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# 🧵 Complete Sewing Guide: Up-Cycled Denim Pocket Dog Appliqué


This detailed tutorial walks you through creating a patchwork-style dog appliqué using recycled denim scraps. It's designed so anyone—from beginners to experienced sewists in the U.S.—can follow along from start to finish.




**FINISHED SIZE:**  
45 CM (H)  
X 32 CM (W)

## COMPLETE SEWING GUIDE: CRAFTING THE UP-CYCLED DENY POCKET DOG APPLIQUÉ


### 1 MATERIALS & PREPARATION




Assorted Blue & Dark-Blue Denim Scraps



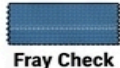
Black Buttons (2x 2.5 CM)




Black Embroidery Floss



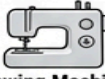
Fray Check



Fray Check



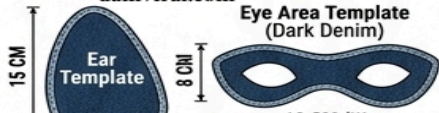
Fusible Interfacing



Sewing Machine

**STEP 1:** Gather fabrics. Cut interfacing to 45 CM x 32 CM. Source varied denim shades. Add brocel vored denim shades.

### 2 CUTTING THE PATTERN




Eye Area Template (Dark Denim)

15 CM


8 CM

18 CM (W)




Muzzle & Cheek Templates (Mid Denim)

12-14 M



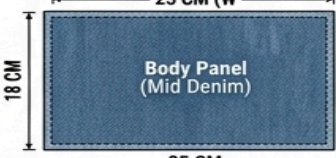
Ear Template

12-14 CM



Nose Template (Black Denim)

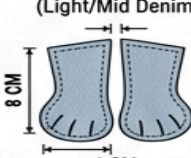
4 CM



Body Panel (Mid Denim)

18 CM

25 CM



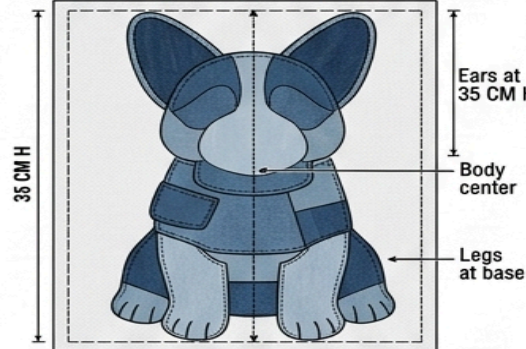
Legs & Paws Templates (Light/Mid Denim)

8 CM

6 CM

**STEP 2:** Cut paper templates. Select denim shades. Add 1.5 CM FRAY MARGIN\* (indicated with dotted lines) to each piece.

### 3 ASSEMBLY & POSITIONING



36 CM H


Ears at 35 CM H

Body center

Legs at base

**STEP 3:** Place body panel. Layer sides, ears, and leg patches. Secure with pins in pins or fusible adhesive.  
\*Note: Use a denim needle for multi-layers.

### 4 FACE DETAILS & FEATURE ADDITION

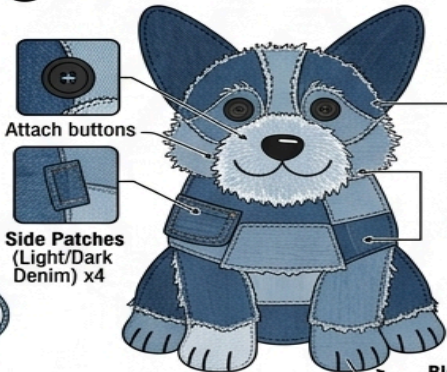


Whisker length ~1.5 CM each

Stencil whisker and paw line details

**STEP 4:** Attach face muzzle and eye panels. Layer nose piece. Stencil whisker and paw line details (indicated with dotted lines).

### 5 FINAL STITCHING & FINISHING



Attach buttons

Side Patches (Light/Dark Denim) x4

**STEP 5:** Stitch details. \*See 'Sewing Methods' for specific stitch callouts.

- Attach buttons.
- Secure all seams.
- Optional: Sew on pocket details.
- Apply frayden fray check to all edges for controlled distressing.

Black Paw Details: 3 lines each, 2 CM long

**LEGEND: PRINCIPAL US SEWING METHODS**

- 1. PIECING (PATCHWORK):** Joining diverse fabric scraps with a precision seam.
- 2. APPLIQUÉ (HAND or MACHINE):** Sewing fabric shapes onto a base. *Raw-edge appliqué technique.*
- 3. HAND EMBROIDERY:** Using floss for detailed facial expressions and features.
- 4. TOP-STITCHING:** Functional and decorative stitching visible on the right side.
- 5. FRAYED-EDGE TECHNIQUE:** Utilizing intentional fraying as a design element.
- 6. BUTTON ATTACHMENT:** Specific method for secure button placement.
- 7. DART PLACEMENT:** For subtle shaping.
- 8. STABILIZER USE:** Essential for intricate sewing.

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## Step 1: Materials & Preparation

Before starting, gather all materials and prepare your workspace.

### Materials Needed:

- Assorted blue and dark-blue denim scraps (variety of shades adds depth)
- 2 black buttons (approx. 1 inch / 2.5 cm diameter)
- Black embroidery floss
- Fray check liquid
- Fusible interfacing (cut to 18" x 12.5" / 45 cm x 32 cm)
- Sewing machine (or hand-sewing tools)
- Denim needle (recommended for thick layers)
- Pins or fusible adhesive
- Fabric scissors
- Paper for templates

### Preparation:

1. Wash and dry denim scraps to prevent shrinkage later.
2. Press all fabric pieces flat with an iron.
3. Cut fusible interfacing to **18" x 12.5" (45 cm x 32 cm)** — this will be your base.
4. Sort denim by shade (light, mid, dark) for visual contrast.

## Step 2: Cutting the Pattern

Create paper templates first, then transfer them to fabric.

### Templates & Approximate Sizes:

- Ear template: 7" tall (18 cm)
- Eye mask area: 7" wide (18 cm)
- Muzzle & cheeks: 5"–5.5" wide (12–14 cm)
- Nose: 1.5" (4 cm)
- Body panel: 10" x 7" (25 cm x 18 cm)
- Upper body/shoulder piece: 10" wide (25 cm)
- Legs & paws: 3" x 2.5" (8 cm x 6 cm)

### Instructions:

1. Draw each shape on paper based on the diagram proportions.
2. Cut out paper templates.
3. Trace onto denim using different shades for contrast.
4. Add a **½ inch (1.5 cm) fray margin** around each piece (important for the frayed look).
5. Cut all fabric pieces carefully.

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## Step 3: Layout & Assembly

Now you'll build the dog design on your base panel.

### Placement Guide:


- Center the body panel on your interfacing.
- Position ears near the top (approx. 14" / 35 cm height).
- Align the face in the center.
- Place legs at the bottom edge.

### Layering Steps:

1. Start with the **body panel** as your base layer.
2. Add side patches and torso details.
3. Attach ears at the top.
4. Add leg and paw pieces at the bottom.
5. Position the muzzle and eye area pieces on the face.

### Securing:

- Use pins or fusible adhesive to hold pieces in place.
- Ensure symmetry before stitching.

 Tip: Step back and visually check alignment before sewing.

## Step 4: Face Details & Features

This is where your dog comes to life!

### Steps:

1. Attach the muzzle and cheek pieces first.
2. Layer the nose (black denim preferred) on top.
3. Sew or glue the eye panels.
4. Attach black buttons securely for eyes.

### Embroidery Details:

- Use black embroidery floss for:
  - Mouth outline
  - Nose definition
  - Whiskers (~½ inch / 1.5 cm each side)

### Paw Details:

- Stitch 3 short lines per paw (approx. ¾ inch / 2 cm each)

 Tip: Use a stencil or light chalk marks to guide whiskers and facial lines.

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## Step 5: Final Stitching & Finishing

Now secure everything and add finishing touches.

### Stitching Techniques:

- Use **top-stitching** around each patch for durability and style.
- Try a straight stitch or zigzag stitch depending on your machine.

### Key Tasks:

- Sew around all edges of each piece.
- Reinforce high-stress areas (ears, legs, buttons).
- Attach optional pocket detail on the body.

### Frayed Edge Effect:

1. Gently pull loose threads along edges.
2. Apply fray check to control excessive fraying.

## Sewing Methods Used

Here are the main techniques applied in this project:




- **Piecing (Patchwork):** Combining denim scraps into one design
- **Appliqué:** Sewing fabric shapes onto a base layer
- **Hand Embroidery:** Adding facial details
- **Top-Stitching:** Decorative and structural stitching
- **Frayed-Edge Technique:** Leaving raw edges visible for texture
- **Button Attachment:** Securely sewing eyes
- **Dart Placement (optional):** For shaping if desired
- **Stabilizer Use:** Fusible interfacing keeps everything stable

## Final Result

You'll end up with a textured, layered denim dog appliqué approximately:

**18 inches tall (45 cm) x 12.5 inches wide (32 cm)**

Perfect for:

- Tote bags 
- Jackets 
- Wall art 
- Pillows 