

# Butterflies in the Garden Quilt

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- ❁ Skill level: low
- ❁ Quilt size: 35" x 52.5"

## About the quilt

This beige and pink quilt was created for a three-years-old girl. The butterflies and flowers, beautified with embroidery, add character and color. I chose textured fabrics for those appliqués, which make them stand out.

The sewing and quilting can be done by hand or with a sewing machine. The quilt on the picture was sewn and quilted with a sewing machine. The appliqués were sewn and embroidered by hand.

This quilt is quite cute in pink, but it can be done in another color. I can see it in green or in blue. For more pictures of this quilt, go to <http://francenadeau.com/blog/butterflies-in-the-garden/>

Please note that the sewing is done with a 1/4" seam allowance.

## Skill Level

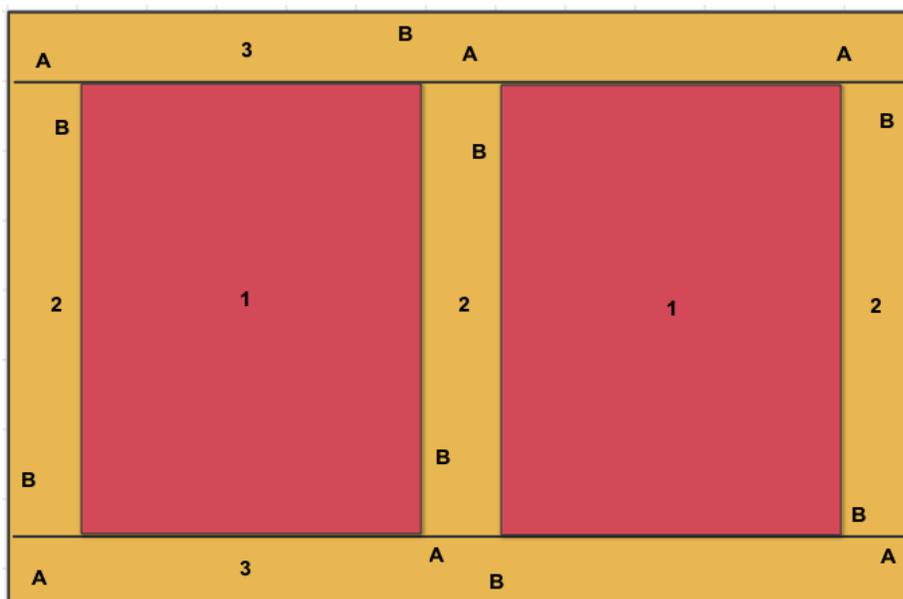
Low

## Quilt size

35" x 52.5"

## Planning

The quilt on the picture is made of polyester. In fact, the flowery fabric was recycled from an old dress, that was washed many times and became very soft to the touch. You can of course choose cotton.



## Materials

- pink flowery fabric: 45" x 30" or x 60" x 24"
- solid beige fabric: 45" x 56" or 60" x 26"
- solid beige fabric or pink flowery fabric for backing: 45" x 56" or 60" x 38"
- fabric for the butterflies: 10" x 15" (or scraps)
- fabric for the flowers: 10" x 20" (or scraps)
- polyester or cotton batting: 36.5" x 54"
- fusible fabric for appliqués if your fabric is thin or if it frays
- beige thread for assembling
- beige thread for quilting
- thread coordinated to the butterflies and flowers appliqués
- embroidery floss: black for the butterflies and a contrasting color for the flowers

Note: Fabric quantities are slightly larger than those required. If you want the exact amount required, or if you are recycling fabric or clothes, you can refer to the cutting paragraph for the measurement of each piece.

## Cutting

Here are the cutting instructions for the top (the numbers and letters in parenthesis are those found on the drawing on page 2):

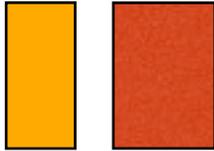
- (1) pink flowery fabric: cut 2 rectangles of 20.5" x 27"
- (2) solid beige fabric: cut 3 rectangles of 4.5" x 27"
- (3) solid beige fabric: cut 2 rectangles 4.5" x 52.5"
- (A) fabric for the butterflies: cut 6 right wings and 6 left wings, adding 1/4" all around if you turn the fabric when sewing your appliqués (pattern A on page 6); use the same pattern for both sides of wings by simply turning it over.
- (B) fabric for the flowers: cut 8 flowers, adding 1/4" all around if you turn the fabric when sewing your appliqués (pattern B on page 6)

For this quilt, I turned the fabric on the butterflies as the fabric was fraying, but not on the flowers. Consequently, I added 1/4" all around the pattern for the butterflies before cutting the fabric, but not for the flowers.

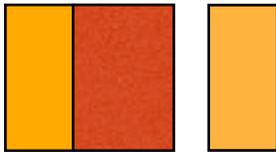
## Sewing Instructions

The sewing is done with a 1/4" seam allowance.

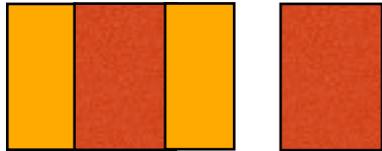
Sew, right sides together, a flowery-fabric rectangle (1) of 20.5" x 27" with a beige strip (2) of 4.5" x 27". Iron the seam toward the darker fabric.



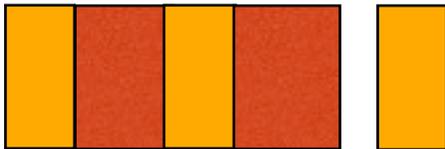
Add and sew, right sides together, a beige strip of the same length (2) on the other side of the flowery fabric. Iron the seam toward the darker fabric.



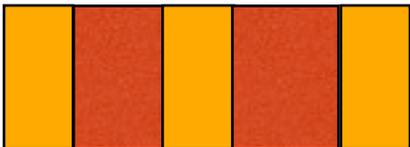
Add and sew the second flowery-fabric rectangle (1). Iron the seam toward the darker fabric.



Sew the last beige strip of 27" (2). Iron.



Sew the two beige strip of 52.5" (3), one above and one below, as on the drawing. Iron.



## Quilting

This quilt was quilted before sewing the appliqués because I wanted straight lines all over it and I wanted it to be sturdy enough to stand the many washing it will need.

Iron well the backing and place it on a flat surface, wrong side up. Place the batting over it and smooth it out. Iron well the top of the quilt. Place it, right side up, over the batting. You now have a sandwich ready to be quilted.

Smooth the fabrics and keep the three layers in place by basting with a contrasting thread or by using safety pins. For this quilt, I first stitched in the ditch. Then, I sew straight lines every 2". It is best to start in the center and then go toward the sides to avoid wrinkles. This means that for this quilt, it is best to start with the 4" x 26.5" center strip (a straight line in the center, at a distance of 2" from each side).

Trim the layers following the edges of the top in order to have four straight and even sides.

## Binding

Cut 1 1/4" strips in the remaining beige fabric. You need four strips slightly larger than the four finished sides of the quilt.

Sew the strips on the top of the quilt, right sides together, with a 1/4" seam allowance. You can sew the binding in a continuous manner around the quilt or sew the four sides in four steps (side 1, side 2, side 3 and side 4).

Iron toward the outside and sew by hand on the wrong side of the quilt.

## Butterfly appliqués

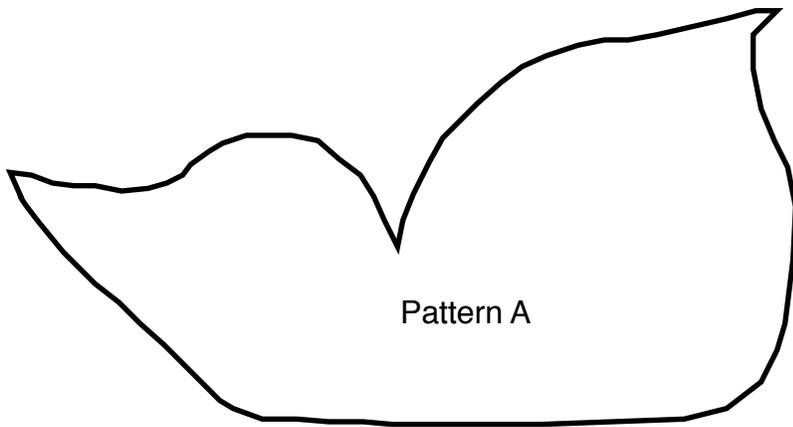
If your fabric is thin or frays, cut 12 wings with pattern A on page 6 in the fusible fabric, making sure you cut 6 right wings and 6 left wings. Use the same pattern for both sides of wings by simply turning it over. Apply the fusible fabric with a hot iron on the wrong side of your appliqués (in the center). Turn the exceeding 1/4" of fabric with a hot iron or needle turn it while hand sewing.

Place the butterflies on the quilt, following the drawing on page 2, one at each end of the three 4" x 26.5" beige strips. Leave approximately 1/4" between the two wings. Sew. Using black embroidery floss, stitch the body of the butterflies with a satin stitch (straight) and the antennas with a stem stitch. Stitch two crosses (one on top of the other) at the end of the antennas:

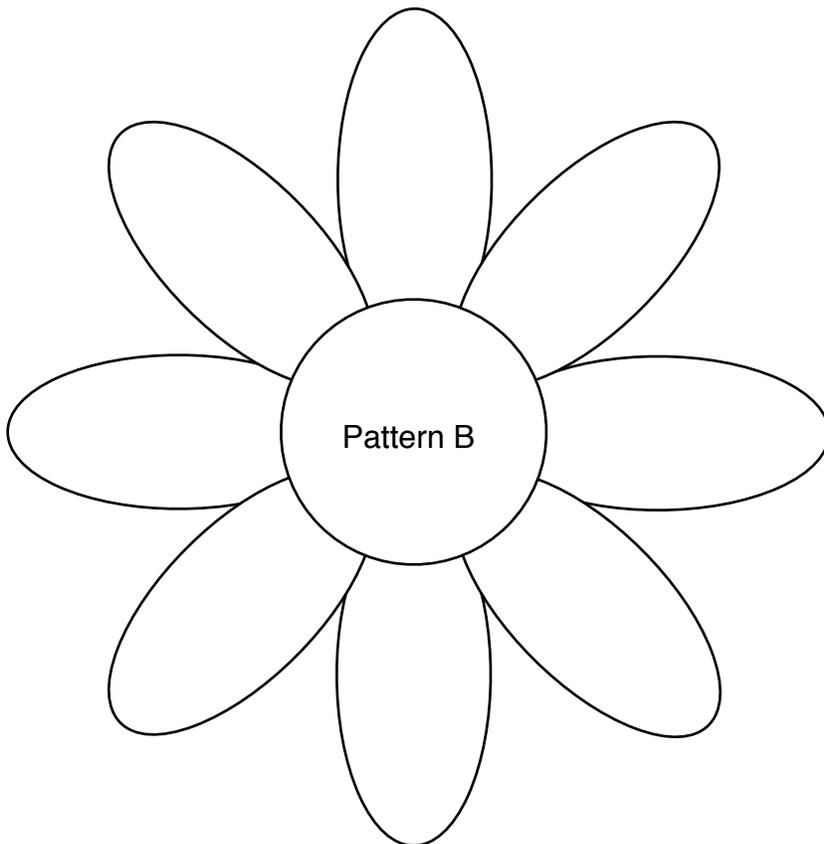
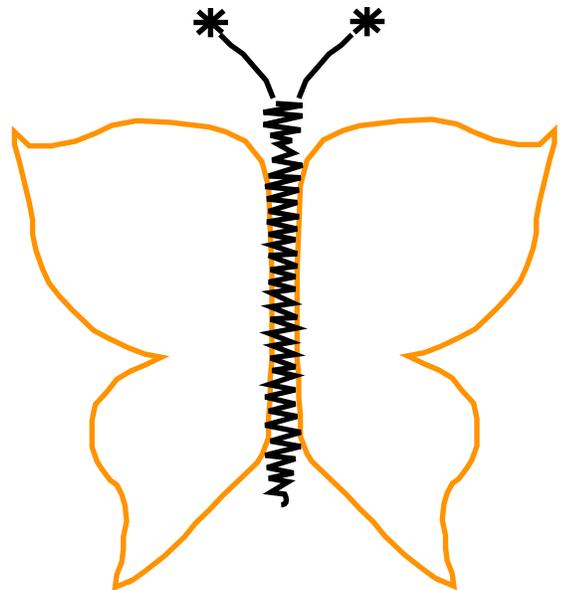


## Flower appliqués

If your fabric is thin or frays, cut 8 flowers with pattern B in the fusible fabric. Apply the fusible fabric with a hot iron on the wrong side of your appliqués (in the center). Turn the exceeding 1/4" of fabric with a hot iron or needle turn it while hand sewing. Using contrasting embroidery floss, stitch a circle in the center of the flower with a blanket stitch. Place the flowers on the quilt, following the drawing on page 2. Sew.



Embroidery: satin stitch for the body, stem stitch and crosses for the antennas



Embroidery: blanket stitch in the center of the flower

