

Sewing Cat Quilt Square Tutorial

This adorable cat quilt square combines appliqué, quilting, and patchwork techniques to create a playful feline surrounded by stars. The finished block can be used as a quilt block, pillow cover, wall hanging, tote bag panel, table topper, or incorporated into a larger quilt.

Finished Size: 8" x 8" (20 cm x 20 cm)

Skill Level: Beginner to Intermediate

Seam Allowance: ¼ inch (6 mm)

Materials Needed

Fabrics

- Navy blue fabric (head, border)
- Red fabric (ears, body sides, nose, corner accents)
- Cream fabric (face and inner ears)
- White fabric (background and inner border)
- Light blue fabric (stars)
- Gray fabric (stars)
- Black fabric or embroidery floss (whiskers)

Batting

- 8½" x 8½" quilt batting

Backing Fabric

- 9" x 9" backing fabric

Supplies

- Sewing machine
- Rotary cutter
- Quilting ruler
- Fabric scissors
- Pins or clips
- Fabric marker
- Iron



★ SEWING CAT QUILT SQUARE ★

COMPLETE STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

FINISHED SIZE	MATERIALS	TOOLS
Approx. 20 cm x 20 cm (8 in x 8 in)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quilting cotton fabrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navy blue (head, border) Red (ears, nose, body, corners) Cream/Off white (face) Light blue (stars) White (inner border, background) Black (whiskers) Batting (20 cm x 20 cm / 8 in x 8 in) Backing fabric (22 cm x 22 cm / 9 in x 9 in) Fusible web (for applique) Matching threads Fabric marker or pencil Ruler & scissors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewing machine Needle Fabric scissors Pins or clips Iron Quilting ruler Fabric marker Thimble (optional)

GAUGE (SEAM ALLOWANCE)	ABBREVIATIONS (US TERMS)	MAIN STITCHES USED	WHAT IS THIS?
Use 1/4 in (0.6 cm) seam allowance throughout. Press seams as you go.	WOF = Width of Fabric RS = Right Side WS = Wrong Side HST = Half Square Triangle FQ = Fat Quarter Press = Iron Topstitch = Sew on top Appliqué = Sew pieces on top of background fabric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Straight Stitch (sewing seams) Appliqué (raw edge or blanket stitch) Topstitch (for details) Quilting (stitch in the ditch or straight lines) 	This is an appliqué quilt square featuring a cat with stars. Perfect for quilt blocks, cushion covers, wall hangings, baby quilts, and more!

PARTS OVERVIEW (CUT 1/4 IN SEAM ALLOWANCE)

HEAD (NAVY)	FACE (CREAM)	EARS (RED)	INNER EARS (CREAM)	EYES (LIGHT BLUE + WHITE + BLACK)	NOSE (RED)	WHISKERS (BLACK)	BODY (RED + NAVY)	STARS (RED, BLUE, LIGHT BLUE)	BORDER

STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

- 1. PREPARE FABRICS**
Cut all fabric pieces as shown in the Parts Overview. Iron fusible web to the back (WS) of applique pieces.
- 2. APPLIQUE THE FACE**
Position face on background. Sew around the edge with a straight stitch or blanket stitch.
- 3. ADD HEAD & EARS**
Applique the navy head over the top part of the face. Add red ears behind the head and stitch.
- 4. ADD DETAILS**
Applique eyes, nose and inner ears. Sew whiskers with black thread (straight stitch).
- 5. ADD BODY**
Applique the red sides (body) and navy center with stars. Topstitch if desired.
- 6. ADD STARS**
Arrange and applique stars around the cat using light blue, blue, and red fabrics.
- 7. ADD INNER BORDER**
Sew white strips to top and bottom, then sides to create the inner border.
- 8. ADD OUTER BORDER**
Sew navy polka dot strips to top and bottom, then sides. Add red squares to each corner.
- 9. QUILT THE SQUARE**
Layer: quilt top, batting, backing (RS out). Pin or baste. Quilt in the ditch or add straight quilting lines.
- 10. FINISH**
Trim excess batting and backing. Bind the edges with bias binding or fabric strips. Your square is ready!

QUILTING IDEAS	TIPS FOR SUCCESS	CARE INSTRUCTIONS	BASIC STITCH GUIDE (US TERMS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use this block in a baby quilt or mix with other animal blocks. Try different fabric colors for a unique look! Add embroidered details for extra charm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use sharp scissors for clean edges. Press frequently for neat results. Use pins or clips to keep pieces in place. Take your time with small details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machine wash cold, gentle cycle. Use mild detergent. Tumble dry low or hang to dry. Iron on medium if needed. Do not bleach. 	Straight Stitch Blanket Stitch Topstitch Stitch in the Ditch

Step 1: Prepare the Background

Cut one white square measuring:

- 6" x 6" (15 cm x 15 cm)

Press flat.

This becomes the base for the cat appliqué.

Step 2: Prepare the Cat Face Pieces

Using fusible web, trace and cut:

Head

Cut 1 navy head shape:

- 4½" wide
- 3" tall

Face

Cut 1 cream face shape:

- 3¾" wide
- 3" tall

Outer Ears

Cut 2 red triangles:

- 1¼" wide
- 1½" tall

Inner Ears

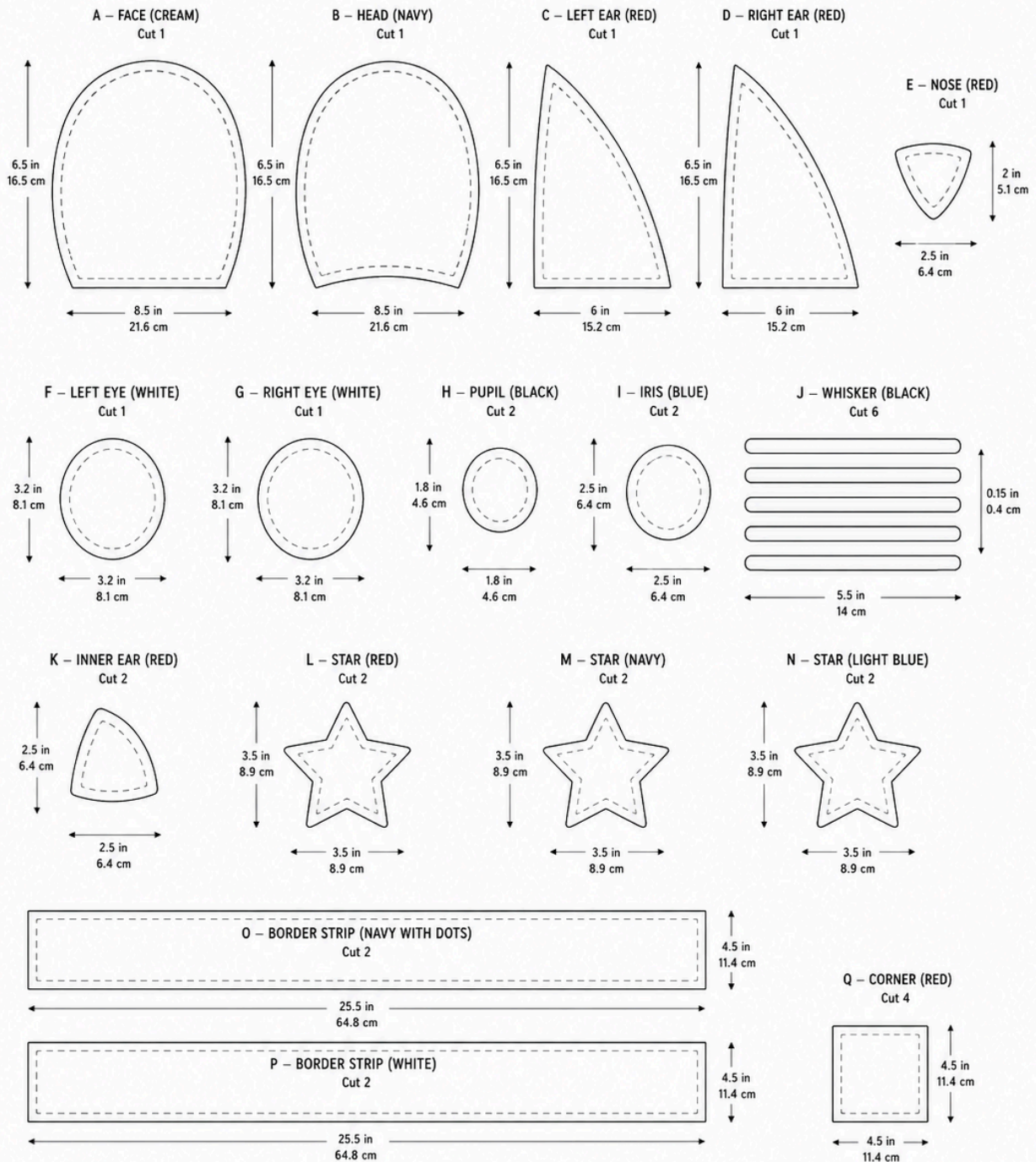
Cut 2 cream triangles:

- ¾" wide
- 1" tall

Fuse all pieces according to the manufacturer's instructions.

CAT FACE QUILT BLOCK – PROFESSIONAL PATTERN

EACH PIECE – CUTTING TEMPLATE



LEGEND

--- SEWING LINE (0.25 in / 0.7 cm)

— CUTTING LINE

SCALE REFERENCE

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 in

0 2.5 5 7.5 10 12.5 15 cm

FINISHED BLOCK SIZE

25.5 in x 25.5 in (10 in x 10 in)

SEAM ALLOWANCE 0.25 in (0.7 cm) INCLUDED

NOTE: All seam allowances are 0.25 in (0.7 cm) unless otherwise specified.

Step 3: Assemble the Cat Face

Position the cream face on the white background.

Press lightly.

Place the navy head section over the upper part of the cream face.

Add the ears above the head.

Place the cream inner ears inside the red ears.

Fuse everything permanently.

Check alignment before pressing.

Step 4: Appliqué the Face

Using matching thread:

Stitch around every appliqué piece.

You may use:

- Satin stitch
- Blanket stitch
- Narrow zigzag stitch
- Straight stitch close to the edge

Work slowly around curves.

Press flat.

Step 5: Create the Eyes

Cut:

White Eye Pieces

2 ovals:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide

Blue Iris Pieces

2 circles:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter

Black Pupils

2 circles:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter

Layer the pieces.

Fuse and stitch in place.

Position the eyes evenly.

The eyes should sit approximately:

- 1 inch apart

Step 6: Add the Nose

Cut a small red triangle.

Finished size:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide

Center beneath the eyes.

Fuse and stitch.

Step 7: Embroider Whiskers

Using black embroidery floss:

Add three whiskers on each side.

Each whisker should measure:

- Approximately 1½ inches long

Use backstitch or stem stitch.

Step 8: Create the Cat Body

Center Body

Cut one navy piece:

- 2 inches wide
- 2½ inches tall

Side Panels

Cut two red side panels.

Each should measure:

- 1¼ inches wide
- 2½ inches tall

Arrange beneath the face.

Fuse.

Topstitch around edges.

Step 9: Create the Decorative Stars

Cut stars from:

- Red fabric
- Light blue fabric
- Gray fabric

Make:

- 2 red stars
- 2 blue stars
- 2 gray stars

Star size:

- 1 inch

Arrange around the cat.

Fuse.

Stitch around edges.

Step 10: Create the Inner Border

Cut:

Top and Bottom Strips

2 pieces:

- 1" x 6"

Side Strips

2 pieces:

- 1" x 7½"

Sew top and bottom first.

Press.

Attach side strips.

Press again.

The block should now measure approximately:

- 7½" square

Step 11: Create the Outer Border

Cut navy polka-dot fabric.

Top and Bottom

2 strips:

- 1" x 7½"

Sides

2 strips:

- 1" x 9"

Attach top and bottom.

Press.

Attach side strips.

Press again.

Step 12: Add Corner Squares

Cut 4 red corner squares:

- 1" x 1"

Attach to corners if desired.

Press carefully.

The quilt top should now measure approximately:

- 8" x 8"

Step 13: Create the Quilt Sandwich

Layer:

1. Backing fabric (wrong side up)
2. Batting
3. Quilt top (right side up)

Smooth carefully.

Pin or baste.

Remove wrinkles.

Step 14: Quilt the Block

Quilt around the cat.

Suggested quilting lines:

Face

Echo quilt around facial contours.

Body

Vertical quilting lines.

Background

Straight-line quilting spaced:

- ½ inch apart

Border

Quilt in the ditch.

This creates texture and stability.

Step 15: Trim the Block

Trim all layers evenly.

Final trimmed size:

- 8" x 8"

Ensure corners are square.

Step 16: Create Binding

Cut binding strips:

- 2¼ inches wide

Join strips.

Press in half lengthwise.

Attach around the block.

Miter all corners.

Fold binding to back.

Hand stitch or machine stitch in place.

Step 17: Final Pressing

Press gently.

Check all appliqué edges.

Trim loose threads.

Inspect quilting.

Finished Measurements

Your completed **Sewing Cat Quilt Square** should measure:

- 8" x 8" (20 cm x 20 cm)

Project Ideas

This finished cat block can be used for:

- Baby quilts
- Children's quilts
- Cushion covers
- Tote bags
- Wall hangings
- Table toppers
- Mug rugs
- Quilt samplers

The finished design features a bright patriotic-inspired cat with expressive eyes, playful stars, crisp borders, and beautiful quilting details that make it both charming and versatile.