

This oh-so-cute and useful project was designed by my friend Teresa Raleigh of A Quilt and A Prayer. Teresa recycled a decorative jar into a handy holder for your sewing room. Keep your pins and clips on the top, and use the jar to store other notions such as buttons, etc. Clever!

Materials Needed:

- Fabrics: scraps of Yellow (5"x9"), Green and White
- Optional - White Crepon Sheer, or anything gauzy and sparkly for the top of the wings
- HeatnBond UltraHold Fusible Iron-on Adhesive
- Black Fusible Bias Tape – ¼" width, about 12" long
- Chenille Stem – 1 each black and white
- Two small round black beads for tips of antennae
- One 18mm Large Round Faceted Glass Bead (head)
- Glue with small application tip
- Decorative Jar with a lid
- Cardboard to cut a circle to fit inside the lid
- Polyfill, wool roving, or lightweight stuffing product of choice
- Cardstock or template plastic
- Removable marker
- Glue gun and glue stick



Teresa said this cute vintage Avon jar had been waiting for just the right project to come along!



Preparation:

- Print or trace the patterns onto cardstock or template plastic, taking care to keep the original size. Be sure to check your printing accuracy by the 1" line provided. If your line is not 1", adjust accordingly and print again until you achieve a 1" line.
- Cut the pattern pieces from the cardstock to make templates.
- From the cardboard, cut a circle approximately 1/8" smaller in diameter than the size of the jar lid
- From the Green fabric and using the guidelines below, cut a circle that will cover your lid, wrap around and inside the sides of the lid and still have at least 1/4" to tuck under the cardboard circle on the inside.

Calculate your circle size by adding the width across the top of your lid, 4x the depth of the sides, and 1/2" for tucking under.

For instance, my lid is 2-3/8" wide across the top, and its side is 3/8" deep.

So I calculated as follows:

2-3/8" (width across top of lid)
1-1/2" (4 times 3/8" (width of sides))
+ 1/2" (Tuck width of 1/4" all around)
4-3/8" – which I rounded up to 4-1/2"



- Apply thin line of glue around the top edge and inside/outside rim of your lid. Wrap the edges of the green circle up and over the sides to the inside. When dry insert cardboard circle to cover the raw edges of the fabric.

(Tip: I used Wonder Clips to hold this wrap in place until the glue dried.)



Assemble the BODY:

NOTE: All seams ¼" unless otherwise noted
RST = right sides together

From the Yellow fabric, cut one BOTTOM piece. On the back of the fabric, place a tiny mark at the top center, and mark the cutting line in the center (removable pen or pencil recommended for all marking). Make a slit on that cutting line for turning and stuffing.

With fabric folded RST, cut two TOP pieces (these should be mirror images of each other.) Shorten your stitch length to about 2.0 and stitch the center seam, RST. For strength and durability, backstitch at each end and press the seam to one side. Mark the bias tape lines, fuse and then stitch black Bias Binding strips down on lines indicated.

With RST, pin and then stitch the top to the bottom, matching the top center seam of the back with the mark made on the center top of the back. Trim excess fabric at the point, clip curves as needed, and then turn it inside out through the slit you cut earlier in the BOTTOM piece. Make a nice point at the bee's tail and smooth all the edges so they make nice smooth curves. Press.



At the neck of the bee, on the seam line where the TOP and BOTTOM are sewn together, use the two dots indicated on the BOTTOM pattern piece for attaching the large black bead for his head. If you are using a different size bead, ignore these dots and attach your bead according to its size.

Use double or quadruple strands of sturdy thread to hand-stitch the bead to the BODY, pulling the threads from the inside to bury the beginning knot, and finishing up on the inside to bury the finishing knot as well. Knot securely at beginning and end. You want the bead to sink into the neck, not sit on top of it. You shouldn't be able to see any of the sewing thread.

Run the Chenille Stem through the large black bead eye, bend up at each side to form antennae, and cut each end, making sure to leave an extra ½" on each end. Attach a small black bead to the ends and roll the stem around the bead to form the ends of the antennae.

Trace the WING pattern onto the back side of the UltraHold fusible adhesive and cut out leaving a 1/8" allowance around all edges. Following the instructions on your UltraHold fusible package, fuse it to a piece of the white fabric. When it cools, cut along the pattern lines and then remove the fusible backing to expose the remaining fusible. Fuse that side to another piece of the white fabric and cut it along the same lines. You should now have a WING section with white fabric on both sides.

To add a glittery gauze to bling up the top of your wings like I did, simply cut a 1-1/2"x5" rectangle of the White Crepon or other sparkly, gauzy fabric.



Apply a thin trail of glue along the edges of the white fabric wings, now gently press the rectangle on top, being careful not to smudge the glue.



Gently press along all the edges, not smashing but just making sure the edges are all glued down. Allow the glue to dry and then cut the excess Crepon off along the edges.



Cut a piece of the white chenille strip half an inch shorter than the length of your wings and glue to the underside of the wings. This will give your wings some added stiffness.

Stitch the wings to the body by hand-stitching a few stitches at the very center. Wrap some of the black chenille stem around and over the center to cover your stitches and give the wing some extra character. The chenille will also help lift the wings a little from the body. These wings are a very handy spot to clip your wonder clips during a project!

Now is a good time to plug in your glue gun so it can be heating up while you stuff your Buzzy Bee with your filling of choice. I prefer to use wool roving because it cleans and sharpens the pins each time they are used, but polyfill works just fine if it is all you have on hand. Once it is stuffed to your satisfaction, simply close up the slit with a few stitches. They don't have to be pretty because they will be hidden once the pin cushion is glued to the jar lid.

Apply glue to the slit and carefully place your bee on the lid so that it sits happily and appears to be ready to take flight! If desired, you can place a small dab of glue on the ends of the black chenille under the wings where it is wrapped around them to keep it secure.

Now place a few pins in your Buzzy Bee pin cushion, some fun supplies in the jar, and you are ready to get bzzzzzzz sewing!!!!



Love these cute little pins?

Want them for your

very own

*Buzzy Bee
Pin Cushion?*

Click here or

go to my shop

Jacquelynnesteves-shop.com

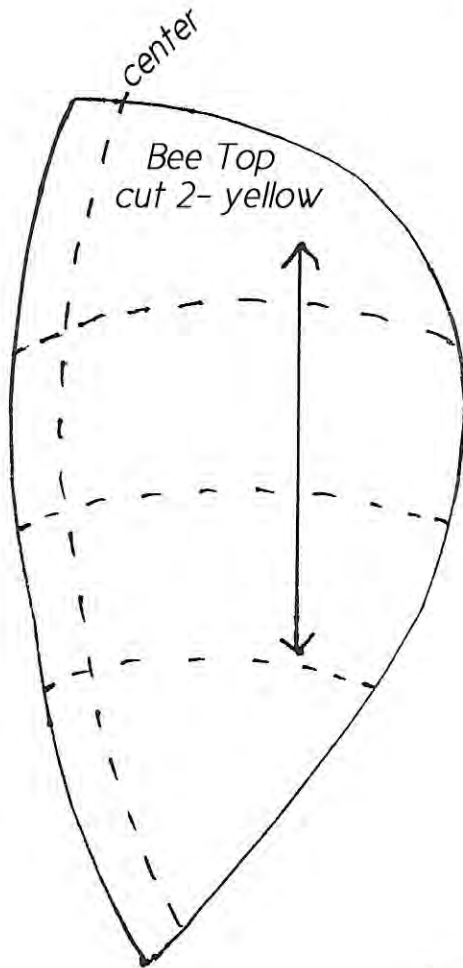
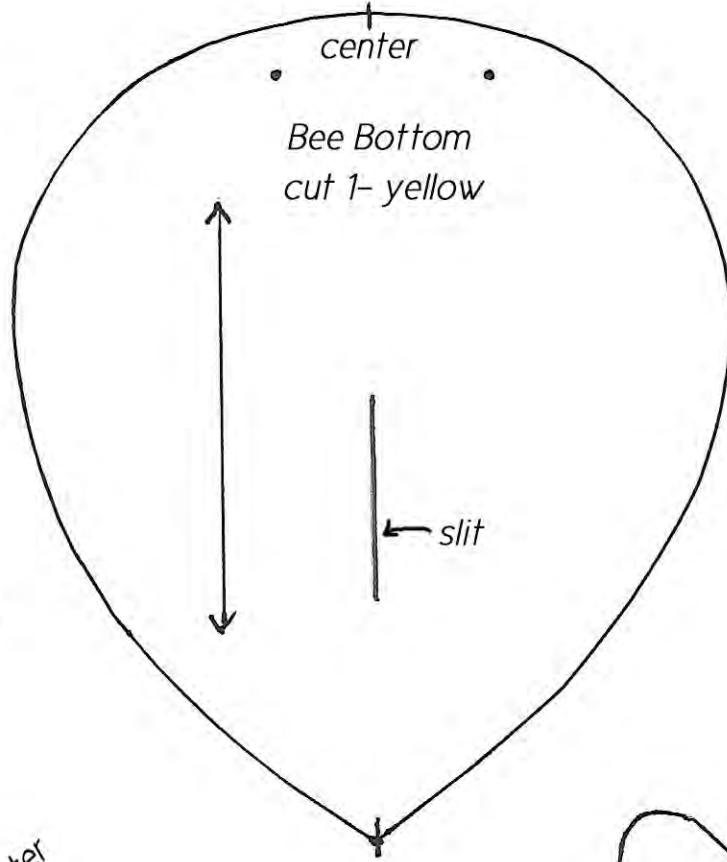
(Lots of other pin designs, too!!)

Visit Teresa at
AQuiltAndAPrayer.blogspot.com
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Bzzzy Bee Pin Cushion Patterns

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Arrows on
patterns
indicate
fabric straight
of grain. Place
the patterns
on the
straight of
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