

Cat and the Moon

Supplies:

- 9" x 17" paper-backed fusible web (see step #3)
- 9" x 9" Muslin or light 100% cotton for foundation
- 5" x 5" for Moon
- 6" x 6" for Fence
- 7" x 8 1/2" for Sky
- 6" x 6" for Cat body and tail
- 4" x 4" for Cat wings
- 3 1/2" x 8 1/2" for flowers/grass/ground



Instructions: Please read all of the directions first for an overall idea of the project.

1. Press all pieces with Best Press or equivalent so they are all nice and smooth.
2. Using a pencil and template, draw an 8" square centered on the 9" x 9" muslin.
3. Prepare all of the remaining pieces using a fusible web on the reverse side of the fabric (not the muslin). You can use Heat n Bond Lite, Steam-A-Seam Lite II, Wonder Under 805, Soft Fuse, Misty Fuse, etc. Be sure that the fusible web is about 1/8" smaller than the fabric so you don't ruin your iron or ironing board cover. Follow the manufacturer's directions to bond the fusible web to the REVERSE side of the pieces using either a dry or hot iron depending on the directions. Leave the paper on.
4. Because you will be tracing the pattern on the wrong side of the fabric the pattern needs to be reversed. Turn the pattern over to the wrong side. Place the reversed pattern and then the paper side of the fusible web to a light box or window pane. Use painters tape to keep it in place. Then trace each piece onto the paper side of the fusible web. On the pieces that will be layered under another piece, add an extra 1/4" so that it has a bit of overlap/underlap and to insure that you cover the 8" square fully. You will need to do this on the moon, cat wing, cat tail, flowers/grass/ground and the side and bottom of the fence posts.
5. When tracing the fence posts, number them from left to right in descending order (5,4,3,2,1) so that when you turn them over #1 will go on the left side. Do the same thing for the rails. If you are using wood-like fabric you may want to trace the posts and rails in the same direction (rather than perpendicular) so that it will look more realistic.
6. Once you've traced everything, cut out each of the pieces with a sharp scissors. Remove the paper backing.
7. Arrange the pieces on the muslin so that the 8" square is covered by about an extra 1/8" all the way around with some of the pieces overlapping. Then carefully press all of the pieces to the muslin.
8. Now the fun begins. Get out your favorite thread and start appliquéd the pieces. The sample has coordinating thread, but why not try variegated thread, all black, embroidery, etc. You can use straight stitch, zigzag, blanket or one of those decorative stitches that you've always wanted to try; now's the time! Practice on some scraps first to be sure that your tension, stitch length, and stitch width are correct. Have fun with this and let your creativity run wild.
9. Once all of the pieces have been appliquéd, trim the block to 8 1/2" x 8 1/2".
10. Place your finished block in the plastic bag (if you bought the pre-packaged pieces) and return it next month to get your ticket for a chance to win all of the kitties. No litter box necessary and think of all of the embellishing possibilities once the blocks are pieced together and quilted! Add a collar, whiskers, eye, etc.