

SEAHORSES

Two cute seahorses (and a jellyfish!) drift through the ocean

Finished size: 25in (64cm) square

You will need

* white or cream foundation fabric, 25in (64cm) square (all of this will be covered, so don't choose anything fancy - but do bring a pale colour as you'll be tracing through it)

sea fabric, at least 21in (54cm) square

fabrics for the sea-bed:

foreground sand, 6 x 9in (15 x 23cm)

background sand, 20 x 6in (50 x 15cm)

shell, 7 x 4in (18 x 10cm)

fabrics for the seahorses and jellyfish:

large seahorse body, 20 x 7in (50 x 18cm)

small seahorse body, 15 x 5in (38 x 13cm)

faces, 8 x 5in (20 x 13cm)

head details, 3 x 4in (8 x 10cm)

fins, 6in (15cm) square

fin details, 6 x 4in (15 x 10cm)

jellyfish, 6 x 4in (15 x 10cm)

* print or plain fabric for the borders, four 20 x 2 1/2in (51 x 6.5cm) strips; if the fabric is strongly directional, check that the direction of the print goes the right way on each border

Contrasting print or plain fabric for the corner shells, four 5in (13cm) squares

* contrasting plain or marbled fabric for the backing and binding, 27in (70cm) square

* flat wadding (any flattish wadding will be fine), 27in (64cm) square

13yd/12m of 1/4in (6mm) wide fusible bias binding in a colour that contrasts well with your fabrics

sewing threads to match your bias binding and backing/binding fabric

if you like you can use a cheap bobbin-fill thread for zigzagging the patches in place initially

two beads or buttons for the seahorses' eyes

soft pencil (eg 2B, *not* a propelling pencil), ruler

fancy yarn, strips of fine lace, narrow fabric strips etc for creating the jellyfish tentacles – or embroider them by hand or machine

optional: other hand or machine quilting threads, beads/buttons/jewels for decoration

Keeping things simple:

If you'd like to stitch a simplified version of the design, you can leave out the shell, and the details on the seahorses' heads and fins, and/or omit the extra lines of binding on the waves; if you do any or all of these things, you won't need so much of the fusible bias binding.