

Project: Spring Bird Appliqué

INSPIRED BY "PERFECTLY PERCHED" FROM DESIGNER LYNDA HALL OF PRIMITIVES BY LYNDA
QUILTMAKER: LAURA BOEHNKE



Make a springtime scene using the Hopscotch and Tokyo Basics collections from Red Rooster Fabrics. Create a wall hanging in no time using fusible appliqué to assemble the bird, tree, and pear motifs and fussy-cutting the flower pieces.



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Materials

- 18×22" piece (fat quarter) red bird print (quilt center, border, binding)
- ½ yard light green print (appliqué foundation, binding)
- 18×22" piece (fat quarter) dark green print (tree appliqué)
- Scrap of blue print (bird appliqué)
- Scrap of pink print (wing appliqué)
- 18×22" piece (fat quarter) mottled yellow (pear appliqués, border, binding)
- Scraps of assorted green prints (leaf appliqués)
- Scraps of red prints (flower appliqués)
- ⅞ yard red-and-yellow stripe (border)
- Lightweight fusible web
- Embroidery thread: brown
- ¾ yard backing fabric
- 26×35" batting

Finished quilt: 28½×19¼"

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

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 4-6. To make templates of patterns, see Make and Use Templates on page 7. Be sure to transfer dots to templates, then to fabric pieces. These dots are matching points and are necessary when joining pieces.

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

1. Lay fusible web, paper side up, over patterns. Use a pencil to trace each pattern the number of times indicated in cutting instructions, leaving ½" between tracings. Cut out each fusible-web shape roughly ¼" outside traced lines.
2. Following manufacturer's instructions, press fusible-web shapes onto wrong sides of designated fabrics; let cool. Cut out fabric shapes on drawn lines. Peel off paper backings.

From red bird print, cut:

- 2—2½×18" binding strips
- 1—5½" square
- 8—2⅝" squares

From light green print, cut:

- 1—28½×15¾" foundation rectangle
- 2—2½×18" binding strips

From dark green print, cut:

- 1 of Pattern A

From blue print, cut:

- 1 of Pattern B

From pink print, cut:

- 1 of Pattern C

From mottled yellow, cut:

- 2—2½×18" binding strips
- 8—2⅝" squares
- 4 of Pattern D

From assorted green prints, cut:

- 2 of Pattern E
- 6 of Pattern F

From red prints, fussy-cut:

- 2 of Pattern G
- 1 each of patterns H and I

From red-and-yellow stripe, cut:

- 1—2¼×28½" border strip

Assemble and Appliqué Quilt Center

1. Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of red bird print 5½" square. Align marked square with upper left-hand corner of light green print foundation rectangle (**Diagram 1**; note direction of marked line). Sew on drawn line. Trim excess fabric, leaving ¼" seam allowance. Press open attached triangle to make quilt center. The quilt center still should be 28½×15¾" including seam allowances.
2. Referring to **Quilt Assembly Diagram**, arrange appliqué pieces on quilt center. Fuse in place.
3. Using contrasting threads, machine-blanket-stitch around each piece.
4. Referring to photo, use brown embroidery thread to stem-stitch a stem for each pear and leaf appliqué. To stem-stitch, pull needle up at A (**Stem Stitch Diagram**). Insert needle back into fabric at B, about ¼" away from A. Holding floss out of the way, bring needle back up at C and pull floss through so it lies flat against fabric. Distances between points A, B, and C should be equal. Pull gently and with equal tautness after each stitch.

Assemble and Add Borders

1. Use a pencil to mark a diagonal line on wrong side of each mottled yellow 2⅝" square.

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2. Layer a marked mottled yellow $2\frac{5}{8}$ " square atop a red bird print $2\frac{5}{8}$ " square. Sew pair together with two seams, stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of drawn line (Diagram 2).

3. Cut pair apart on drawn line to make two triangle units (Diagram 2). Open triangle units and press seams toward red bird print to make two triangle-squares. Each triangle-square should be $2\frac{1}{4}$ " square including seam allowances.

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to make 16 triangle-squares total.

5. Sew together triangle-squares in a row to make a pieced border strip (Quilt Assembly Diagram). Press seams in one direction. The pieced border strip should be $2\frac{1}{4} \times 28\frac{1}{2}$ " including seam allowances. Sew pieced border strip to top edge of quilt center. Press seam toward quilt center.

6. Join red-and-yellow stripe border strip to bottom edge of quilt center to complete quilt top. Press seam toward border.

Finish Quilt

1. Layer quilt top, batting, and backing; baste. Quilt as desired.

2. Piece light green print, red bird print, and mottled yellow binding strips with diagonal seams to make one binding strip. Bind with pieced binding strip.

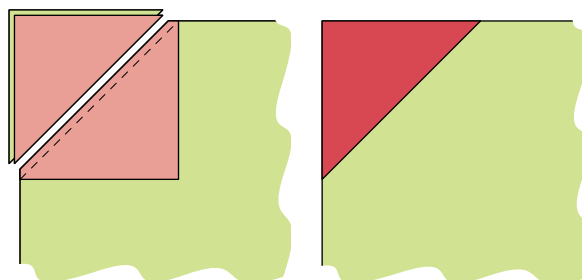


DIAGRAM 1

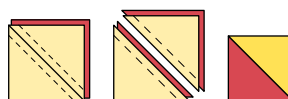
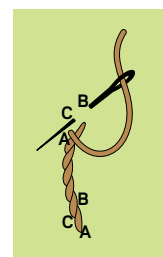
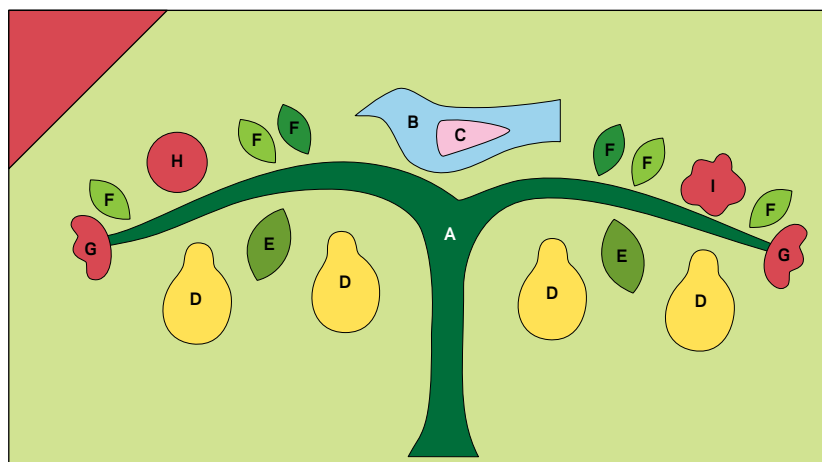


DIAGRAM 2



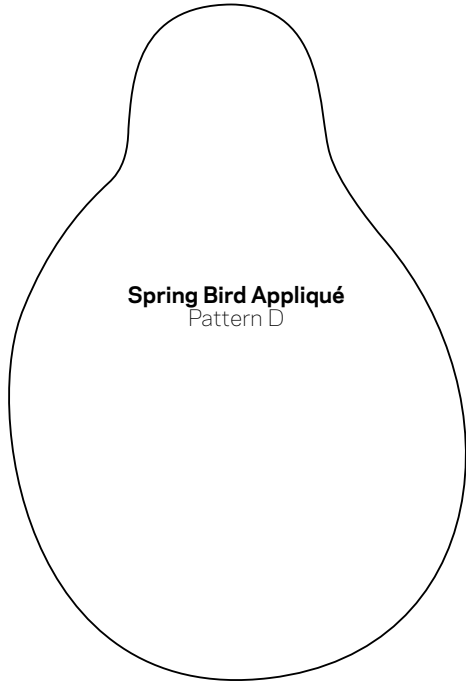
STEM STITCH



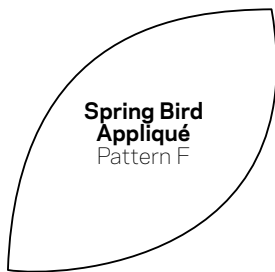
QUILT ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM



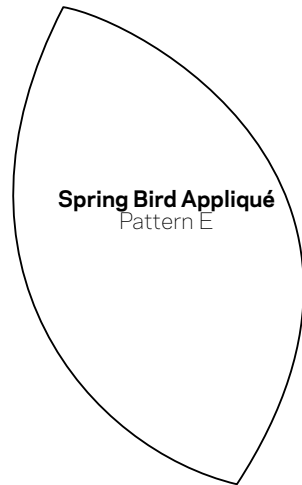
Project: Spring Bird Appliqué



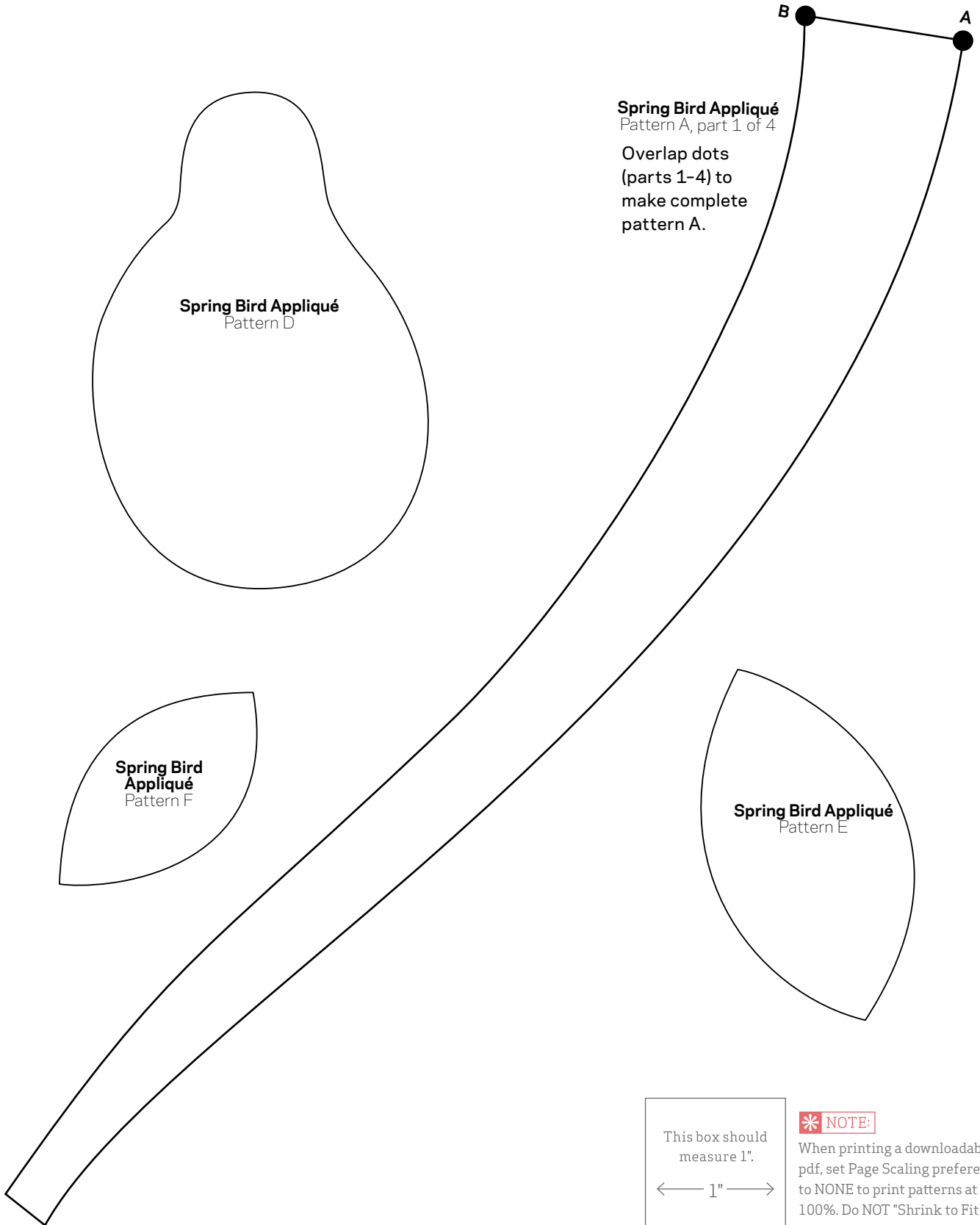
Spring Bird Appliqué
Pattern D



Spring Bird Appliqué
Pattern F

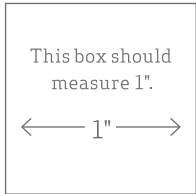


Spring Bird Appliqué
Pattern E



Spring Bird Appliqué
Pattern A, part 1 of 4

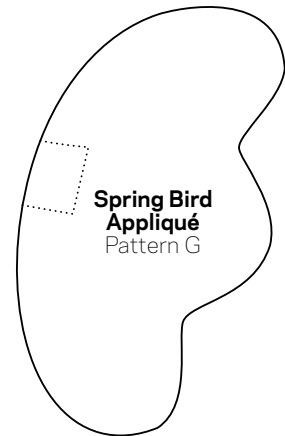
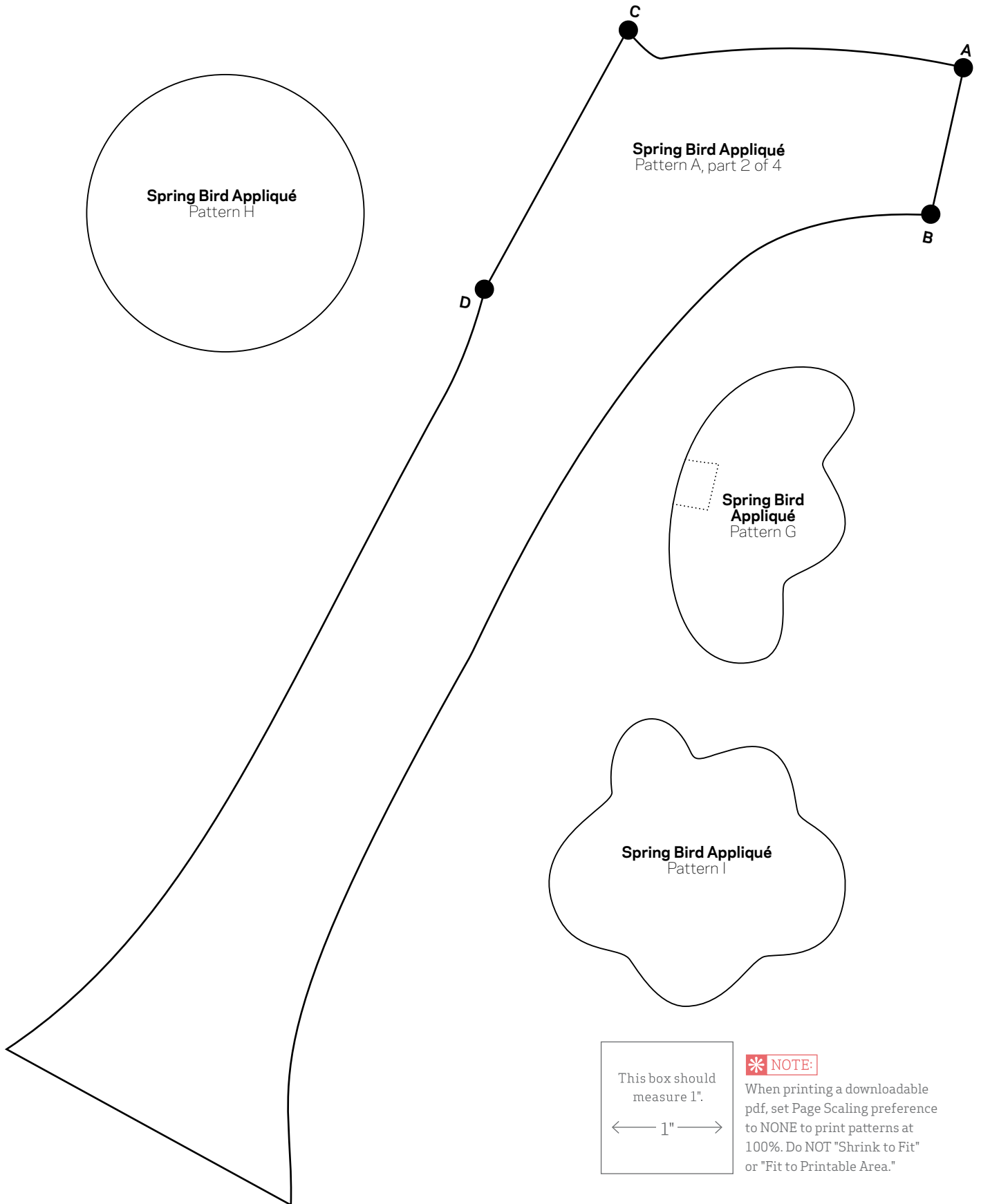
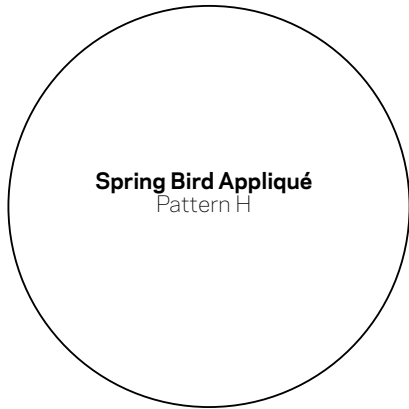
Overlap dots
(parts 1-4) to
make complete
pattern A.



*** 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."

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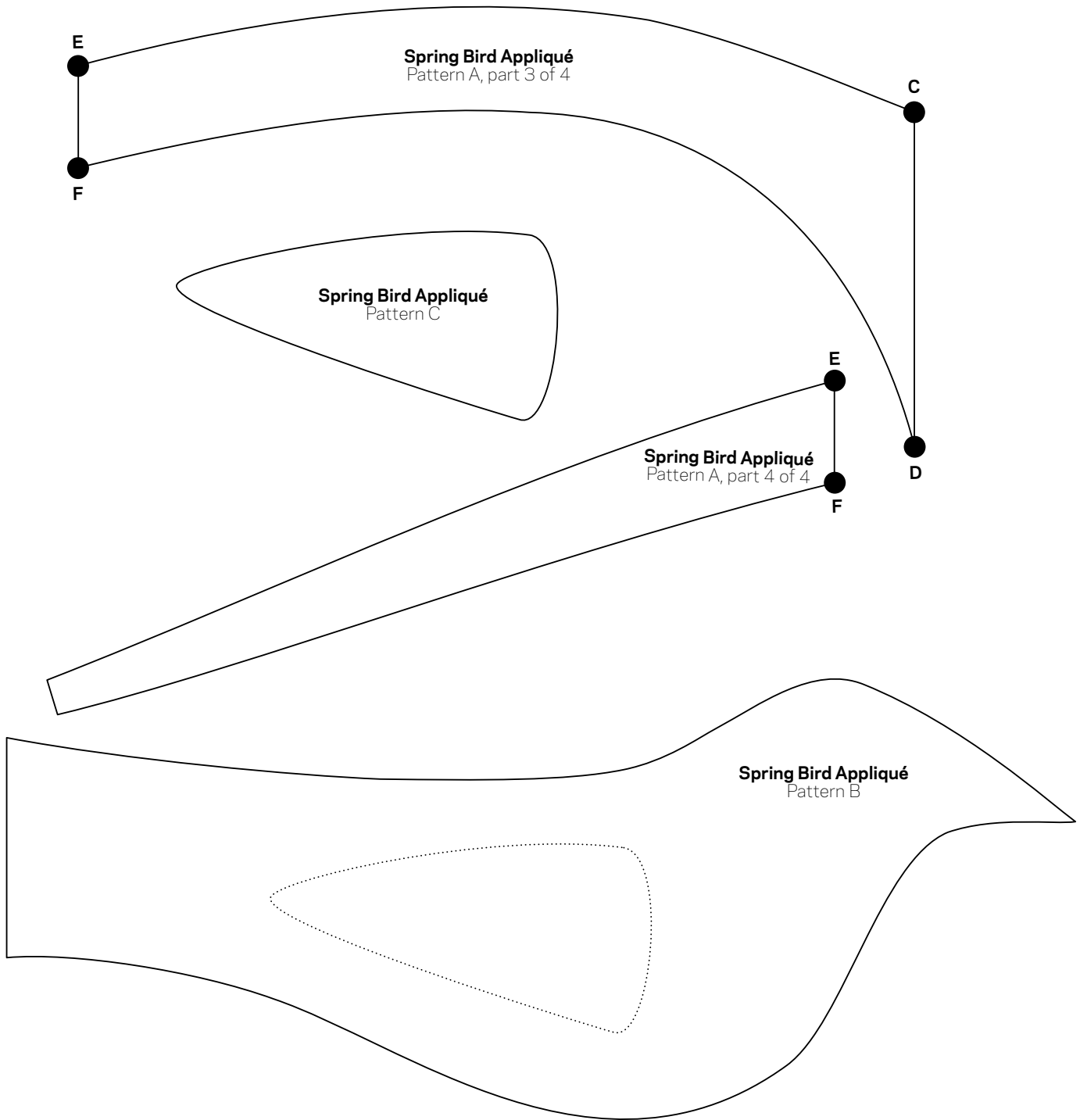


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← 1" →

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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 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 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 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 1/4" 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.

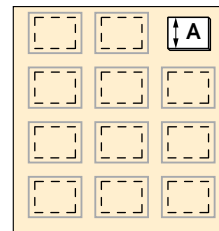


DIAGRAM 1

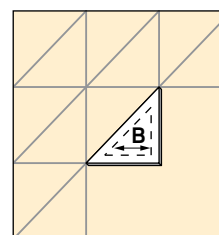


DIAGRAM 2