



Pattern of the Month - October 2015

By Evelyn George

## Easy Ornament or Gift Tag

No hand stitching needed! This simple ornament or tag is quick to make from scraps of fabric and batting. The opening for turning is cleverly concealed by fusing a decorative patch over it! You can adapt this technique to make larger or smaller pieces, including circles or gently rounded shapes; it works equally well. On rounded shapes, use pinking shears to trim edges before turning; clip if needed, and just cover the slit with applique of choice.

### Cut:

Two 4" x 6" pieces of same fabric, or 2 different ones

4" x 6" piece batting

~10" to 15" length of ribbon or elastic cord (metallic is nice for ornaments)

~3" or 4" square of accent fabric, for applique

Wonder Under® paper backed fusible (optional;\* follow package directions)

Applique template or traceable drawing of choice (cookie cutter, simple outline shapes, etc.)

### Layer on table as follows:

Batting on bottom

2 pieces of fabric, *right sides together*, on top of batting

For turning, cut a 1½" slit *only in the upper piece of fabric*, at a spot which can later be covered with a small fusible or stitched raw edge applique, after tag is turned right side out.

Fold ribbon or cord in half and slip through the slit, between the two layers of fabric, with cut ends sticking out about ¾" at center of upper edge. Loop of ribbon should be sticking out through the slit. →

Starting at the elastic, stitch over it first and continue all the way around through fabric and batting, using a ¼" seam allowance and stitching again across elastic. Trim corners and turn right side out through the slit; press.

Prepare applique patch following manufacturer's directions and fuse it over the slit to cover it.

Stitch around applique with straight stitch, and topstitch around edges of tag, if desired.

\*If you prefer, use plain fabric for the applique (no fusible) and just pink the edges, pin in place and stitch it down. Simple shapes work best. If you use a light colored applique, and make it big enough to write your name on, you can use it for a cute tag to put on your tote bag or machine, to take to class. To use, wrap looped end around tie or handle, then slip tag through the loop.

