

# Bustle & Sew

Love to Sew and Sew with Love .....



## Farm Fresh Eggs Applique

There's nothing like a nice boiled egg (with soldiers of course!) for breakfast - especially now that spring is here and hens are beginning to lay again. This picture's guaranteed to brighten up your kitchen this Easter (and beyond) combining easy machine applique with touches of hand embroidery.

Picture shown mounted on an A4 canvas block (about 11" x 8 ½")



### You will need:

- A4 size canvas block (approx 8 ¼" x 11 ½")
- 17" x 5" rectangle fabric for lower background (yellow with feathers) 1
- 7" x 9" rectangle fabric for upper background (green stripes)
- Three 2 ½" x 3" rectangles of patterned quilting weight cotton for egg cups. Choose fabrics with small patterns to keep the scale correct.
- 6" square brown felt
- 3" x 2" piece golden yellow felt

- 3" x 1" piece white felt
- ¾" x 2 ½" piece suitable fabric for toast finger (I used a textured upholstery fabric)
- Dark green stranded cotton floss
- Bondaweb
- Dark grey and cream thread
- Staple gun to mount your finished piece onto the canvas block.
- Temporary fabric marker pen
- Embroidery or darning foot for your sewing machine

### To make your picture:

- Join the two pieces of background fabric together along one long edge. Use ¼" seam allowance and press seam open to minimise bulk.
- Place your canvas block on the fabric. Centre vertically and allow for 2" of the bottom fabric to appear on the front of the canvas. Mark the corners of the block with your temporary fabric marker. This will enable you to position your design correctly.



- Transfer the lettering to the top of the background fabric, positioning it about ½” below the top edge and in the centre vertically. Stitch the lettering. Use back stitch and 2 strands of your dark green floss.
- Trace the shapes for your eggs onto the Bondaweb. The template is given at the exact size. The dotted lines on the template show where you should cut to allow for overlapping of pieces.
- Now build up your applique picture. Peel the paper backing off the Bondaweb, then start with the bottom pieces and work upwards, ie for the outside eggs, position the egg and then the egg cup and for the middle egg start with the yolk and work upwards to the egg cup. Trim the short ends of your “toast” finger so they are a little ragged, not square and geometric before positioning.
- When you’re happy with the positioning of your applique shapes, press into place. Don’t press too hard or you’ll flatten your felt - and if you’re using acrylic felt be careful not to scorch or melt it!



- Now for the machine applique. Fit the embroidery or darning foot. With dark grey thread in your needle and cream in the bobbin stitch around the edge of the egg cups. Go around twice - don’t be

too neat, and on the second way round make inward loops to represent the shading on the egg cup.

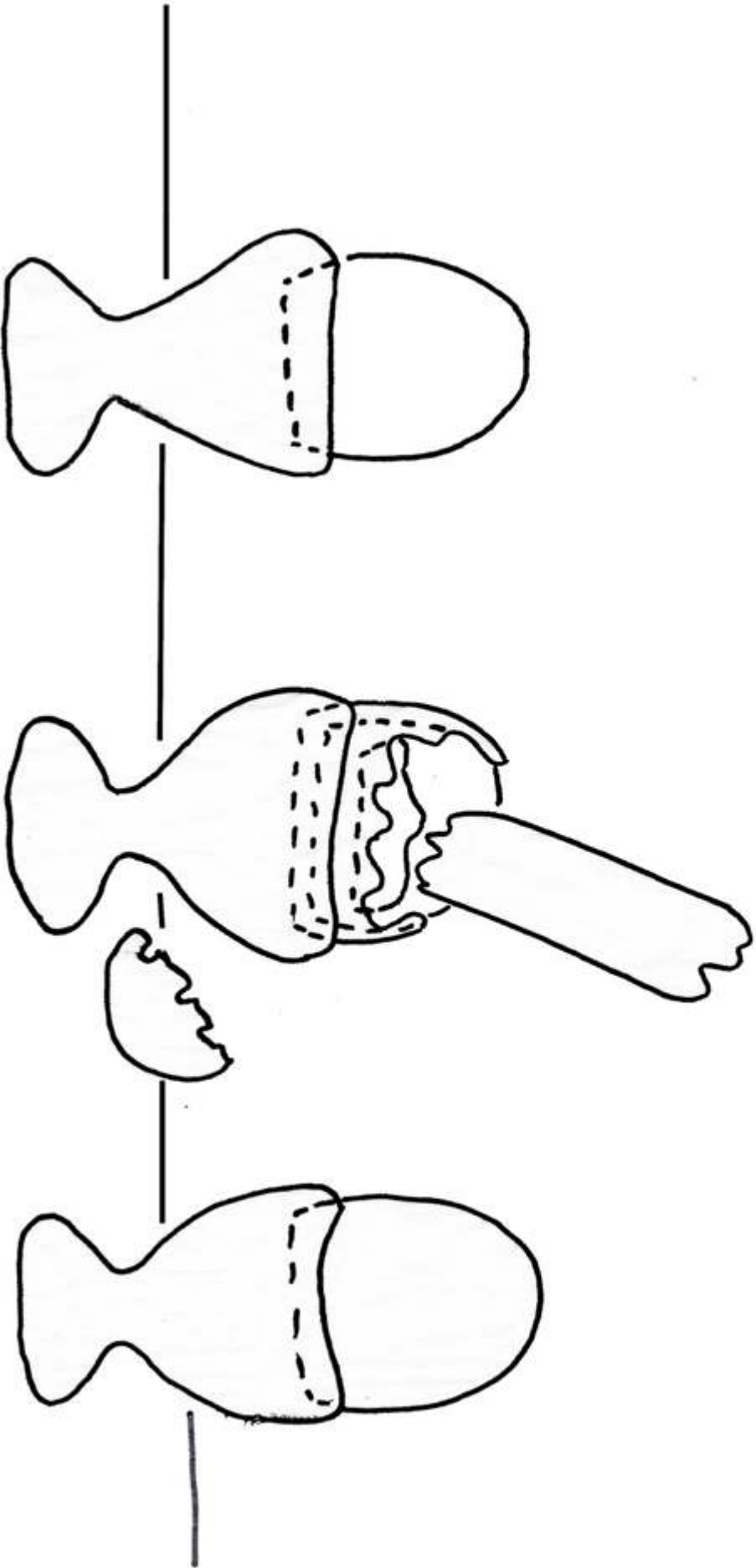
- Hint: don’t forget to drop the presser foot on your machine before starting. The embroidery/darning foot doesn’t press, but if you don’t drop the foot the top thread won’t be under tension and you will get a nasty mess (voice of experience!) Go once around the egg with the soldier (see picture for guide) Stitch twice around the soldier making zig-zags at either short end to represent the ends of the soldier. Stitch twice around the discarded top of the egg, exaggerating the broken edges with zig-zag stitching.

### To mount your picture:

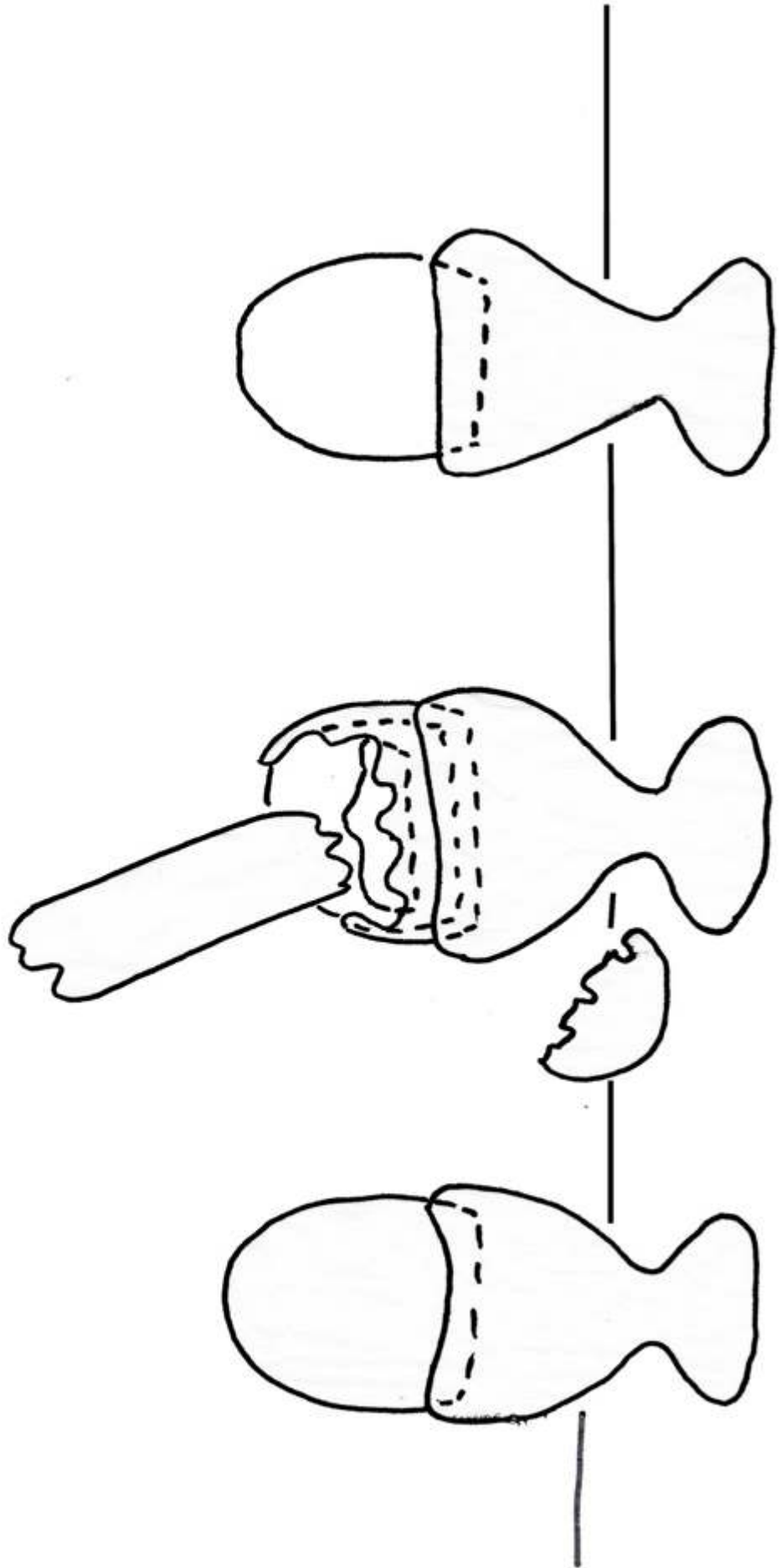
- Press on the reverse.
- Using the marks you made earlier as a guide, position your picture on the canvas block, then turn the edges underneath.
- Use your staple gun to secure the sides - secure the two short sides first, working from the centre outwards and then the long sides to within 2” of the corners. Fold your corners carefully, trimming excess fabric then staple into place at the back.
- Trim any excess fabric away from the back. If you wish you can cover the staples and raw edges at the back with washi (fabric adhesive) tape.



# FARM FRESH EGGS FOR BREAKFAST



# EGGS FOR BREAKFAST FARM FRESH





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To learn more, please visit my website.

<http://bustleandsew.com/magazine>



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

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