

ITH Nutcracker Container Wraps

Adorable in-the-hoop holiday nutcracker-themed container wraps. Requires minimum 160x260mm hoop and minimal extra finishing. Features appliqué with details provided by embroidery.

Materials:

Skill Level : Some Experience

Time Required : 02:00 hours

• ITH Nutcracker Container Wraps from LindeeG Embroidery

• Front fabric: 6.5" x 10.5" in the color you want for the face

• Backing fabric: 6.5" x 10.5" in a coordinating color

• Fleece or thin batting: 6.5" x 10.5"

• Fabrics for appliqués: refer to patterns in the download for sizes, colors of your choice

• Elastic: 1/8" wide or narrow round, four 2" strips (I used black)

• Buttons: 4 small (1/2" or 13mm or smaller) (mine are plain back but a holiday theme could be fun)

• Stabilizer: I used medium-weight cutaway

• Painter's tape or similar

• Fabric glue to secure elastic raw ends

• Clips to hold elastic while drying

• Embroidery threads to coordinate with your fabrics

• Fusible web for appliqué; I used Steam-a-Seam 2

• Optional: Temporary embroidery spray adhesive (TESA): I used KK2000 to secure fabrics if desired

Containers: these designs are sized for 16oz straight-sided containers that are approximately 6" tall with a diameter of 2.77". I used these: <https://amzn.to/3VQH2w5>

Designs used in this project:

- <https://www.embroiderydesigns.com/productdetails/lindee-g-embroidery/designpack/1/dplgs115>

Preface:

This set includes 6 different nutcrackers. Most use the same front appliqué pieces to make them easier to stitch. Due to the density of the stitches, these designs are not intended for use with vinyl.

Worksheets with sewing tips, applique patterns, SVG cutter files, and PDF instructions are included. Since all the pieces are rectangular, it's easy just to use a rotary cutter and ruler to cut them.

The containers I used are these: <https://amzn.to/3Wza0Ba> but a container with similar dimensions should work just fine.

Step 1:

Decide on your fabrics, and cut and organize your supplies. Print your worksheet so you know when to place the appliques.



Step 2:



Hoop the stabilizer and sew color 1. Place the fleece over this reference and sew color 2 to attach it. Trim off the excess batting close to the stitching line. This will minimize the bulk in the seam allowances.

Step 3:



Smooth the front fabric over this area, extending it slightly over the side and bottom placement guides and extending more at the top. This fabric provides a smooth surface for the other appliques that will be attached over it.

Sew color 3 to attach the front fabric. This tack down includes some extra placement notations for aligning the elastic loops. These stitches will be covered later so it's a good idea to extend these lines onto the stabilizer.

Step 4:



Now simply follow the worksheet reference to stitch up *to* the next to last color. The appliques for the front will be placed first. A placement line for each will be stitched, you'll align the fabric, and the tackdown will sewn. Each applique is placed one at a time. The order is as follows.

The “hair” appliques will be placed first, followed by the hat, and then the jacket. For the hair, make sure the cut edge aligns precisely next to the exposed area of the face.

Step 5:



For the hat, make sure the long straight edge aligns accurately along the appliqué's left edge

For Nutcracker 1, align the thin rectangle along its right edge

For the larger jacket/body appliqué, align it along its right edge

TIP: Notice that the edge that is aligned is the one closest to the face. The other edges can meet or even overlap their placement lines. In other words, previous layers and underlap as long as their color won't bleed through the top layer.

Step 6:



Placing the elastic button loops: The next-to-last color secures the elastic hoops. The reference lines you extended onto the stabilizer are the placement guides.

Optional: Add a strip of tape across the project at the two marks on the sides. This guide is the top edge of your loops (the closed end).

Note: You may need to adjust the placement line if you use a different size button, loop, or container.

The 4 lines across the bottom mark the vertical center for each button loop. Align the cut ends of each loop at the bottom and the closed end along the guide. Temporarily secure in place with tape.

Step 7:



Sew this color to attach the loops. Remove tape.

Optional (but recommended!): tape down the loops to flatten them; keep the tape out of the seam allowance.

Step 8:



Smooth the back fabric, face down, over the front of the hoop aligning it with the front fabric and stitch the last color. Remove the project from the hoop. Trim seam allowances on the long sides and the bottom edge (end where the loops are) to 1/4". Trim the top edge first to 3/4" then down to 1/4" only next to the stitching line. (See below.)

Then clip corners to minimize bulk. Turn right side out, tuck in seam allowance at the opening, press well.

Step 9:



Close the opening (machine edge stitch, hand stitch, or fuse).

Stitch buttons along edge matching the alignment of the button loops.

Step 10:



Secure elastic loops over the buttons and then slide onto container.

Meet The Author: **Lindee Goodall**

Lindee began digitizing in 1994 and has taught embroidery and digitizing classes globally since 1996. She is the founder and former owner of Cactus Punch and now owns Lindee G Embroidery.