

Project: Folk Art Felt

DESIGNER: SARAH GOLDSCHADT (SAH-RAH.COM)



Quickly hand-stitch a trio of whimsical felt pincushions.

## Project: Folk Art Felt

### House Pincushion Materials

- 3" square brown crafts felt (window and door appliqué)
- 6×10" rectangle gold crafts felt (house)
- 4×6" rectangle red crafts felt (roof)
- Embroidery floss: white, gold, red
- Polyester fiberfill
- 6×10" rectangle cardboard
- Adhesive tape

Finished pincushion: 3½×1½×3½"

### Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns are on pages 5-6.

Crafts felt doesn't fray, so there is no need to turn under the edges of the window and door shapes.

#### From brown felt, cut:

- 2—½×¾" rectangles (windows)
- 1 of Pattern A (door)

#### From gold felt, cut:

- 2—¾×2¾" rectangles (front and back)
- 1—¾×¾" rectangle (bottom)
- 2—¾×¾" rectangles (sides)

#### From red felt, cut:

- 2 each of patterns B and C (roof)

### Assemble Pincushion

1. Referring to **Diagram 1**, position brown felt ½×¾" windows and A door shape on one gold felt ¾×2¾" rectangle. Referring to photo, use one strand of white embroidery floss to hand-stitch around window and door edges to make house front.
2. Using two strands of gold embroidery floss, blanket-stitch gold felt ¾×¾" rectangles

to each side edge of house front to make a row (**Diagram 2**).

Blanket-stitch remaining gold felt ¾×2¾" rectangle to one end of row, then blanket-stitch ends of row together to make a tube-shape house unit.

To blanket-stitch, bring needle up at A (**Blanket Stitch Diagram**), form a reverse L shape with the floss, and hold angle of L shape in place with your thumb. Push the needle down at B and come up at C. Continue in same manner.

3. Referring to **Diagram 3**, use two strands of red embroidery floss to blanket-stitch red felt B pieces to each short edge of one red felt C piece. Add remaining red felt C piece to remaining short edges of B pieces to make roof unit.
4. Referring to photo, use two strands of red embroidery floss to blanket-stitch roof unit to house unit.
5. Referring to **Diagram 4**, use tape to secure two cardboard ¾×2½" rectangles and two ½×2½" rectangles together, forming a tube-shape cardboard unit.
6. Insert cardboard unit into Step 4 unit. Stuff firmly with fiberfill. Tape cardboard ½×¾" piece to bottom of cardboard unit. Blanket-stitch gold felt ¾×¾" rectangle to bottom edges of Step 4 unit to complete house pincushion.

### Turtle Pincushion Materials

- Scraps of assorted green solids, dots, and checks (turtle top)
- 6" square green crafts felt (turtle base)
- Embroidery floss: black
- Embroidery floss: white, gold, red
- Polyester fiberfill
- 4" square cardboard

Finished pincushion: 4×4¾"

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

### Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns are on pages 5-6. To make templates of patterns D and E, see *Make and Use Templates*, page 7. Be sure to transfer dots on patterns to templates, then to fabric pieces. The dots are matching points and are necessary when joining pieces and setting in seams.

#### From assorted green solids, dots, and checks, cut:

- 1 of Pattern D
- 1 of Pattern E

#### From green felt, cut:

- 1 of Pattern F

#### From cardboard, cut:

- 1 of Pattern G

### Assemble Pincushion

1. With right sides together, pin together a green solid, dot, or check E piece and the green solid, dot, or check D piece, matching dots. Sew together between dots; do not sew into seam allowances at either end (**Diagram 1**).

## Project: Folk Art Felt

Finger-press seam open. Repeat with a second green solid, dot, or check E piece on adjacent edge of D piece (**Diagram 2**).

2. Beginning at inside corner, sew E pieces together along short edges. Finger-press seam open.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to add remaining green solid, dot, or check E pieces to D piece, stitching short edges together after you add each piece (**Diagram 3**). Press under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance on outer edges to make turtle top.
4. Place turtle top right side down. Layer cardboard G piece and green felt F piece on wrong side of turtle top and turn over. Whipstitch turtle top to felt on all edges, leaving an opening for stuffing (**Diagram 4**).  
To whipstitch, bring needle up at A and push it down at B (**Whipstitch Diagram**). Come up at C and continue around entire shape in same manner.

### Cloud Pincushion Materials

- 8×6" rectangle blue crafts felt
- Embroidery floss: white
- Polyester fiberfill
- 10"-long piece  $\frac{3}{8}$ "- to  $\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide elastic
- 4" square cardboard

Finished pincushion: 2×3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

### Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns are on pages 5–6.

#### From blue felt, cut:

- 1 of Pattern H

#### From elastic, cut:

- Length equal to the circumference of wrist plus 1"

#### From cardboard, cut:

- 1 of Pattern I

### Assemble Pincushion

1. Referring to **Diagram 1**, overlap ends of elastic about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (or more) to create a circle that will slide comfortably over your hand and wrist; pin ends together. Position pinned ends of elastic atop one blue felt H piece, about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from bottom edge; pin. Hand-stitch 2" of elastic to H piece, stitching along both elastic edges, to make bottom unit (**Diagram 2**).
2. Place bottom unit elastic side down. Layer cardboard I piece and remaining blue felt H piece atop bottom unit (**Diagram 3**). Referring to photo, use two strands of white embroidery floss to blanket-stitch H pieces together (do not sew through cardboard), leaving a 1" opening. (To blanket-stitch, refer to house pincushion instructions, Assemble Pincushion, Step 2.)
3. Stuff firmly with fiberfill. Blanket-stitch opening closed to complete cloud pincushion.

Project: Folk Art Felt

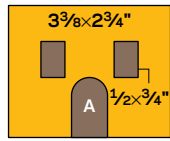


DIAGRAM 1

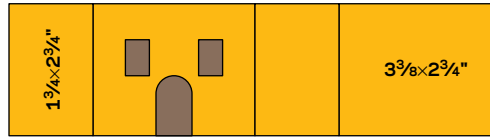


DIAGRAM 2

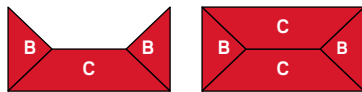


DIAGRAM 3

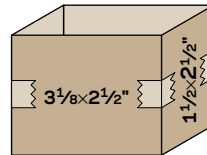


DIAGRAM 4

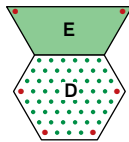


DIAGRAM 1

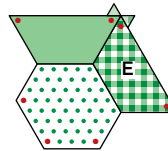


DIAGRAM 2

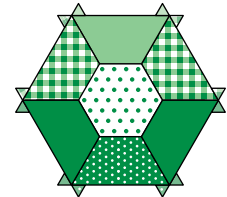


DIAGRAM 3

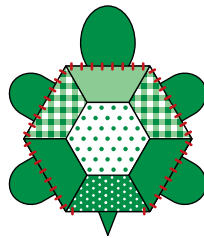
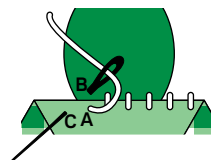


DIAGRAM 4



WHIPSTITCH DIAGRAM

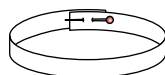


DIAGRAM 1

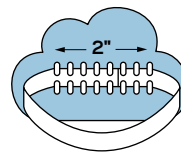


DIAGRAM 2

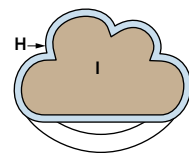
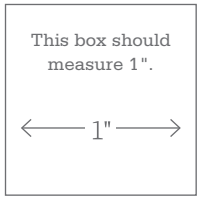
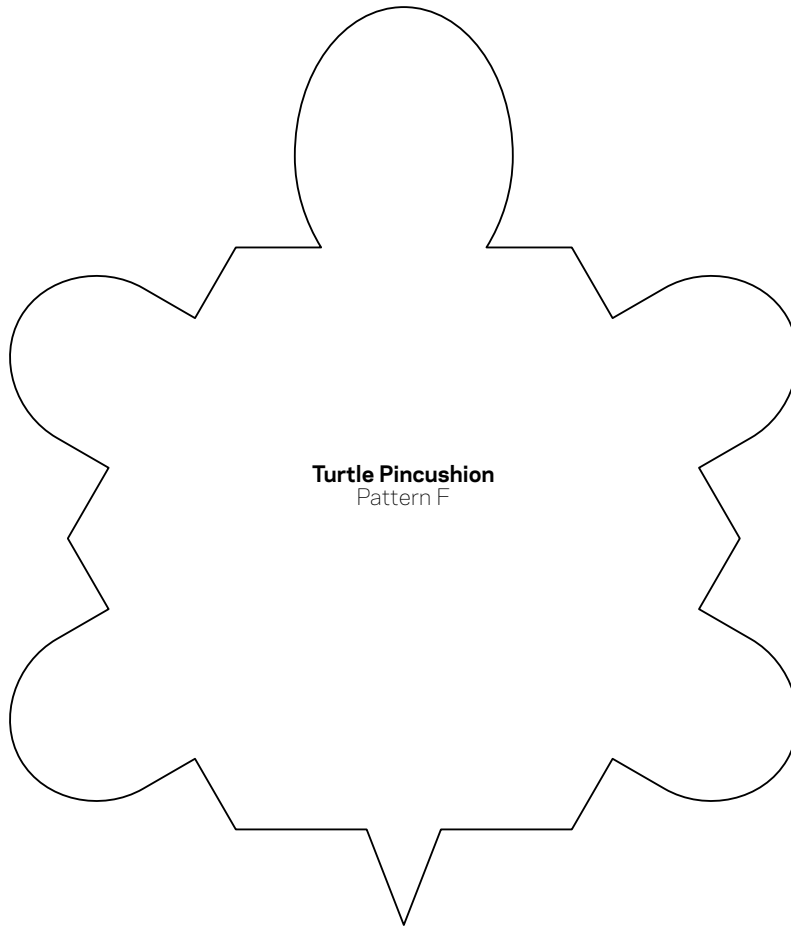
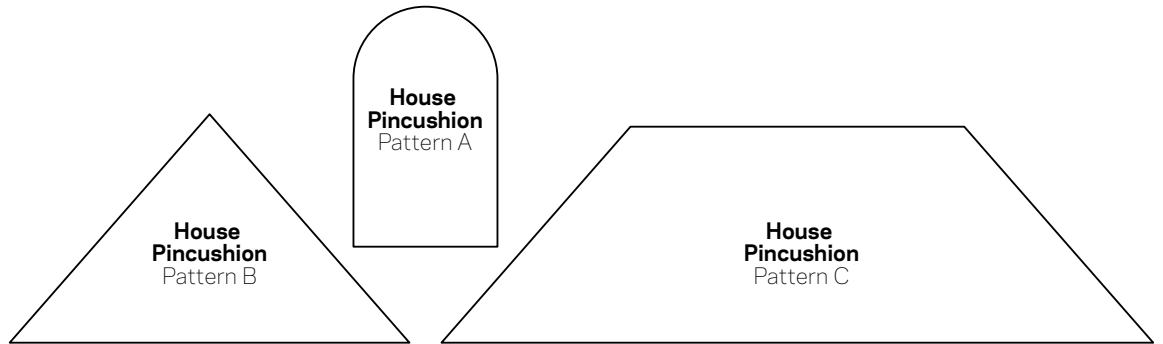


DIAGRAM 3

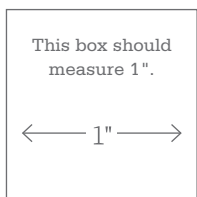
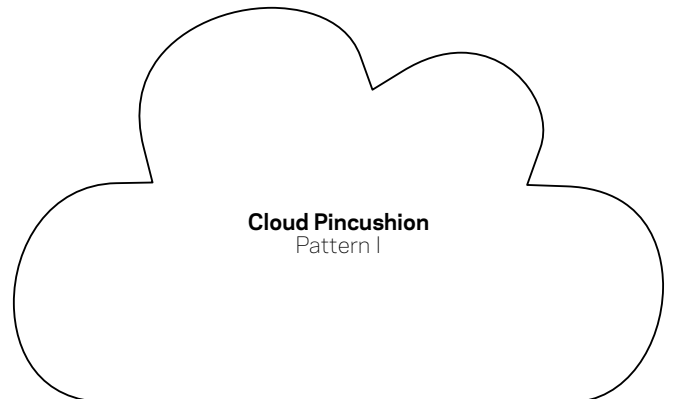
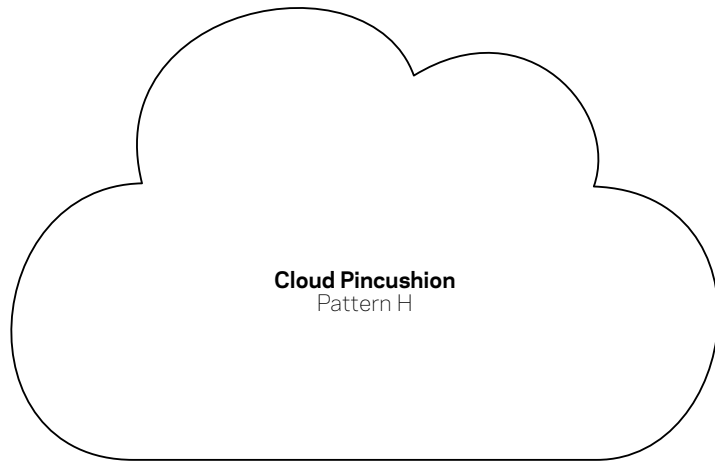
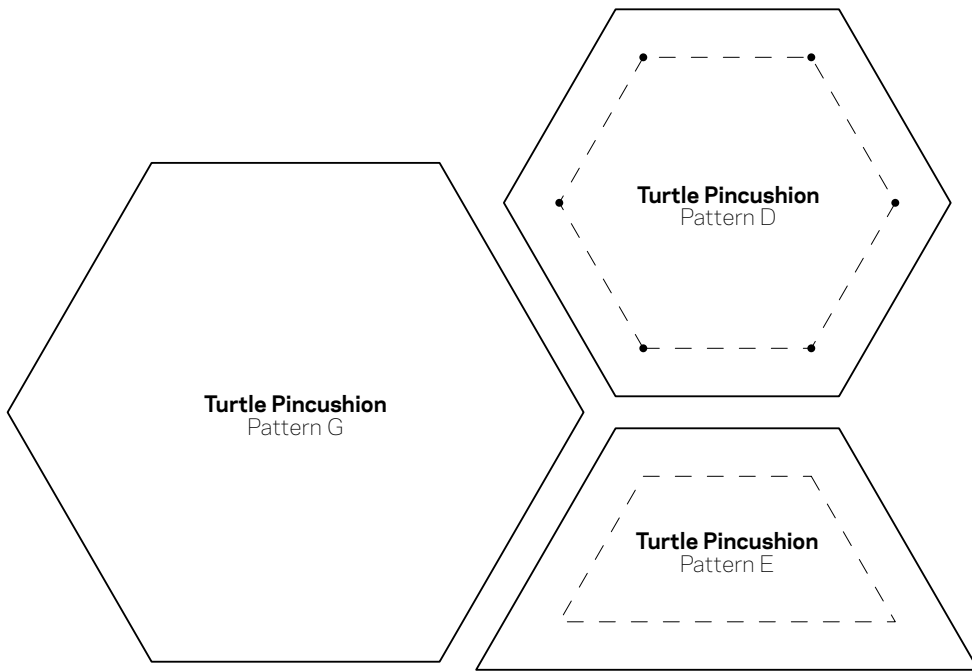
Project: Folk Art Felt



**\* 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."

Project: Folk Art Felt



**\* 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.

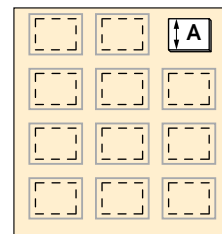


DIAGRAM 1

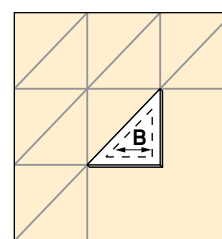


DIAGRAM 2