

## **Patchwork Hare**

This adorable hare is made from pieced equilateral triangles, which creates a lovely patchwork effect. We have used fifteen of the Creating Memories fabrics in the Spring and Easter Pastels, alternated with triangles of Solid dove white. The hare would make a wonderful Easter decoration or be perfect for a child's cherished toy.

### **Materials**

- Solid dove white fabric ½yd (50cm)
- Fifteen different patchwork fabrics, each about 6in (15cm) square
- Toy stuffing
- Wooden stick
- Black stranded cotton (floss), to sew eyes

#### **Finished Size**

21<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>in x 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in (55cm x 26.5cm) approx.

### **General Notes**

- Read all the project instructions through before you start.
- Use thick paper for copying patterns, ensuring the patterns are full size.
- On the patterns, the solid line is the sewing line. This allows you to add your own seam allowance. Note that the patchwork triangle already has a ¼in (6mm) seam added to save you time.
- When sewing the seams on the hare itself, reduce your stitch length to 1.5mm–1.6mm.
- To get a good shape, cut snips in the seam allowance where a seam curves tightly inwards.
- After turning, pull the wooden stick along the inside of the seam to make sure you press out all the creases and folds before ironing.
- Stuff well, using a stick to fill small areas.
- Sew up gaps with matching thread and small slipstitches.

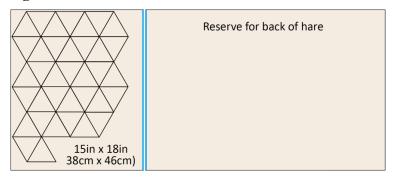
### Making the Hare

1 The front of the hare is made of patchwork triangles, while the back is Solid dove white. Start by preparing the patterns. Copy the hare patterns onto thick paper and cut out the shapes. Tape the hare parts together on the dashed lines to make a complete hare.

2 The triangle template for the patchwork includes a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance, with the dashed line showing the cutting line and the inner solid line showing the seam. Copy the whole triangle onto thick paper or thin card and cut out the shape.

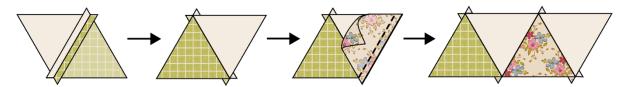
**3** From the Solid dove white fabric cut a piece 15 in x 18 in (38 cm x 46 cm) (see **Fig A**). Reserve the larger piece of fabric for the back of the hare later. On the smaller piece of fabric mark thirty-six triangles using the pattern you have made, rotating the triangle pattern alternately, as shown. Cut out the fabric triangles.

Fig A



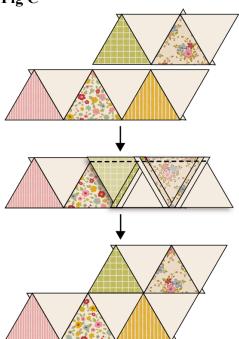
- 4 Use the triangle pattern again to cut triangles from the print fabrics. You will be able to cut four triangles from a 6in (15cm) square but you will only need two or three from each fabric, so you will have some spare.
- 5 The triangles need to be sewn together in rows using ¼in (6mm) seams. Start by placing one patterned and one solid triangle right sides together and sew together. Press the seam open. Cut off the dog ear where the next triangle will be sewn on. Sew on the next triangle, following the sequence shown in **Fig B**. When you are finished with a row, there will be dog ears at the top and bottom that must be cut off before the rows are sewn together.

Fig B



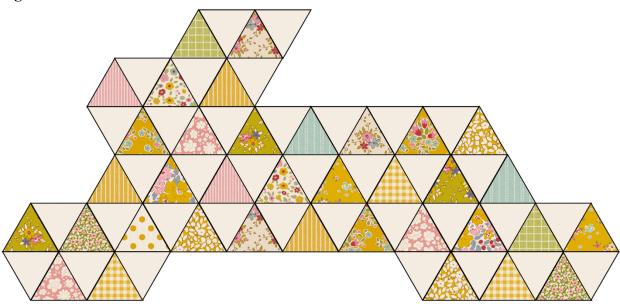
6 Now sew the rows together, starting with Row 1 and Row 2 as in Fig C. Place the first row over the second row so they are right sides facing and the triangle tops are against one another. Sew the rows together and press the seam open.

Fig C



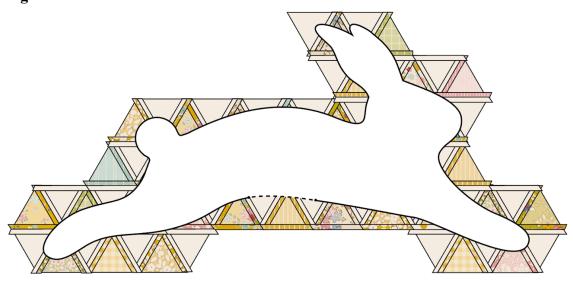
7 Continue in this way to add each of the six rows, noting that there are different numbers of triangles in each row and that the rows are staggered – follow the layout in **Fig D**.

Fig D



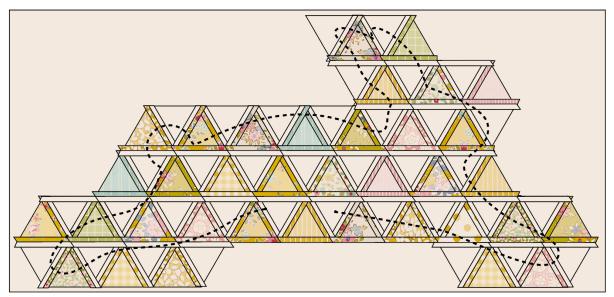
**8** To assemble the hare, flip the patchwork over to the wrong side. Flip the hare pattern too and place it on the patchwork as shown in **Fig E**. Carefully draw around the hare shape, marking where the gap will be.

Fig E



9 Now take the piece of dove white fabric you reserved earlier and place it behind the patchwork (so they are right sides together). Machine sew on the drawn line with a shorter stitch length, about 1.5 (**Fig F**), leaving the gap open.

Fig F



10 Cut out the hare with a seam allowance all round, leaving a little more allowance at the opening. Cut notches in the seam allowance where edges curve inwards. Turn the hare through to the right side, using a wooden stick or something similar to push out all the edges and then press. Stuff by hand and use a wooden stick where necessary to fill narrow parts. Hand sew up the opening.

11 To finish, sew eyes using six strands of the black embroidery thread and French knots, with the thread wrapped three times around the needle.

# **Patchwork Hare** Full size

Join the hare pattern pieces together as shown below.

The solid line is the sewing line.

A ¼in (6mm) seam allowance is included on the triangle for the patchwork.

