



## BLUEBIRD THREAD CATCHER

7" WIDE X 3-1/2" HIGH

### Requirements list

1 fat quarter for outer body & 1 fat quarter for lining

(These will yield two Thread Catchers)

Scraps for heart wing and beak

Scrap of Bondaweb for heart wing

Scraps of medium iron on interfacing

2 black mini buttons





### BLUEBIRD THREAD CATCHER INSTRUCTIONS

*This is such a fun and easy project to make. It took me longer to take photos than it did to do the actual prep and sewing work. So, let's get started.*

*Trace two heart shapes onto your scrap of Bondaweb. Trim around the Bondaweb shapes leaving a small margin.*



*Now iron the Bondaweb heart shapes onto the wrong side of your chosen wing fabric. I always place a piece of greaseproof paper between the iron and the Bondaweb in order to avoid the dreaded gunk on the soleplate of my iron. Once the hearts have cooled off, trim away the excess fabric and Bondaweb. Set those hearts aside for a bit.*

Iron enough interfacing onto the back of your chosen bird body fabric to produce two bird bodies. Trace the bird body template onto the interfacing and trim away any excess fabric. The seam allowances are included unless otherwise stated.



Now peel the backing off the Bondaweb backed heart shapes and place the hearts on the right side of the bird bodies.



Before securing the heart wings in place let's add the beaks. The beaks can be any size you wish 2-1/2" squares did the trick nicely for me.



To ensure that the beaks were vaguely in the same place I simply measured 1-1/2" from the point of the beak across the top and down and marked both spots. And then I placed the beak squares just over the markings and pinned. Now sew across the and along the edge of the fabric 1/8" seam allowance works well for this seam.



*This is how the beak will look before you fold it back and press it in place.*



*Once you have pressed the beak trim away the excess fabric restoring the bird to its original shape.*

*The next step is to secure the heart wing in place. I chose a thread that toned in with the body rather than the wing but the choice is yours. It all depends on whether you prefer the stitches to disappear or contrast.*



*I used a simple blanket stitch to secure my heart wings in place but you can use any stitch you fancy.*



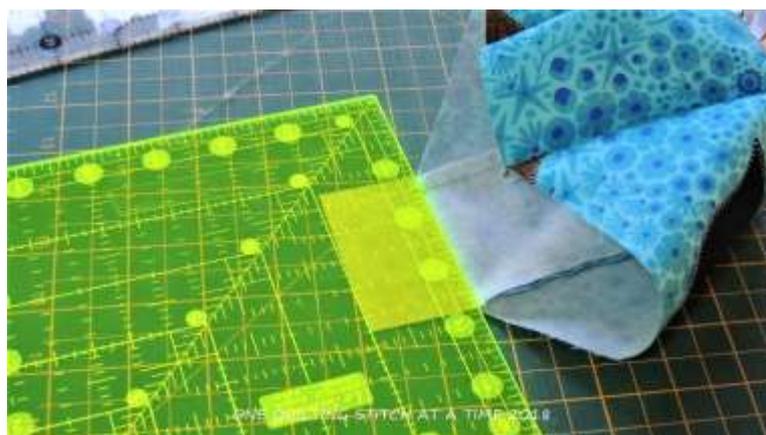
*Now we're finally getting somewhere. The next step is to cut the gusset strip but first iron enough interfacing to your bird body fabric to be able to cut out a gusset that measure 2-1/2" x 13". I cut the gusset longer than I need and trim away the excess once it's sewn in place.*



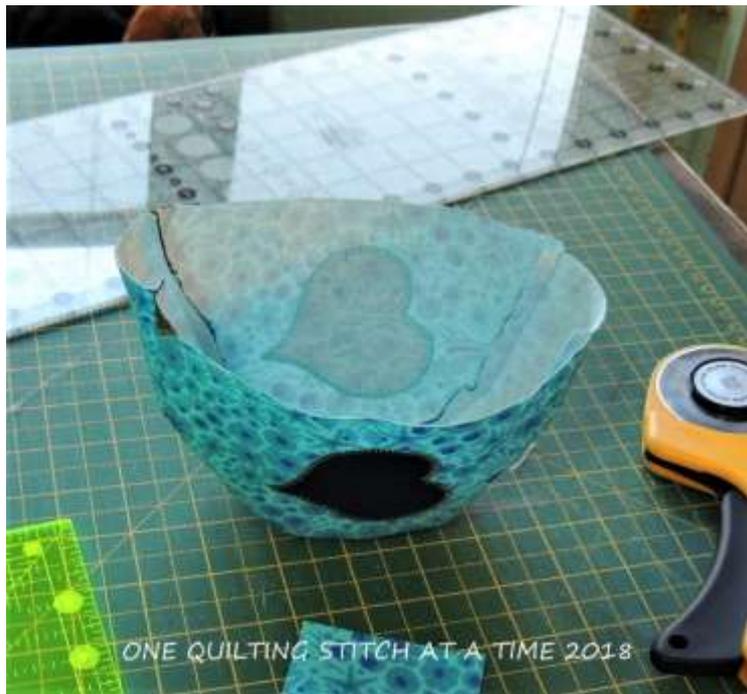
This is the part I like the most because you can finally see the project shaping up. In order to do a good job of sewing the gusset in place and because the bird body is curved, I use lots of pins to hold the gusset and bird body together in all the right places. I align one end and keep pinning until you reach the other end.



Sew slowly and remove pins as you go along. Once you have sewn the first bird body to one edge of the gusset repeat for the other side. Align the same end as you did for the first bird body and pin until you get to the end. Sew and trim away the excess gusset.



Here's what your bird body will look like at this stage.



Now we work on the lining. This is quite straight forward. Simply trace two bird bodies using the template and cut the gusset strip the same measurement as the outer one which is 2-1/2" x 13". Will need to trim the excess gusset once you have sewn both bird body sides on.



Repeat the same process with the lining as you did with the outer bird body except you will need to leave an opening of approximately 4" on one edge as shown below.



Now that all the different components are pieced, we can join them together. With the outer bird body right side out, insert into the lining wrong side out. Align the seams (interlock the gusset seams by pushing the lining gusset seams out and the bird body gusset seams in. This will help the spread the bulk.) Pin around the top edge holding outer and lining in place while you sew slowly removing the pins as you sew.



*Now it's time to pull the bird right side out. Just each into the opening you left at the bottom of the lining and gently pull.*



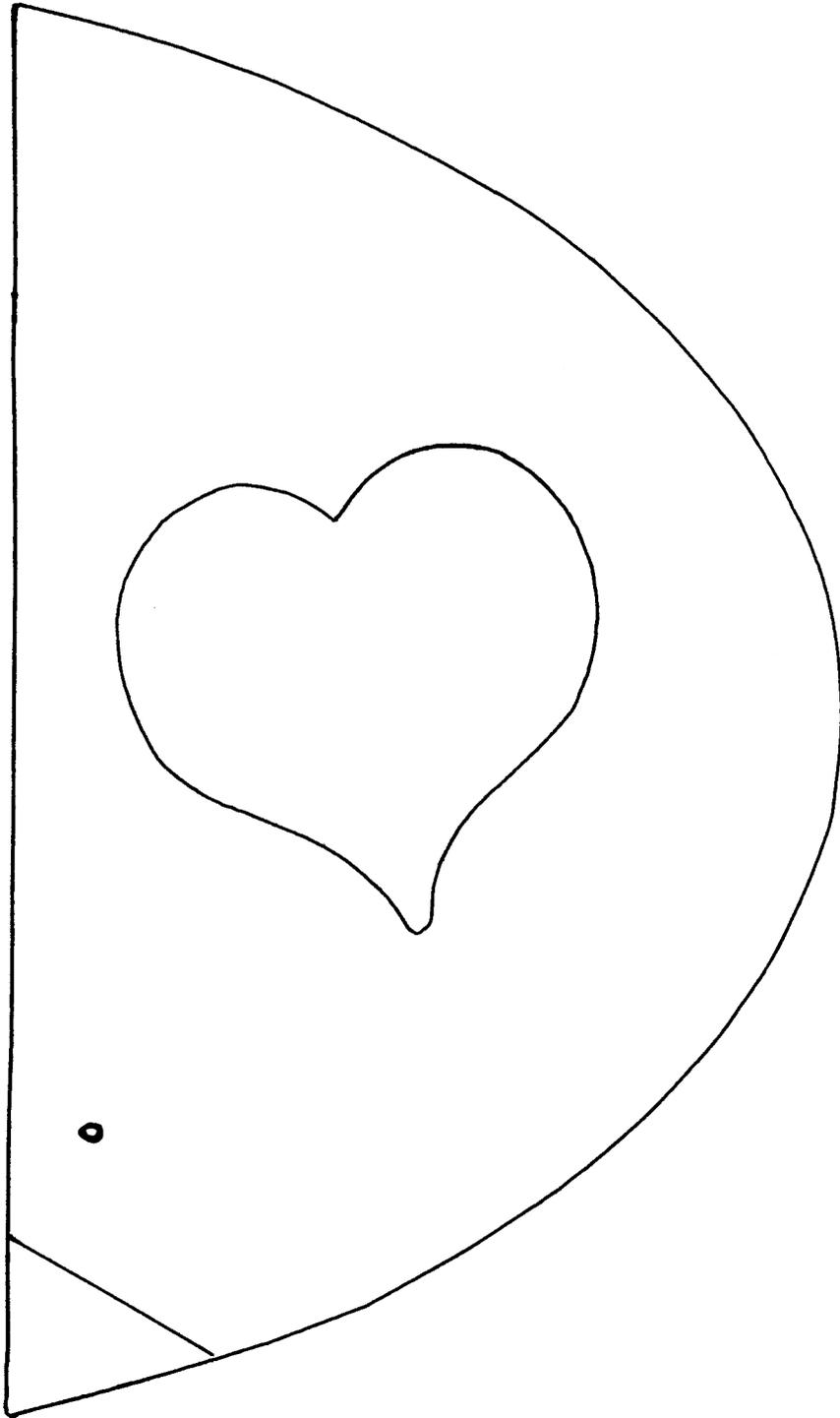


Now press the top edge of your project. Whip stitch the opening in the lining closed. And sew a couple of buttons for eyes.



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ONE QUILTING STITCH AT A TIME