



Birds on a Wire Display Pegs



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These are a charming and unusual way to display all manner of cherished items whether these are childrens' drawings, greetings cards, remnants of favourite fabrics - or anything you choose that can be pegged to a line.

You only need a few scraps and some clothes pegs - a perfect little stocking filler or tiny gift at any time.

Finished birds measure about 5 ½" from head to tail.



Materials

Quantities are to make six birds

- 8" x 15" piece of felt or other suitable fabric for birds' bodies
- 8" x 15" piece of felt for backing
- Six printed cotton fabric scraps for wings, each measuring approx 3" x 1 ½"
- 8" x 15" piece of Bondaweb, plus small pieces for wings

- Black and yellow stranded cotton floss
- 6 wooden clothes pegs (the wooden spring clip variety)
- Temporary fabric marker pen
- Hot glue gun
- Black thread for machine needle
- Embroidery /darning foot for machine



Method

- Fuse your piece of Bondaweb to the reverse of the fabric you've chosen for the birds' bodies.
- Peel off the backing paper and then fuse the felt backing to the reverse of the body fabric, making a sort of sandwich.
- Print and cut out the bird templates

 they are given actual size. Cut 3
 as given, then reverse your template for the other 3.
- Position your bird templates on the front of the fabric sandwich you just made and draw around them with the temporary fabric marker

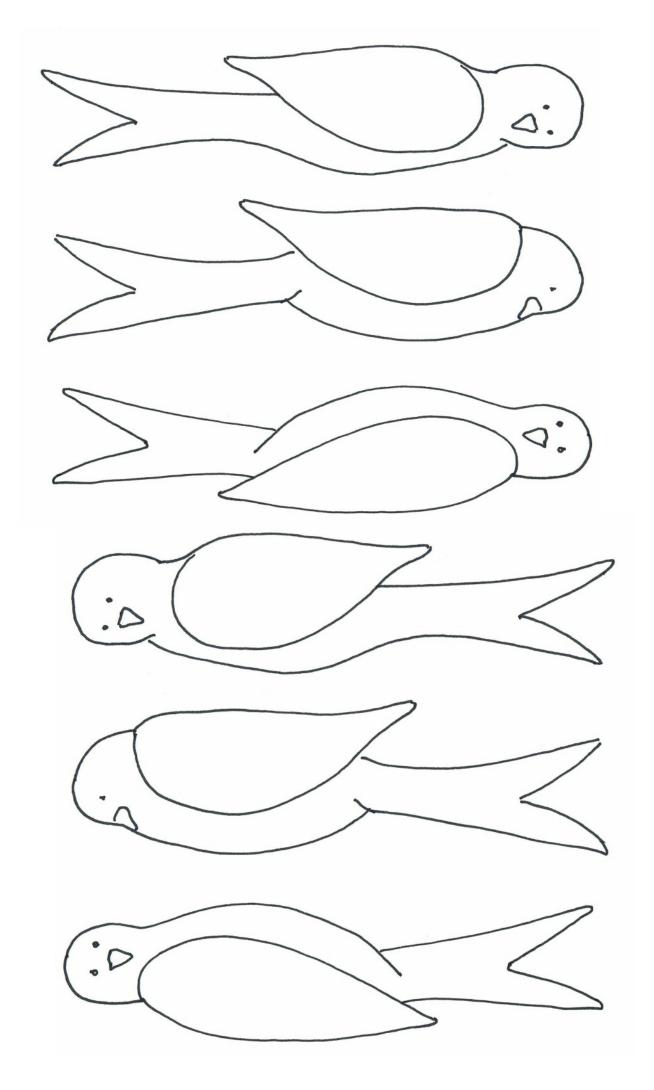
pen. You might find it easier to match their wings if you number them in some way now, then number the wings on the Bondaweb as you trace them.

- Trace the birds' wings onto Bondaweb (remember that 3 will need to be reversed) and then iron the Bondaweb to the back of your printed fabric scraps.
- Cut out the birds' wings, then peel off the paper backing and fuse the wings into place on the birds' bodies. You will now have six bodies ready for freestyle machine embroidery. It's much easier to stitch and then cut them out, as otherwise they're very fiddly - particularly the tails.
- With black or other dark thread in your machine needle and light coloured thread in your bobbin stitch twice around the outline of each bird (just inside the outline you drew) and the wing. Remember your stitching doesn't

- need to be perfect you're aiming for a sketchy, slightly scribbled sort of effect.
- Cut out birds if your stitching was a bit wonky in places and you have to cut through it, this doesn't really matter.
- Stitch details using 1 strand of black floss for the eyes and 2 strands for the beak and feet.
- With your hot glue gun, glue a peg to the reverse of each bird. Now just peg them to a line (I used jumbo ric-rac braid) to display your treasures.









Why do we love to stitch? After all you can purchase massproduced textile items at many high streets stores for very little cost. 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 personalise an item, or perhaps 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 all your natural creativity. And you

can keep up to date with all the latest news from Devon where I live as well as the newest patterns and much more over on the Bustle & Sew Blog.

But none of this would mean anything without YOU, the stitcher. And it's lovely to be able to share hints, tips, techniques and patterns with other like-minded people. So

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