

Snowy Friends

A little winter joy for your table



Three cheerful snowmen, frosty teal panels and soft green trees come together in a detailed applique placemat. Make one winter accent or a matching pair.

TARGET SIZE	TECHNIQUES	SKILL LEVEL
18 x 11 in each 45.7 x 27.9 cm	Patchwork, fusible applique, embroidery and quilting	Confident beginner to intermediate

Includes calculated cutting measurements, illustrated assembly, full-size placement sheets, mirrored applique templates, and instructions for one or two placemats.

Before you begin

About this pattern: This is a reconstructed sewing version based on the supplied photograph. The original dimensions, stitch files and construction instructions were not available. The cutting arithmetic and template scale have been checked digitally; this version has not been sample-sewn. It is not the original designer's pattern, and small shapes and stitches will differ from the photograph.

The cover is an AI-generated decorative visualization based on the reference. Use the measured diagrams and templates in this PDF for sewing. The method uses a regular sewing machine; the photograph's dense embroidered appearance is interpreted with fabric applique and hand or free-motion stitching.

What you will make

A rectangular, bound placemat with eight background pieces arranged in three columns. The pieced top measures 18 x 11 inches before quilting. Its design area, between the outer binding seam lines, is 17 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches. Binding covers the outer 1/4 inch; it does not add a separate border. Quilting and washing may reduce the final size slightly.

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5-7	Background assembly, applique preparation and piece key
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Reading the measurements

All cutting measurements are in inches and include a 1/4-inch seam allowance where pieces are sewn together. W x H means width across the placemat x height from top to bottom. Applique cut lines have no turn-under allowance. Use one unit system throughout; centimeters are reference conversions only.

Abbreviations: WOF = usable width of fabric, at least 40 inches after selvages; RST = right sides together; RS = right side; WS = wrong side; SA = seam allowance. A fat quarter is approximately 18 x 20 usable inches.

Materials & fabric planning

MATERIAL	ONE PLACEMAT	MATCHING PAIR
Pale aqua background	1 fat quarter	1/2 yard
Dark teal background	1 fat quarter	1 fat quarter
Cream: label, tree strip, snowmen, snowbanks	1 fat quarter	1/2 yard
Aqua binding	1/4 yard	1/3 yard
Red applique	10 x 14 in piece	1 fat quarter
Lime / light green applique	8 x 10 in piece	10 x 16 in piece
Medium green applique	5 x 6 in piece	6 x 10 in piece
Dark teal tree applique	5 x 8 in piece	8 x 10 in piece
Orange, pink, burgundy, brown	Small scraps of each	Small scraps of each
Backing	22 x 15 in	Two 22 x 15 in pieces
Low-loft batting	22 x 15 in	Two 22 x 15 in pieces
Sewable paper-backed fusible web	18 x 24 in minimum	18 x 48 in minimum

Amounts allow sensible cutting space, not fussy cutting. Use cotton quilting fabric, preferably small-scale prints or tone-on-tone textures. For the pair, 7/8 yard of 40-inch-wide backing yields two 22 x 15-inch rectangles rotated across the width. Cut the large pale aqua H pieces first.

Tools and thread

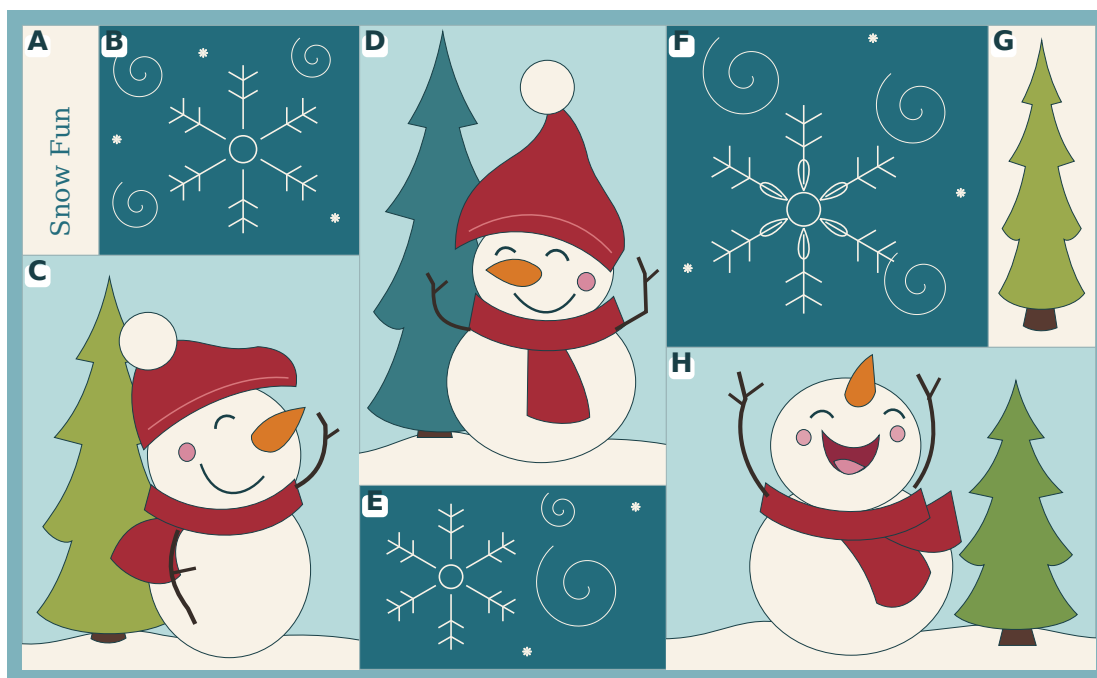
Rotary cutter, mat, acrylic ruler, fine scissors, iron and pressing cloth; washable marking pen; quilting pins or basting spray; sewing machine with straight and blanket or zigzag stitches; walking foot; optional free-motion foot. Use matching applique threads, aqua quilting thread, white snowflake thread and dark brown or black embroidery thread. A removable stabilizer can support dense applique stitching.

Prewash and press fabrics consistently if desired; test red fabric for color transfer. Choose a fusible labeled sewable. Follow its own heat, time and steam instructions rather than a generic temperature.

Background cutting chart

Cut every rectangle with its width and height in the orientation shown. Quantities below are exact for the background; make each applique ID once per placemat.

ID	FABRIC / POSITION	CUT W x H	ONE	PAIR
A	Cream / upper-left label	1 3/4 x 4 1/4	1	2
B	Teal / upper-left snowflake	4 3/4 x 4 1/4	1	2
C	Aqua / lower-left snowman	6 x 7 1/4	1	2
D	Aqua / tall center snowman	5 1/2 x 8	1	2
E	Teal / lower-center snowflake	5 1/2 x 3 1/2	1	2
F	Teal / upper-right snowflake	5 3/4 x 5 3/4	1	2
G	Cream / upper-right tree	2 1/4 x 5 3/4	1	2
H	Aqua / lower-right snowman	7 1/2 x 5 3/4	1	2



Binding per placemat: cut two 2 1/4 x WOF strips (40 inches usable each). For a pair, cut four strips. Keep each two-strip set separate. There is no added border or sashing.

1 Snowbanks & background

Before joining the background: prepare snowbanks C1, D1 and H1 using page 6. Fuse them to raw rectangles C, D and H, aligning their straight bottom and side edges with the raw fabric edges. Stitch only the curved tops. Then piece the background below using an accurate 1/4-inch SA. Add all other applique after piecing.

1. Left column

Place A and B RST along their 4 1/4-inch sides, with A on the left. Sew and press toward B. The unit must be 6 x 4 1/4 inches. Sew C below it, along the 6-inch edges. Press the seam open. Check: 6 x 11 inches.

2. Center column

Place D above E, RST along the 5 1/2-inch edges. Sew and press open. Check: 5 1/2 x 11 inches.

3. Right column

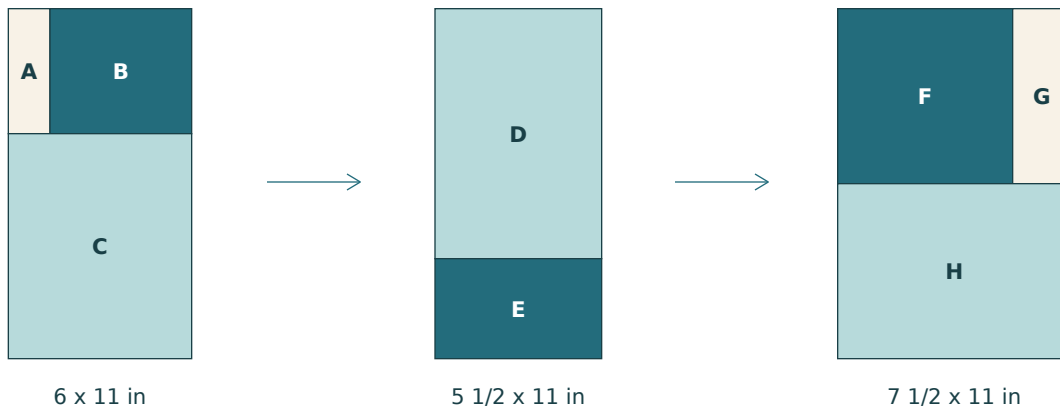
Place F to the left of G. Sew RST along the 5 3/4-inch sides; press toward F. The upper unit must be 7 1/2 x 5 3/4 inches. Sew H below it, press open and check: 7 1/2 x 11 inches.

4. Join the columns

Lay the left, center and right columns in that order. Sew left to center, then add right, always RST along the 11-inch sides. Press both long seams open. Check the raw top: 18 x 11 inches. The horizontal seams deliberately do not line up across the columns.

Size check: $(6 + 5 \frac{1}{2} + 7 \frac{1}{2}) - (2 \times \frac{1}{2}) = 18$ inches wide. Every sewn seam uses 1/4 inch from each adjoining piece, so each join removes 1/2 inch from the combined cut dimensions.

If one column is longer, check the seam allowance and pressing before proceeding. Do not stretch a short column or trim a long one without finding the mismatch. The full-size placement frames correspond to the original cut rectangles.



Join the columns RST with two 1/4-inch seams. Raw top: 18 x 11 inches.

2 Prepare the applique

1. Print and verify

Print pages 14 onward at Actual Size / 100%. Measure a 1-inch calibration square horizontally and vertically with a ruler. It must measure exactly 1 inch (25.4 mm). A4 paper is fine with 100% scaling; do not choose Fit.

2. Trace the mirrored pieces

The separate cutting sheets are already mirrored for paper-backed fusible web. Trace their solid outlines onto the paper side, including the IDs. Trace each ID once for one placemat or twice for a pair. Do not mirror them again. Placement sheets show the front view.

3. Fuse to the fabric wrong side

Rough-cut around traced shapes, leaving about 1/4 inch outside the line for handling. Fuse to the WS of the correct fabric following the fusible manufacturer. Let the fabric cool, then cut exactly on the solid line. The handling margin is discarded.

4. Build the layers

Peel the papers. Attach the three snowbanks to their raw background rectangles BEFORE piecing, as directed on page 5. Once the top is assembled, align the placement sheets with its seam lines. Add trunks and trees, then bodies, heads and clothing. Keep full hidden overlaps beneath the scarves.

5. Secure the shapes

When the layout matches, fuse without dragging the iron. Stitch all exposed raw edges with a small blanket stitch or narrow zigzag. Start with roughly 1.5-2.0 mm stitch width and test the spacing on matching scraps. Use stabilizer if the edge puckers; reduce tension or density as needed.

Only snowbanks extend into the seam/binding allowances. Their straight bottom and side edges align with the raw fabric perimeter and are secured by later seams or binding. Stitch the curved snowbank tops; do not add an extra seam allowance to any template.

Applique piece key

PANEL	IDS / FABRIC	LAYER ORDER & NOTES
C: left	C1 cream; C2 brown; C3 lime; C4-C5 cream; C6-C8 red; C9 cream; C10 orange; C11 pink	Snowbank > trunk > tree > body > head > tail > collar > hat > pom-pom > carrot > cheek.
D: center	D1 cream; D2 brown; D3 teal; D4-D5 cream; D6-D8 red; D9 cream; D10 orange; D11 pink	Snowbank > trunk > tree > body > head > tail > collar > hat > pom-pom > carrot > cheek.
H: right	H1 cream; H2 brown; H3 green; H4-H5 cream; H6-H8 red; H9 orange; H10 burgundy; H11-H13 pink	Snowbank > trunk > tree > body > head > lower tail > flying tail > collar > carrot > mouth > tongue > cheeks.
G: tree	G1 brown; G2 lime	Trunk > narrow tree.
A, B, E, F	Thread only	A: Snow Fun lettering. B, E, F: snowflakes. Arms, eyes, smiles: embroidery.

Find each cutting template

PDF PAGE	TEMPLATE IDS
19	D3, C3, G2, C9, H9, D10, H2, H11, H12, H13
20	H3, H4, C4, D8, H6, C10, D2, G1, C2
21	D4, C5, H5, C8, D5, D6, H7, H8, C11, D11
22	D1, C6, H1, C7, D7, C1, H10, D9

All 37 unique applique pieces are used once per placemat. Small cheeks and the tongue may instead be satin-stitched or hand-embroidered along the same outlines. Embroidered features are shown at full size on the placement pages.

3 Build the left snowman



1. Snowbank C1 was attached to C before the background was pieced (page 5). On the assembled top, position C2 behind C3, then add the lime tree near the left edge. The tree stays behind the snowman.
2. Add body C4 and head C5. Let the head overlap the body, using the placement sheet rather than matching their raw edges. The overlapping shapes create a natural neck beneath the scarf.
3. Place scarf tail C6 before collar C7. Add hat C8 across the upper-left part of the face and pom-pom C9 above the left side. The carrot C10 points up and to the right. Add cheek C11.
4. Stitch exposed applique edges in layer order. Embroider the closed eye, curved smile, twig arms and hat-band line using the full-size C placement sheet. The lower arm passes in front of the body; the raised arm appears at the right.

The illustration is reduced and is not a cutting template. On the full-size placement sheet, the outside frame equals the raw background piece and the dashed rectangle marks the seam/binding line.

4 Build the center snowman



1. Snowbank D1 was attached before piecing; its straight lower edge is now held in the D/E seam. Add trunk D2 and tall teal tree D3. The tree tip stays inside the top binding seam line.
2. Set body D4 in front of the tree, then head D5 above it. Position scarf tail D6 down the front of the body, followed by collar D7. The collar hides the tail's upper attachment.
3. Add pointed hat D8, followed by pom-pom D9. The hat tip curves toward the center. Place carrot D10 pointing to the left and cheek D11 on the right side of the face.
4. Stitch the applique outlines, then embroider two closed eyes, a smile, two short twig arms and the hat-band curve. Keep the white body visible around the long scarf tail.

The illustration is reduced and is not a cutting template. On the full-size placement sheet, the outside frame equals the raw background piece and the dashed rectangle marks the seam/binding line.

5 Build the laughing snowman

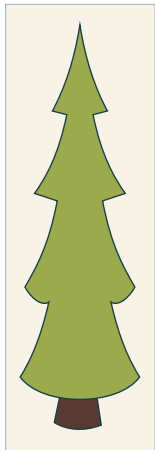


1. Snowbank H1 was attached before the background was pieced. Add trunk H2 and green tree H3 at the right. Add body H4 and head H5 at the left-center, leaving room for both lifted twig arms.

2. Place lower scarf tail H6, flying tail H7 and collar H8 in that order. The flying tail extends toward the tree while the lower tail drapes down the chest. Keep both visible beneath the collar.

3. Add upward-pointing carrot H9, dark mouth H10, pink tongue H11 and cheeks H12-H13. This snowman has no hat. Stitch the eyes and both uplifted arms as shown on the placement sheet.

4. In the narrow G panel above, position brown trunk G1 first and narrow lime tree G2 over it. Center the trunk under the foliage. Stitch the full tree edge with matching thread.



Narrow tree G

Finished design area: 1 3/4 x 5 1/4 in.

Background cut: 2 1/4 x 5 3/4 in.

The full-size F/G sheet includes its placement.

6 Snowflakes, lettering & details

Use the full-size B, E and F placement sheets to transfer snowflake centerlines. Trace only with a removable fabric marker, testing it first. White or pale ivory thread contrasts with the teal background. These motifs are stitched lines, not cut fabric snowflakes.

FEATURE	METHOD
Snowflakes	Use a small straight stitch with a free-motion foot, or a hand backstitch / stem stitch with 2 strands of embroidery floss. Work from the center out; return along a branch only when needed. A second pass can strengthen the white line.
Eyes and smiles	Use dark thread and short stitches along the supplied curves. Two strands of floss give a soft hand-stitched result. Avoid pulling so tightly that the face puckers.
Twig arms	Stitch the main line first, then each short branch. For a wider arm, use 3 strands of floss or two adjacent machine-stitched lines.
Snow Fun lettering	Transfer the A placement lettering in the front-facing orientation. Work the strokes with stem stitch or backstitch. Check the direction before stitching: the words read upward when the placemat is horizontal.
Hat bands and scarf detail	Add the marked hat-band lines. Scarf fold lines may be added with red or pink thread, following the fabric drape in the illustration.
Swirls and tiny snow stars	Optional quilting texture. The main snowflake positions are fixed by the templates; swirls and tiny stars can be spaced freely around them.

Keep the fabric flat

Support the background while stitching. Use removable stabilizer where necessary and remove it according to its instructions. Press from the wrong side over a soft towel to protect the raised stitches. Complete the hand embroidery before adding backing so the thread ends remain hidden.

Transfer the actual placement sheets, not the decorative cover photograph. For the full embroidered look of the reference, a digitized embroidery file would be needed; this PDF provides sewing and hand-embroidery templates only.

7 Quilt, square & bind

Make the quilt sandwich

Lay the 22 x 15-inch backing WS up, then batting, then the completed top RS up, centered with about 2 inches extra around it. Smooth and baste from the center toward the edges. Keep the embroidered top relaxed and flat.

Anchor the patchwork

With a walking foot, stitch in the ditch along the two vertical column seams and the short horizontal seams. Work from the center outward. Secure the perimeter about 1/8 inch from the raw edge.

Add quilting texture

Echo around snowmen and trees about 1/8-1/4 inch outside their edges, avoiding densely stitched areas. Quilt loose swirls in the open teal panels and curved lines in the aqua sky and snowbanks. Stay within the batting manufacturer's maximum quilting spacing; add gentle lines through large white areas if needed.

Square the placemat

Lay the quilt flat without stretching it. Trim excess batting and backing even with the top; keep opposite sides parallel and the corners square. The top began at 18 x 11 inches, but dense quilting can draw it in. Trim only what is needed to square it; record the actual size before binding.

Prepare the binding

Join two 2 1/4 x 40-inch strips with one diagonal seam, trim the seam to 1/4 inch and press open. Fold the long strip in half lengthwise, WS together, and press. This gives about 77 3/4 inches before final end joining, enough for a 58-inch perimeter plus tails.

Attach with mitered corners

Align binding raw edges with the top's raw edge. Leave a 6-inch starting tail and begin near the center of a long side. Sew with a 1/4-inch SA. Stop 1/4 inch before each corner and secure; fold the binding up at 45 degrees, then down so its fold aligns with the next raw edge. Continue around the mat.

Join the ends and finish

Leave about 6 inches unsewn before the starting point. Lay the tails flat without stretching. Trim so their overlap is 2 1/4 inches (the strip width), open the folds, join RST diagonally and check the fit before trimming. Press, refold and finish attaching. Wrap to the back and hand stitch over the attachment seam, forming neat corner miters.

Final checks & useful notes

CHECK	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Layout	A at upper left, E under the center snowman, G at upper right. There is no outer pieced border.
Applique	Every visible raw edge is stitched. Hidden overlaps lie flat; snowbanks meet their intended seams or binding.
Embroidery	Thread tails are secured, markings are removed and the lettering reads in the intended direction.
Quilting	Layers are secured without folds on the backing. Quilting spacing matches the batting requirements.
Binding	All raw edges are enclosed, corners lie flat and the final join has no twist.
Pair consistency	Repeat the same cut sizes, template scale and quilting density for the second mat. Match final trimming to the smaller squared mat if needed.

Can I change the size?

Make this size first. Enlarging only the applique changes its relationship to the background; enlarging the whole printed pattern also changes seam allowances. To resize correctly, scale the finished design dimensions and then add fresh 1/4-inch seam allowances to the background pieces.

Is this quilt-as-you-go?

The source photograph includes that caption, but its construction cannot be confirmed from the image. This version attaches snowbanks to raw panels, pieces the top, adds the remaining applique, then quilts the sandwich. Do not pre-quilt the individual pieces and join them using this chart; that would require a different seam and backing method.

Care

Follow the care instructions for the fabric, batting, thread and fusible products used. A gentle cool wash and flat drying help protect stitched applique. Press from the reverse with a cloth. These are decorative placemats, not insulated hot pads.

Technique reference

For a general example of fusible snowflake applique secured with straight or blanket stitches: AccuQuilt, Let's GO! Play with Applique, <https://www.accuquilt.com/go-play>. This resource supports the edge-stitching technique only; it is not the source of this placemat's design or measurements.

Placement C - left snowman



Outer frame = raw cut size. Dashed line = seam/binding line. RIGHT-SIDE view, not mirrored. Print at Actual Size / 100%; turn off Fit and Shrink. Check the square on page 18 and the test line below. Use separate mirrored cutting sheets for fusible web.

1 inch / 25.4 mm test line

Placement D - center snowman



Outer frame = raw cut size. Dashed line = seam/binding line. RIGHT-SIDE view, not mirrored. Print at Actual Size / 100%; turn off Fit and Shrink. Check the square on page 18 and the test line below. Use separate mirrored cutting sheets for fusible web.

1 inch / 25.4 mm test line

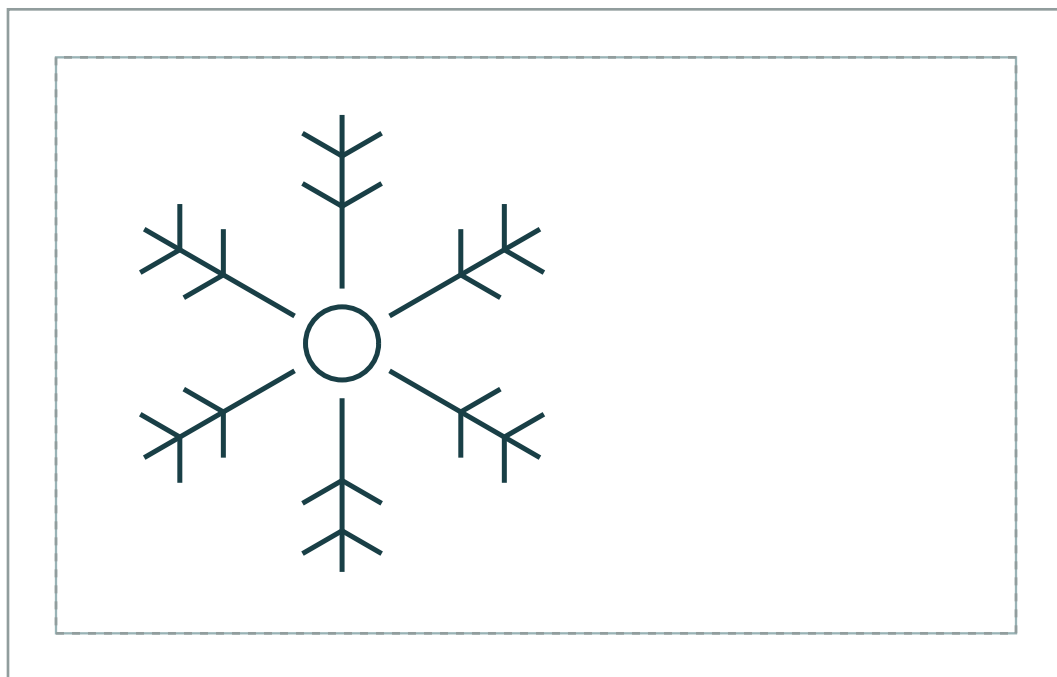
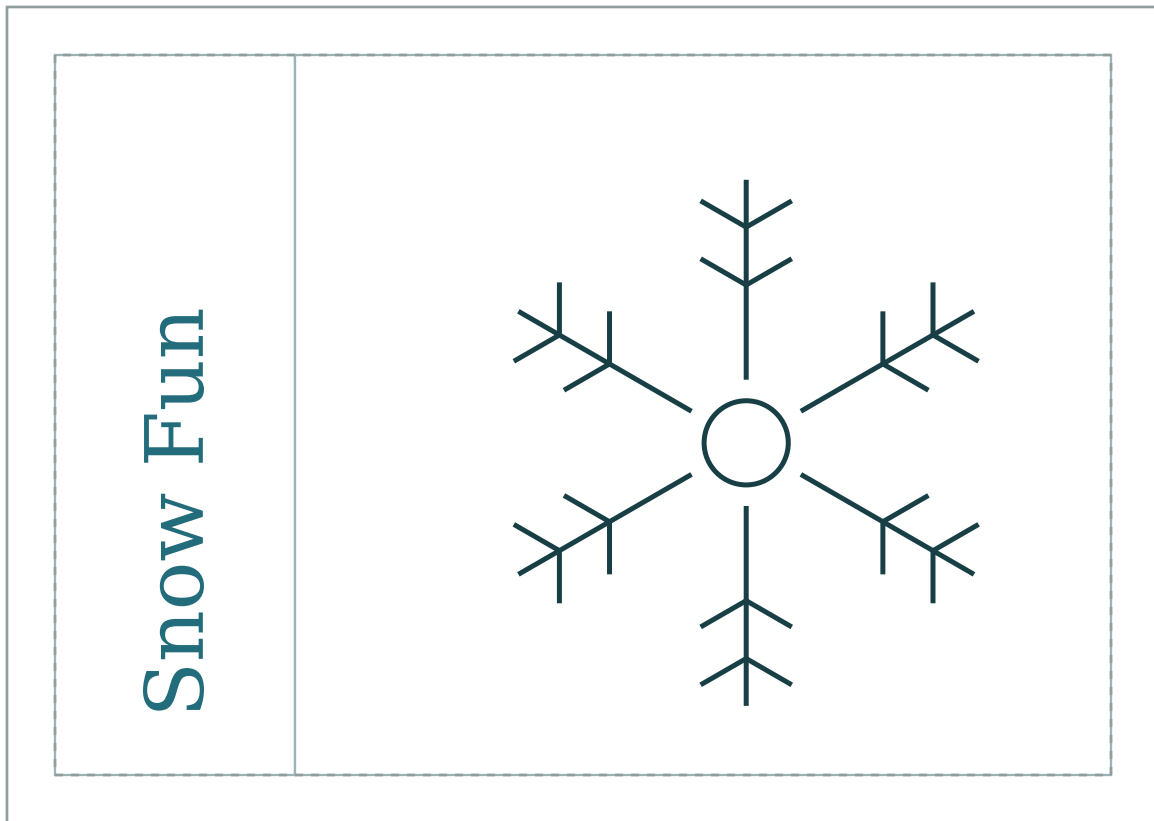
Placement H - laughing snowman



Outer frame = raw cut size. Dashed line = seam/binding line. RIGHT-SIDE view, not mirrored. Print at Actual Size / 100%; turn off Fit and Shrink. Check the square on page 18 and the test line below. Use separate mirrored cutting sheets for fusible web.

1 inch / 25.4 mm test line

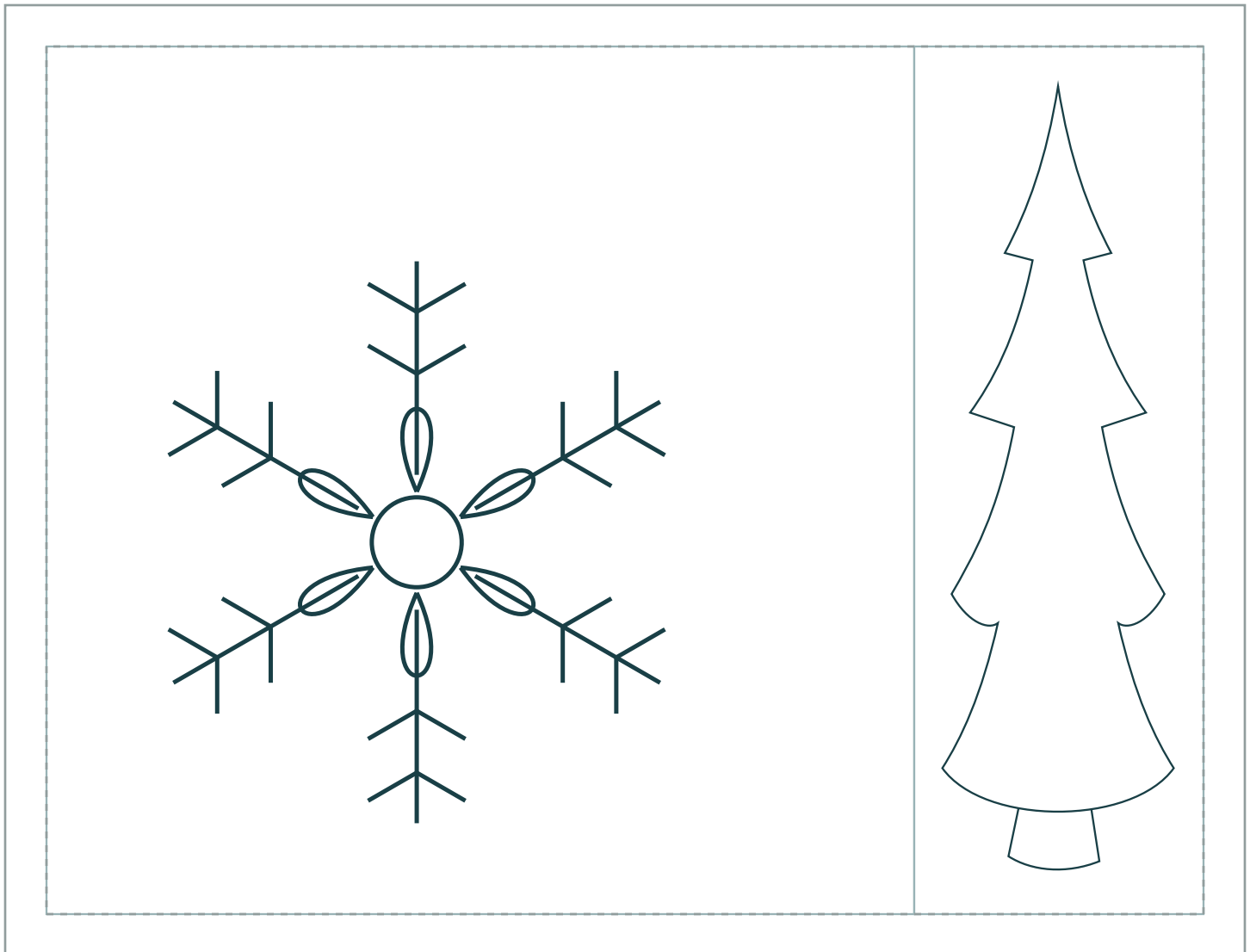
Placement A, B & E - stitch guides



Top: A + B joined unit. Bottom: E. RIGHT-SIDE embroidery guides. Snowflake branches are stitch lines, not fabric cut lines. Check the calibration square on page 18.

1 inch / 25.4 mm test line

Placement F & G - snowflake and tree



The outer frame is the sewn F + G unit: 7 1/2 x 5 3/4 inches raw. The dashed rectangle marks the seam/binding line. F sits to the left of G. Trace the snowflake as embroidery lines; use G1 and G2 from the mirrored cut sheets for the tree.

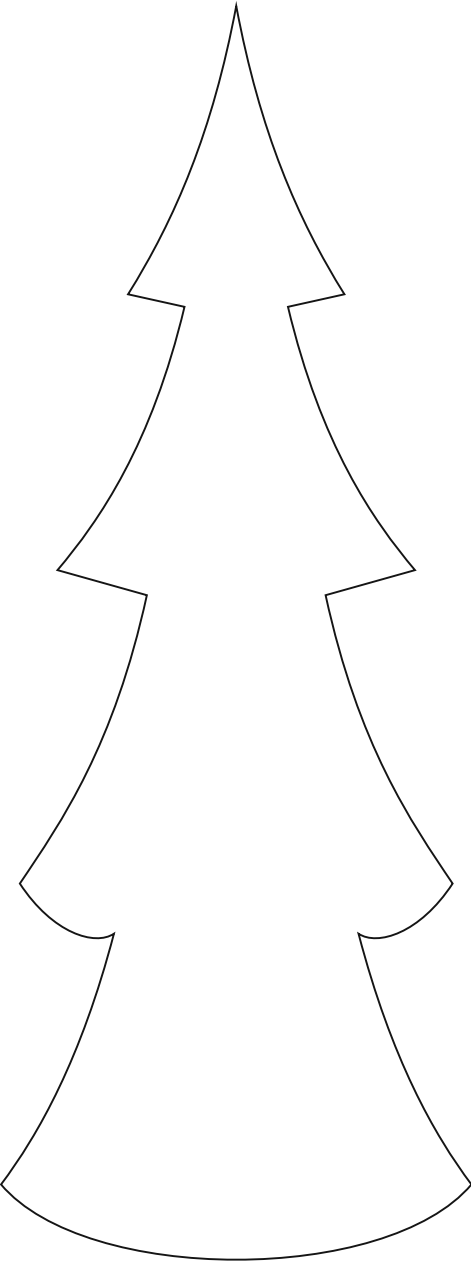


RIGHT-SIDE placement guide. Print at 100%. Measure the calibration square in both directions before use.

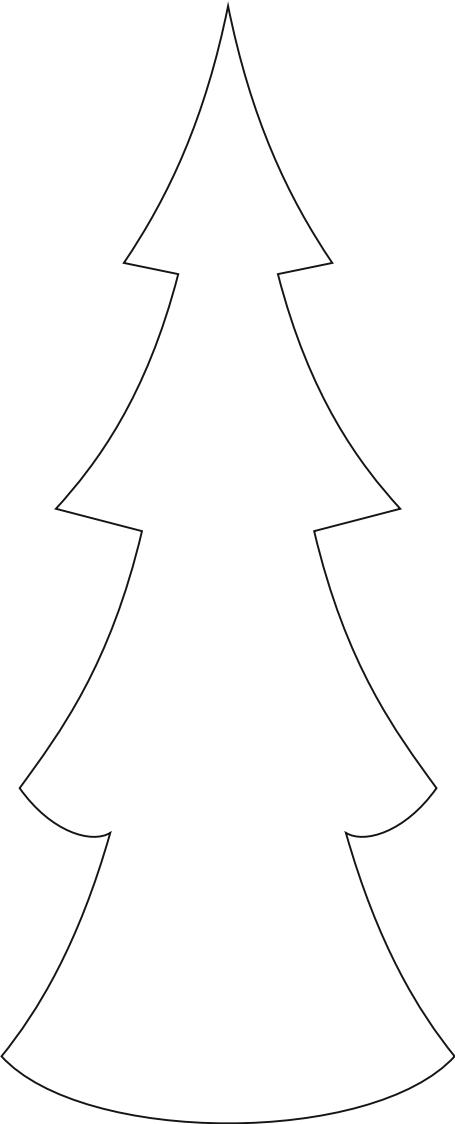
Mirrored cut templates - sheet 1

Trace onto fusible paper. Already reversed. Cut on solid lines; add NO allowance.

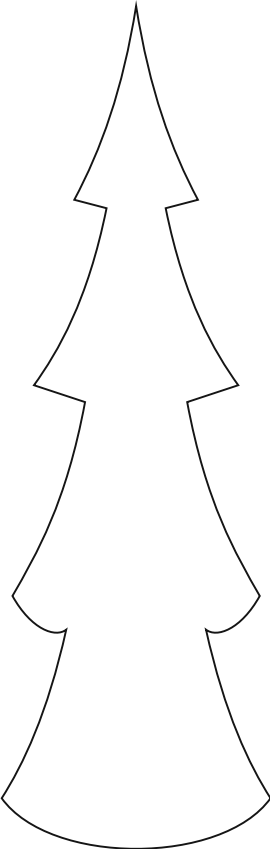
D3 Tall teal tree



C3 Lime tree



G2 Narrow lime tree



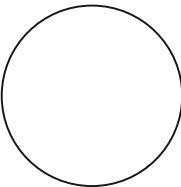
H12



H13



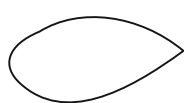
C9 Pom-pom



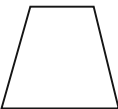
H9



D10 Carrot



H2



H11

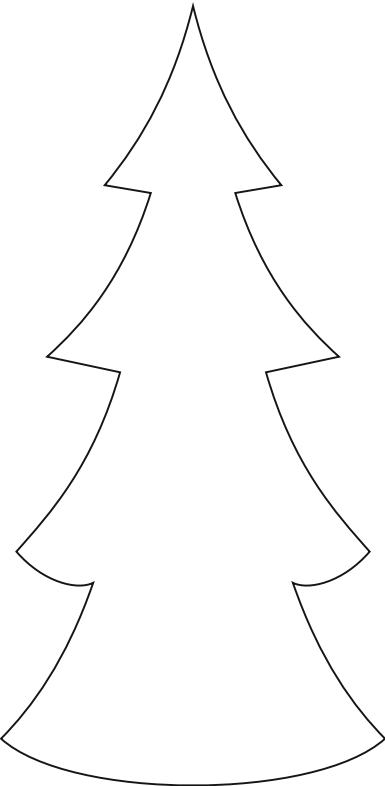


1 inch / 25.4 mm test line | One of each ID per placemat; two for a pair.

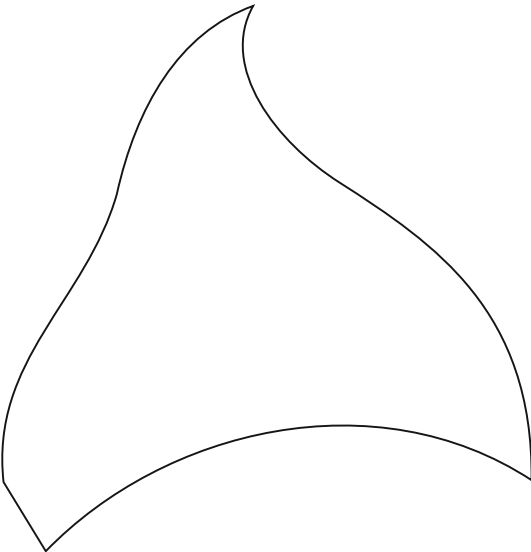
Mirrored cut templates - sheet 2

Trace onto fusible paper. Already reversed. Cut on solid lines; add NO allowance.

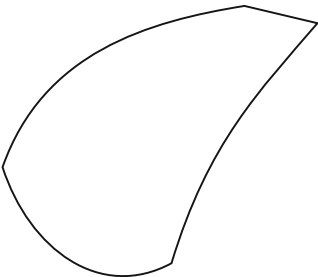
H3 Green tree



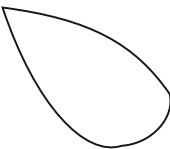
D8 Pointed hat



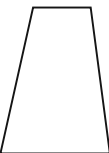
H6 Lower scarf tail



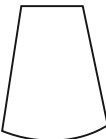
C10 Carrot



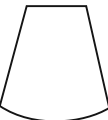
D2



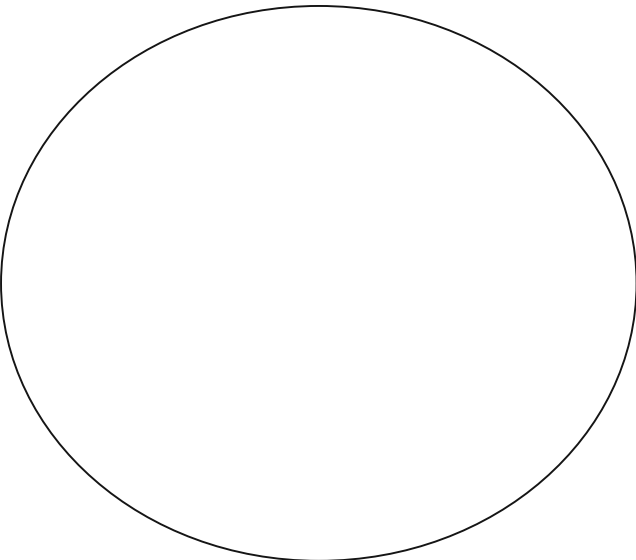
G1



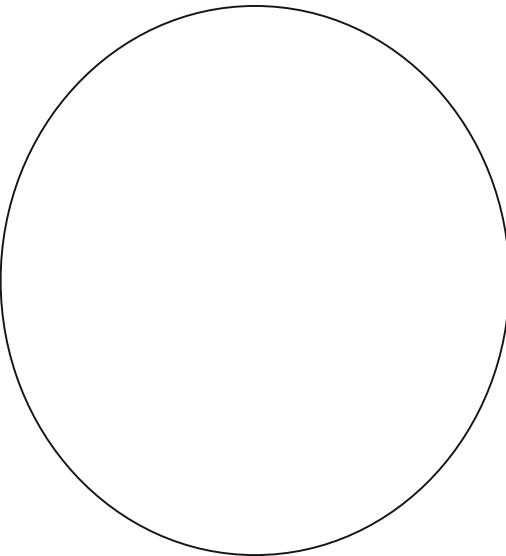
C2



H4 Body



C4 Body

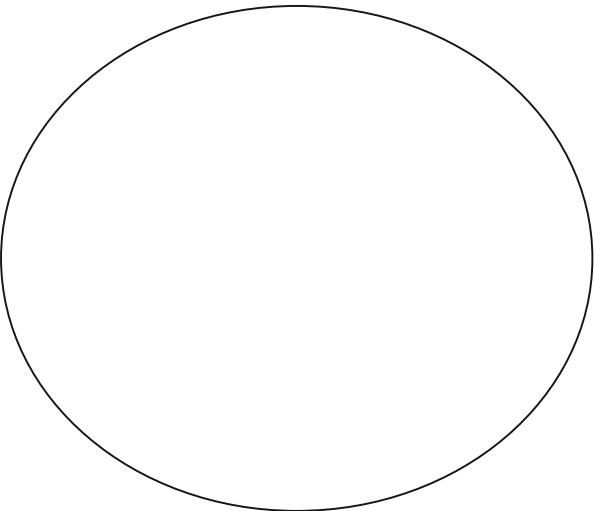


1 inch / 25.4 mm test line | One of each ID per placemat; two for a pair.

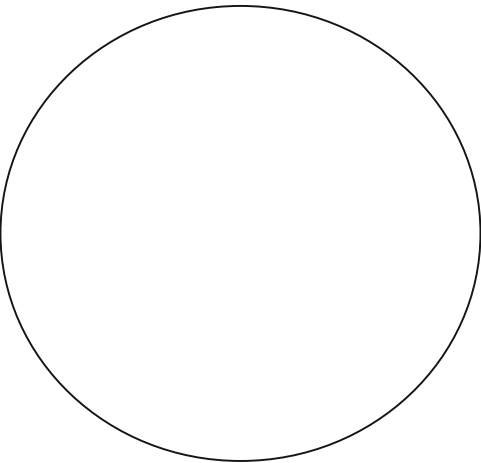
Mirrored cut templates - sheet 3

Trace onto fusible paper. Already reversed. Cut on solid lines; add NO allowance.

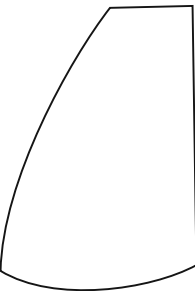
D4 Body



C5 Head



D6 Scarf tail



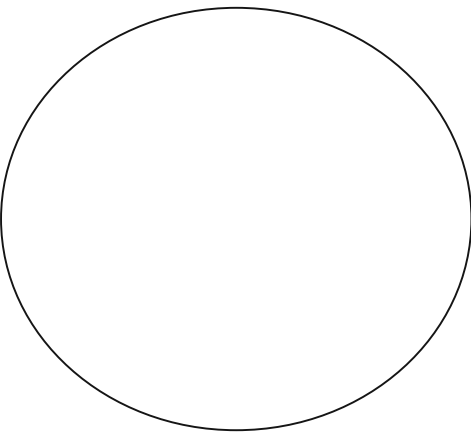
C11



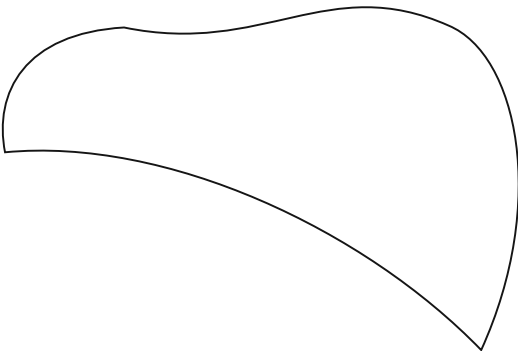
D11



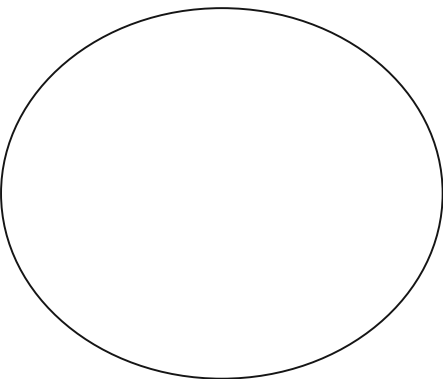
H5 Head



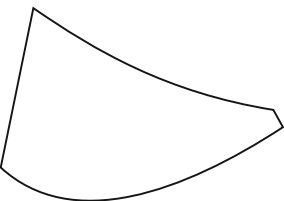
C8 Hat



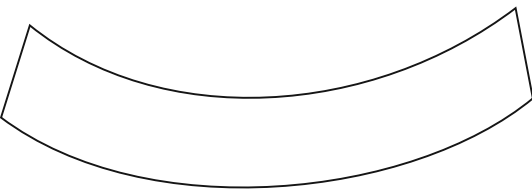
D5 Head



H7 Flying scarf tail



H8 Scarf collar

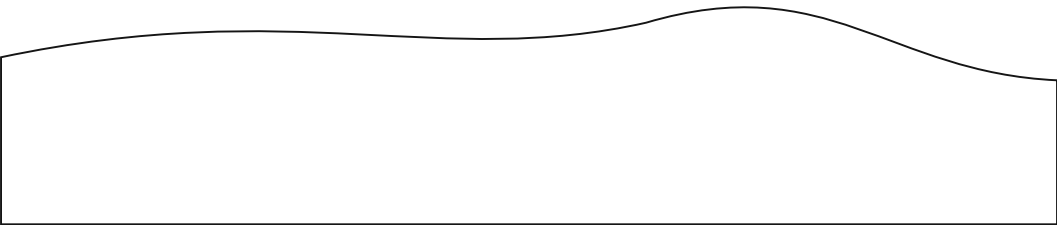


1 inch / 25.4 mm test line | One of each ID per placemat; two for a pair.

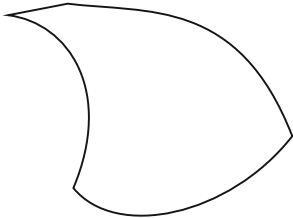
Mirrored cut templates - sheet 4

Trace onto fusible paper. Already reversed. Cut on solid lines; add NO allowance.

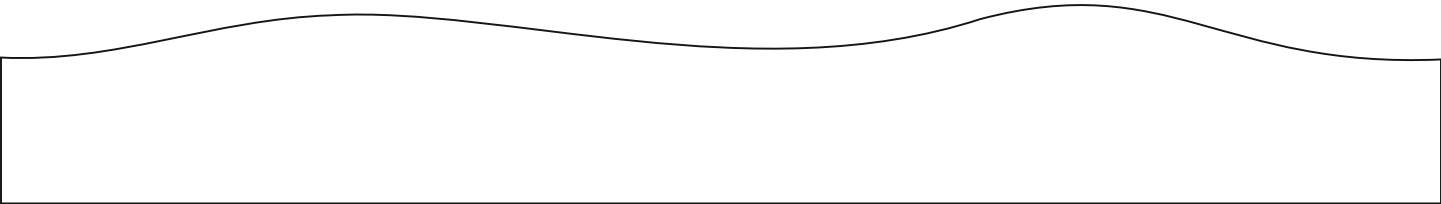
D1 Snowbank



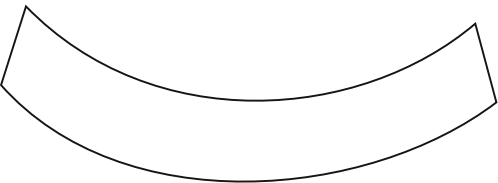
C6 Scarf tail



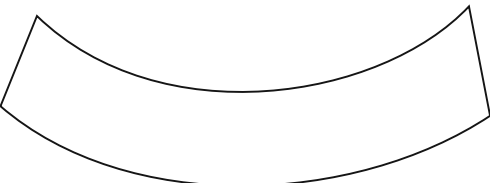
H1 Snowbank



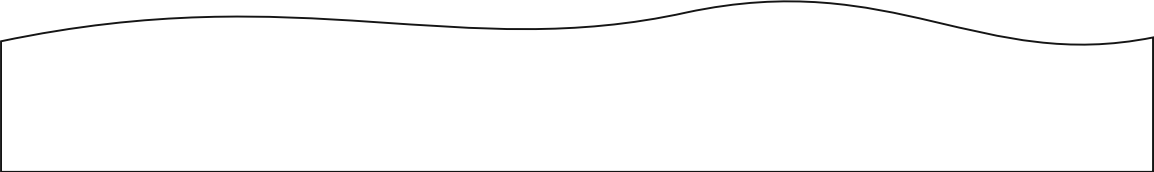
C7 Scarf collar



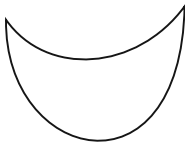
D7 Scarf collar



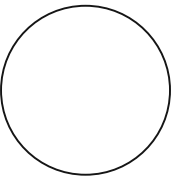
C1 Snowbank



H10



D9 Pom-pom



1 inch / 25.4 mm test line | One of each ID per placemat; two for a pair.