

6" Nest Block

By SUSAN BRUBAKER KNAPP

These directions are for traditional needleturn appliqué, but this block can be made using machine appliqué or fusible appliqué methods.

DIRECTIONS:

- Cut green background 7" square.
- Print out the line drawing of the appliqué block and make sure it measures correctly (printers sometimes print out slightly smaller or larger).
- Make a positioning overlay: Place upholstery vinyl over the line drawing and trace the design with a permanent marker. Write the word "TOP" in the upper right hand corner so you will know which side is up.
- Tape the line drawing right side up to a light box or brightly lit window.
- Position blue fabric right side up over egg C, and trace it, using a mechanical white chalk quilting marking pencil. Cut out the egg, leaving 3/16" seam allowance around all sides.
- Continue in this manner, cutting out all the pieces.
- Tape the green background square to a flat surface. Place the positioning overlay on top, taping it only along the top edge.
- Under the positioning overlay, position the eggs on the dark brown nest interior. Remove from under overlay, pin, and appliqué the eggs.
- Under the positioning overlay, position and pin all the pieces.
- Appliqué the pieces, taking care to appliqué those in the background first (for example, stitch leaf F before leaf G, then nest H).
- When you are done stitching, press the block from the back side, and carefully trim it to 6½" square (this includes ¼" seam allowances on all sides).



MATERIALS:

- 7" square mottled green (A)
- Scraps of dark brown (B), light blue (C,D,E); medium green (F, I, K); medium brown (H); dark green (G, J); light pink (L); medium pink (M); dark pink (N)
- 50- or 60-weight cotton thread for needleturn appliqué in brown, blue, green and pink (I used Aurifil Cotton Mako 50)
- 8" square medium-weight upholstery vinyl
- Ultra-fine black permanent marker
- Masking tape
- Appliqué pins and needles
- Light box (or brightly lit window)
- Mechanical white chalk quilting marking pencils (I like the ones by Sewline and Bohin)

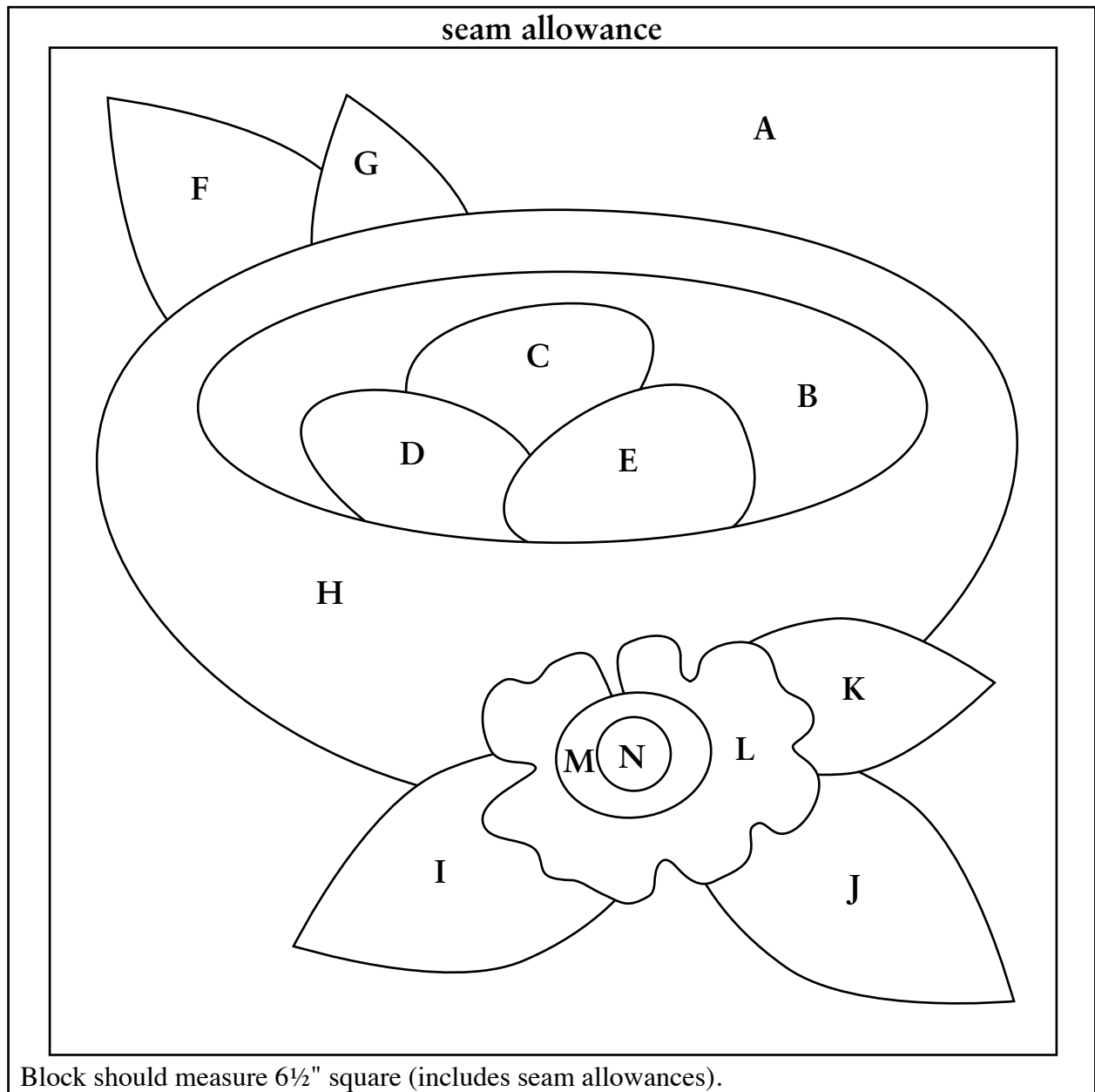


Susan Brubaker Knapp is a fiber artist, quilt pattern designer and teacher. She is the author of *Point, Click, Quilt! Turn Your Photos into Fabulous Fabric Art* (C&T Publishing, 2011) and *Appliqué Petal Party* (C&T Publishing, 2009). She has

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