You will need:

- ♦ Selection of coloured felts
- Scrap fabrics the more textured or bright the better
- Coloured embroidery threads
- Sewing cotton
- Small bag of wadding or toy filling
- Cord or thread for hanging your decorations

Optional to embellish:

Ribbons
Beads
Sequins
Braid
Glitter threads
Christmas shapes

..... Etc:)

Christmas Baubles pattern

Pattern by Angela Jardine, pcBangles 79 Grenville Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8ET UK



A selection of fabric baubles, perfect to adorn your tree or decorate the house. Safe from younger family members (and pets!)

Create a colour scheme to suit your mood



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Fabric baubles are so easy to make and make lovely personal decorations to decorate your tree, or give as seasonal presents.

All you need is a good selection of felts or fabrics in your chosen colour scheme and some toy fibre filling.

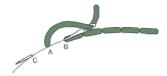
A handful of beads, sequins and other embellishments will add a twinkle on your tree :)

Be aware, these can get addictive !!

You can machine sew the basic parts of your decorations, but some parts will need to be hand sewn.

You can use either felts or fabric to make the basic shape. Felt baubles can be either sewn on the inside, or outer with a blanket or overcast stitch. Fabric versions will need to be sewn in the usual way from the inside and turned through:) Also bear in mind that when fabric baubles are made they will be slightly smaller than their felt versions. If you want to keep the sizes equal, add a 5 or 6mm seam allowance around each shape when you cut them out.

These are some stitches you may find useful.



Back stitch Great for seams and creating continuous lines



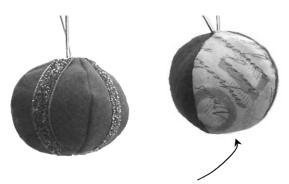
Ladder stitch Perfect for closing openings neatly.



Blanket stitch
Good decorative stitch for attaching felts etc

START UP TIPS:

- All your pattern pieces are on the one sheet. The star shape will need to be placed on folded fabric (double arrows to the fold), all others can be cut as printed.
- If you are using a mix of felts and fabrics, remember to add 1/4 inch (5 or 6mm) around each shape to allow for equal sizing when they are made up.
- Felt shapes can be hand sewn with colourful embroidery threads if you prefer.



Small round Bauble:

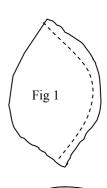
There are two sizes of round baubles, each made in the same way and I'll make up the smaller with you here:

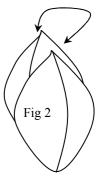
This smaller bauble is approx 5cm high and wide. You will need to cut out 4 pattern pieces out. You can use one colour, or two (or more) different colours.

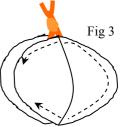
I'm going to keep the seam stitching hidden on mine as this will allow me to use both felt and fabric on the same bauble. If you are using all felt - take a peek at the bottom of the page for tips:)

- 1. Pin two of the shapes together and stitch down one side only (fig 1). Repeat with remaining two pattern pieces.
- 2. Next pin the two sets together, lining up the seams at top and bottom. Pin so the "right side or outers" face each other. (fig 2)
- 3. Before we start stitching, cut a short length of hanging cord (6 or 7 inches) or 15cm should work well. Tie a good large knot with the ends and place this between the two halves (fig 3). Leave the ends poking out and the cord upside down. Once we turn the bauble through, it will right itself (trust me:)
- 4. Start stitching from one side of the cord to the seams at the bottom. Then stitch from the other side (as close to the cord as you can get) but this time only stitch 1/3 of the way down the side.
- Next stitch from the bottom of the bauble 1/3 way up the same side, leaving a small gap for turning through.
- Turn the ball through to the right side and give the cord a little tug to make sure the knot will hold it firmly in place.
- 7 If all is well, lightly stuff the bauble and use a small ladder stitch to close the opening.

Well done—our first decoration finished—well, nearly. You can now embellish it if you wish with braid, ribbons or bead:)







Felt with outer stitching:

If you making the whole bauble in felt, then you have the choice of stitching on the outside if you wish.

You have the advantage of using colourful embroidery threads to make up your decoration. On the right I 've made up a larger round in red and green felt, using a blanket stitch in red embroidery to the edges.

Make up the decoration as above (but obviously working stitches on the outer this time.

When you come to join both halves, pop the cord inside with the knot between the felts. Work the stitches by starting on one side, then the other as above, leaving a small gap for stuffing.

Fill the bauble then use the same stitch to close the opening :)

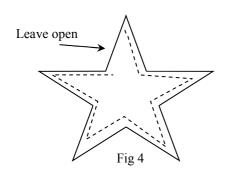


Making up the Star:

Our star is approx 6inches (15cm) in diameter. You will need two of the large star stapes (as we are going to quilt the star, fabric works best). You will also need two smaller shapes cut from felt.

- 1 Pin both larger star shapes (right sides together) and stitch from one point nearly all the way around (keeping to 1/4 inch seam) Leave the last edge open, see fig 4 below.
- 2 Use the opening to turn your star through—making sure you gently poke out all the points without breaking your stitching:)





- 3 Lightly stuff the star. Not too much as we want to add some guilted texture.
- Make up a hanging cord (as we did for our small round earlier) and pop this into the opening, so the loop appears right at the top of the point. (see above)
- 5 Use a small ladder stitch to close the opening and stitch as close to the cord as you can to hold it in place.
- 6 Give the cord a tug to make sure the knot will keep in place.
- Next, add two rows of stitches all the way around the star, following its shape. The first row should be about 1/4 inch (6mm) from the edge. *This may be best done by machine.* A contrasting coloured thread works well.
- 8 Finally, stitch the smaller stars to the center on each side.

Brilliant—you now have a gorgeous star to add to your tree (or elsewhere :)

Making up an oval shape:

To make an oval bauble you will need four of the oval pattern pieces. Again, you can use felt, fabric - or a mix of both, depending upon the look you want:)

Follow the instructions for the smaller round on page 3 to make these, adding a cord as usual.



The Bell:

These are very easy:) You need two bell shapes and either a tiny bell or small pompom

- Place both halves together, with a cord placed at the top. Stitch down each side separately and give the cord a tug to check the knot is holding it in place.
- 2 Use either your cord, or embroidery thread to hand your pompom or bell from the knot . Let this hang a little below the bell for best effect :)



That's the basis for all your fabric and felt ornaments:) Decoration and embellishing can match them to your colour scheme or theme for the season:)

I hope you'll agree they are fun and simple to make—get all the family to create their own personal ornament for the tree this year. Here are some ideas to get you started









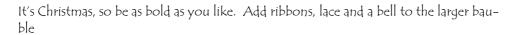




Craft and hobby shops should have these colourful pom poms. Use them for the bells and add them to your ther decorations for a matching theme.

Try making the shapes in both felt and fabric. You can get a very different look—see red pom pom oval and fabric oval above :)

Use just two of the round pattern shapes to make a simple ornament in felt, fill with stuffing as usual. (see my green Christmas tree above)



Add glittering ribbons, beads or sequins

Mix felt and fabrics together

Use embroidery to add a message or name— a lovely idea for a personal gift :)

Don't just use them for Christmas, why not make Halloween or Easter themed decorations too

I know you'll think of many more ways to personalise your stitch-

Enjoy and have fun!

Do pop along to my website and see my other patterns and kits:)

Angela x



Important:

Please feel free to sell any decorations made with this pattern if you wish. Please just identify the original designer on your item as follows, thank you:)

Based on an original design by Angela Jardine of pcBangles www.pcbangles.co.uk