

Buon Natale Village Apron

Made with the Buon Natale village border panel #35407 -14 [as shown] or -16 or -24 and 35404-14 for the ties.

MATERIALS LIST

1 yd. village border fabric

½ yd. for tie

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

From the border fabric:

- Cut 22" x 36". Evenly trim off just the selvedge with the words.

From the tie fabric:

- Cut (3) 5" strips.

NOTE: We have made the tie very long because we want the option to tie it in the front. If you do not want to do that, you can make the tie with just 2 strips & tie in the back.

PIECING INSTRUCTIONS

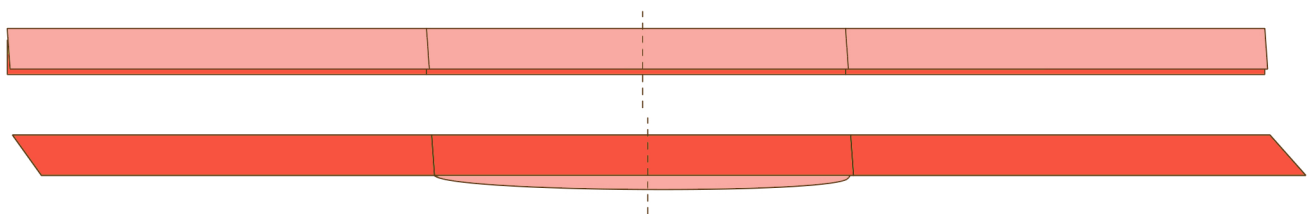
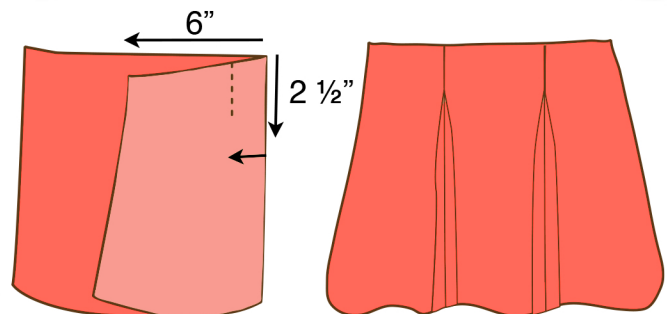
Step 1: Fold the sides of the apron panel under ¼" twice and press each time. Top stitch those seams. Fold the bottom under ½" twice and press each time. Top stitch that seam

Step 2: Fold the side of the apron panel over 6" & mark with a pin. Mark 1" over from the fold and 2 ½" down. Mark a line with an erasable pen or chalk pencil. Sew along that line, backstitching at the end. Repeat on the other side of the apron in the same way, creating 2 darts in your apron. Fold

the darts flat in the back, centered on themselves & press them to a flat position. Stitch closed on the top with ⅛" seam to tack the darts down & make sure that they stay flat.

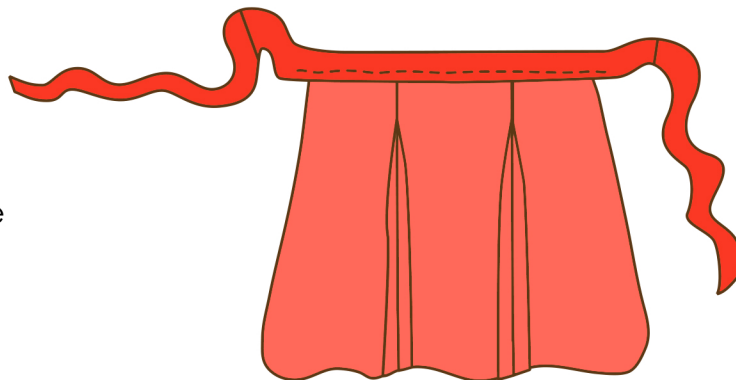
NOTE: If you want to omit the darts, you can also just do 2 gathering stitches on the top with a thicker thread and gather your apron across the tie opening [see more detailed steps for that method on the towel on next page]. *The apron photo shown above uses this method.*

Step 3: To make the ties, sew the (3) strips together lengthwise. Fold the entire long strip RST and press the entire length of the strip set. Sew the tie shut, sewing 45° on each end. Leave the center 21" open/unsewn. This will leave enough space for the apron and app. 1" on each side open. Turn the entire tie RSO and press well, turning & pressing both sides of the open portion of the seam so that it creates a continuous edge with the rest of the sewn tie.



Step 4: Find the center of the tie by folding it in half and do the same with the apron. Line up the center marks and tuck app. $\frac{1}{2}$ " - $\frac{3}{4}$ " of the apron top inside the open portion of the tie. Pin in place very well to prevent shifting.

Make sure the apron is straight & evenly tucked. Sew the tie shut onto the apron. You will be sewing both the back & the front of the tie and the apron inside at the same time so make sure that you are "catching" the tie on the back while you are sewing on the front. Sew app. $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge for this seam. Extend the sew line all the way across the open portion, closing the inches that you left open on each side of the apron. For a finished topstitch, sew all the way around the full tie & back around the other side.



ANOTHER IDEA FOR THE BUON NATALE VILLAGE PRINT

With the remaining leftover side of your VILLAGE BORDER PRINT, you can make this beautiful ruffle tea towel for your kitchen. We used a 28" x 28" Flour Sack Dish Towel [Stock #TTB28]

Step 1: Cut a strip app. 11" x 36" [I used the print as my guide to make sure I was app. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond the tallest tree].

Step 2: Turn and sew the sides & bottom of your strip just like you did for the above apron... $\frac{1}{4}$ " twice on the sides and $\frac{1}{2}$ " twice on the bottom.

Step 3: Sew 2 rows of basting/gathering stitches along the top edge of your strip, starting $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the top, app. $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart from one another. Be sure to use stronger/thicker thread and leave plenty of thread on each edge for pulling.

Step 4: Gather the ruffles gently and evenly a section at a time until your strip is even with the sides of the towel. Be sure to gather both threads at the same time. Attach to the bottom edge of the towel, right side of ruffle to right side of towel [basically you are just laying the ruffle on top of the towel, wrong side facing up toward you], lining up the raw/gathered edge with the bottom of your towel. Stitch your strip in place, right along the last gathering stitch, backstitching on both ends for strength.

Step 5: Turn/flip the ruffle over so that the right side is now facing out [elongating the towel] and press down so that you have a crisp top gathered edge. Stitch the ruffle down with coordinating thread app. $\frac{3}{8}$ " down or right above where the towel ends underneath.

For more VILLAGE PRINT ideas see the Fig Tree blog!

