



BUSTLE & SEW
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Seagull Cushion

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Enjoy the seaside even when you're home from the beach with this easy machine applique cushion featuring a bright-eyed seagull and some sassy seaside bunting.

Best of all, this friendly fellow won't be swooping down and stealing your chips either!

Sized to fit 16" cushion pad.



Materials

- Base fabric (use a medium weight cotton - I chose a nicely striped piece of ticking style fabric to remind me of seaside deckchairs) : 1 piece measuring 16" square and 2 pieces each measuring 16" x 12"
- 9" x 8" piece blue felt
- 5" square cream felt
- 3" square grey felt
- 4" square golden yellow felt
- 1 x 2" piece black felt
- Scraps of brightly coloured cotton fabric for bunting flags (flags measure 2 ½" long x 2" wide approximately)
- Grey tapestry or 4 ply knitting wool
- Bondaweb
- Black and cream machine thread
- Invisible nylon machine thread
- Temporary fabric marker
- Embroidery foot for your sewing machine

Method

Note: If you want to add the printed verse at the bottom right of the design then you will need to be able to print to fabric - most bubble jet printers can do this quite easily. Otherwise stitch some text, or use printed fabric.

Seagull Picture

- Using the template at the end of this pattern (given actual size) trace the pieces for your seagull onto the paper side of your Bondaweb. Notice where you have to cut extra (shown by dotted lines) so that his tail feathers, back wing and legs will be overlapped by other pieces). Cut out roughly and fuse to the reverse of your coloured felt. Cut out carefully and remove paper backing.
- Position the pieces for your seagull on your blue felt. The top of his head should be approx 1¼" down from the top edge and he should be centred vertically on the felt.
- When you are happy with the positioning fuse the pieces into place using a hot iron and a cloth to protect your work.
- With your temporary fabric marker, draw on the shading lines for his chest, beak, knees and feet.
- Fit the embroidery foot to your sewing machine and drop the feed dogs. With dark thread in your needle and pale in the bobbin (this gives a less solid, heavy line) go around the edges of the shapes twice. Don't try to be too neat, you are aiming for a sort of scribbled effect.
- Cut your thread and now work his eye. Stitch an oval shape then fill with scribbled machine stitching, leaving a small space to represent the sparkle in his eye. Add a wavy line around his feet

- Press lightly on the reverse.

Assemble front panel

- Position your seagull applique in the centre of the larger piece of base fabric and secure with temporary fabric adhesive.
- With invisible thread in your needle, top stitch around edge (you could use thread to match your felt, but I didn't have any!!). (As a cushion is likely to receive lots of wear and tear I like to machine any applique into place before adding some decorative hand-stitching to complete.)
- With your 4 ply or tapestry wool make stitches at right-angles to the applique panel to secure it to the base fabric.
- Now cut your fabric flags. You will need 6 triangles of fabric, each measuring 2" across the top and approx 2 ½" in length. Position in a line across the top left-hand corner of your cushion cover, starting 6" down from the corner on the side and 12" across on the top. When you're happy with the positioning secure using temporary fabric adhesive.
- Stitch around the edges of the flags with black thread in your needle. Go around each flag twice as before. Finally add a line of double stitching across the tops of the flags to represent the twine from which they're hanging.
- If using the text, print onto fabric. Cut out and then fray edges. Stitch to bottom right hand corner of seagull applique, overlapping the applique by 1" at the bottom and 1 ¾" at the side.
- Press lightly on reverse.

Back of cover

- Hem one 16" side of each of your two smaller pieces of fabric and press.

Assemble cushion cover

- Make a fabric sandwich ... place your front panel on a clean flat surface right side up, then your two back panels, right side down

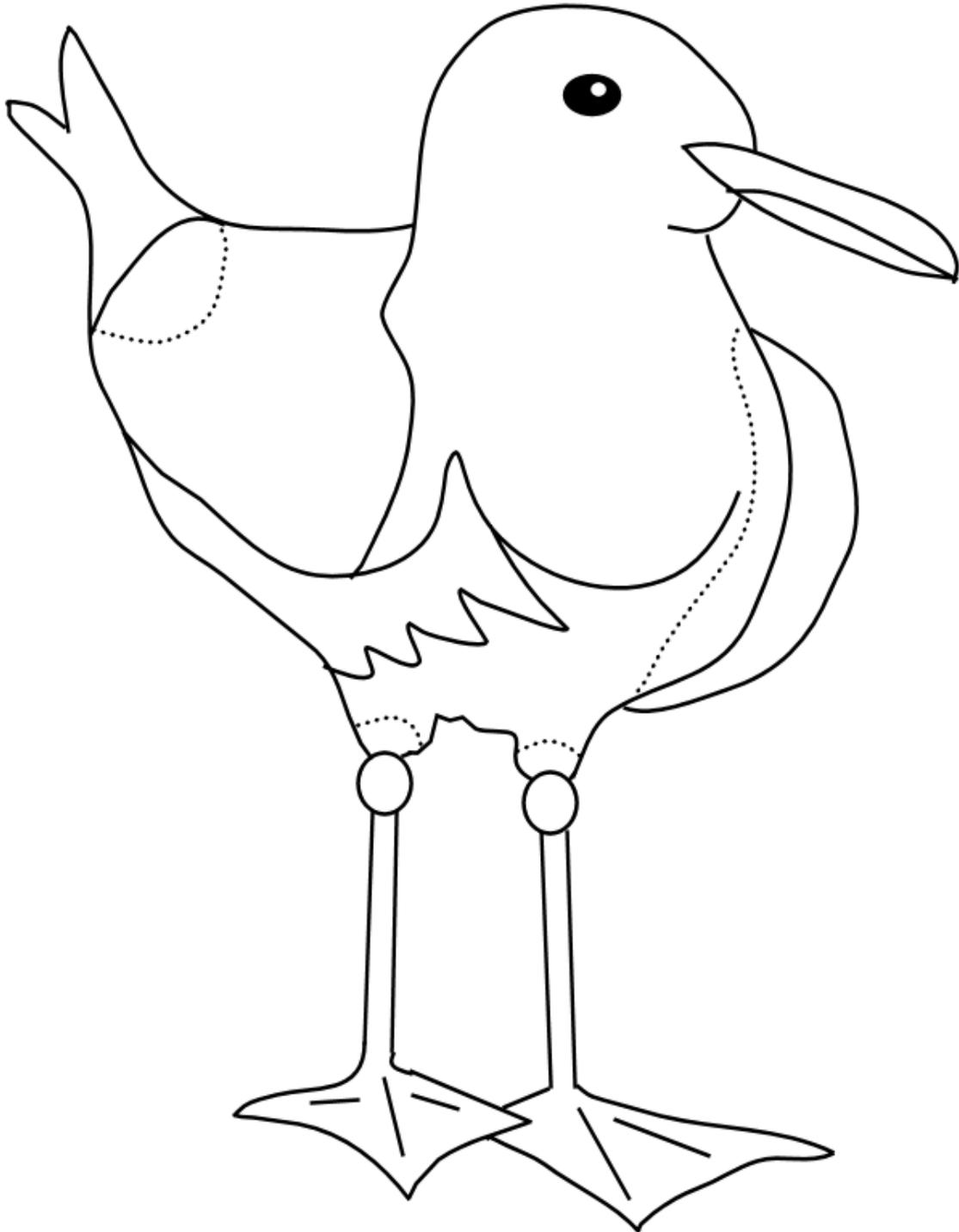
and overlapping at the centre. Pin and/or tack together around edges.

- Machine around edges. Clip corners and turn right side out. Press and insert pad.
- FINISHED!!



In the Green Hoop

Pattern is full size and reversed to trace onto the paper side of your Bondaweb.



Why do we love to stitch? After all you can purchase mass-produced 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 Somerset where I live as well as the newest patterns and much more over on the [Bustle & Sew Blog](#).

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PS If you love stitching, then you're sure to enjoy my Bustle & Sew Magazine. It's delivered by email to your in-box each month and is crammed full of ideas, projects, features, articles, patterns and more to inspire you. To learn more please visit the [Bustle & Sew website](#).

Helen xx



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Thank you.