

Patchwork Country Horse Tutorial

THE HORSE PORTRAIT ART QUILT TUTORIAL: FROM START TO

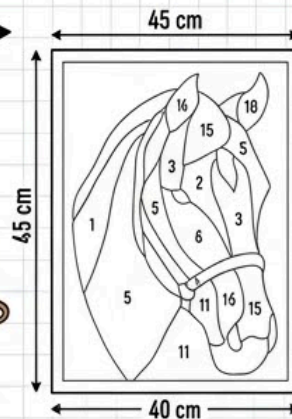
Based on the design by <IMAGE>

MATERIALS & LAYOUT



PATTERN KEY

1=	2=	4=	6=	10=	11=	14=	15=
2=	5=	5=	8=	12=	13=	15=	non black
3=	7=	8=	9=	13=	15=		



FINISHED WALL HANGING SIZE: 45 cm (W) x 60 cm (H)
BORDERS: 2.5 cm binding. Main block size 40 cm x 55 cm

The Step-by-Step PROCESS



STEP 1: TRACE & CUT PATTERN.

1. Trace all pattern pieces onto cardstock. Label pieces and note direction. Add 0.5 cm seam allowance to *joining* edges only.



STEP 2: FABRIC PREP & CUTTING.

2. Iron fabrics. Use templates to cut pieces from corresponding fabrics. Transfer numbers to fabric back.



STEP 3: PIECING (THE HEART OF IT)

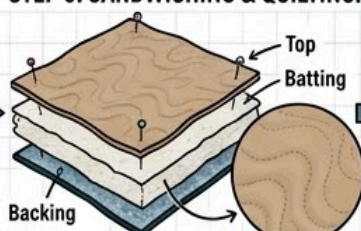
3a. Use Freezer Paper or Fusible Applique method. Lay pieces on a foundation fabric, building from neck to muzzle.
3b. Starch-fold edges (if using freezer paper) or press with iron (if using fusible) to create a clear seam line. *Carefully align pieces according to the diagram.* Ensure all 15 pieces fit precisely.

STEP 4: STITCHING (THE CONTOURS)



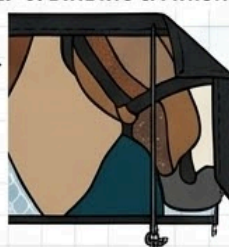
4. Use a clear or neutral thread for construction. Finish all edges with small, neat blanket stitch or a satin stitch to define the horse's shape. Use black thread for a bold line like in <IMAGE 0>. Pay special attention to the starry ear fabrics.

STEP 5: SANDWICHING & QUILTING.

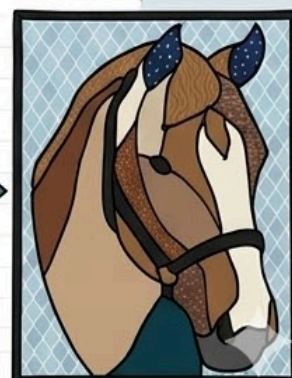


5a. Create a quilt sandwich with your finished top, cotton batting, and a fabric backing.
5b. Machine quilt around the outline and add subtle textural stitching (e.g., in the tan face areas) using a free-motion foot or walking foot. Quilt the background fabric (the trellis pattern).

STEP 6: BINDING & FINISHING.



6. Trim square. Apply a traditional double-fold black binding to all four edges. Miter the corners for a clean finish. Hand-stitch binding to the back.



FINAL RESULT

LEGEND OF PRINCIPAL SEWING/QUILTING METHODS (US Standards)



APPLIQUE (Traditional hand/machine)



FUSIBLE APPLIQUE For crisp, sharp edges



PIECING Assembling the blocks



QUILTING Connecting layers with thread

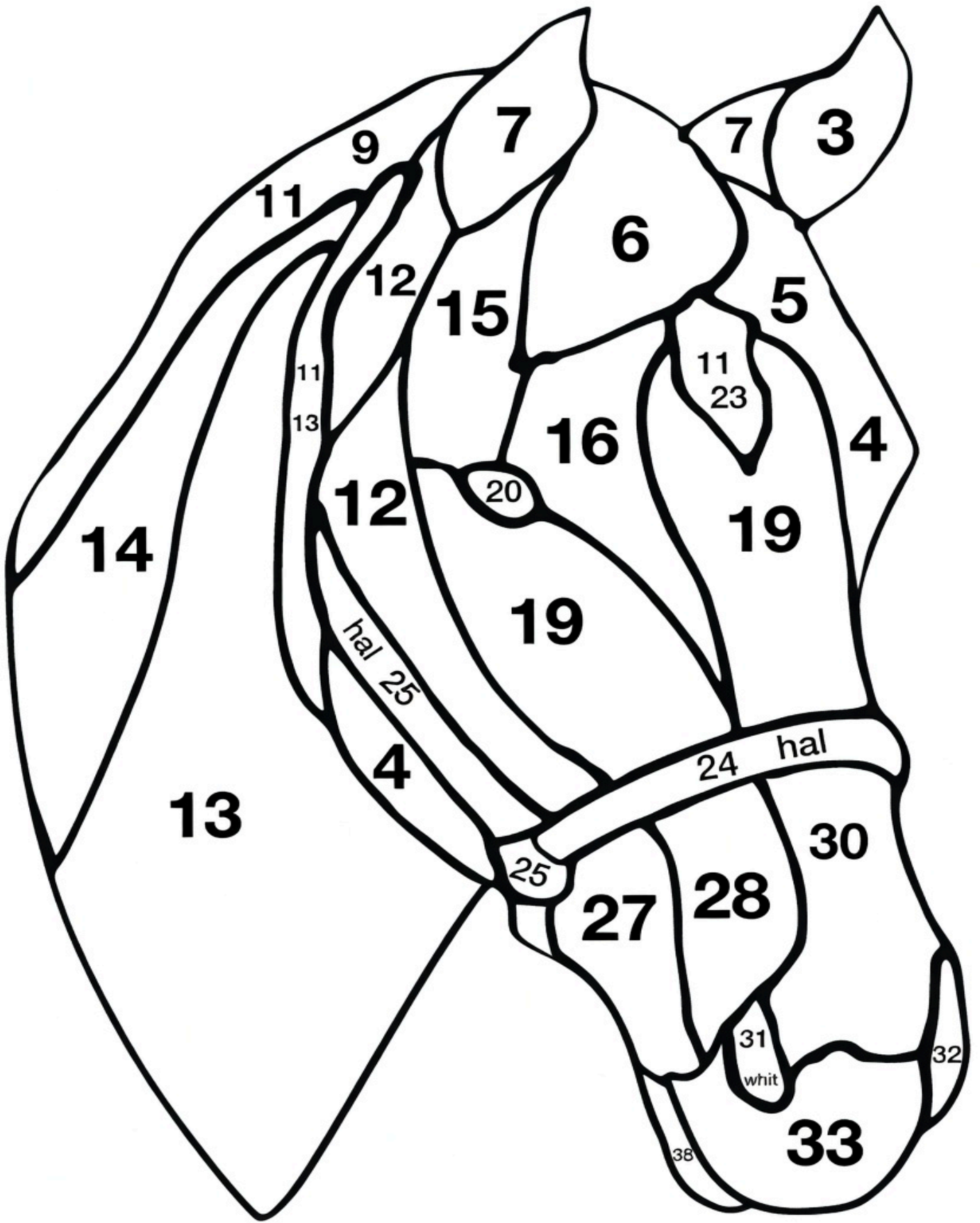


FREEZER PAPER TEMPLATING



DOUBLE-FOLD BINDING

A charming country-style horse design perfect for quilting, crafting, and rustic home décor.



Materials & Tools

Fabric:

- Main fabric (horse silhouette)
- Background fabric
- Optional: contrasting scraps for accents

Tools:

- Fabric scissors or rotary cutter
- Cutting mat
- Quilting ruler (with CM grid)
- Sewing machine
- Iron & ironing board
- Pins or clips
- Fabric marker
- Batting
- Backing fabric
- Binding fabric strips

Step 1: Understanding the Pattern

This project uses the horse silhouette formed by colored fabric pieces arranged in a patchwork style.

The block is assembled from geometric shapes cut from the fabrics according to the template.

All pieces must be cut precisely so the final block remains square and flat.

Focus points:

- Maintain 0.75 cm seam allowance on every seam
- Press seams as indicated
- Follow each step in order

Step 2: Cutting Your Fabrics (All in CM)

Use your ruler and rotary cutter for crisp, clean edges.

1. Trace each template shape from the tutorial onto your fabric.
2. Add 0.75 cm seam allowance around every piece.
3. Cut carefully to maintain accuracy.
4. Group pieces by color so sewing becomes easier later.

Tip: Label each piece with a small removable sticker so they stay organized.

Step 3: Pre-Assembly & Layout

Before sewing:

- Lay all fabric shapes on a large table using the tutorial's diagram.
- Confirm the horse figure is correct and all pieces are oriented properly.
- Ensure color placement matches your intended design.

This prevents mistakes during stitching.

Step 4: Sewing the Small Units

Start with the smallest segments, then combine them.

1. Use straight stitch at 2.0–2.5 mm length.
2. Sew pairs of pieces right sides together.
3. Maintain 0.75 cm seam allowance consistently.
4. Press seams:
 - Press to one side for stability
 - Press open if intersection becomes bulky

Technique notes:

- Chain piecing: feed multiple pairs through the machine without cutting thread each time.
- Nesting seams: press adjoining seams in opposite directions so they lock together perfectly.

Step 5: Building the Horse Segments

Follow the diagram from the tutorial:

1. Assemble the head, neck, and mane shapes.
2. Sew together the body units.
3. Join the legs and attach them to the body section.

Always check alignment before stitching:

- Edges must match
- Corners should form clean intersections
- Press after every seam for a smooth surface

Step 6: Final Block Assembly

When all units are ready:

1. Join the upper body to the lower body.
2. Add the background fabric pieces around the horse.
3. Check the block remains square; trim edges if needed (but only lightly).
4. Press one final time for a crisp finish.

Your horse block top is now complete!

Step 7: Preparing the Quilt Sandwich

You will create three layers:

1. Backing (bottom) – cut at least 5 cm larger on each side
2. Batting (middle)
3. Horse block top (front)

Steps:

- Lay the backing fabric right side down
- Smooth batting over it
- Place your block centered on top
- Pin or use spray adhesive to baste all layers together

Step 8: Quilting the Layers

Choose one of the quilting methods commonly used in the U.S.:

Machine Quilting Options:

- Straight-line quilting
- Echo quilting around the horse figure
- Diagonal grid quilting in 2–3 cm spacing

Hand Quilting Options:

- Running stitches around the horse silhouette
- Decorative stitches along major seams

Tips:

- Start quilting from the center outward
- Keep stitches even
- Flatten and smooth layers as you go

Step 9: Trimming & Squaring

After quilting:

1. Trim the edges so the block becomes perfectly square again.
2. Leave at least 1 cm margin beyond the horse design.
3. Ensure all layers are even and clean.

Step 10: Binding the Quilt

Cut binding strips:

- Width: 6–7 cm
- Join strips diagonally for smoother joints
- Fold binding strip lengthwise (wrong sides together)

Binding steps:

1. Sew binding around the quilt edges using 0.75 cm seam allowance.
2. Fold binding to the back and hand-stitch for a clean finish.
3. Miter corners neatly for a professional look.

Legend of Key U.S. Sewing & Quilting Methods

A quick reference guide for this project:

- Straight Stitch – basic sewing machine stitch
- Chain Piecing – continuous sewing without cutting thread
- Nesting Seams – opposite seam directions for perfect alignment
- Pressing Open – reduces bulk at intersections
- Pressing to One Side – increases durability
- Scant Seam Allowance – slightly less than 0.75 cm for precision
- Rotary Cutting – using cutter + mat + ruler for accuracy
- Strip Piecing – sewing long strips before cutting into units
- Foundation Paper Piecing – using paper templates for accuracy
- Hand Quilting – traditional decorative stitching
- Machine Quilting – faster, strong quilting lines
- Double-Fold Binding – standard method to finish quilt edges

Final Result

You now have a complete, CM-based American-style quilting tutorial to recreate the horse block from start to finish.

This guide is written so any U.S. beginner can follow it clearly, even without previous quilting experience.