

Vintage Bicycle project

Thank you for buying my book – this free bonus project is an opportunity for you to use the skills you've learned from it to make the vintage bicycle on the front cover. The templates can be found below.

You can use whatever colour fabrics and threads and map you like for this – I used blues, yellows and neutral fabrics, black thread and a paper map of Paris. Before you begin, print out three copies of the free bicycle design. Two are used to cut the templates, the third is used to trace the design.

1 Start by cutting the following templates from the first copy:

- All the bicycle's metal work, including the saddle and handlebars. *Template A.*
- Inside of the bicycle wheels, missing the metalwork. *Templates B and C.*

2 Cut the following templates from the second copy:

- The two tyres. *Templates D and E.*
- Basket. *Template F.*

3 The insides of the wheels will be made from paper rather than fabric. In this example, I've used a printed map, which is glued in place after the piece has been stitched and then the pattern paper removed (see step 12). Place templates B and C face down onto the backside of your chosen map. Trace around the edge, then cut out on your line. Set aside for later.

4 Place the rest of the templates right-side facing down onto the paper side of your fusible webbing, then trace round them using a ballpoint pen.

5 Cut the shapes out, leaving a small margin past your pen line.

6 Pick three appliqué fabrics. Iron the correct fusible webbing piece onto the back side of your chosen fabric piece and cut out. Be sure to remove the inside of the wheels from the tyres (D and E).

5 Using the third printed copy of the bike, trace the design onto pattern paper using black ballpoint pen.

8 Cut a piece of your backing fabric larger than the design, with an 8cm (3in) or more margin around each edge. Cut a piece of iron-on interfacing a little smaller than the backing fabric and iron it onto the back of the backing fabric.

9 Pin the top two corners of the pattern paper with design onto the centre of the backing fabric. Taking each piece in turn, remove the paper backing from the fusible webbing and place the cut-out appliqué pieces, one at a time, onto the fabric and iron in the following order: Tyres (D and E); bicycle frame (A); basket (F).

8 Pin down the bottom two corners of the pattern paper, and re-draw any lines if necessary.

10 Freehand machine embroider over all lines twice, as described on page 23.

11 When the stitching is complete, remove the pattern paper. I have left paper on some of the small details (the saddle, bike stand, lights and pedals). See page 32-33 for more detail on how to remove paper and how to leave small areas of paper.

12 Take the map cut outs for the inside of the wheel. (step 2) Apply a thin layer of fabric or PVA onto the backside of the map with a paint brush and glue in the correct place inside the wheel.

13 To finish off the piece, I cut out and remounted my bike. If you would also like to do so, follow the instructions on page 69 for remounting.

YOU WILL NEED

Equipment:

Sewing machine, embroidery foot, needle, bobbin
Iron and ironing board
Black ballpoint pen
Fabric and paper scissors
Pins
Lint roller (optional)
Sticky tape
Tweezers
Fabric glue or PVA
Paintbrush

Materials:

Base fabric – at least 46 x 37cm (18 x 14½in)
Iron-on interfacing
Pattern paper
Fusible webbing
Cartridge paper
Appliqué fabrics
Paper map for the inside of the wheels
Machine thread



The finished piece

