

DESIGNS BY BOBBIE ASHLEY

A Splendid Summer Basket

SPECIFICATIONS

Skill Level: Intermediate

Cover Size: 13½" x 8"

Needle Case: 4" x 5" unfolded

Pincushion: 2" x 3¾"

Store all your hand-sewing supplies in a beautiful basket that's as precious as its contents.



BASKET COVER

INSTRUCTIONS

Pattern Preparation

Step 1. Prepare a freezer-paper copy of the basket cover pattern; cut two batting ovals using the pattern. **Note:** Do not transfer any of the appliqué or embroidery markings to the freezer paper.

Step 2. Trace the pattern onto the cardboard rectangle; cut out slightly inside the drawn line to make the cardboard template.

Step 3. Place a few drops of hot glue onto the cardboard template; layer and glue the two batting pieces to the cardboard; set aside. **Note:** This will prevent shifting in the final assembly stages.

Step 4. Center and iron the freezer paper oval to the top half of the black wool rectangle, leaving at least 2" between the drawn oval and the top and side edges of the black wool rectangle; let cool. **Note:** You need to leave enough room to cut 2" all around the oval and cut the needle case piece later. Trace the oval with a chalk pencil; remove the freezer paper.

Step 5. Thread a needle with enough contrasting thread to complete a running stitch around the drawn chalk line, creating a guideline as shown in Figure 1.

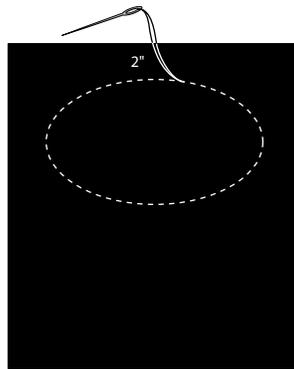


Figure 1

Transferring the Pattern

Step 1. Pin one layer of heavy netting onto the top of the needlework pattern; trace the pattern onto the netting using a permanent marker. Set aside. **Note:** The traced netting pattern will be used for the embroidery.

Step 2. Using paper-cutting scissors, remove the entire top zippered edge from the large, clear-plastic zipper bag. Slit both of the sides to the bottom of the bag. Open the bag and tape in place over the paper pattern.

Step 3. Transfer the entire design and numbers to the clear plastic using a permanent marker; set aside. **Note:** The traced plastic pattern will be used as a pattern placement overlay.

Wool Appliqué Preparation

Step 1. Using a light box or sunny window, transfer the pattern pieces

to freezer paper, leaving some space between pieces. Rough-cut shapes from the freezer paper. **Note:** It is helpful in the layering process of the strawberries, to use pattern piece A for all of the strawberries on the basket cover.

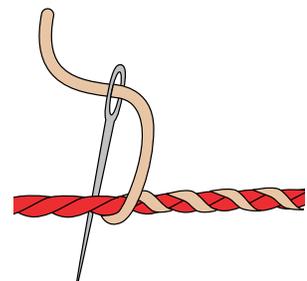
Step 2. With a dry iron, iron the freezer-paper pieces shiny side down onto the wool felt as directed on pieces for color. Let cool.

Step 3. With the drawn lines as guides, cut out the felt/paper appliqué pieces; remove the paper.

Wool Background Embroidery

Step 1. Center and pin the traced netting pattern to the black wool felt background; transfer the vine pattern to the wool background using a white chalk pencil.

Step 2. Stitch the vines using 4 strands of light green embroidery floss using a whipped stem stitch.



Whipped Stem Stitch

The second thread is whipped over the line without picking up any background fabric.

FABRIC	PATTERN PIECES	#STRIPS & PIECES	CUT
Measurements based on 42" usable fabric width			
9" x 12" rectangle each red and moss green wool felt*			Cut as per patterns
 2" x 8" rectangle tan wool felt*			Cut as per patterns
 1" x 9" strip light tan wool felt*			Cut as per patterns
 2" x 3" rectangle periwinkle blue wool felt*			Cut as per patterns
 3" x 5" rectangle robin's egg blue wool felt*			Cut as per patterns
 18" x 20" rectangle black wool felt*			Cut as per patterns

SUPPLIES

- Basket with cover*
- Batting (2) 10" x 15"
- Fiberfill
- ½ yard white or pastel heavy netting
- 10" x 15" cardboard or mat board
- Freezer paper
- Large, clear-plastic zipper bag
- All-purpose thread to match and contrast with felt
- Quilting thread
- Light blue, light green, yellow, brown, tan and black embroidery floss*
- 1½ yards red jumbo rickrack*
- 3 yards each garden green and white 4mm silk ribbon*
- Gold seed beads
- Fabric- and paper-cutting scissors
- Pinking shears
- Long tweezers
- Beading, chenille and embroidery needles
- Stickpins
- Hot-glue gun with glue
- Wood/fabric glue*
- Glue stick
- Tape
- Permanent marker
- White chalk pencil
- Basic sewing tools and supplies

*Chef Basket from the American Traditions Basket Co.; wool felt from National Non-wovens; Nos. 4885, 8484, 3387, 1098, 0007 and 8080 embroidery floss from Presencia; jumbo rickrack from Wrights; YLI silk ribbon; E-6000 glue used to make sample.



Appliqué

Step 1. Matching the completed embroidery to the pattern, position and pin the plastic bag overlay onto the top of the black wool felt background.

Step 2. Using the numbered overlay for placement and working from the outside toward the center, place the leaf and bird pieces in the correct positions, working with four or five pieces at a time. **Note:** Appliqué pieces are placed between the plastic bag overlay and the black wool felt. Use very long tweezers, if necessary.

Step 3. Using the glue stick, glue the back of each wool felt piece to hold in place.

Step 4. Hand-appliqué bird and leaf pieces in place using thread to match leaves and bird before starting the basket design in the center.

Step 5. Layer, glue and appliqué the strawberries and basket to the center of the background, using the plastic-bag overlay for placement.

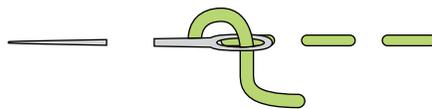
Embroidered Touches

Step 1. Pin the netting overlay onto the right side of the background; transfer all of the embroidery, including the bird's wings, tail and feet, and the tendrils and basket crosshatching, onto the finished appliqué using the chalk pencil.

Step 2. Stitch the tendrils using 3 strands of light green embroidery floss and a whipped stem stitch.

Step 3. Add seeds to the strawberries using 2 strands of yellow floss and short straight stitches.

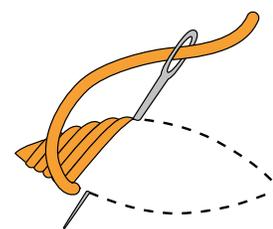
Step 4. Add basket crosshatching using 3 strands of tan embroidery floss and a running stitch.



Running Stitch

Step 5. Complete the bird wing and tail with 3 strands light blue embroidery floss and a whipped stem stitch.

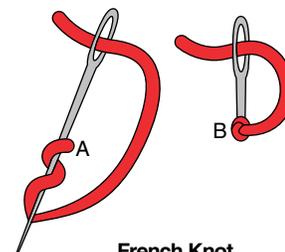
Step 6. Satin-stitch the bird's beak using 3 strands yellow embroidery floss.



Satin Stitch

Step 7. Using a whipped stem stitch and 3 strands of brown embroidery floss, stitch the bird's legs and feet.

Step 8. Add the bird's eye with 2 strands of black embroidery floss and a French knot, wrapping the needle twice.



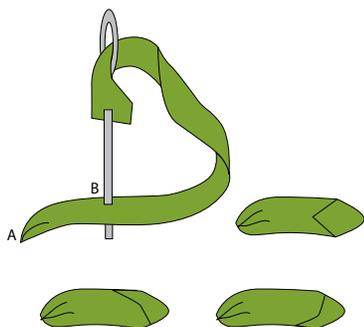
French Knot

Step 9. Press the stitched background with a hot dry iron; let cool.

Silk Ribbon Blossoms

Step 1. Refer to Working With Silk Ribbon before starting the silk ribbon blossoms.

Step 2. Work 3–5 ribbon leaf stitches onto the top of each strawberry using green silk ribbon.



Ribbon Leaf Stitch

Bring needle up at A; pull through. Lay ribbon flat on fabric and insert needle at B, piercing ribbon and pulling through slowly. Ribbon will curl into B, so don't pull tight or the effect will be lost. To vary the curl, pierce B to the right or left of the center of the ribbon width.

Step 3. Referring to the diagram for the ribbon leaf stitch, work white flower petals using the white silk ribbon.

Step 4. Add a gold bead to the center of each flower motif.

Assembly

Step 1. Leaving a good 2" seam allowance and using the stitched oval guideline, trim away the excess background.

Step 2. Remove the temporary guideline thread.

Step 3. Double-thread a needle with 4 yards of quilting thread. Leaving a

5" tail and working $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the edge, stitch a running stitch in 1" stitches around the edge of the background; do not cut the threads.

Step 4. Turn the completed basket top fabric over; center and place the cardboard/batting combo, batting side down, onto the wrong side of the basket fabric top. Gently pull both tails of the quilting thread to gather the fabric around the cardboard/batting top as shown in Figure 2.

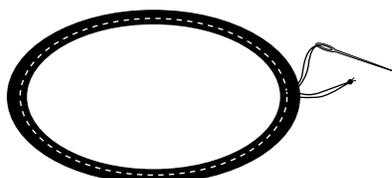


Figure 2

Step 5. Turn the piece over to check placement and centering; adjust, if needed. When you are happy with the positioning, pull the threads tight and knot twice.

Step 6. Double-thread a needle with 5 yards of quilting thread and make a good-size knot at the end of the thread.

Step 7. Sew through the seam allowance from side to side on the wrong side of the basket cover, pulling thread tight to lace edges together and keep the stitched background snug against the cardboard/batting top as shown in Figure 3; tie off to secure when stitching is complete.

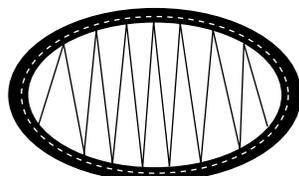


Figure 3

Step 8. Glue the red rickrack to the back-side edge of gathered-and-laced cardboard/batting top, folding ends where ends meet.

Step 9. Using a generous amount of wood/fabric glue, glue along the top edge of the right side of the wooden top of your basket.

Step 10. Center the wrong side of the

stitched top on the wooden top; adjust if necessary.

Step 11. To finish, place something heavy on top of the glued layers to hold flat until glue dries.

PINCUSHION

INSTRUCTIONS

Strawberry Body

Step 1. Prepare template for B; cut as directed.

Step 2. Embroider $\frac{1}{8}$ "-wide seeds using 4 strands yellow embroidery floss and short straight stitches.

Step 3. Fold and pin right sides together; stitch a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam using matching thread. Tie off thread; turn right side out.

Step 4. Using a needle double-threaded with quilting thread, stitch a line of larger gathering stitches $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top edge; do not cut the thread.

Step 5. Stuff firmly with fiberfill; pull gathering stitches firmly and backstitch opening closed. Knot and cut thread to finish the strawberry body.

Stem

Step 1. Cut a 1" x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " piece of moss green wool felt.

Step 2. Roll the short edge tightly to the other short side; secure with a pin.

Step 3. Stitch along the raw short edge of the wool felt using thread to match.

Strawberry Top

Step 1. Cut one $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6" piece green wool felt.

Step 2. Trim one long edge of the wool felt strip with pinking shears.

Step 3. Stitch a line of $\frac{1}{4}$ " long stitches $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge of the opposite unpinked edge of the strip as shown in Figure 4; do not cut thread.

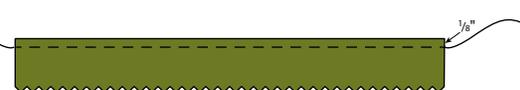


Figure 4

Step 4. Tightly pull the thread to gather the stitched edge, pulling until the short ends of the strip touch each

Working With Silk Ribbon

- When working with silk ribbon, gently pull the ribbon to complete the stitches.
- Stitch using only 12"–15" of ribbon at a time.
- Do not iron silk-ribbon stitches. This flattens the stitches.

other to make the leaf; backstitch twice. Knot and tie off thread.

Step 5. Insert the rolled stem into the center gathered area of the leaf; using hot glue, glue the stem in place.

Step 6. Place the stem/leaf unit on top of the strawberry and hot-glue in place to finish.

NEEDLE CASE

INSTRUCTIONS

Completing the Stitching

Step 1. Prepare templates for the C and D needle case and appliqué shapes using patterns given; cut as directed.

Step 2. Transfer the embroidery pattern to the black wool felt oval using the netting method used in Transferring the Pattern for the basket cover.

Step 3. Stitch the vines using 3 strands light green embroidery floss and a whipped stem stitch.

Step 4. Appliqué the leaf and strawberry pieces in place using thread to match shapes and referring to pattern for positioning on stitched stems.

Step 5. Add seeds to the strawberry using 3 strands of yellow embroidery floss and a straight stitch.

Step 6. Using green silk ribbon, add several leaf stitches to the top of the strawberry.

Step 7. Use white silk ribbon to add one flower with a gold bead in the center referring to the diagrams with the ribbon leaf stitch.

Needle Case Assembly

Step 1. Center and pin the stitched piece of black wool felt onto the red oval background; hand-stitch the black wool felt in place using thread to match. **Note:** Be careful not to stitch through the red wool felt; stitches should not show on the red side.

Step 2. Machine-stitch a line through the center from side to side to form

the fold line as shown in Figure 5 using black thread.

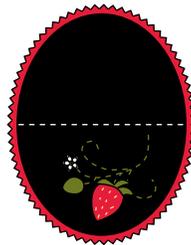


Figure 5

Step 3. Cut around the outside edges of the red wool felt using pinking shears, again referring to Figure 5.

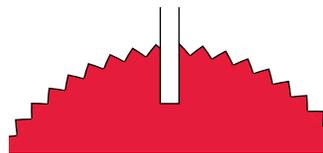
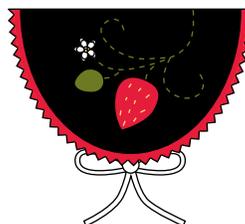


Figure 6

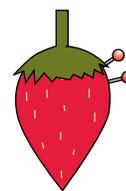
Step 4. Attach a 6" length of the white silk ribbon $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the outer edge of the center of red side of each end of the needle case as shown in Figure 6 to finish. **QW**



A Splendid Summer Basket
Placement Diagram $13\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8"



Needle Case
Placement Diagram 4" x 5", unfolded



Pincushion
Placement Diagram 2" x $3\frac{3}{4}$ "

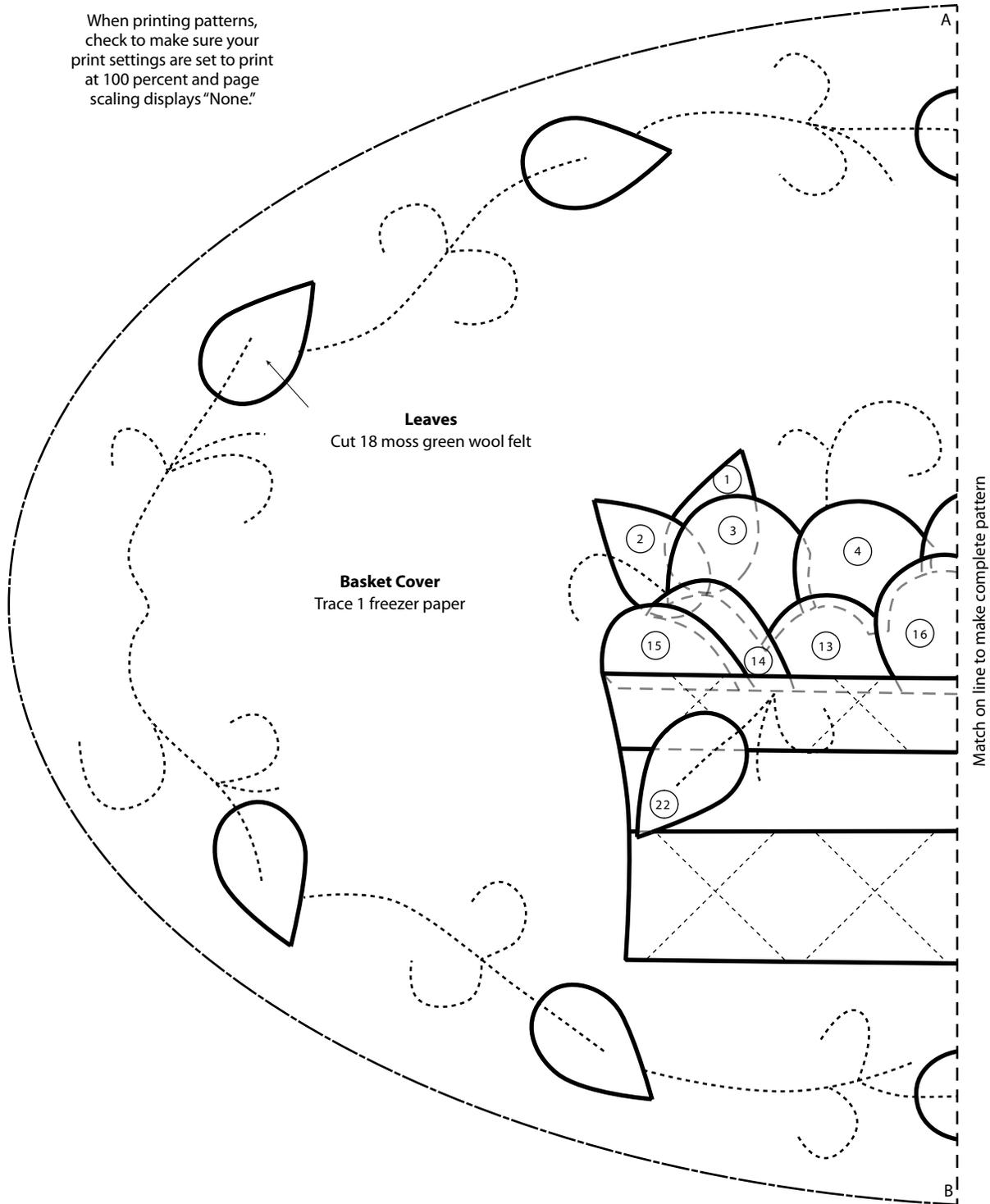
Making a Custom Cover

If you have a basket or container that you would like to cover with the *A Splendid Summer Basket* design, refer to these simple steps to create a sewing box of your very own.

1. Measure the width and length of the container. Add 6" to both measurements.
2. Create a separate blank freezer-paper template with your given measurements; do not add seam allowance.
3. Enlarge or reduce the pattern given here to fit the size of your container using a copier. Trace the pattern onto the freezer paper.
4. Substitute your measurements for the sizes given in these instructions to complete a custom-size cover.

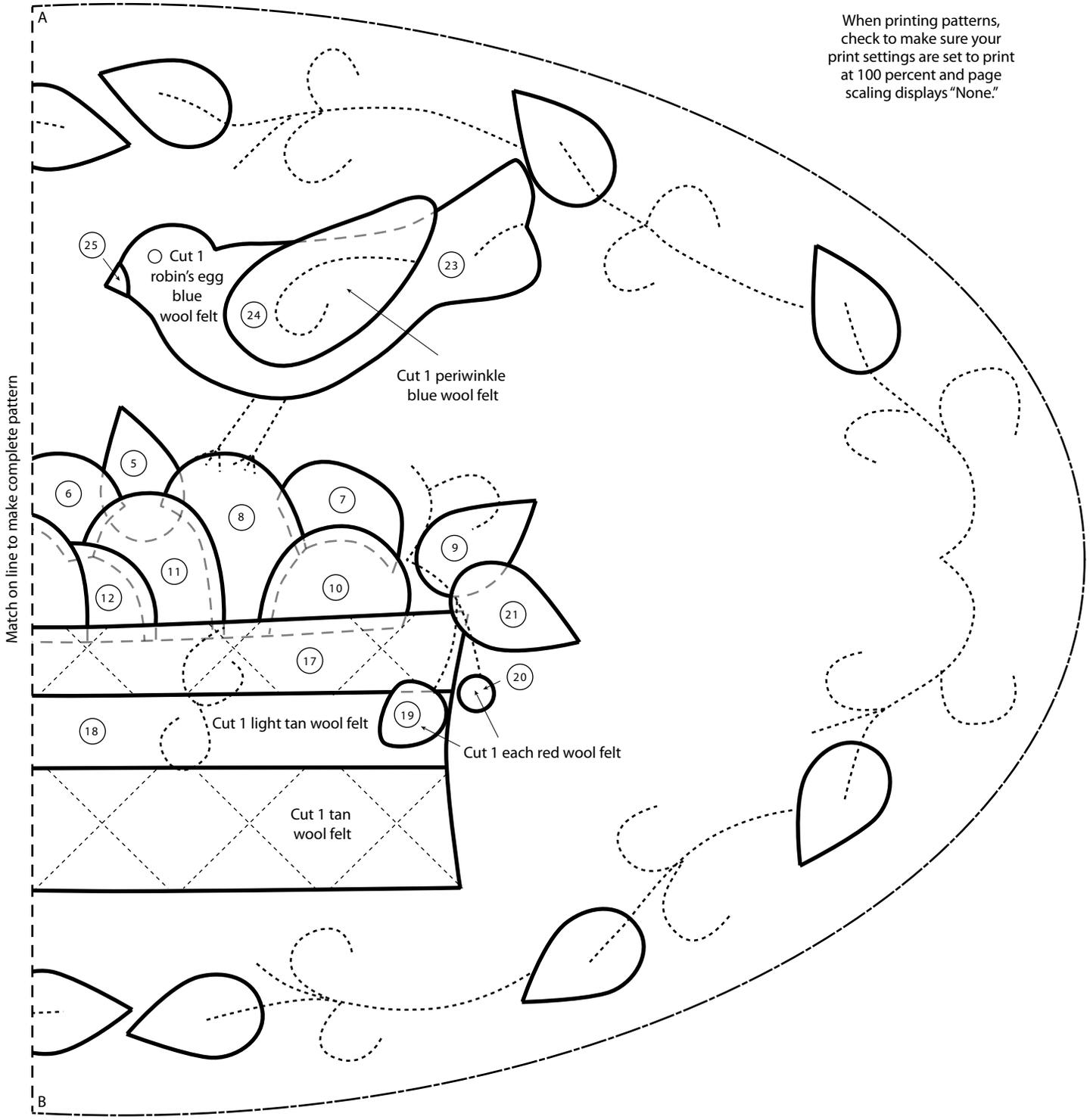
A SPLENDID SUMMER BASKET TEMPLATE

When printing patterns, check to make sure your print settings are set to print at 100 percent and page scaling displays "None."

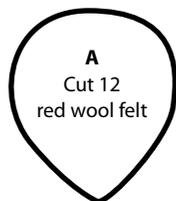


A SPLENDID SUMMER BASKET TEMPLATE

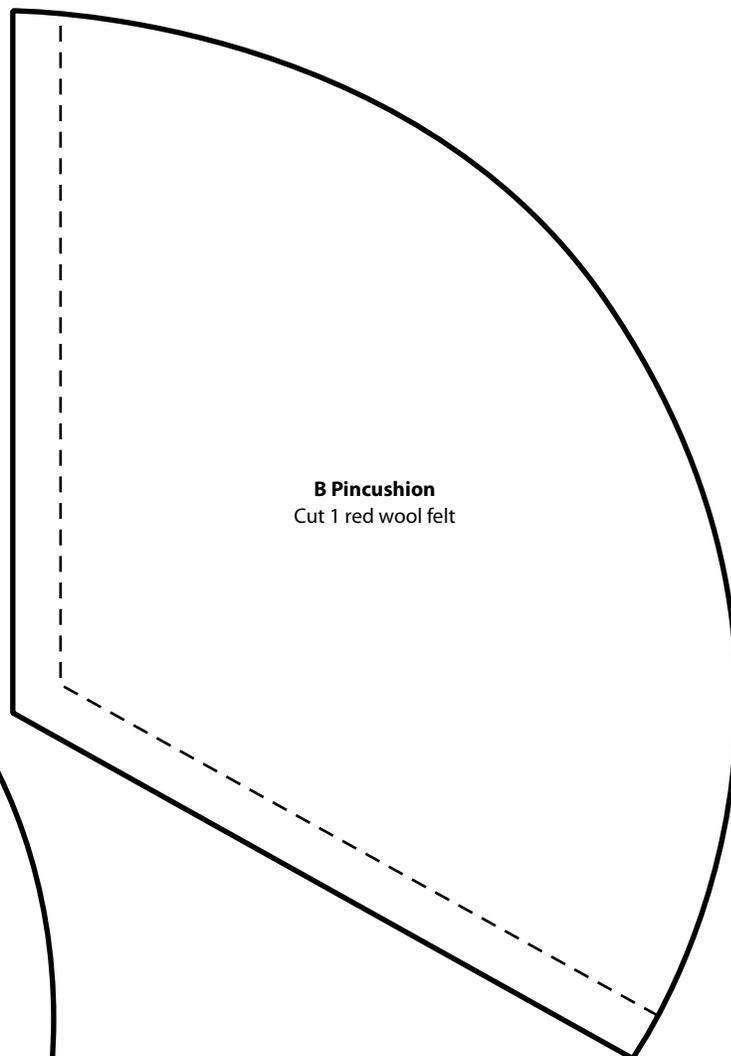
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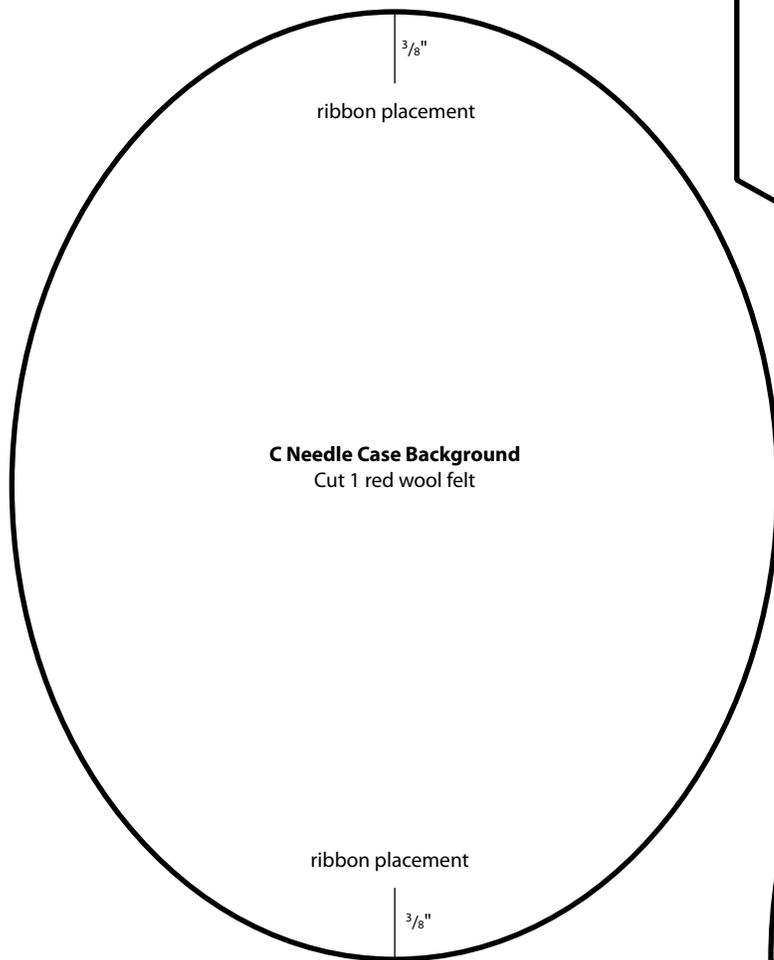
**A SPLENDID SUMMER
BASKET TEMPLATES**



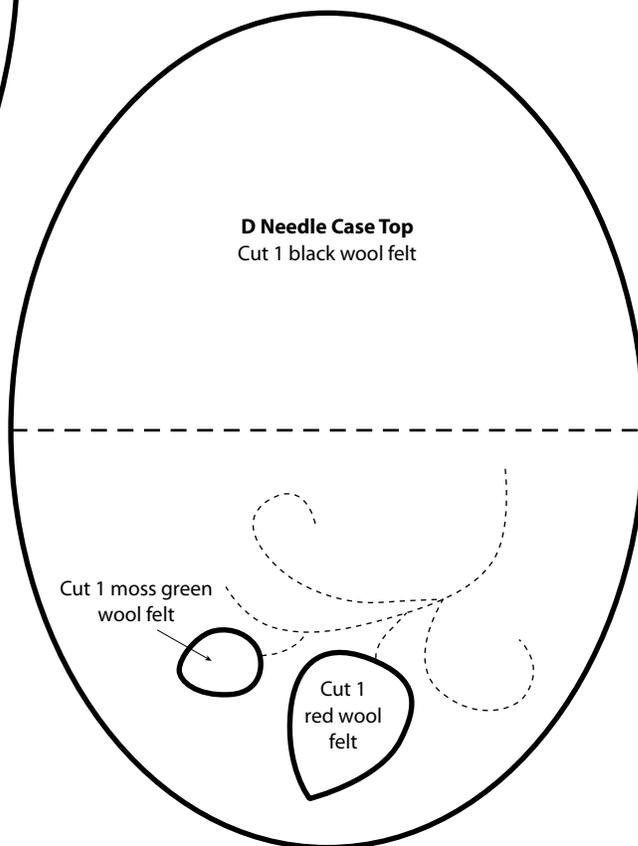
**Basket Cover
Strawberry**



**B Pincushion
Cut 1 red wool felt**



**C Needle Case Background
Cut 1 red wool felt**



**D Needle Case Top
Cut 1 black wool felt**

When printing patterns,
check to make sure your
print settings are set to print
at 100 percent and page
scaling displays "None."



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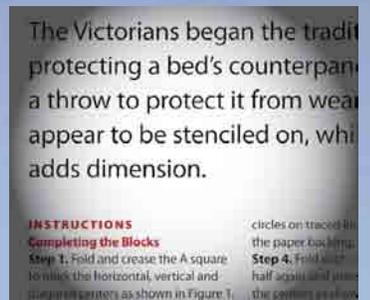
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