

Geckos – 12 ½ x 10 ½ block

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- Seam allowance is not included -please add 1/4" if turning edges under.
- Remember to reverse your templates if you want your blocks to face the same direction as the picture.
- Quilt layout is for inspiration only.

Appliqué is a very free spirited way of quilt making. I do machine appliqué and you will find my designs are ideally suited for this method. For those of you, who would rather appliqué by hand, please remember to add your seam allowance when tracing the templates.

So how do I go about it? Well to start with I do not cut up my pattern sheets. My designs are made with a nice bold line for the templates. This is easily seen through the backside of the paper. I lay my pattern sheet face down on a flat surface. Then put Heat Bond Lite on top of that with the paper side up and trace. This way the templates will be reversed and your block will come out facing the same direction as the one you see in the picture. While I am tracing my templates I make sure to write down the patch number, and what color I want to do it in. I have reached the point in my life where I find I NEED these little reminders. Then it is time to play in the scrap box. I find I enjoy the process of picking and choosing the fabrics just as much as I do the quilting. Follow the directions on your fusible of choice to adhere it to your fabrics. Then comes the bit I don't like ☹ cutting the patches out. Take your time and go slow. Don't feel bad if you need to take a break to rest or uncramp those fingers. Now we are ready for the FUN stuff! Peel the paper backing off of the patches you have cut. I use a pressing sheet to "build" up my appliqués before ironing them onto my base block. This allows me to reposition the patches as many times as I need to. Follow the layout picture for the pattern you are working on. You want your patches to overlap just a smidge. Once you have it just the way you want iron the patches onto the pressing sheet, then simply peel up your entire patch and it is ready to go onto your base block. Or, if you are confident enough, position your patches directly onto your base block and iron them down. Your block is now ready to be sewn down. There are many different ways to do this and you will easily find one that appeals to you. Play around with the stitches on your machine. You want to securely cover the raw edges of your patches. A tight zig zag, satin or mock button hole work well for this.

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