

Fern the Flamingo

Created by: Tania Denyer

Fern is not at all impressed with the need for cold-weather wear but remains determined to step out in style. Tania offers up a playful opportunity to escape the stress of the holidays with a mini-quilt project to make you smile. A little bit of fusible appliqué and simple, straight stitch quilting make this a fun project to finish and show off as you flamingle through the holidays (Fern would be proud!)

SKILL LEVEL: Beginner

SUPPLIES:

Background Fabric:

- 9 Squares at 6 1/2" square, I chose two shades of turquoise

Appliqué Fabrics:

- Fat quarter (approximately 18 x 21") salmon pink (for the flamingo)
- Fat eighth (approximately 9 x 21") chartreuse green (for the hat and scarf)
- Fat eighth (approximately 9 x 21") white (for hat, beak and eye)

Scraps:

- Black (for beak and eye)
- Lavender (for eye and cheek)



Batting:

- Approximately 22" square

Backing:

- Approximately 22" square (3/4 metre)

Binding:

- Two strips 2 1/2 x 40"
- Additional fabric for hanging sleeve (if required) 3 x 16"

Threads:

- Your choice of neutral or assorted colours for piecing and appliqué

JANOME SUPPLIES REQUIRED:

- Your Janome sewing machine
- AcuFeed™ or Walking foot
- 1/4" Piecing foot of choice

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Assemble your background squares into a nine patch using your 1/4" piecing foot. The pieced background will measure approximately 18 1/2" square.
2. I chose fusible appliqué for my Fern. You may choose whatever method of appliqué you prefer. If you decide to create this design with hand appliqué, remember to add a 1/4" for turning under to each template piece.
3. Fusible instructions: These are the steps I use in creating fusible appliqué, you may use your own technique and/or follow the instructions provided on your chosen fusible packaging.

Step 1: Using a pencil, trace the shapes onto the paper side of the fusible

Step 2: Cut out the shapes leaving about 1/4" outside the drawn lines

Step 3: This step is optional... if you do not want too much bulk in your work, cut out the inside of each shape, again 1/4" inch away from the pencil line

Step 4: Place the fusible shapes onto the wrong side of the fabric, glue side down

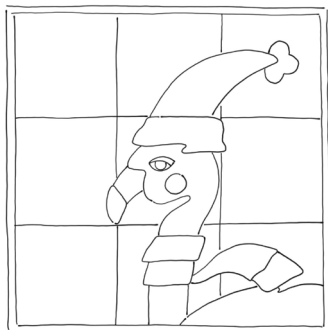
Step 5: Press with iron on light heat for 1-2 seconds

Step 6: Ok now you can cut out the shapes on the pencil line!

Step 7: Remove paper

Step 8: Using the picture as a guide, arrange pieces on your background fabric.

NOTE: The pattern templates are marked with dots to show the sections that overlap. take time with this step because once you have fused the pieces in place they are difficult, if not impossible, to move!

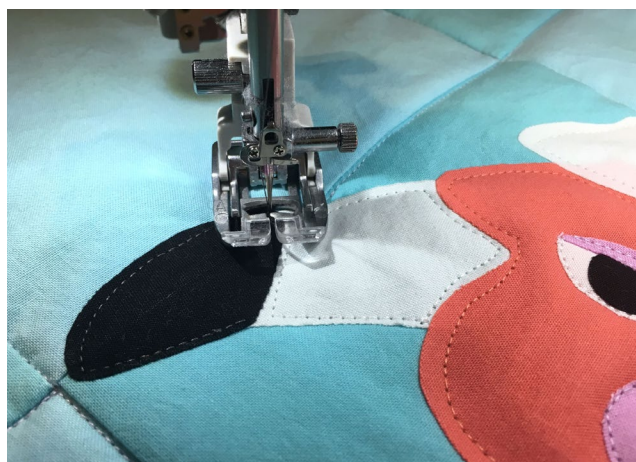


Step 9: Press in place using a medium iron for 5-10 seconds per piece



If you need a visual guide about fusible appliqué, please check my blog post on fusible appliqué: <http://www.gingerquilts.ca/cupcakes-and-fusible-applique/>

4. After you have completed fusing the appliqué, sandwich your quilt with your choice of batting and backing. (Pin if desired)
5. I used straight line machine appliqué. Set stitch length to a smaller stitch (1.8 to 2.0). Working with AcuFeed or a walking foot and a slower speed, take your time stitching the edge of each appliqué piece with a back stitch at the beginning and end (or reduce your first and last few stitches to 0.5).

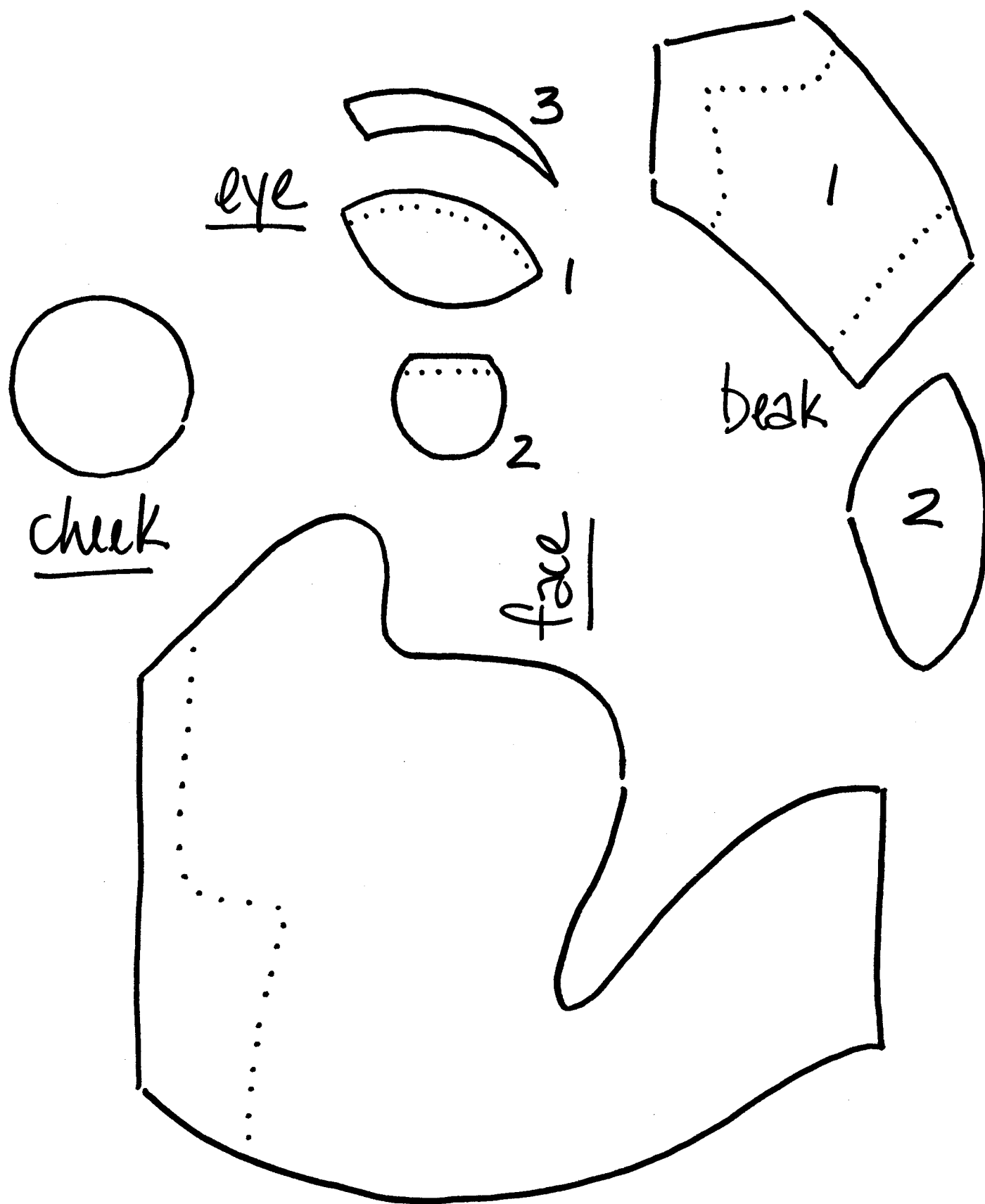


6. I changed colours according to the fabric colour, but you may use a neutral grey or taupe thread for your appliqué.
7. After you have completed the straight stitch appliqué, you can complete the rest of the quilt. I chose straight line quilting to keep the design clean and simple. You can use the Quilting guide bar or the edge of your sewing foot to keep lines parallel.

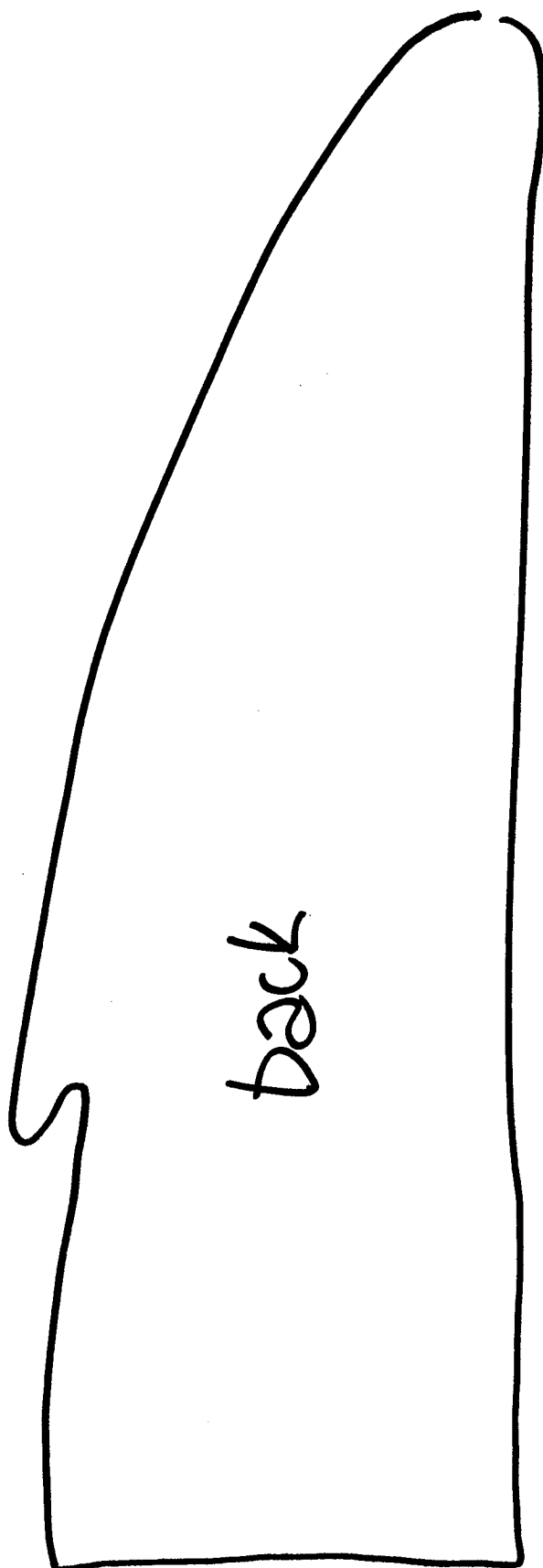
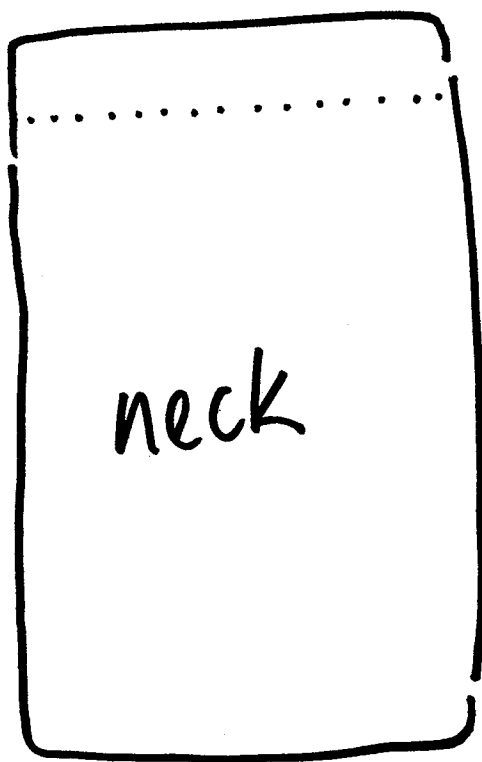


8. Bind your quilt with your preferred method. You may also add a hanging sleeve so that you can hang Fern the Flamingo on your front door to greet your winter guests. I am sure she will charm everyone who meets her!

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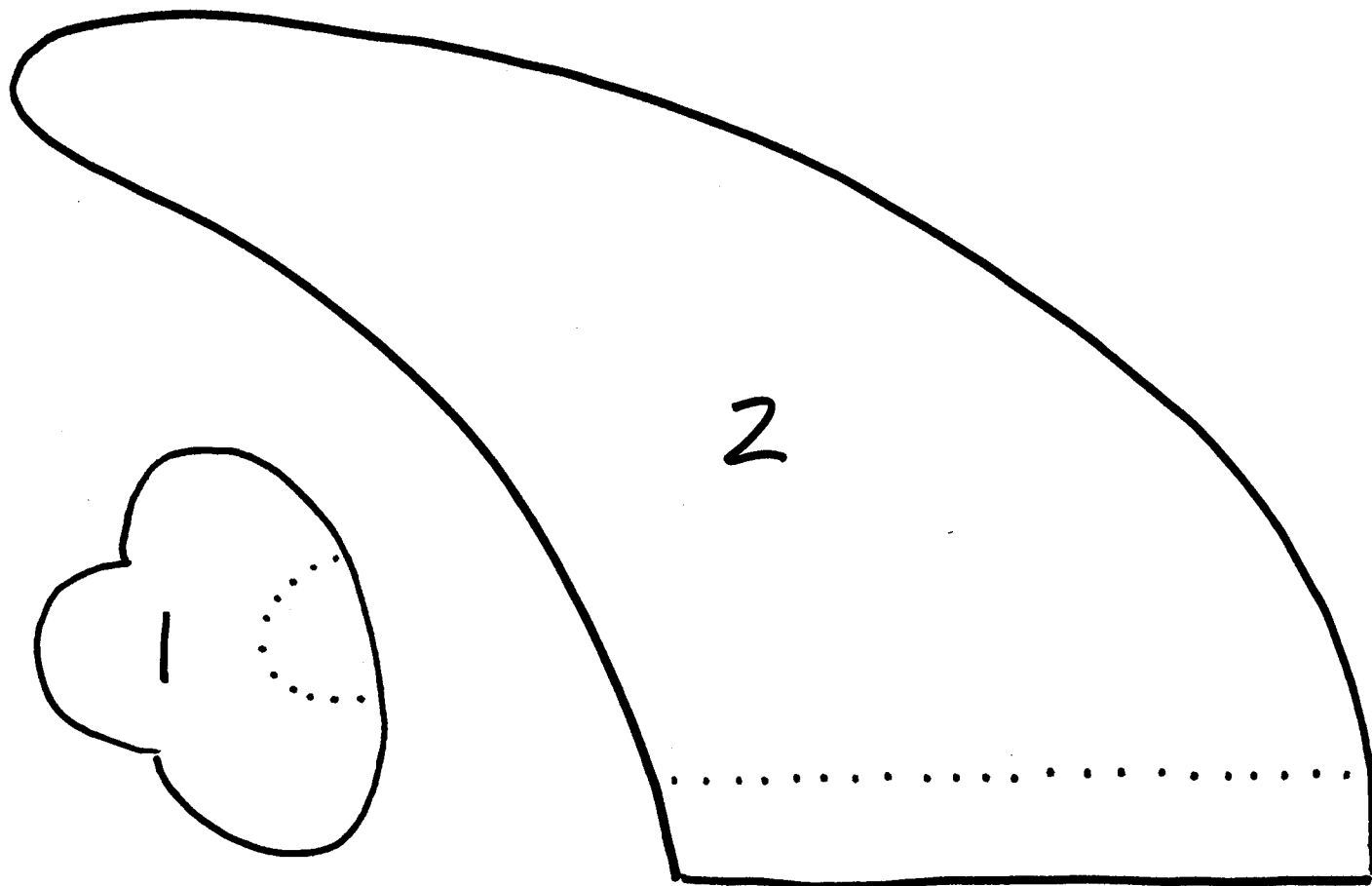
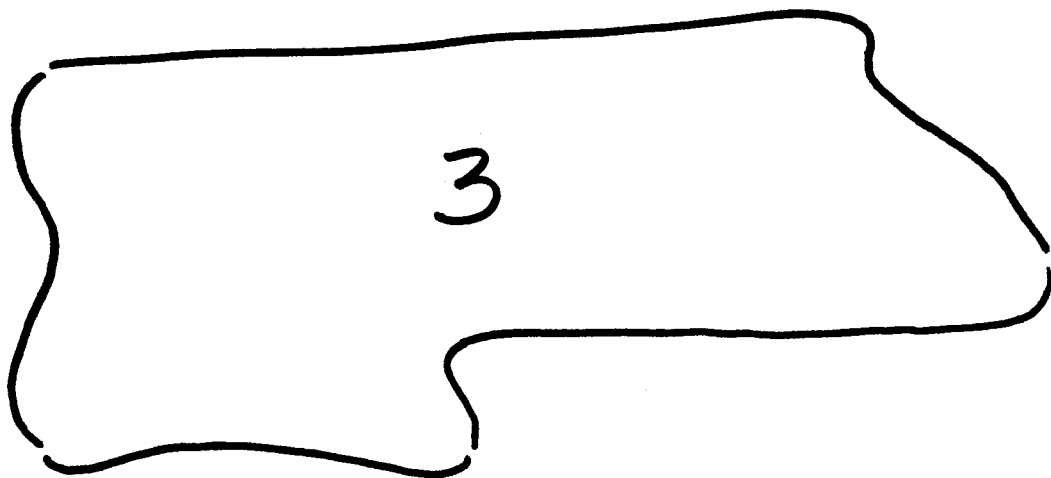


Fern the Flamingo - 2



Fern the Flamingo - 3

hat



Fern the Flamingo - 4

Scarf
(4)

