

Butterfly Basket Pattern®
from Studio Loop Dee Loo™
& bonus mini-basket pattern

SUPER SIMPLE SEWING!



This basket is made using a plastic milk jug!

Large basket is 11.5" high
including handle

Mini-basket is 5.5" high
including handle

Butterfly Baskets Instructions

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by Studio Loop Dee Loo

Made using a plastic gallon milk jug!

Pattern and Instructions

EASY TO SEW!

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BUTTERFLY BASKET AND MINI-BASKET

MATERIALS:

- * Less than 1 yard total fabric for both baskets. A mix of colors will give the best results.
- * A plastic gallon size milk jug (this will be enough for both baskets)
- * Thread
- * Sharpie marker (to mark the plastic milk jug for cutting)
- * Paper stapler
- * 4" piece of duct tape
- *** It's helpful to have a plastic 2" X 18" clear quilters ruler. If not, any plastic ruler will do.
- *** I use a simple Kamsnap pliers and snaps to attach the handles on these baskets. If you don't have a Kamsnaps set, you can attach them on using buttons.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- * When printing the butterfly patterns, be sure to select the 'print at actual size' option for your printer. The pdf instructions also include several color photographs for reference. If you prefer not to print the color photos, remember to select only the pages you wish to print.
- * All seam allowances are 1/4" wide, unless otherwise noted.

LARGE BASKET

- 1.) Set your clean, dry, plastic gallon milk jug on the counter or table. Measure 4" up from the bottom and mark the 4" line all around the jug. Cut the bottom off the jug making the cutting line as smooth as possible.
- 2.) Next, measure, mark, and cut a 2" wide by 12.5" strip from the plastic jug. Then, cut this strip down the center (lengthwise) so you now have two long strips 1" by 12.5" each. Yes, they are a little curvy/wonky because of the shape of the plastic jug. That's okay. You can smooth them to flatten by pulling each length along the edge of a table or counter top. Lay these end to end with the ends overlapped by about 3". Staple this overlapped section together, then wrap that section with duct tape. This will be the insert for the fabric handle. Set aside for now.
- 3.) Cut one more piece from the plastic milk jug - 1" wide by 13.5" long. Smooth to flatten, as in the previous step. This piece will be the insert for the handle of the mini-basket. Set aside for now.
- 4.) Choose your fabric for the inside basket. (This will also cover the outer basket but it will be mostly hidden by the basket ruffle). Cut a square that is 22.5" by 22.5". Fold that large square in half, then in half again. Then, cut an 8" square from the layers at the outer corner (you'll be cutting out four 8" by 8" squares at once). Set your four 8" squares aside. You'll be able to use some or all of them when you make the mini-basket. You now have a large cross-shaped piece.
- 5.) Think of the cut out corners as large darts in your pattern. Fold each corner 'dart' right side together and stitch from the outer edge to the point using a 1/4" seam allowance. You'll be making a very tall box shape. Hem the bottom edge using a 1/4" turn under. (If you want to check for fit - leave the tall box shape inside out - place inside the 4" plastic carton bottom and fold down over the outside. Now it's starting to come together! :) Take the fabric box shape off and turn it right side out so you can mark your stitch lines for the outer ruffle.

LARGE BASKET (continued)

6.) Mark a line (use washable marker or not - this line will be hidden under the ruffle) on the right side of the fabric, on all four sides of the box shape 3.75" above the hemmed edge.

7.) Cut a strip of fabric for your outer basket ruffle 44" long X 4.5" wide. Sew the ends together forming a circle. Hem one of the long edges using a 1/4" turn under. Divide (by folding) the circle of fabric into quarters, marking each end of a quarter with a straight pin (or make a small mark on the wrong side of the fabric. Each quarter length will be gathered to fit each side of the fabric box shape. (For a project like this one - I simply gather as I sew. You could pre-gather these by hand if you prefer.)

8.) With right sides together stitch the ruffle around the basket cover - with the raw edge of the ruffle positioned at the 3.75" marked lines, matching side seams to your pins or marks, and gathering as needed to fit each side. (The hemmed edge of the ruffle will be toward the closed end of the basket cover.)

9.) When you've attached the ruffle all the way around the basket cover - flip it down and place the whole thing onto the plastic base. And now we're starting to see a real Easter basket emerge!

10.) Cut a strip of fabric for the handle cover, 44" long X 4.5" wide. With right sides together, fold lengthwise and stitch the long edge closed, leaving about 4 inches in the middle of the seam for a turning hole. Flatten the ends so the seam is centered in one side and stitch each end closed. Turn the tube right side out and place the long plastic insert inside it. Thread one end of the plastic insert all the way down to one end of the tube and topstitch all three layers about 1/4" from the end. Stitch the turning hole closed by hand. Now push the other end of the plastic insert all the way to the other end, and topstitch through all three layers to hold.

11.) Attach the handle to the inside of the basket with 2 sets of Kamsnaps per side (see photo). The outer Kamsnaps will be hidden under the basket ruffle. If you prefer to use buttons, use an awl to poke small holes through the fabric and plastic then stitch 2 pairs of buttons on each side to hold, in the place where the Kamsnaps are. The vertical positioning of the Kamspans (or buttons) will help fortify the upright position of the handle, which can tend to wobble. For a little more reinforcement, pinch (fold) the plastic handle insert together just above the Kamsnaps.

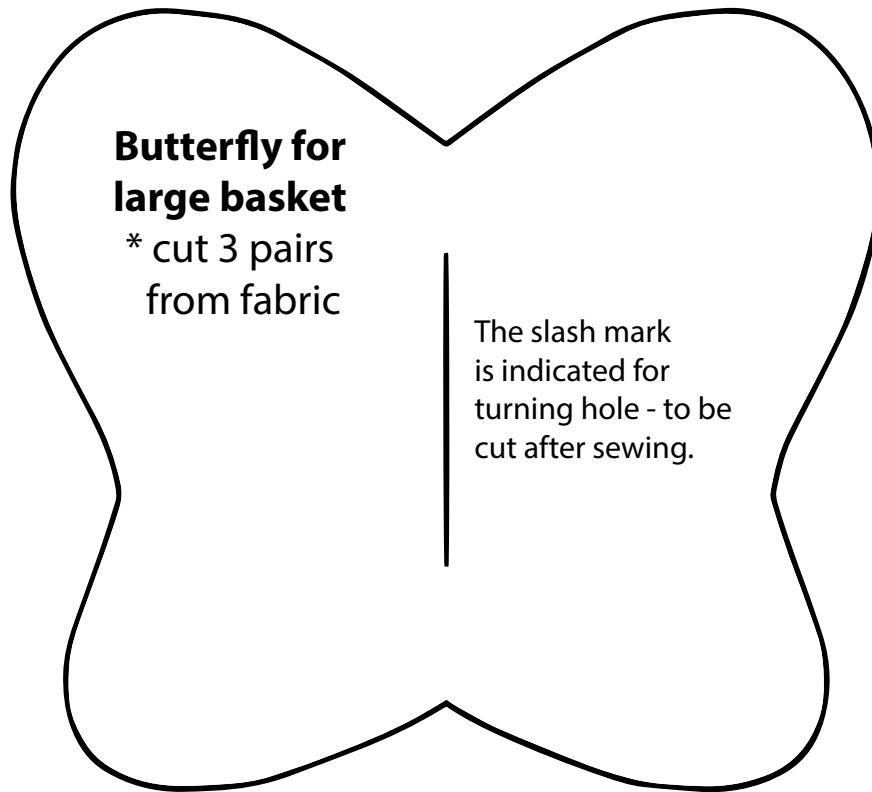
12.) Cut out as many butterflies as you wish to use on your basket. With right sides together, stitch all around the edges using a scant 1/4" seam allowance. Clip the seams (curves and points) as needed. Separate the back and front layers, and carefully cut a slash through one side as shown on the pattern. Turn the butterfly shape out through that slash. Fold the butterfly in half, with the slash inside the fold, and topstitch about 1/8" from the folded edge. Taa- daaa! A tiny butterfly! Hand tack to your basket anywhere you like (or refer to the photos if you like where I placed mine).

Your adorable basket is ready to be filled with Easter eggs and chocolate treats or whatever you feel like storing in it!

MINI-BASKET

- 1.) This is a perfect way to use up the 8" squares left over from the large basket. :) I added in another color/print for contrast but you can use all one color if you like. Stitch two of the 8" squares right sides together, leaving about 3" along one side for a turning hole. Clip the corners, turn right side out, and topstitch all around the outer edge (about 1/8" from edge) closing the turning hole in the topstitched seam.
- 2.) Fold flat, diagonally, and stitch as shown (x4) in photo. Each stitch line is 1.75" from the folded point. You've now formed a little fabric box. Fold each of the corner points downward, as shown.
- 3.) Take the remaining two 8" squares and cut them in half. (Now you have four pieces that are 4" X 8") Stitch three of these together end to end. (Toss the remaining 4" X 8" strip into the scrap basket for another project - I have a bunch of darling scrappy pattern designs coming soon!)
- 4.) Fold that long piece in half lengthwise and stitch the long edge and ends in the same way that you stitched the large basket handle. Insert the plastic handle piece in the same way, and machine topstitch to secure in place. Position the handles so the ends touch the bottom of the fabric box and secure into place in the same way you did for the large basket handle - except you will only use one set of Kamsnaps per side (or buttons).
- 5.) Add as many of the small size butterflies as you like (follow the same instructions as for the larger butterflies).

And thaaat's it! How sweet are these!? This mini one is perfect to hold a little nest of easter grass and a big handful of foil covered chocolate eggs. :)



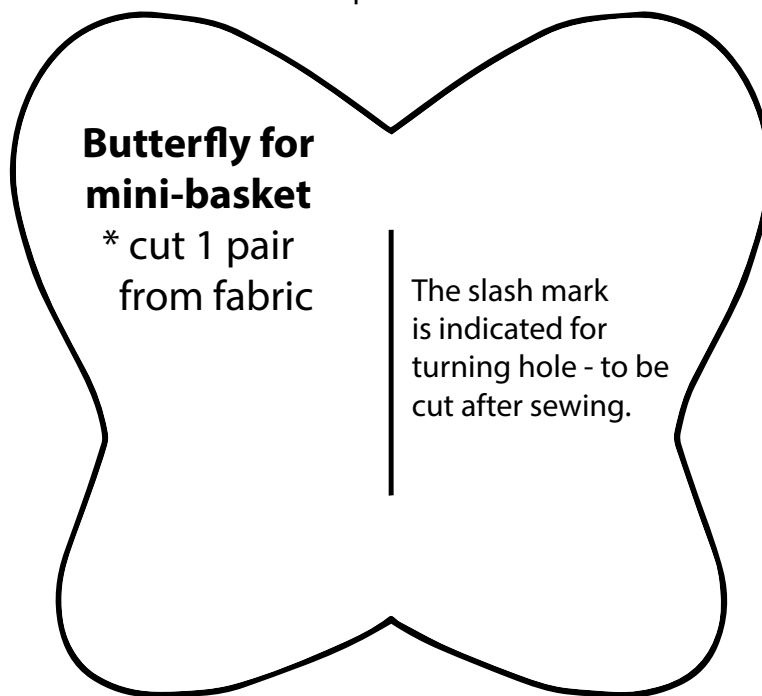
**Butterfly for
large basket**

* cut 3 pairs
from fabric

The slash mark
is indicated for
turning hole - to be
cut after sewing.

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home use only and not for commercial
or manufacturing purposes. Patterns
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**Butterfly for
mini-basket**

* cut 1 pair
from fabric

The slash mark
is indicated for
turning hole - to be
cut after sewing.

