

Dottie Duck

APPLIQUÉ PILLOW COVER



Molly and Mama
STUDIO for PRETTY STITCHES

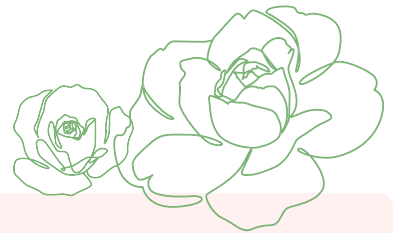


CONFIDENT BEGINNER

Pattern Requirements

FINISHED SIZE: 20" (50CM) SQUARE

- ❑ 0.75 yard (0.7m) of cream quilting cotton (for the cushion front, lining, duck's body)
- ❑ 0.6 yard (0.5m) of print fabric (for the scallop border and envelope closure on the back of the cushion)
- ❑ 9" (30cm) square of natural linen (for the duck background)
- ❑ 5" (12cm) x width of fabric (or one fat quarter) of light floral quilting cotton (for the block border)
- ❑ 5" (12cm) x width of fabric (or one fat quarter) of medium floral quilting cotton (for the binding)
- ❑ 1" (2.5cm) square of beige brown quilting cotton (for the duck's eye)
- ❑ 2" (5cm) square of rust quilting cotton (for the duck's beak)
- ❑ 7" (18cm) x 3" (7.5cm) of plain quilting cotton (for the duck's dress)
- ❑ 6" (15cm) x 2" (5cm) of floral quilting cotton (for the duck's collar)
- ❑ 20" (50cm) square of medium weight fusible fleece
- ❑ 20" (50cm) x 12" (30cm) of heat bonding fusible web (for appliqué)
- ❑ 10" (25cm) square of lightweight card stock (for scallop border template)
- ❑ 4" (10cm) x 6" (15cm) of fine tracing paper or tissue paper
- ❑ 20" (50cm) cushion insert
- ❑ 10" (25cm) x 3/8" (1cm) wide velvet or grosgrain ribbon (for the bow)
- ❑ General sewing thread colours to match the appliqué fabrics
- ❑ Embroidery needle and DMC embroidery floss to match your selected fabrics (for the duck's eyelashes & beak, and for the hand quilted details)
- ❑ Erasable marking pen and normal marking pen
- ❑ Quilt basting spray
- ❑ General sewing supplies



GENERAL NOTES

- ◇ Please read the pattern from beginning to end before you start sewing. Press all fabrics well.
- ◇ Accurately cut all fabrics with an acrylic ruler and rotary cutter on a self-healing cutting mat.
- ◇ The sewing machine seam allowance for this project is 1/4" or 5mm.
- ◇ Use a 1/4" foot when assembling the cushion for accurate seam allowances.
- ◇ A clear, open toed, acrylic appliqué foot for the sewing machine will help achieve a neat appliqué blanket stitch.
- ◇ Visit the Tutorials Tab at www.MollyandMama.com.au to see more detailed information.

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to Molly and Mama Patterns



Thank you for choosing a Molly and Mama pattern. Every project is carefully designed to teach you transferable skills that will help you on your creative journey.

All of my patterns include step-by-step instructions, full size templates, and easy to follow directions. I love to share useful tips and tricks, so be sure to visit the linked tutorials in the pattern.

I hope you enjoy the process of making and creating this beautiful project.

Happy Stitching,

Lauren x



ABOUT

the Dottie Duck Pillow Cover or Mini Quilt

Create a charming cottage style cushion or pillow cover with this sweet sewing pattern featuring a cute duck appliqué framed inside a scalloped floral border. Designed for machine appliqué lovers and perfect for beginners, this project can be made as either a decorative 20" (50cm) cushion cover or as a mini quilt.

The design combines soft florals, delicate hand-finished details, and easy appliqué techniques to create a vintage inspired piece. The duck motif is made using raw edge machine appliqué with blanket stitch. The finished project features decorative hand quilting, and sweet embroidered accents that give the project a warm handmade feel.

This version is sewn with print fabrics from the Tilda Creating Memories Collection.



PREPARE THE FABRICS AND APPLIQUÉ

CUTTING GUIDE

From the 0.75 yard (0.7m) of cream quilting cotton, cut;

- 15" (38cm) square for the cushion front block
- Two strips 17" (43.2cm) x 2" (5cm) for the outer cushion border
- Two strips 20" (51cm) x 2" (5cm) for the outer cushion border
- 20" (50cm) square for the backing of the cushion front
- 4" (10cm) x 6" (15cm) for the duck body

From the 0.6 yard (0.5m) of floral print fabric, cut;

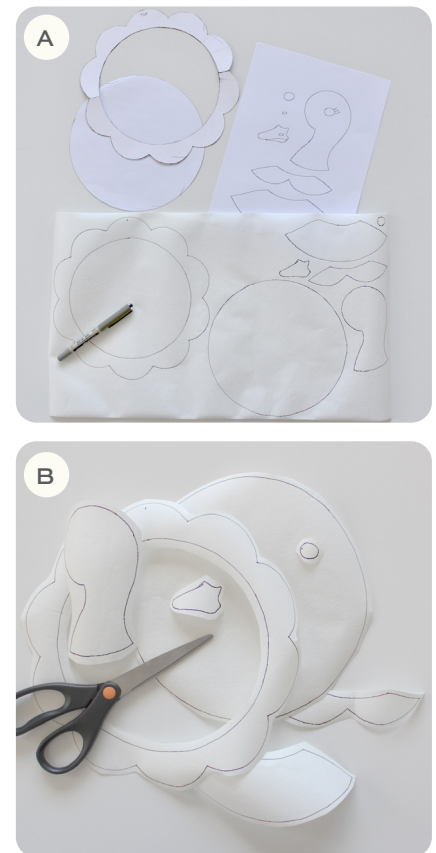
- 20" (50cm) x 17.5" (44.5cm) for the envelope closure panel on the top of the cushion back
- 20" (50cm) x 8.5" (21.5cm) for the envelope closure panel on the bottom of the cushion back
- 10" (25cm) square for the scallop border

From the 5" (12cm) x width of fabric strip of light floral fabric, cut;

- Two strips 14" (35.5cm) x 2" (5cm) for the front floral border
- Two strips 17" (43.2cm) x 2" (5cm) for the front floral border

From the 5" (12cm) x width of fabric strip of medium floral fabric, cut;

- Two x 2" (5cm) strips to create 88" (2.25m) of continuous binding



PREPARE THE HEAT BONDING WEB

Print the template pages at 100% with no scaling or cropping. Measure the one inch test square to determine print size accuracy.

To make the scalloped border, cut out the scallop border template on the line. Cut and fold a 10" (25cm) square of lightweight card in half and place the template on the card, matching up the template ends marked FOLD on the folded edges of the card. Trace around the outside edge of the template on one side of the fold line and then on the other (being careful that both sides match up). Cut out the scalloped border template on the line (as seen in **Image A**). Position the template onto the paper side of heat bonding web and trace around the shape. Be sure to mark the template top.

Position the printed template page of duck appliqué shapes and the circle shape under the textured side of the fusible heat bonding web. Using a pen, trace around each of the shapes on the paper side of the bonding web leaving a small gap between shapes (shown in **Image A**).

NOTE: The shapes have already been mirrored for appliqué and will appear like the pictured cover image once secured onto the backing fabric.

Roughly cut around each shape about a ¼" (5mm) from the drawn line (not on the drawn line itself). You can see the shapes in **Image B**. Ensure you have a scalloped border, circle shape, duck body, beak and eye shape, dress and collar shape.

APPLIQUÉ THE DUCK PANEL

Following the manufacturer's instructions, iron each piece of fusible web to your chosen fabrics (**Image C**). To do this, position each piece of fusible web over the wrong side of its corresponding fabric, so that the traced paper side of the web is facing you. Iron in place with a warm, dry iron.

For the duck, you will need to iron the following shapes to fabric;

- body in cream quilting cotton (piece measuring 4" (10cm) x 6" (15cm))
- eye in beige brown quilting cotton
- beak in rust quilting cotton
- dress in plain quilting cotton
- collar in floral quilting cotton

You will also need a circle of natural linen and a floral scalloped border. If your scalloped border or dress fabrics have directional motifs or prints, ensure they are facing the right way up.

Once all shapes are fused, cut out each of the shapes on the line (**Image D**).

Peel the backing paper off each of the duck shapes only, not the circle or the scallop border (**Image E**).

Using the placement guide to determine positioning, arrange each of the duck appliqué shapes onto the natural linen circle (which still has the backing paper attached), overlapping them where required. Ensure the right side of the fabrics are facing up, and the fusible webbing on the back is facing the fabric behind it.

Position the dress piece first, then tuck the duck body behind it at the base of the neck. Position the collar over the top. Then position the eye and beak shape. When you are happy with the layout, use a warm iron to secure the shapes in place. Only then will you peel the backing paper off the linen circle, once cool.

Next, measure and mark the centre of the 15" (38cm) square of cream quilting cotton. Position the linen circle with duck appliqué in the centre of the cream square and iron in place.

Peel the backing paper off the scalloped border. Centre it over the linen circle ensuring that the top of the template is positioned at the top. Iron in place (**Image F**).

Now we're ready to stitch the shapes in place.



For more information about the appliqué process, visit the Molly and Mama blog here:

<https://www.mollyandmama.com.au/the-basics-of-applique/>

SEW THE APPLIQUÉ DUCK PANEL

Appliqué around the raw edges of the felt and fabric shapes using your preferred method. Use sewing thread to match each different fabric colour. Use a cream or neutral bobbin thread.

I used a small blanket stitch on the sewing machine, with a stitch width of 5 and a stitch length of 3.

TIP: Use a clear, open toed acrylic appliqué foot to achieve an accurate result (Image G). Zig zag and straight stitches are also popular alternative stitch types.

Appliqué the shapes in the following order;

- left and right sides of the dress shape
- around the duck body shape (stopping and starting to avoid the beak)
- entire dress collar
- duck's eye
- outline of duck's beak
- inside of the scalloped border
- outside of the scalloped border

When all fabric shapes have been stitched, the duck appliqué will look like **Image H**.

Next we'll add the hand stitched eye lashes and beak details. To do this, trace the duck's head shape (including the eye and eyelashes and the beak with line and nostril shapes) onto the tracing paper with a marking pen. Cut out the head shape on the line, and cut away the bottom piece of the duck's beak, following the drawn line. Also cut out the nostril shape.

Position the tracing paper over the appliqué, being sure to line up the traced eye and beak shapes on the fabric, and pin in place.

To outline the beak stitching, use an erasable marking pen to mark a line below the cut away section of the tracing paper beak template. Also mark the inside oval of the nostril shape. Stitch the beak after completing the eyelashes in the next step.

To stitch the eyelashes, use **three strands** of coordinating embroidery floss. Back stitch each eyelash by sewing directly through the paper template and all layers of fabric, following the drawn lines. When you've finished sewing, hold the stitches with one hand as you gently tear away the paper with the other. Tease any stray pieces of paper out from under the stitches with your needle if necessary (**Image I**).

Use three strands of coordinating embroidery floss to finish stitching the beak. Back stitch the line along the beak to define the duck's top and bottom beak shapes. Then use satin stitch to fill the nostril shape. Remove any remaining erasable marker lines if required. The completed face embroidery for the duck will look like **Image J**.



ASSEMBLE THE CUSHION TOP

Press the completed appliqué panel from the back. Then trim the panel down to a 14" (35.5cm) square, being careful to position the scalloped border design in the centre (**Image K**). This becomes the duck block.

We'll now sew the borders to the duck block to create the cushion front.

TIP: Use a sewing machine foot with a 1/4" guide for accurate seam allowances when assembling the cushion.

Pin the light floral quilting cotton strips measuring 2" (5cm) x 14" (35.5cm) to the left and right sides of the duck panel, with right sides facing the panel. Sew in place. Open the fabric out and press with the seams facing towards the floral fabric.

Sew the two strips of light floral quilting cotton measuring 17" (43.2cm) x 2" (5cm) to the top and bottom of the panel. Press all seams towards the floral fabric (**Image L**).

Follow the same method to attach the two 2" (5cm) x 17" (43.2cm) strips of plain cream quilting cotton to the left and right sides of the duck block. Then attach the two 20" (51cm) x 2" (5cm) strips to the top and bottom.

Press all seams towards the floral fabric (**Image M**). This bordered duck panel should measure 20" (50cm) square. It now becomes the cushion front.

Following the manufacturer's instructions, secure the 20" (50cm) square of fusible fleece to the wrong side of the cushion front.

Let's add the hand quilting details next.

Using an erasable marker and an acrylic ruler, mark hand quilting guide lines on either side of the light floral border, about 1/4" (5mm) from the seam line. Also hand draw one row of hand quilting guide lines around the outside of the scallop border (**Image N**).

Using **three strands** of embroidery floss, sew a simple running stitch to hand quilt over the guide lines.

NOTE: I used DMC 3326 (rose) to stitch the outside border and around the scalloped border. It used DMC 989 (green) to hand quilt inside the floral border. Be sure to select two embroidery floss colours that complement your own fabric selections.

Remove the erasable marker lines when the hand quilting is complete.



ASSEMBLE THE CUSHION

From the 10" (25cm) x $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1cm) wide piece of ribbon, tie a simple bow. Trim and heat seal the ends to prevent fraying.

Using a needle threaded with a doubled over strand of coordinating sewing thread, stitch the bow in place over the centre of the duck's collar (**Image O**). Be sure to use small, invisible stitches that are well secured from the back.

Use quilt basting spray to add an adhesive layer to the batting side (wrong side) of the cushion front.

Position the 20" (50cm) square of remaining cream quilting cotton onto the batting and press in place. This step is shown in **Image P** (but I used a blue quilting cotton square instead).

TIP: To make a mini quilt instead of a cushion or pillow cover, skip ahead to the next page for the detailed binding and finishing instructions.

Create an envelope back for the cushion, using coordinating threads. Note that in **Image Q**, two different fabric colours have been used for the envelope cushion closure (instead of one fabric as listed in the requirements).

Hem the top of the 20" (50cm) x 8.5" (21.5cm) piece of floral quilting cotton. To do this, fold the 20" (50cm) top down by $\frac{1}{4}$ " (5mm) towards the wrong side. Press in place. Then fold the fabric over again by another $\frac{1}{4}$ " (5mm) encasing the raw edge inside the seam and press.

Pin and sew to secure the hem.

Repeat this process on the bottom of the 20" (50cm) x 17.5" (44.5cm) piece of floral quilting cotton, to hem the 20" (50cm) edge at the base. Press both pieces well.

Place the cushion top face down on a flat surface. With the right side facing out, pin or clip the 20" (50cm) x 8.5" (21.5cm) piece of hemmed fabric along the bottom edge of the cushion, so the raw edges are aligned, and the hemmed side is at the top (seen in **Image Q**).

Place the remaining hemmed piece along the top of the cushion (also right side facing out, raw edges aligned). The hemmed edges should overlap towards the bottom of the cushion (as shown in **Image Q**). Pin or clip the fabric in place.

Stitch around the cushion using an $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3mm) scant seam allowance. Reinforce the stitching where the fabric overlaps on the back with some reverse stitches. This holds everything in place before adding the binding to the cushion cover.



BINDING AND FINISHING

From the binding fabric, cut two x 2" (5cm) fabric strips from the width of the fabric and join the strips to create one continuous length of narrow quilt binding.

To do this, trim off the selvages (ends) and place the two fabric strips with right sides together and perpendicular to each other.

With an erasable marker, draw a diagonal line from the edge of one strip of fabric to the other edge. Pin the fabric together and sew along this line (**Image R**).

Trim the corner off the join, leaving about a ¼" (5mm) seam allowance. Open this seam and press flat (**Image S**).

Fold the joined fabric strip in half lengthways with wrong sides facing and press well to form a continuous binding strip.

Attach the binding strip to the front of the cushion cover with a ¼" (5mm) seam allowance on your machine. Start at the base of the cushion and use your preferred method.

See the Molly and Mama blog for a detailed description of my quilt binding method:

www.mollyandmama.com.au/how-to-bind-a-quilt

Ensure the raw edges of the binding line up carefully with the raw edges of the cushion.

As you sew the binding in place, carefully mitre it at each corner (**Image T**).

Once attached, fold the binding over towards the back of the cushion cover. Pin or clip the binding in place, adding a fold or mitre in each of the corners as you do so (**Image U**).

Using a doubled over strand of coordinating fine thread, blind stitch the binding to the back of the cushion with small, fine stitches. Be sure that the binding covers the seam line made when the binding was sewn to the front of the cushion.

Check as you sew to ensure your stitches cannot be seen from the front of the cushion.

Once complete, remove the clips or pins, then give the cushion a gentle press from the back.

Place the cushion insert inside the envelope closure at the back of the cushion cover.

Your appliqu  duck cushion is now all ready for use!



NEED SOME HELP?

Molly and Mama to the Rescue

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If you need any guidance for this sewing project, please visit the Tutorials Tab for helpful instructions. There is a wealth of inspiration waiting for you!

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OTHER DESIGNS FROM

Molly and Mama



Molly and Mama

If you've enjoyed making the Dottie Duck Cushion Cover, you might also enjoy the Forest Family Quilt pattern. Featuring the same appliqué techniques, and sweet scalloped border, this quilt features adorable forest animal faces. It's a perfect baby gift and ideal for a nursery. You can find the instant download pattern in the Molly and Mama store.

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OTHER DESIGNS FROM *Molly and Mama*

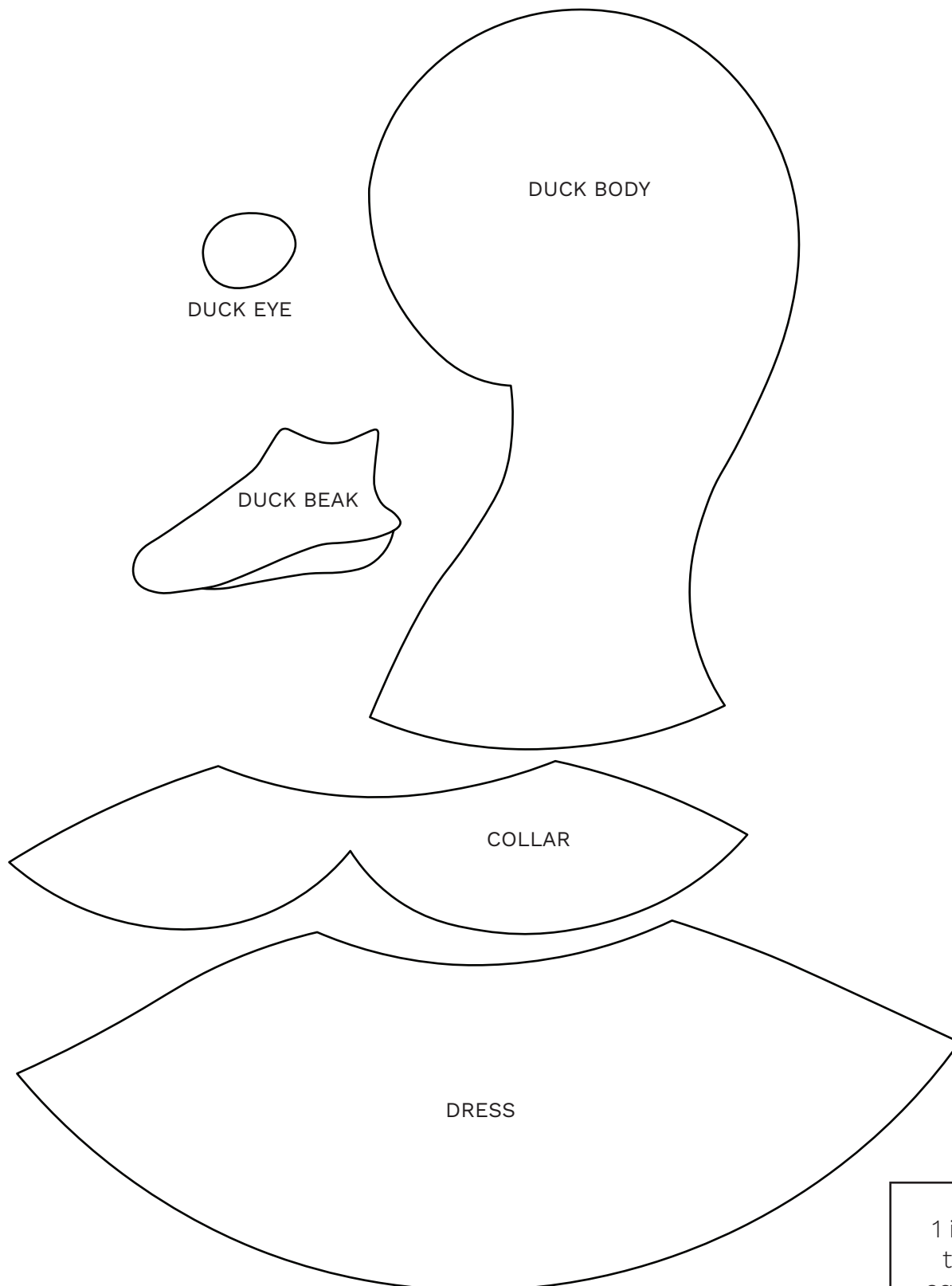


Be inspired with beautiful sewing patterns for projects made with embroidery, patchwork, English paper piecing, appliqué and felt sewing. Whether you are a beginner or experienced maker, Molly and Mama patterns teach you how to explore new possibilities with a needle and thread.

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APPLIQUÉ PIECES

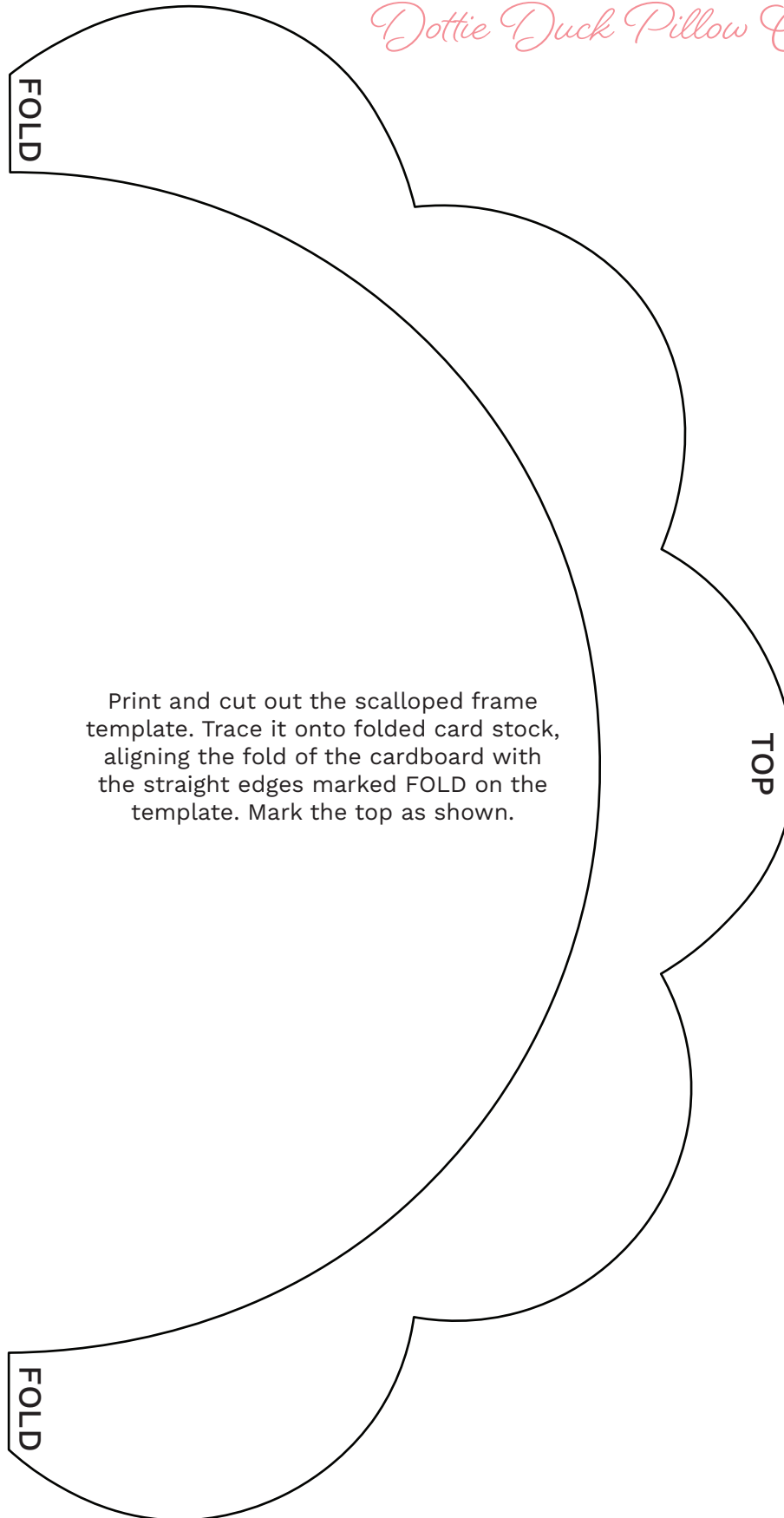
Dottie Duck Pillow Cover



*NOTE: Templates have already been reversed for appliqué.
Trace one of each shape onto fusible heat bonding web.

SCALLOPED BORDER FRAME

Dottie Duck Pillow Cover

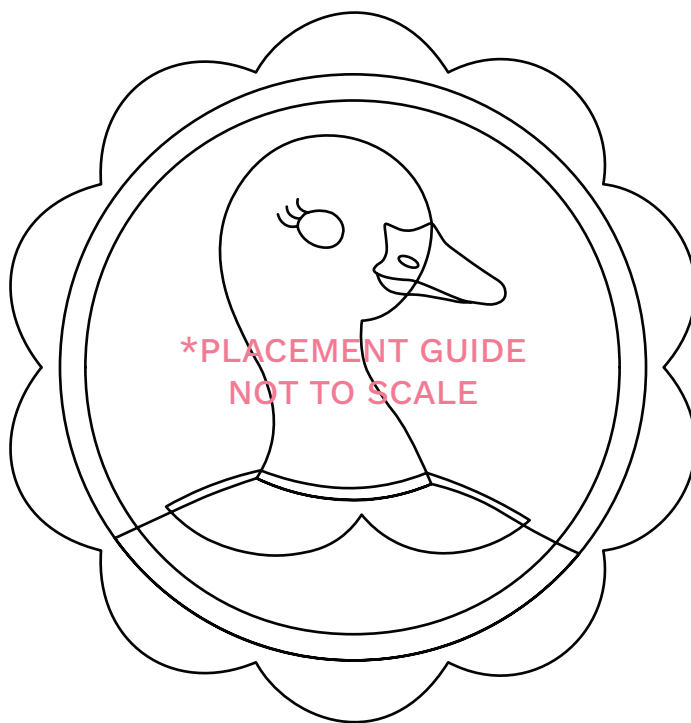


1 inch
test
square

CIRCLE SHAPE

Dottie Duck Pillow Cover

Circle shape for duck
background. Trace one onto
fusible heat bonding web.

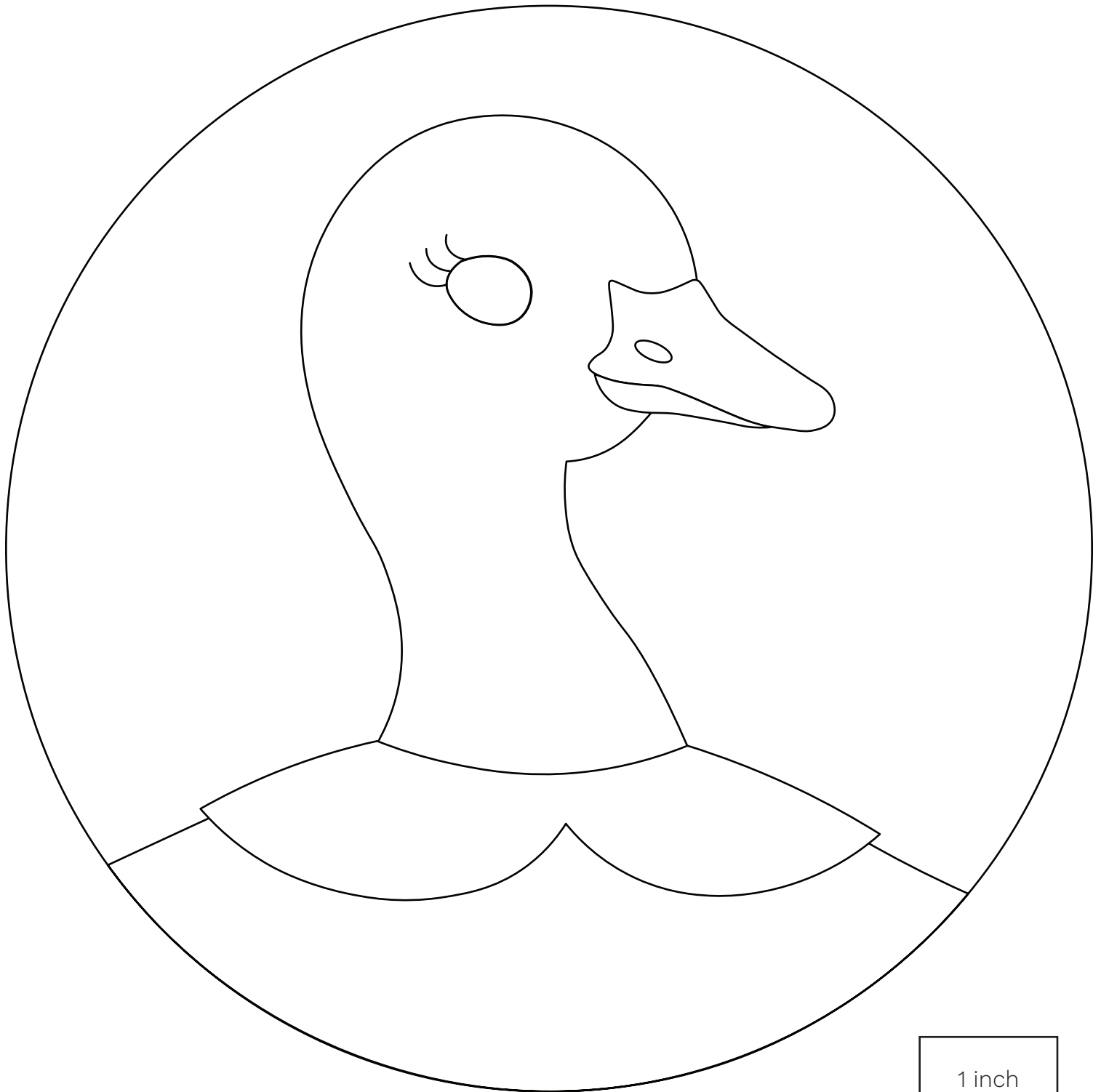


*Inside the circle is a placement guide for all of the appliqué shapes, including the scalloped border (which does not fit on a whole page). Note that this illustration is NOT TO SCALE.

1 inch
test
square

FULL SIZE PLACEMENT GUIDE

Dottie Duck Pillow Cover



Use this full size template as a guide for the placement of the overlapped appliqué pieces. Then use it to trace the duck head (including the eye and beak shapes) for adding the hand embroidered eye lashes and beak details.

1 inch
test
square