

Spooky



I've always thought that black cats have the most beautiful eyes. :-)

Make this spooky kitty for a Halloween decoration - or for any day. The pattern is sized to match the blocks in the [Cats Quilt](#) so you can mix and match!

Best,
Wendi

shiny happy world

Instructions

Throughout the pattern you'll see some phrases in the instructions in **purple**. That means they link to free online video tutorials showing you exactly how to do that step of the project. If you're viewing this on your computer or tablet, just click the link. If you're working from a printout of the pattern, go to www.shinyhappyworld.com. Click on the Quilting Lessons tab at the top of the page and you'll find all the quilting tutorial links in one handy place. You can totally do this!

If you just took your first sewing machine out of the box, you might want a little extra help. You can find lots of very beginner tutorials at Shiny Happy World. The ones you might find most helpful for this project are. . .

- [How to sew a straight line and turn corners](#)
- [How to sew curves](#) (with tips for handling tight curves)
- [How to use rotary cutting tools](#).

Materials You'll Need

- Fabric - you'll need a 10 1/2" square for the background and a slightly bigger piece for the backing, scraps for everything else
- Thread - I used black and dark grey, plus orange for quilting
- Batting - I use Warm & Natural 100% cotton batting for all my quilts and **I highly recommend it**. If you're doing Quilt As You Go, you MUST use 100% cotton batting.
- Depending on the applique technique you choose, you'll also need an erasable pen, freezer paper or fusible adhesive. Those supplies are detailed where I talk about the different techniques.

Fabric

I always have a lot of people ask exactly what fabrics I use in a project, so here's a list of the fabrics used here. . .

- The background is an already-pieced block I found in my scrap basket. (It's actually what inspired the whole project.) If I didn't have that I would have used [Dream in orange](#).
- The cat face is [Hatch in graphite](#).
- The ears and neck are [Dream in black](#).
- The eyes are [Sketch in neon](#).
- The nose is [Sketch in smoke](#).
- The pupils are solid black.
- The backing is [Ziggy in piano](#).
- The sleeve is Sketch Dot in black (discontinued) with bits of the same Sketch neon I used for the eyes.
- The binding is [1/8" Black Stripe](#).

Applique Techniques

Needle Turn Applique

It's the slowest applique technique, but beautiful and portable so this is a great choice if you like to carry hand work around with you. [Watch how to do it in this video.](#)

For needle turn you'll be tracing each pattern piece onto the right side of your fabric. You'll need an erasable pen. Use the regular orientation pattern page.

Applique with Fusible Adhesive

This is the technique that I used for the sample you see on the cover. I love it!

It's the easiest and fastest applique technique. I've avoided it in the past because the results can be stiff and the additional sewing needed around the edges of the pieces can be clunky, but I just discovered two products I love that fix these problems. [Read the details about them here.](#)

[Watch this video to learn how to applique with fusible adhesive.](#)

If you want a super soft quilt use [SoftFuse Premium Applique Sheets](#). It's VERY soft, but requires stitching around the edges. After washing you'll have soft frayed edges if you use straight stitch for your stitching. The fraying will be minimized if you use a zigzag stitch instead.

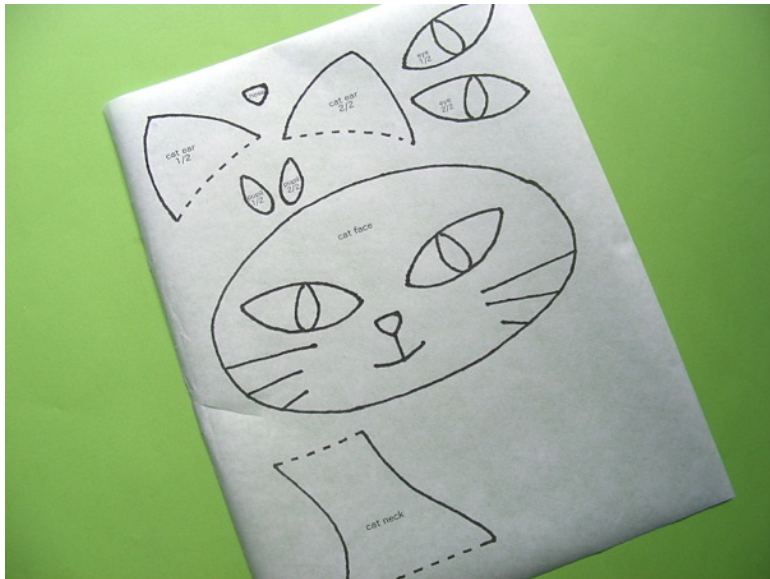
If you want a super easy quilt that's still pretty darn soft, use [Ink Jet Printable Fusible Web](#). It's what I use in all my quilts. No tracing your patterns! Use the reversed and exploded pattern page - it's been optimized for use with fusible adhesive.

Machine Applique

For this technique you'll use freezer paper. You can use regular freezer paper from the grocery store or [Printable Freezer Paper Sheets](#) for No Tracing.

[Watch these videos for instructions in the freezer paper technique.](#) Use the reversed and exploded pattern page.

I used Applique with Fusible Adhesive for this project, so the instructions will show that technique in more detail.

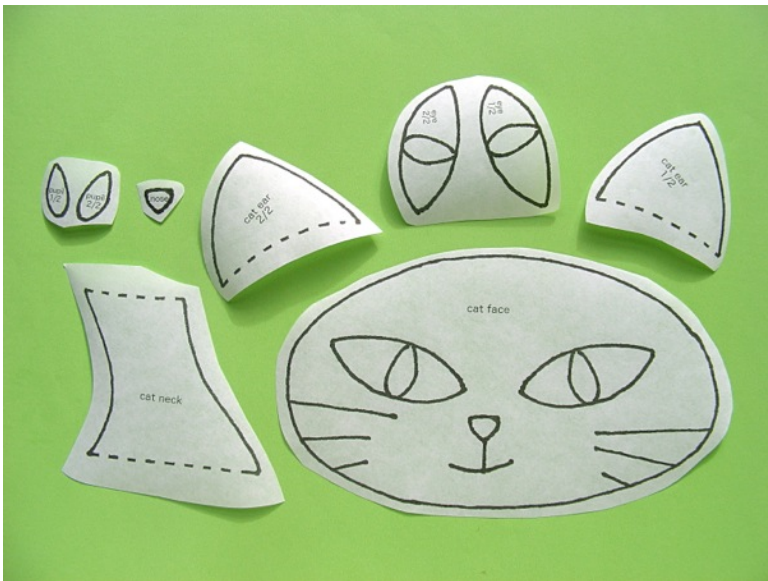


Step 1

Trace the pattern onto the paper side of the fusible adhesive.

I use [this printable fusible adhesive](#) so I just printed out the page. No tracing!

The image has already been reversed, so just trace or print.



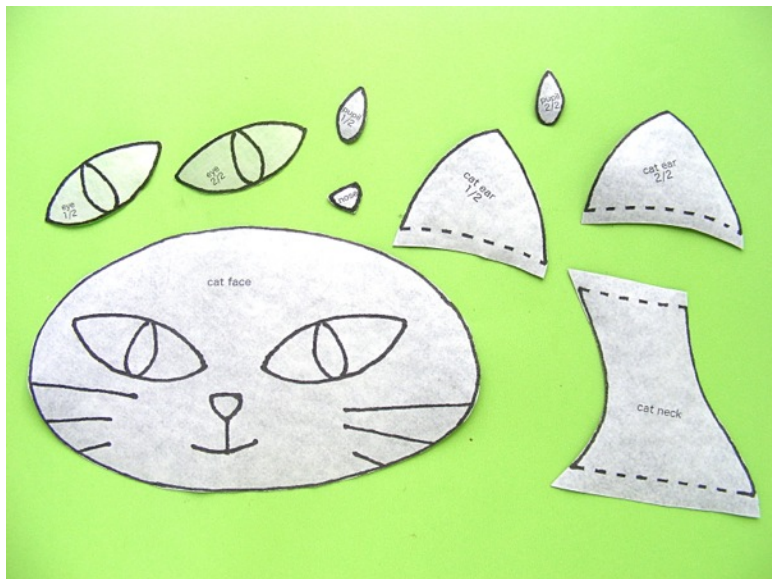
Step 2

Rough cut around each shape. Leave a little bit extra all the way around - a little extra extra (at least 1/4 inch) where there's a dotted line - the bottom of the ears and the top of the neck where they'll tuck under the head, and the bottom of the neck where it will go into the seam allowance.



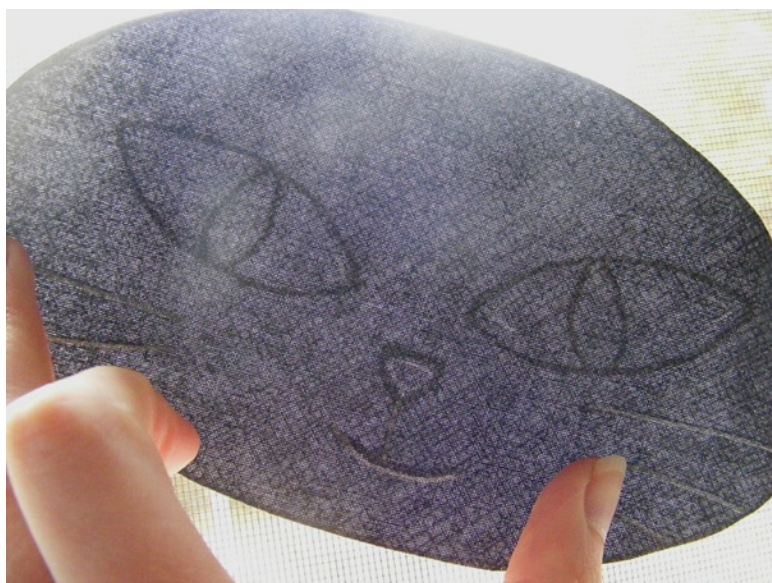
Step 3

Fuse each pattern piece to the wrong side of the fabric.



Step 4

Cut around each piece. Cut directly on the solid lines. Leave a little seam allowance past the dotted lines.



Step 5

Trace the features on the face. If you hold the piece up to a window the light will make the lines very visible, even on dark fabric.

Since this was dark fabric I used a chalk pencil to make my marks.



Step 6

I traced the whiskers and mouth exactly, since I'll be stitching over those lines. I traced the nose a little smaller, and just marked the corners of the eyes to help me position the applique pieces later.



Step 7

If you're doing Quilt As You Go you can quilt your block before adding the applique. So easy! Layer the block with a piece of 100% cotton batting. Quilt any pattern you like! [Find all the Quilt As You Go tutorials here.](#)

If you'll do the quilting later, simply skip this step.

I normally would pre-quilt my block without the backing, but since this is a single-block project I added the backing fabric now.



Step 8

Peel off the paper backing and arrange the pieces on a background block. Tuck the ears and neck behind the face.

Remember - all the dotted lines indicate where pieces tuck behind other pieces.

Fuse the pieces in place.



Step 9

Stitch around all the pieces. I just did simple straight line stitching in black thread. I love the cartoony effect. I stitched the mouth and whiskers in grey thread that matched the nose so they'd show up on the black fabric. I stitched each line 3 times to make it thicker. [You could also use thicker thread.](#)

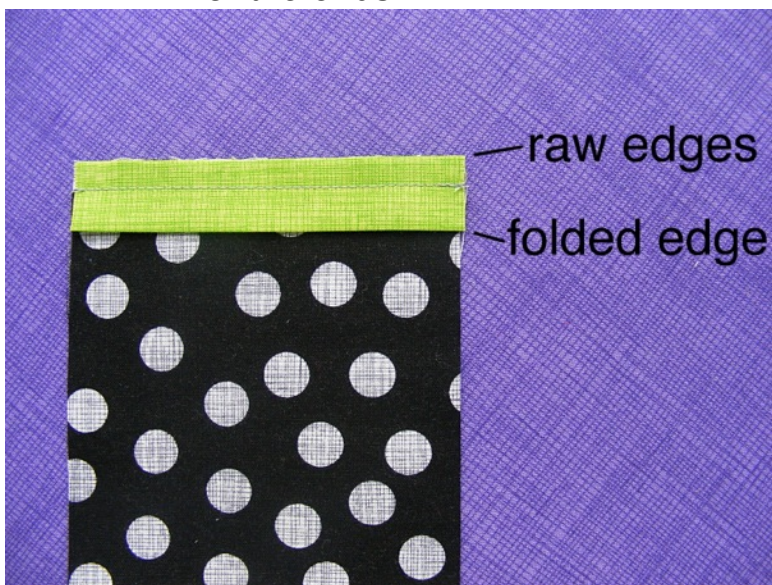


Step 10

Trim the block. Normally I would do this after I add the binding, but I'm going to add a hanging sleeve and for that I want the top edge trimmed. If you want to skip the hanging sleeve, jump to Step 15.

Step 11

Cut fabric for your hanging sleeve - 1 piece 4" x 9" for the main sleeve and 2 pieces 4" x 1 1/2" for the ends.



Step 12

Fold one of the smaller end pieces in half the long way - wrong sides together - and press. Line the raw edges up with the short edge of the main sleeve and sew using 1/4" seam allowance.

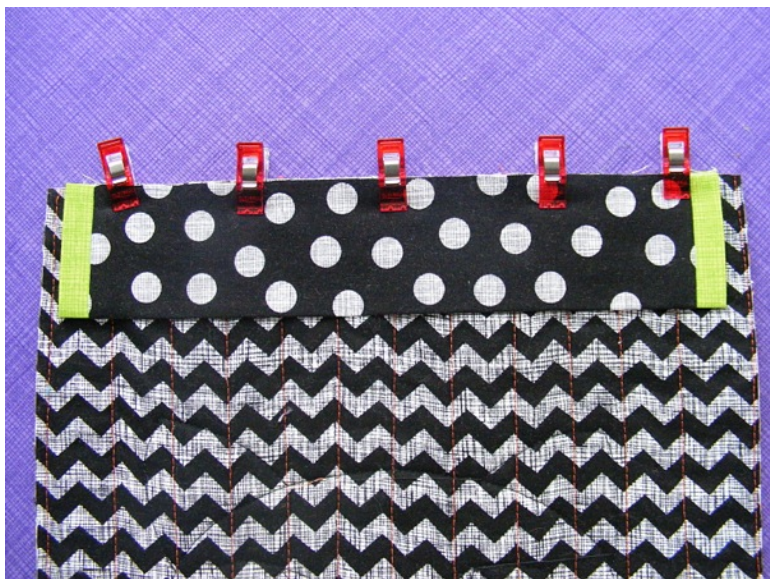
Repeat for the other end of the sleeve.



Step 13

Press the seam allowances toward the middle of the sleeve. Now you have nice finished edges.

Yes - you could just cut the sleeve a little longer and hem the ends - but I like the little pop of color. :-)



Step 14

Fold the sleeve in half - wrong sides together - and press.

Line the raw edges up with the top edge of the quilt and pin or clip the layers together.

Now your quilt is ready to bind!



Step 15

Bind the quilt using your favorite method ([click here for a video showing how I bind all my quilts](#)).

The binding holds the top of the sleeve in place, but you'll need to [ladder stitch](#) the bottom of the sleeve to the back of the quilt. Make sure you're only sewing through the backing.

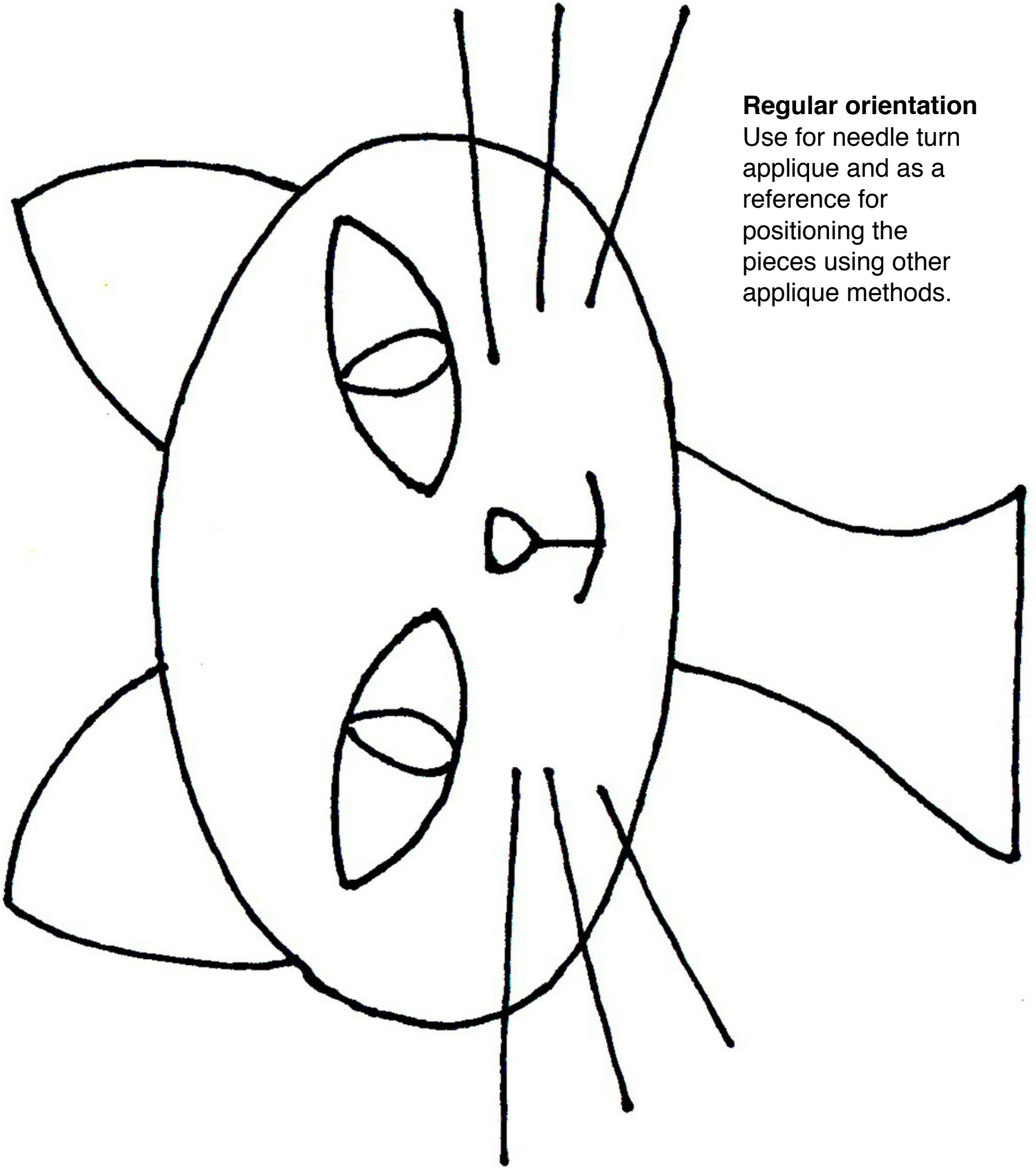


Finished!

Slip a small dowel through the hanging sleeve and you can hang your quilt up on the wall!

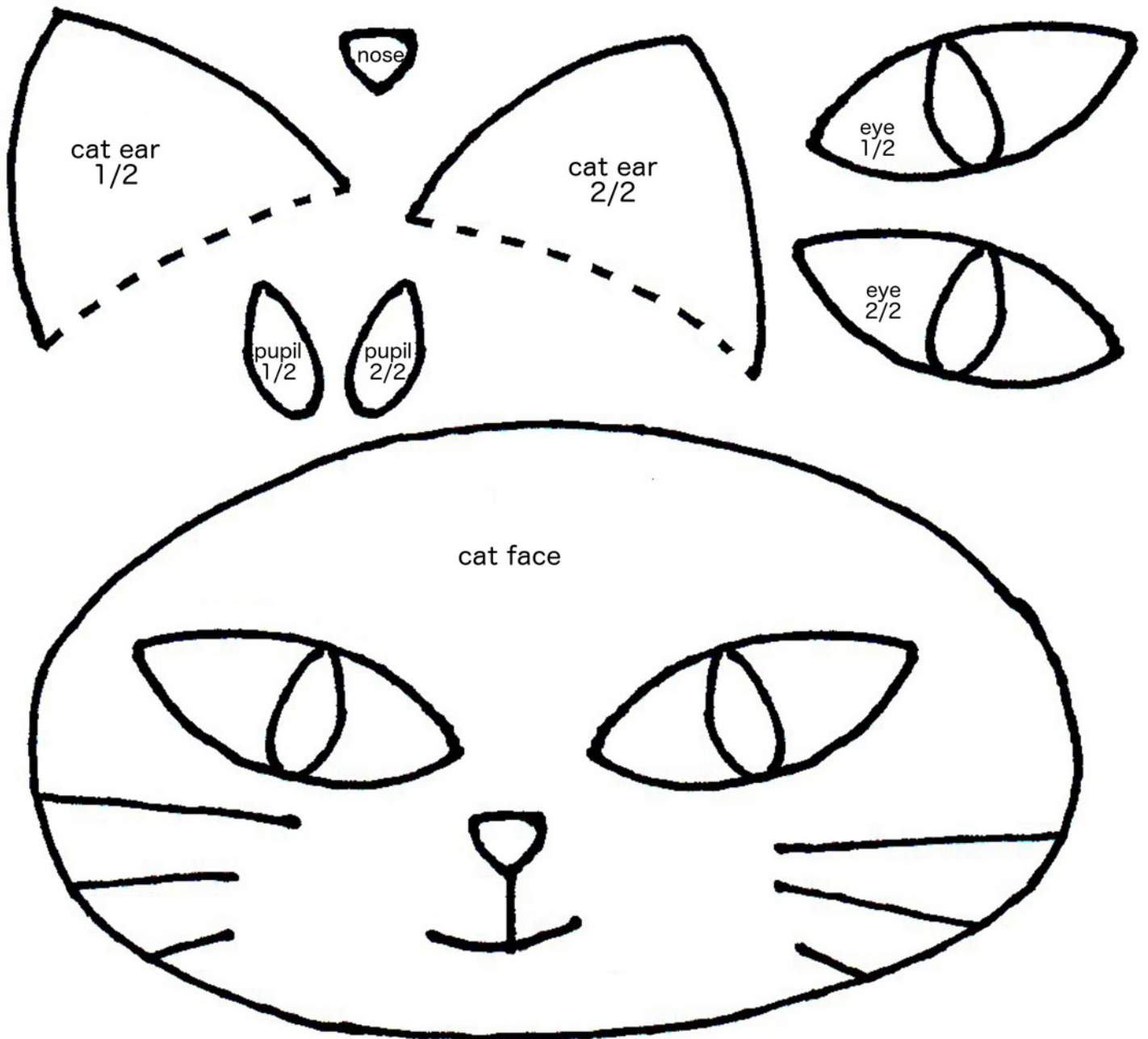
Did you have fun?

I hope so! Please visit [Shiny Happy World](#) for more patterns, plus lots of free projects and helpful tutorials.



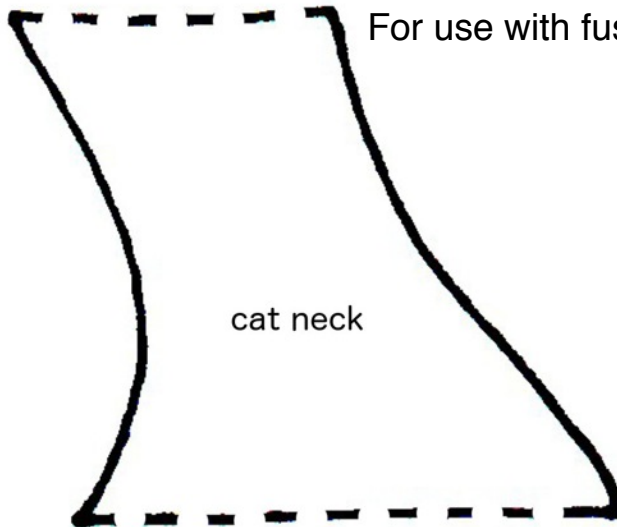
Regular orientation

Use for needle turn applique and as a reference for positioning the pieces using other applique methods.



Reversed and Exploded Pattern

For use with fusible adhesive and freezer paper appliqué.



© Wendi Gratz 2014

This pattern is for personal use only and is not available for commercial resale. That means you **may not** copy and sell or digitally distribute the pattern. You **may**, however, sell items you make with the pattern - as long as you are making them yourself. :-)