Finished egg: 3½×4⅞"

Quantities are for 44/45"-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.

Cut Fabrics
Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns are on *page 4*. To make templates of patterns, see Make and Use Templates on *page 5*.

From assorted green prints, cut:
- 21 of Pattern A
- 29 of Pattern B
- 14 of Pattern C

Assemble Yo-Yos
1. Thread a needle with matching or neutral thread and tie a knot about 6" from end. Place a green print A circle with right side down. Fold edge in a scant ¼". Take small, evenly spaced running stitches near folded edge to secure it **(Photo 1)**.

2. End stitching next to starting point; do not knot or cut thread. Gently pull thread ends to gather folded edge until a small gathered circle forms **(Photo 2)**. Knot and trim thread to make an A yo-yo.

3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to make 19 A yo-yos total, 29 B yo-yos, and 14 C yo-yos.

Assemble Yo-Yo Egg
1. Use a pin to secure a remaining green print A circle over each end of egg. Fold four small pleats in outer edges of circles so they fit smoothly around egg ends. Hold pleats in place with straight pins **(Diagram 1)**. Remove pins at ends of egg.

2. Insert a pin in edge of a C yo-yo to hold it in place in the center of narrow end of egg **(Diagram 2)**. Hold a button over hole at center of yo-yo. Thread a seed bead onto a straight pin and insert it through one of buttonholes into foam egg. Repeat for second hole. Remove first straight pin.

3. Referring to **Yo-Yo Egg Assembly Chart** for the amount and size of yo-yos in each row, continue placing yo-yos on Row 1 of egg, keeping row straight and slightly overlapping each yo-yo over the one previously placed **(Diagram 3)**. (Hint: Pin all yo-yos in row around egg to determine preferred spacing before adding buttons and beads.) Slip one edge of last yo-yo in each row under edge of first yo-yo and secure in place as previously done.

4. Referring to **Diagram 4,** position Row 2 B yo-yos on egg, offsetting them to cover egg visible between Row 1 yo-yos. Secure with buttons and beaded pins.

5. Following **Yo-Yo Egg Assembly Chart**, continue adding yo-yos, row by row in numerical order, to completely cover foam egg. (Hint: Rest the egg on the top of a glass or cup to hold it steady while covering with yo-yos.)
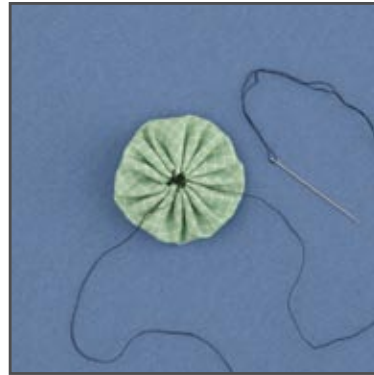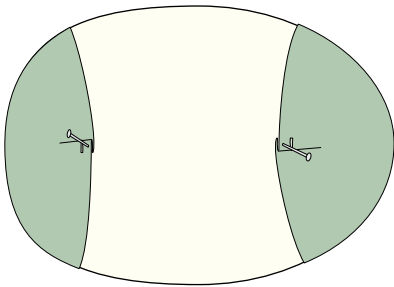
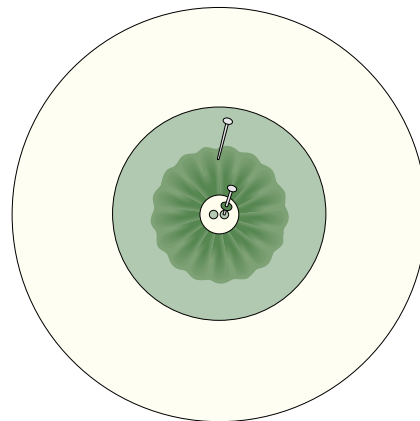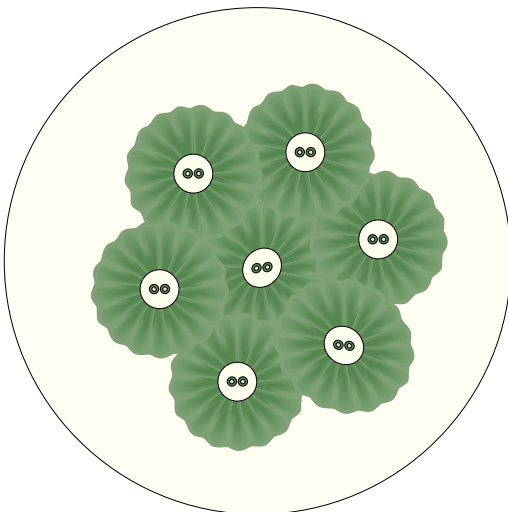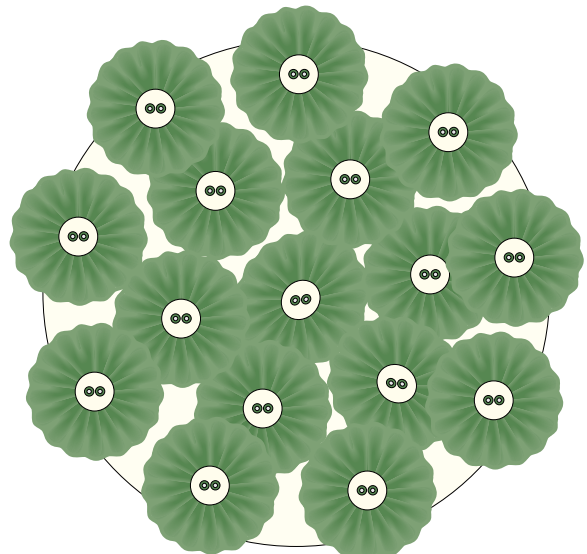## Project: Yo-Yo Egg

PHOTO 1

PHOTO 2

DIAGRAM 1

DIAGRAM 2

DIAGRAM 3

DIAGRAM 4

YO-YO EGG
ASSEMBLY CHART

Top (narrow end).....................1 C yo-yo
Row 1...6 C yo-yos
Row 2...9 B yo-yos
Row 3..................................... 10 B yo-yos
Row 4...9 A yo-yos
Row 5..................................... 10 A yo-yos
Row 6..................................... 10 B yo-yos
Row 7...6 C yo-yos
Bottom (wide end)................1 C yo-yos

Pattern A
Pattern B
Pattern C

Yo-Yo Egg
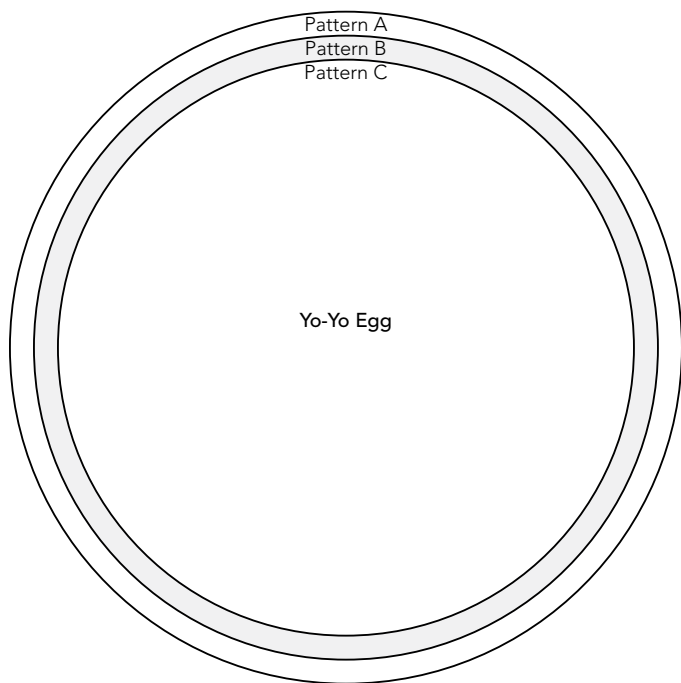
This box should measure 1".

←——— 1" ———→

✳ 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 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 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 ½" away from the previous tracing (Diagram 1), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines ¼" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a ¼" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a 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.
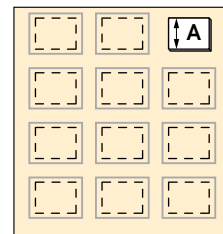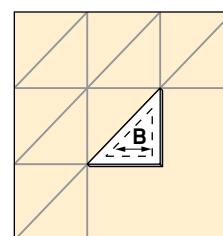

DIAGRAM 1

DIAGRAM 2