



## TUTORIAL for FAIRY WILDLIFE QUILT Part 1

I planned to make a lap quilt with these designs right from the beginning. I love the colors and whimsical nature of them. But I soon realized I needed to have all the designs done before I could plan my quilt.

There are 18 designs each in 3 sizes so you have a lot to work with! I used all the medium designs since some people can't stitch larger than that. But if you can you could combine a medium seahorse for example with a jumbo whale. Designs like this don't need to be realistic to be really fun and interesting.

I will post progress on this to the [BFC BLOG](#). You could also use them on clothing and other projects. And feel free to have with the coloring – anything goes!

I didn't have a pattern in mind when I started the designs. As they took shape I knew I want a background that would accommodate all the various wildlife. I chose a scene with a \*slice\* of ocean in the middle and trees and forest on the sides and top, with a sandy beach in the middle. This way I had three areas – those in the water, those standing and the birds and such that fly or would be in the upper trees. This Tutorial explains the way I go about designing something. It's definitely not the best. But it's an easy way to get started and increase your abilities as you go along.

### STEP 1:

Cut a piece of foundation fabric (color doesn't matter, cotton is good) the size you want your wildlife picture plus a couple of inches all around. This is used to stitch on your patterned fabrics and your animals. I used the width of the fabric (45") by about 65". I can

### STEP 1A:

There are two ways you can do these designs. You can make your background and then embroider the designs directly onto it. Or

Stitch the designs on any fabric, add applique web to the back, cut them out, peel the backing off and then iron them onto your background. This is the method I used since I had all the designs stitched already and I hated not to use them 😊 it's nice because you can arrange the designs many ways before you decide you have the best arrangement. The following picture shows a design with the web fused onto the back of it.



If you are using this method it is best to stitch all the designs and prepare them with the web before starting your quilt. Then you can lay them all out as you choose fabrics. You can also do a combination of the two methods!

#### STEP 2:

Gather fabrics to use. I started with the center ocean slice. I wanted a darker fabric at the bottom and use lighter fabrics as the area went up.





Shows the back of a design with the web fused on and then cut out.



If you don't have all the designs stitched, but want to get started, print out the color charts. They will print actual size so you can cut out the image and use it plan your placement. This is good if you are going to stitch directly onto the background.

### Step 3

Draw a rough line on your foundation fabric for where you want the ocean to be. I used a black permanent marker. Then cut pieces of fabric and fill in that area. Be sure to go a little beyond the outline – better to have a little too much than not enough.



Here are my fabrics for the water – the designs are just laid out to give me an idea.



Get the supervisor to approve your work so you can continue. He gets so serious!



**I added two shapes on top of the water to the left side to be like ledges so I can add some seaweed, etc. And I trimmed the outline to be just a little beyond the marking on the foundation.**

#### **STEP 4**

**Stitch down all the fabrics. I used a zig zag stitch. I also fused one design just to see how it will look. In the final steps when I actually do some quilting I will run a row of stitches with invisible thread to make sure he stays in place.**



**I next placed the jelly fish. I wanted some fibers to represent seaweed trailing from the jelly fish as it swam away. These fibers are not sewn down yet – I will make final decision on fibers and other embellishments as the quilt is finished. I like to see possibilities as I go along because often they will bring other ideas.**





I added the seahorse and the fish. These complete my underwater fairy animals.





The next step will be planning the sides and top for the other animals. I'm planning to put foliage and tree trunks along the sides – perhaps with some animals tucked here and there. My first step as usual is to lay out some possible fabrics.



Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions – Suz [Suz@BFC-Creations.com](mailto:Suz@BFC-Creations.com)

<a href="http://www.BFC-Creations.com">www.BFC-Creations.com</a>		<a href="mailto:Suz@BFC-Creations.com">Suz@BFC-Creations.com</a>
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