

Lovely Butterfly

free applique pattern



Use this simple butterfly pattern anywhere! Applique it on a pillow, a T-shirt, a tote bag. Frame it or hoop it and hang it on the wall. Make a bunch in different colors and hang them in a group. Or make a flock of colorful butterflies and combine them into a quilt.

I designed the size to work with the Wild Flowers quilt - substitute this butterfly block for any of the square flower blocks and add some magic to your cuddly garden. :-)

Happy quilting!

Best,

Wendi

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!

Fabric

Don't use stretchy fabrics! Hit the Quilting Cottons section of any fabric store.

I used a mix of prints in pink and blue for the butterfly, with a nice green batik for the background square. Want me to get specific? Here's the list. . .

All the fabrics in my quilt are from **Timeless Treasures**.

The green batik in the background is Holly from the **Tonga Java Blenders collection**.

The prints for the butterfly come from a few different collections. . .

The top wings are **Rain** in Poppy with spots of **Dream** in Teal and Turquoise.

The bottom wings are Dream in Punch with Rain in Aqua spots.

The body is Dream in Taupe.

Fabric requirements

The background square is 10 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches. Scraps will work fine for the butterfly.

With a single block you can make a pillow, a tote bag, a wall hanging or more. You could also make several blocks and join them into a small wall hanging or a quilt. **See this post for a bunch of suggested possibilities.**

You did already wash and iron your fabric, right? Definitely do that first!

Other Supplies

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 on the next page where I talk about the different techniques.

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. Use the regular-orientation pattern piece on page 8.

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 used on my quilt. No tracing your patterns! Use the pattern on page 9 - 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 on page 9.

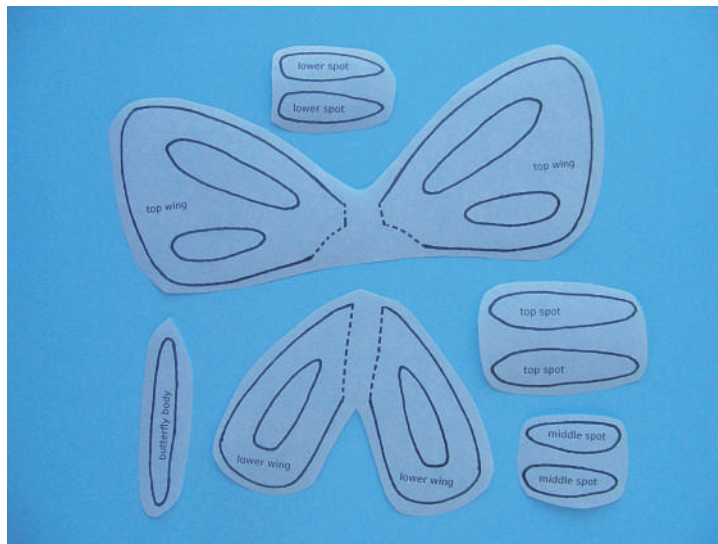
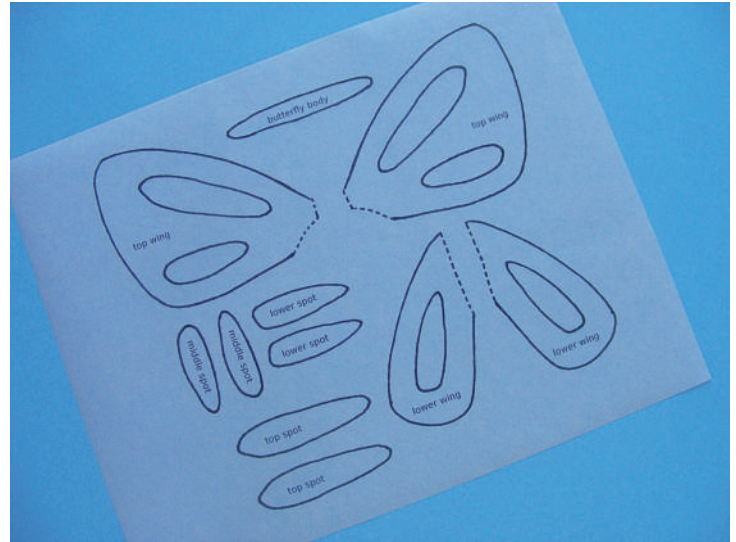
I used Applique with Fusible Adhesive for this block, so the instructions will show that technique in more detail.

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.



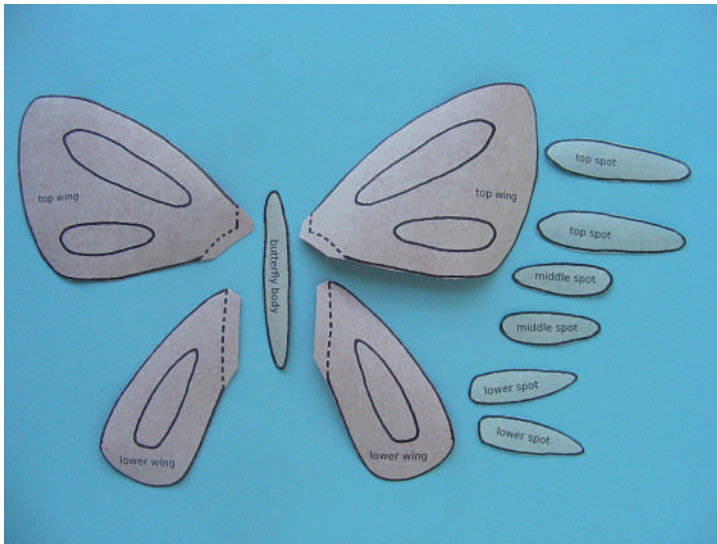
Step 2

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 inside edges of the wings where they'll tuck under the body.

Step 3

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



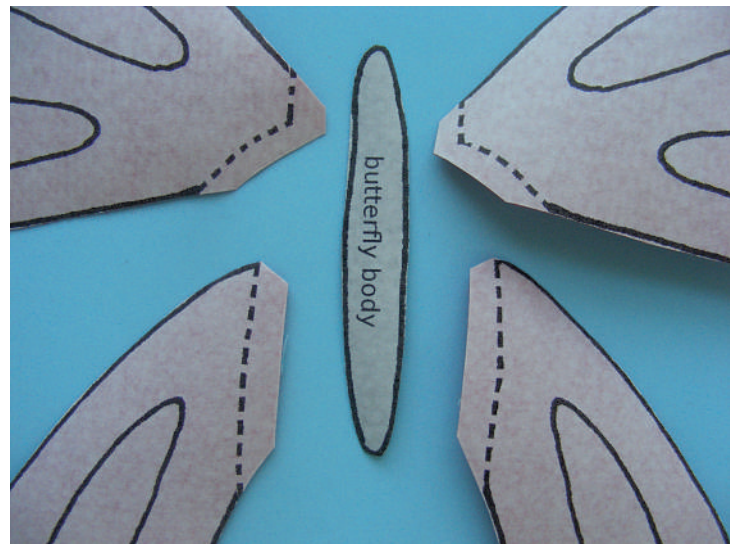


Step 4

Cut around each piece. Cut directly on the solid lines. Leave a little seam allowance on the dotted lines - the inside edges of the wings will tuck under the main body piece.

Close Up

See how I left a little extra seam allowance past the dotted lines? That will give you a little extra fabric on those edges of the wings so they can tuck under the body for a clean finish.



Step 5

If you're doing Quilt As You Go (I left my block unquilted, but you can see a sample here) then 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.

Step 6

Peel off the paper backing and arrange the pieces on a background block. Tuck the edges of the wings behind the body, and the top wings behind the bottom wings.

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

Fuse the pieces in place.



Step 7

Stitch around all the pieces. I just did simple straight line stitching in black thread. I love the cartoony effect.

Done!

If you're making one-block project, go ahead and finish it up!

If you're making a bunch of butterfly blocks to join into a quilt - have fun!

There are links to a bunch of tutorials on the next page that will help you with the rest of your quilt project.



Making a Quilt?

Here are some video tutorials you'll probably find helpful.

Watch this video to see how to layer and baste your quilt sandwich.

Watch this video to see how to machine quilt.

Watch this video for some extra info showing how to quilt a big quilt on a standard sewing machine.

Watch this video to see how to bind your quilt.

And watch this video for some Quilt As You Go finishing specifics.



Ready for more?

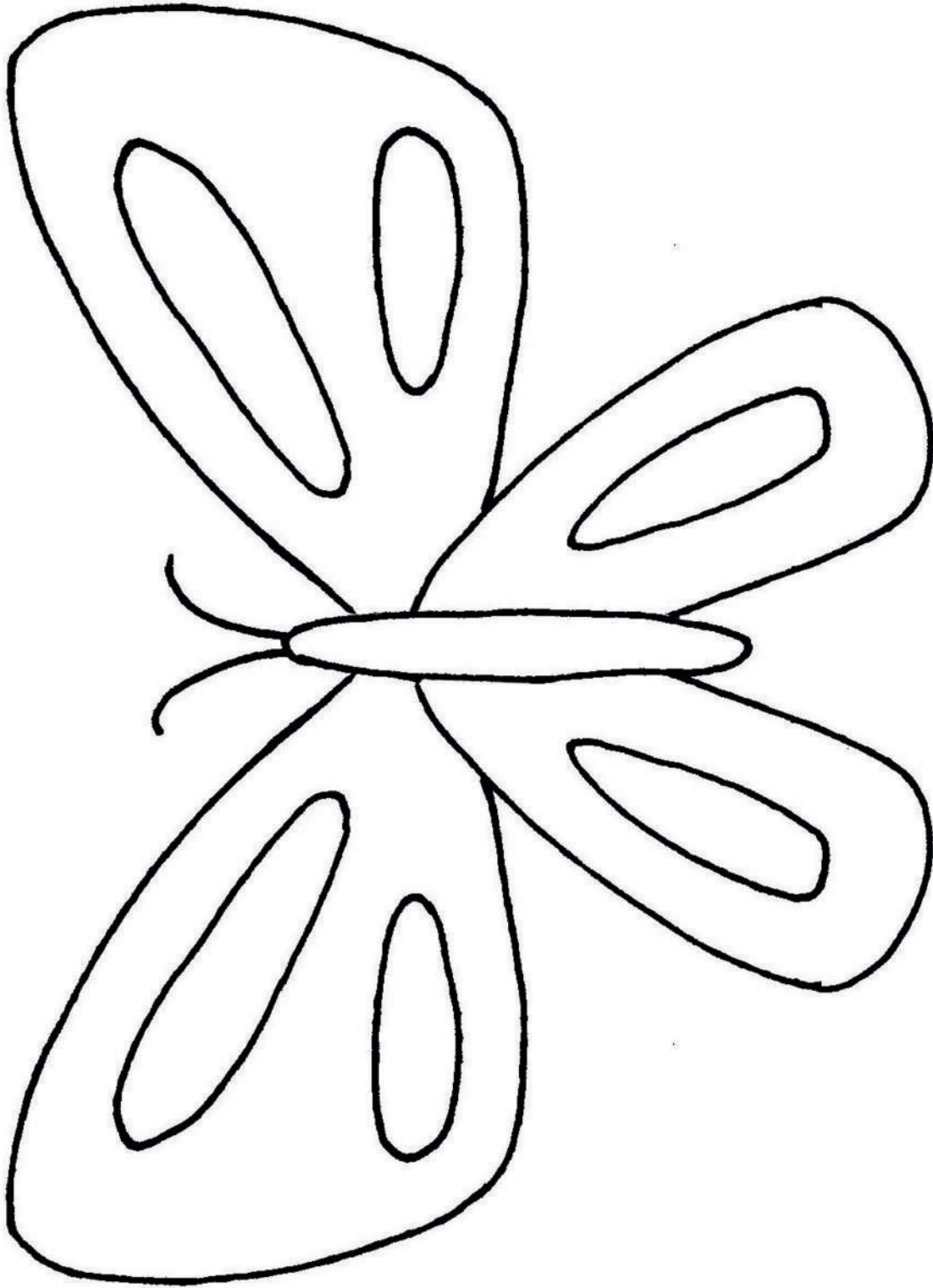
Woo hoo! I designed this butterfly block so you could mix and match it with the flower blocks in the **Wild Flowers Quilt**. (See it? I tweaked the color a bit to make it easier to spot.) You can substitute one (or more!) butterflies for any of the square flower blocks. And now that you have the basic skills - you can make any applique quilt using these same techniques. Visit **Shiny Happy World** for more patterns, plus lots of free projects and helpful tutorials.

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Lovely Butterfly

Regular orientation. Use this for tracing if you're doing needle-turn applique, and for reference (what the finished block should look like) for all other applique techniques.



Lovely Butterfly

Reversed and exploded. Use this for tracing or printing onto freezer paper or paper-backed fusible adhesive.

