

Blue Bird Needle Keeper

Size: 5½" x 6" closed

This is a tri-fold needle keeper 16½" x 6"

Sue Spargo

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Supplies

- Fat 1/8 brown felted wool for the back and one page
- Fat 1/8 orange felted wool for the inside flap and one page
- Fat 1/16 orange plaid felted wool for the front
- Fat 1/16 lime green herringbone felted wool for the flower pincushion
- 2 Fat 1/4's coordinating cotton prints for lining and pockets
- Scraps of – blue, purple, red and green felted wool for appliqué
- Cotton batting 28" x 8"
- 50/50 wool thread to match your wool for appliqué
- #24 Chenille needle
- Pinking shears
- Freezer paper

5 orange buttons
18" orange velvet 1/2" ribbon
Two 1" buttons
4 black seed beads
6" brown rickrack for back pocket
2 yellow and 2 black Heishi beads
Overdyed cotton for label
05Black Pigma Pen™

FELTED WOOL - *Felting is done by shocking the wool fibers, first boiling the wool, then placing in cold water and then drying. This will shrink the wool and prevent fraying.*

Cutting Instructions

Cover

Cut - One each 6" x 6 ½" from the orange, brown and orange plaid wool for front cover
Sew these together along the 6 ½" sides using a ¼" seam allowance.
It should now measure 17" x 6 ½"
Cut - Cotton lining – 17" x 6 ½"
Cut - Batting – 17" x 6 ½"

Pages

Cut - 2 pages 9 ½" x 5 ¼" one each from the orange and brown wool then pink all four edges with pinking shears or a wavy rotary cutter.

Inner pocket

Cut – Coordinating cotton print fabric 6" x 10"
And batting 6" x 5"

Outer pocket

Cut – Cotton lining fabric 6" x 5 ½"
Batting 3" x 5 ½"

Appliqué

Freezer paper templates

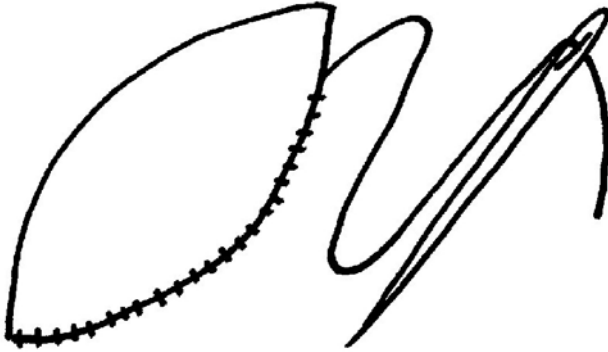
Trace the pattern pieces on the matte side of the freezer paper. Cut out the freezer paper templates. Press templates with a hot dry iron to the right side of the appropriate wool colors.

Cut out the wool pieces the same size as your freezer paper templates. Cut the stems with pinking shears.

Position the floral appliqué pieces to your orange plaid background and pin to the in place.

My favorite pins are the Clover™ appliqué pins.

Stitch the appliqué design in place using a whip stitch.



I like to use Genziana wool thread with a #24 Chenille needle to appliqué my wool pieces to the background. I also use Thread Heaven™ on this thread.

On the brown inside page of the needle keeper I appliquéd three blue birds.

Embellishments

Beading

Sew a black seed bead on each of the birds for the eye.

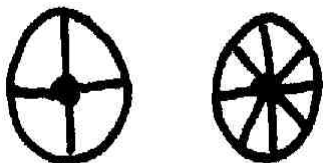
Sew 5 orange buttons on the front cover for the berries.

For the center of the flowers stack a black and yellow Heishi bead and sew on with a contrasting thread.

These beads have one hole in the center.

I used my wool thread to sew these on.

Be creative sewing over the bead 4 or 8 times.



Finishing

Outside cover

Outer pocket

Referring to the picture of the open needle keeper on the front cover make a sandwich by folding the pocket right sides together it should now measure 3" x 5 ½".

Place the batting on the bottom. Sew the top and side of the pocket leaving the base open.

Clip the corners and turn.

Sew the brown rickrack down the left hand side of the pocket.

Topstitch the pocket down either side to the center of the brown back cover butting the base of the pocket with the base of the cover.

Cut a 15" piece of orange velvet ribbon fold in half and tack in the center above the pocket as a tie to hold your scissors in place.

Flower Pin Keeper

Cut two 5" pieces of lime green wool. Make a freezer paper template of the flower.

Place you green wool pieces right sides together and iron the template on the wool.

Sew all the way around the outer side of the template.

Cut out the flower adding a ¼" seam allowance.

Clip into the curves.

Cut a slit on one side and turn.

Fill with stuffing and sew the slit closed.

This will be attached once the needle keeper is fully assembled.



Inside lining

Inner pocket:

Referring to the picture of the inside of the needle keeper on the back cover make a sandwich by folding the pocket fabric right sides together it should now measure 6" x 5".

Place the batting on the bottom.

Sew the right hand side of the pocket leaving the base and left hand side open.

Clip the corner and turn.

Place the pocket on the left hand side of the lining butting the base and left hand side of the pocket with the base and left hand side of the lining.

Topstitch the pocket to the lining on the right hand side.

Make 4 small pockets by sewing 3 vertical lines to hold a ruler and pencils.

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Assembly

Make a sandwich by placing the cover and the lining right sides together. Place the batting on the bottom.

Sew around the edge using a ¼" seam allowance.

Leave a 2" opening.

Clip corners and turn.

Sew opening closed by hand.

On the inside lining place the center of the two pages on the seam between the orange plaid and brown pieces of wool. Pin in place.

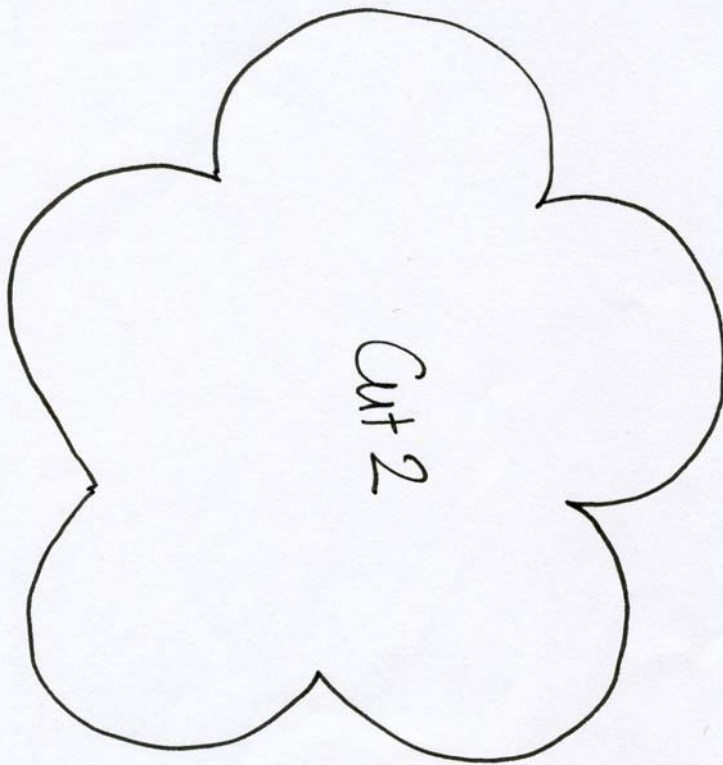
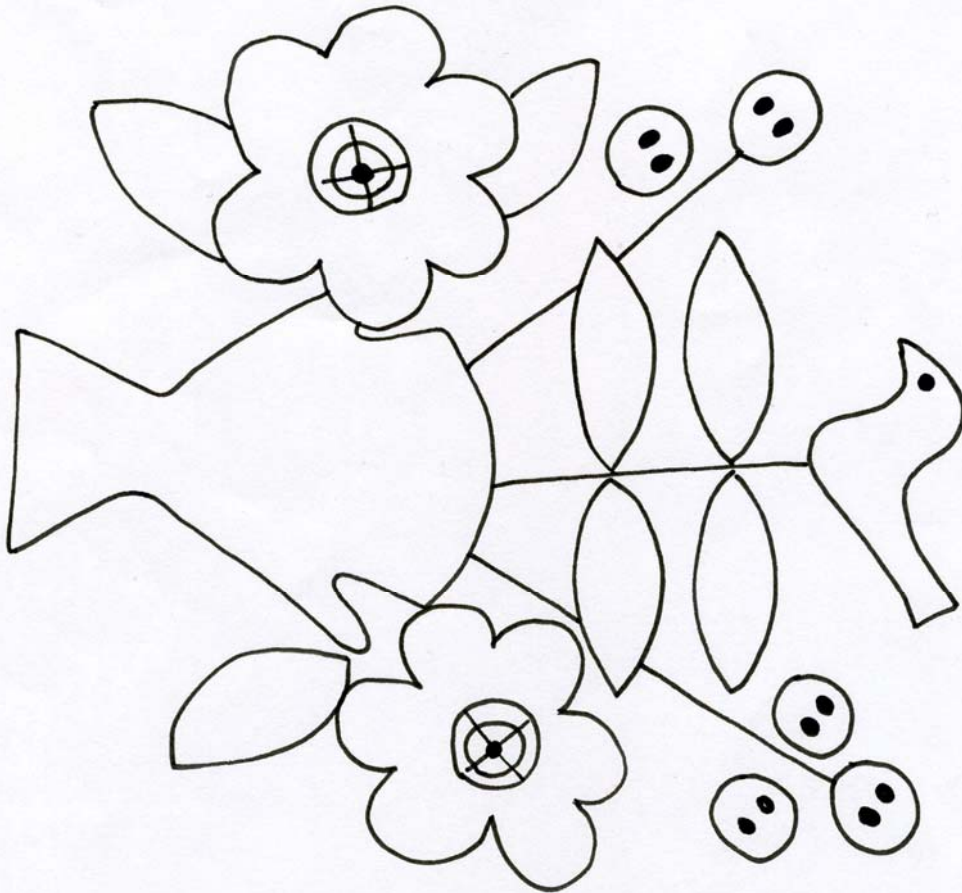
Stitch on the outside in the ditch by machine through the center of the pages and the cover of the needle keeper following the seam between the brown and orange plaid wool on the outside cover.

Sew the flower Pin Keeper in the center of the orange wool securing it in the middle with one of your 1" buttons.

Sew the remaining 3" piece of orange velvet to the inside cover to form the loop for the closure. Sew the other button on the side to complete the closure.

Label

Iron freezer paper to the back of your cotton fabric for the label. Using a 05 Pigma™ Pen trace the pattern provided and personalize with your name and date. Heat set with a dry hot iron for 2 minutes. Iron the edges under and sew to the inside lining.



Label