

## Sculpted Pumpkins



### Tall, Skinny Pumpkin

1. Cut a rectangle of fabric - any size you like. This pretty much depends on how large or small you want your finished pumpkin. For the purposes of these instructions, I cut a rectangle 8.5 x 11.5". Once again, you can make yours taller, shorter, fatter... whatever you like!

2. Fold down 1/4" seam along one of the long sides of your rectangle. Press. Fold the rectangle right sides together along the shorter side and stitch sides closed. Press seam open.



3. Machine or hand gather the bottom, unpressed edge. Pull the gathers tightly to close off opening - use strands to wrap around the gathers and tie off, to make sure the opening is sealed.

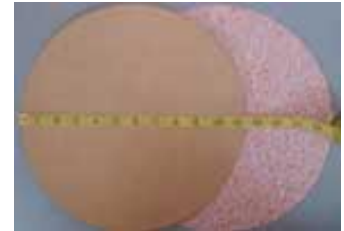
4. Turn the piece inside out and fill about one third with rice or beans. This will help it sit nicely, without toppling over. Stuff the rest of the pumpkin with leftover pieces of batting or any other filling of your choice.



5. With thick, strong thread, gather the top, folded edge tightly and tie off. Follow the instructions on the next page for all the pumpkins, for finishing and attaching the stem and leaves.

### Easy, Peasy Round Pumpkin

1. For this pumpkin you will need a circle of fabric. Once again... any size you like. Your finished pumpkin will be about half the size of the fabric circle. You can use a dinner plate or trace a circle on a large piece of cardboard if you need a bigger circle.



2. Turn the edge of circle about 1/4 inch to the wrong side and secure it with a gathering stitch. I recommend you use quilting thread for its strength.



3. Gather the circle loosely. As with the tall pumpkin, fill about one third with rice or small beans to help weigh it down. Fill the rest with scraps of batting or stuffing. Gather tightly, secure, and tie off the threads.

4. Follow the instructions on the next page for all the pumpkins, for finishing and attaching the stem and leaves.



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## Large Pieced Pumpkin

1. For this pumpkin you will need to cut 6 pieces of fabric, using the template on the next page. You can enlarge or reduce the size of the template accordingly, depending on if you want a larger or smaller pumpkin.

2. With right sides together, sew two pumpkin sections together from the top of the piece to the bottom, between the two dots.

Backstitch at both the beginning and end of your seam. Sew a third pumpkin section to the other side of the first piece. Make sure to match the dots at the top and bottom of the pieces. Repeat with the other three pumpkin sections to complete two pumpkin halves.



3. Sew both pumpkin halves together, once again matching the dots at the top and bottom of the pieces.

4. As with the other pumpkin shapes, turn the piece inside out and fill about one third with rice or beans to help it sit nicely, without toppling over. Stuff the rest of the pumpkin with leftover pieces of batting or any other filling of your choice.

5. With thick, strong thread, gather the top, folded edge tightly and tie off. Follow the instructions in the next column for all the pumpkins, for finishing and attaching the stem and leaves.

## Finishing: Shaping the Pumpkins

1. Cut a length of your choice of yarn, embroidery thread, jute or thin cording to wrap around the pumpkin to shape it. To estimate the amount, wrap around loosely 4 times and add another 5-6 inches.

2. Knot one of the ends and insert into the top of the pumpkin, along the gathers. Wrap around once and pull tightly to make an indentation. Keep wrapping in quarters, pulling tightly each time to form that indentation. Wrap altogether 3-4 times. (In the case of the pieced pumpkin, wrap 3 times, following the seam lines.)



## Stem and Leaves



1. For the stem, cut a piece of felt 4 inches long by the width you desire - from 1/2" to 2 inches wide. (For an arrangement, it looks nice to vary the height of the stem). Roll to form a cylinder and blindstitch the long edge closed.

2. A template in two sizes is provided for the leaves.

For larger pumpkins, cut two or three leaves out of felt. For the smaller pumpkins, one leaf is sufficient. Embroider the leaf with running stitches to form the veins.



3. Tack the leaf onto the pumpkin. Attach the stem, sewing around the entire circumference to make sure it is attached securely. For some decorative charm, tie some jute or twine to the stem.



Cut 6

PIECED PUMPKIN

