

Fabric Apple Pin Cushion or Ornament

Pattern & Instructions





These plush apple pin cushions or ornaments are cute, quick and easy to sew up, and make great gifts. You can add a few grams of dried lavender to the stuffing to create a fragrant version. Decorate your holiday table. Get together with other moms and make a bunch to sell at the school fair.

Here you'll find the pattern pieces to print out as well as detailed instructions with photos. The pattern for the fabric pear is published separately.

Let's start with fabric ideas

For the main fabric, I used pretty printed cottons and linens. If you are making your apple for the Christmas holiday season, you may want to try a fabric with a metallic print. Check your fabric basket for leftover pieces from another project, or try your favorite fabric shop's remnant bin for some interesting and inexpensive choices.

Use a different print for the leaves, either to contrast or to pick up one of the colors in your main fabric. I used upholstery fabric remnants for the leaves.

If you want to hang your apple, use pieces of braid, ribbon or other pretty fibers. Don't go with anything too thick, since you have to stitch them into the seam with the leaves, unless you have a sewing machine that sews through many thicknesses.

You'll need:

- cotton or linen fabric measuring 6" x 16" (15 x 40,5cm)
- small scraps of fabric for leaf
- ribbon or braid 11-12 inch piece (28-30 cm)
- fiberfill
- basic sewing supplies such as thread, needle, pins, scissors.
- dressmakers chalk for marking

Cutting and Marking:

Cut four pieces of the apple pattern piece. For the leaf, If you are using a sturdy fabric which is pretty on both sides, cut one leaf. If your leaf fabric is thin, cut two.



Here are my apple pieces, right side up on the left and wrong side up on the right. Don't forget to mark the large and small dots on the wrong side of each apple piece.

Seams:

The seam allowance is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and is included. The edge of the pattern pieces is the cutting line.

Sewing:

- Begin by preparing the leaf. If you are using a sturdy piece of fabric, stitch around it 2-3 times using a zigzag stitch to finish the edges.

If you are using two leaf pieces of thinner fabric, stitch them together, right sides facing out, using a zigzag stitch to finish the edges.

Fold the leaf in half and sew across bottom to secure (straight or zigzag).



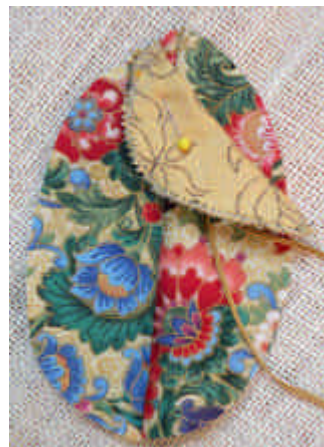
Fold your ribbon or braid in half and sew it to one side of the leaf, the edges even with the bottom of the leaf.



- Next, pin and then sew two apple sections together, having right sides of the fabric facing each other and matching small and large dots. Stitch between dots on one side. (Photo below)



- Fold back the top apple section and pin the prepared leaf and ribbon to the right side of the bottom apple section, near the top of the apple, edges even. I left about 1/8 inch between the leaf and the small dot. Stitch in place. (photo below)



- Place a third apple section right side facing the right side of the section with the leaf. Pin and stitch between dots, careful to match small and large dots. You will stitch over the leaf and ribbon, securing them between the two sections. (photo below)



- Pin and stitch the fourth apple section to the previous one again matching dots and stitching between them. (photo below)



Make sure you don't catch the ribbon in any of the apple seams.

Now you are ready to close your apple. Open it out first to be certain the leaf and ribbon are attached and not caught in any other seams. (photo below)



Turn the apple inside out again and close the last seam. Pin and stitch between dots again, but this time leave about 1½ inch open for turning and stuffing. (photo below)



- Now you are ready to stuff your apple. Stuff it with fiberfill, using a chopstick to push the stuffing in well, so that your apple is firm. Mine weigh between 41 and 50 grams, and I used lightweight fabrics. You can add about 10 grams of dried lavender to the stuffing if desired for a beautiful and fragrant apple.



- Finally, close the opening with a slip stitch.
(photo below left)



And there you have it, a bright shiny apple ornament, pin cushion, lavender apple, or table decoration.



