

# Creating a Jeans & Quilt Artwork: Full Step-by-Step Tutorial

## CREATING A JEANS & QUILT ARTWORK: A STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

### MATERIALS & COLORS LIST

**Denim shades:**

- Dark Indigo
- Medium Wash
- Light Wash
- Faded Chambray

**Tail frills:**  
0.5cm strips strips, various lengths

**Body layers:**  
1.5cm - 3cm strips

**Body layers:**  
1.5cm strips, various lengths

**Stabilizer:**  
20cm x 30cm tear-away or water-soluble stabilizer

**Fusible Interfacing:**  
15cm x 25cm (for attaching pieces)

**Thread Colors:**  
Dark Blue (construction)  
Faded Denim Blue (free-motion)  
White (face & paw details)  
Brown/Black (eyes)

**Tools:**  
Cutting Mat  
Rotary Cutter  
Fine-point Scissors  
Fraying Tool

### TECHNIQUE BREAKDOWN

**RAW-EDGE APPLIQUÉ**

**FREE-MOTION QUILTING (FMQ) & THREAD PAINTING**

No feed dogs engaged vs. Create Fur Texture with Variable Stitch Speed

**FRAYING & TEXTURING**

Fray 0.3cm back for soft look  
Do not fray critical edges

**FACE & PAW DETAILS**

Directional straight stitch  
0.3cm  
WHITE  
French knots  
WHITE  
BLACK  
DK BLUE

Head width: 6.5cm  
Ear height: 3.2cm  
Tail curve height: 12cm  
Main body length: 18cm  
Body length: 18cm  
Legth 8cm  
Head height: 3.2cm  
Head width: 6.5cm  
Ear height: 3.2cm  
Head height: 3.2cm  
Body length: 18cm

### FABRICATION FLOWCHART

- 1. PREPARE PATTERN**  
Tracing onto paper
- 2. CUT DENIM**  
Body cut list:  
Dark Indigo- strips  
Light Wash - anm  
Light Wash  
Faded Chambray  
Denim strip:  
Bodor Wash - 3cm  
Head cut list:  
Cut: 1.5cm - 3cm strips
- 3. FUSE & LAYER**  
Arrangement with fusible webbing
- 4. BASE STITCH**  
Initial stitching of large shapes of white statch
- 5. LAYER FRINGE**  
Adding small strips for top for texture
- 6. FREE-MOTION THREAD PAINTING**  
Adding detail to head and tail lainting
- 7. ADD DETAILS**  
WHITE BLACK  
Face, paws, paws, butterfly, etc.
- 8. CREATE BUTTERFLY**  
Assembly from smaller
- 9. ASSEMBLE**  
Final placement of af all elements

**FINAL MASTERPIECE: JEANS CAT & BUTTERFLY**

This beautiful denim cat artwork combines quilting, appliqué, and fabric layering techniques to create a textured, artistic piece. Follow this detailed guide to recreate it from start to finish—even if you're a beginner.

## **Materials & Tools You Will Need**

Start by gathering everything to ensure a smooth process:

### **Denim Fabrics (various shades):**

- Dark indigo
- Medium wash
- Light wash
- Faded chambray

### **Fabric Strips:**

- Tail frills: 0.5 cm strips (various lengths)
- Body layers: 1.5 cm to 3 cm strips

### **Stabilizers & Interfacing:**

- Tear-away or water-soluble stabilizer (20 cm x 30 cm)
- Fusible interfacing (15 cm x 25 cm)

### **Thread Colors:**

- Dark blue (construction)
- Faded denim blue (free-motion quilting)
- White (face and paw details)
- Brown or black (eyes)

### **Tools:**

- Cutting mat
- Rotary cutter
- Fine-point scissors
- Fraying tool (or tweezers)



## Understanding the Pattern Dimensions

Before starting, note the key measurements:

- Main body length: 18 cm
- Head width: 6.5 cm
- Ear height: 3.2 cm
- Tail curve height: 12 cm
- Leg length: 8 cm

Print or trace the cat pattern onto paper at the correct scale.



### Step 1: Prepare the Pattern

Trace the full cat silhouette onto paper. This will serve as your base template.

Carefully cut out the shape and mark internal sections (as shown in the diagram). These sections guide fabric placement and layering.



### Step 2: Cut the Denim Pieces

Using your pattern as a reference:

- Cut strips in different denim shades (1.5 cm to 3 cm wide)
- Prepare thinner strips (0.5 cm) for tail texture
- Cut head, ears, and body sections separately if preferred

Keep pieces slightly larger than needed—you will trim later.



### Step 3: Fuse & Arrange Layers

Place your stabilizer underneath your base fabric.

Then:

- Arrange denim strips across the body following the pattern flow
- Alternate shades for contrast
- Ensure strips overlap slightly

Use fusible interfacing to secure everything in place before stitching.

## **Step 4: Base Stitching**

Using a sewing machine:

- Stitch down the large fabric sections first
- Use a straight stitch (about 0.3 cm seam allowance)
- Keep stitching simple—this step secures the structure

Do not worry about details yet.

## **Step 5: Add Fringe & Texture**

Now create the signature textured look:

- Add small denim strips along the tail and body
- Use a fraying tool to gently pull threads from edges
- Fray about 0.3 cm for a soft, natural finish

 Avoid fraying edges that are critical to structure.

## **Step 6: Free-Motion Quilting (FMQ)**

Switch to free-motion quilting mode:

- Lower or disengage feed dogs
- Use a darning/free-motion foot

Stitch flowing lines across the body:

- Follow the natural curves of the cat
- Vary stitch speed to create a “fur” effect

This step adds depth and realism 

## **Step 7: Add Face & Paw Details**

Using fine stitching:

- Eyes: brown or black thread
- Nose: dark thread
- Whiskers: white thread (straight stitch)
- Paws: white fabric with stitched outlines

You can also use **French knots** for added texture in small areas.

## **Step 8: Create the Butterfly**

Using small fabric scraps:

- Cut symmetrical wing shapes
- Layer lighter and darker denim tones
- Stitch details with fine thread

Assemble and secure the butterfly separately.

## **Step 9: Final Assembly**

Now bring everything together:

- Attach the butterfly near the cat
- Secure all loose edges
- Trim the entire piece cleanly
- Press lightly with an iron if needed

Make sure all stitching is reinforced.

## **Final Result**

You now have a stunning **denim quilt artwork** featuring a textured cat and butterfly. Each piece is unique thanks to fabric variation and free-motion stitching.

This project combines:

- Raw-edge appliqué
- Quilting techniques
- Fabric texturing
- Artistic composition

Perfect as wall art, a pillow panel, or a decorative quilt block  