



## Best in Show

Whether your canine would take a prize at Crufts or not, I'm sure that if you're like me they're definite winners, whatever their size and shape!

Simple applique design celebrates our canine friends everywhere! An ideal project for beginners or a quick make for the more experienced.



My little dog picture measured approximately 9" square and I'll give you material requirements to make this size. But it's easy to make whatever size you want ... just resize the template to your requirements.

### Materials:

- 2 pieces of gingham, each measuring 12" x 8" (or a single piece of background fabric measuring 12" square)
- 1 piece light brown fabric (with texture is nice, otherwise felt is fine)
- 8" square for dog
- Scraps dark brown fabric for patches, blue for collar 2" square red fabric and red felt for rosette.
- 3" red ric rac for rosette ribbons
- Pink, blue and brown stranded embroidery floss
- Small black or dark brown button for eye
- Adhesive spray or Bondaweb

### Method

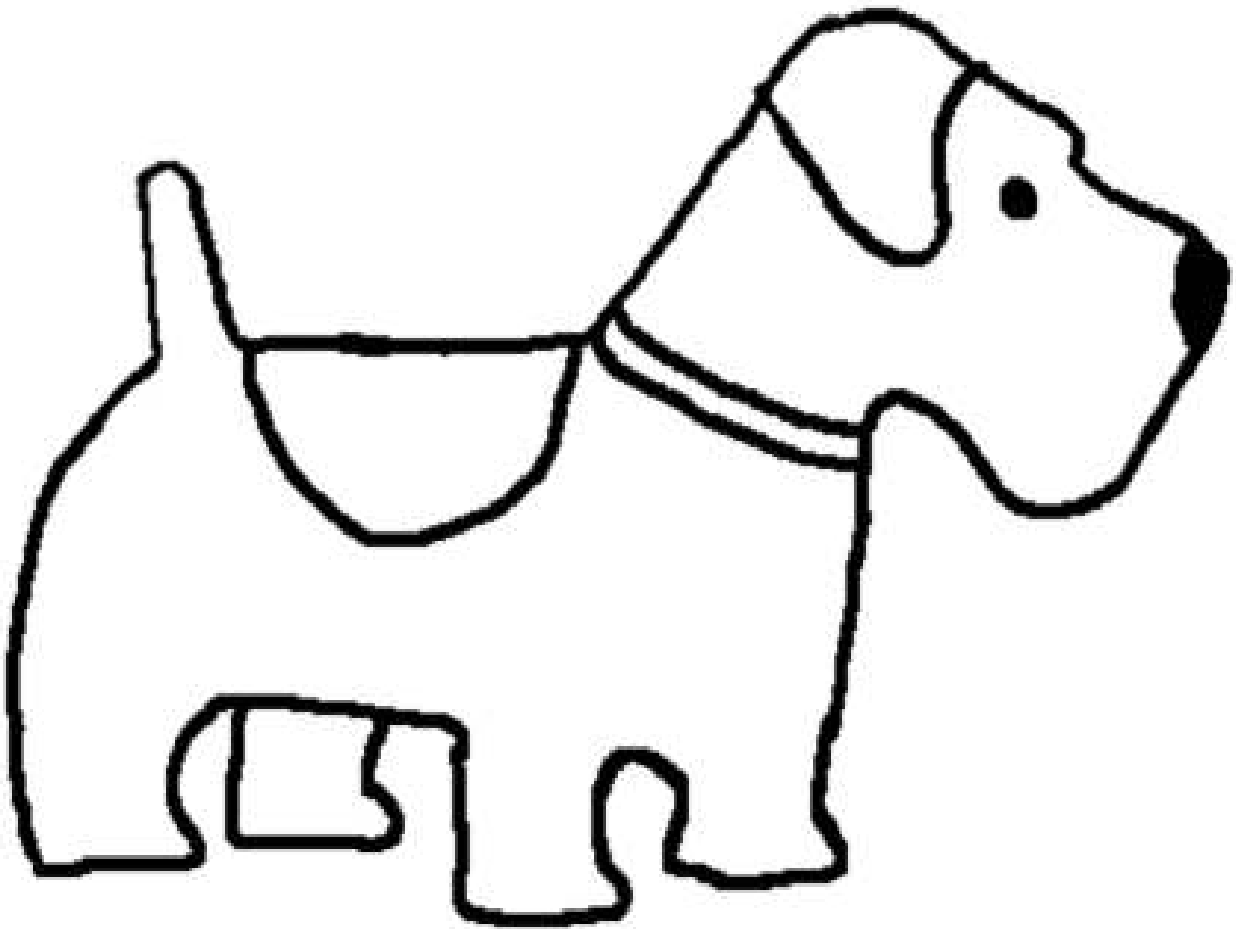
- Join your two background pieces together down one long side and press seam open.
- Transfer the lettering "Best in Show" 3 ¼" down from the top edge and centred.
- Cut out dog shape from light brown fabric. If you're using Bondaweb, then trace the dog from the reverse template onto the paper side of the Bondaweb. Iron Bondaweb onto back of fabric, then cut out dog shape.
- Position dog centrally and fuse (if using Bondaweb) when you're comfortable with his/her position.

- Repeat with dark brown patches and collar.
- Using 3 strands of pink embroidery floss stitch around edges with straight stitches at right-angles to shape edges. Use blue embroidery floss to stitch collar in place.
- Stitch nose in satin stitch with 3 strands of dark brown floss and secure button in place for eye.
- Stitch text with back stitch and 3 strands of pink floss. Outline with 2 strands of dark brown floss.
- Press design on wrong side.
- Cut two circles of red fabric/felt for rosette, using pinking shears if you have them. Otherwise make a wavy edge with your scissors.
- Pinch the middle and secure with a few stitches.
- Fold red ric rac braid and secure to back, then stitch pink button into centre and secure to background with a few stitches.

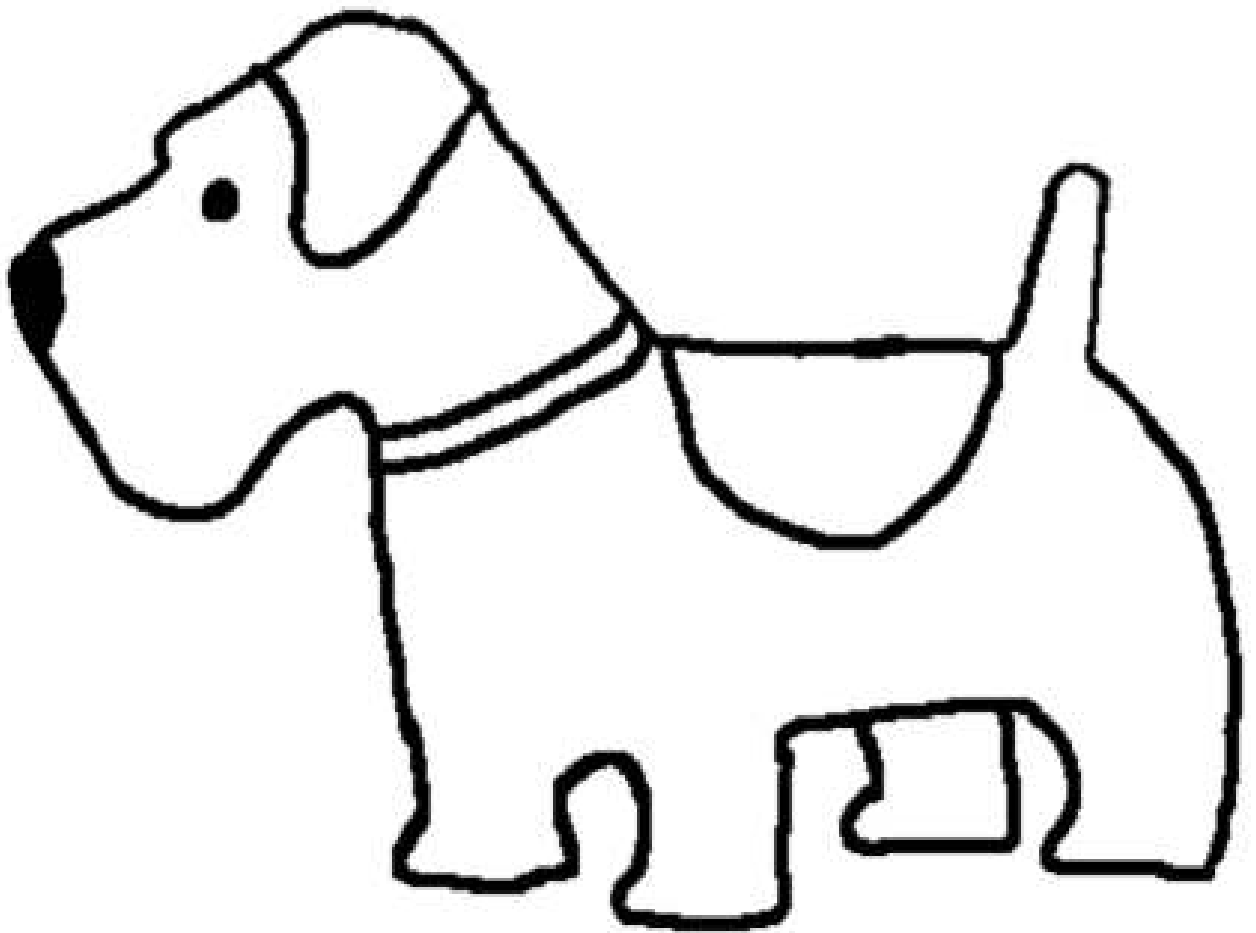
You could either mount your little dog in a frame as I did, or on an artist's canvas block.

This is a great quick and easy way to show off your work - just wrap the fabric around and secure with staples at the back, mitring the corners carefully. Then cover the staples with adhesive fabric tape for a really neat finish.

# Best in Show



Best in Show







Why do we love to stitch? After all, you can purchase mass-produced embroidered items at many high street stores. These days, handmade means something special – a unique item created with love, a gift from the heart, not one that can be bought. Hand stitching is also a great way to personalize an item, or even to breathe new life into an old favourite that has seen better days.

[Bustle & Sew](#) offers my own unique patterns, designed to appeal to all skill levels and bring out your natural creativity. And you can keep up-to-date with all the latest news on the [Bustle & Sew Blog](#).

But none of this would mean anything without you, the stitcher.

**PLEASE SHARE THE LOVE:** I am happy for you to circulate this short tutorial as widely as you wish – with just two conditions: Firstly that you leave all links to my [website](#) and blog in place. And secondly, it is not a commercial publication and must not be reproduced for resale in any form.

Best wishes

Helen xxx

[www.bustlandsew.com](http://www.bustlandsew.com)



Your first issue includes your free gift "The Stitcher's Companion"

PS : If you love stitching then you're sure to enjoy my Bustle & Sew e-zine. It's my own e-zine delivered monthly to your in-box stuffed with ideas, projects, features, articles, patterns and more. Your family and friends will be queuing up to take delivery of your new Bustle & Sew creations.

To learn more, please visit my website.

<http://bustlandsew.com/magazine>