

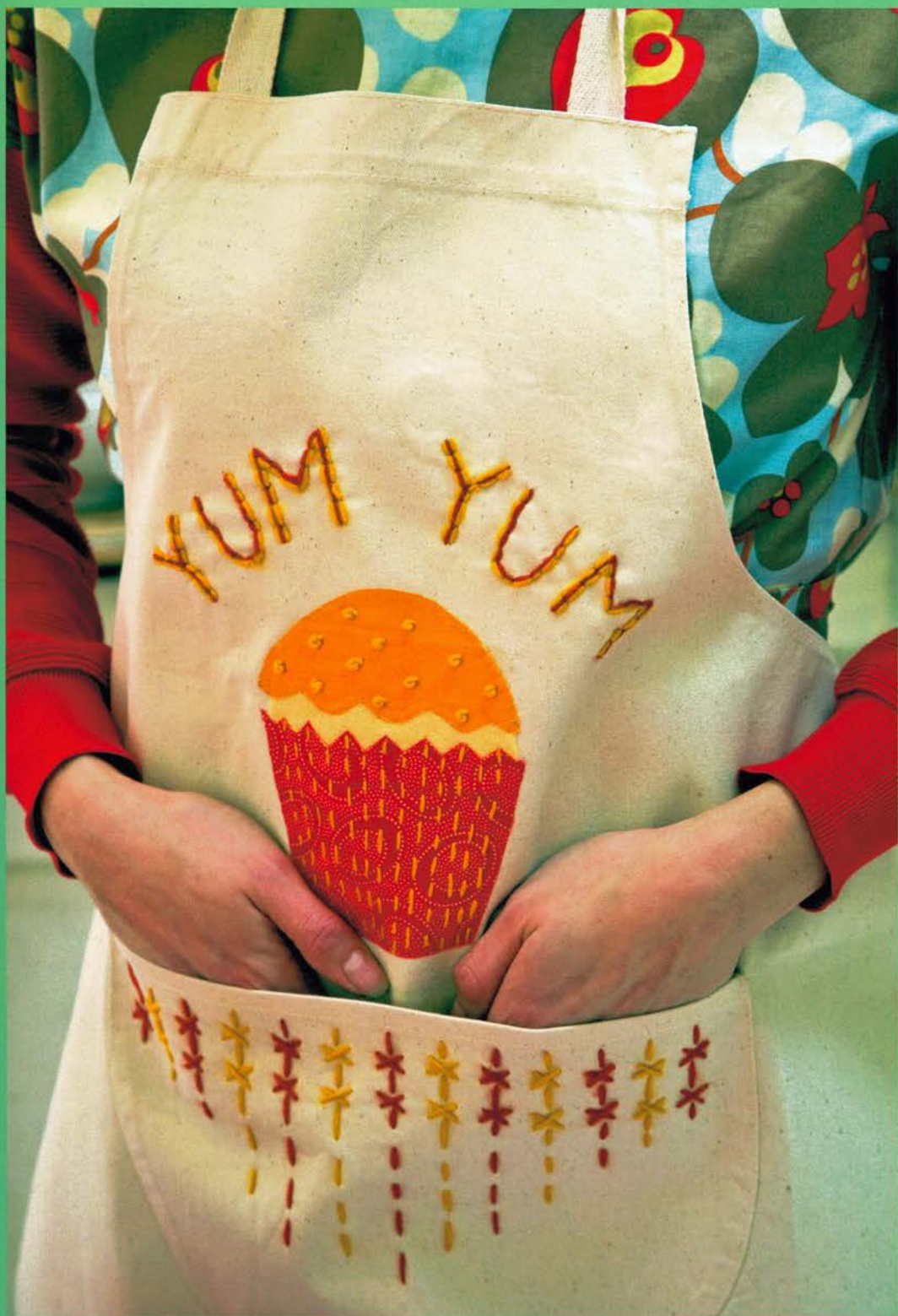
CUPCAKE APRON

This design gives you a chance to show off your embroidery prowess! I created a cupcake motif for this pinafore apron, cutting out the basic cupcake shape from one fabric, and then using two different solid fabrics for the case and the topping. I used a variety of hand stitches to decorate both the cupcake and the apron itself. You can amend your decorative details to suit the shape of your apron.

THINGS YOU NEED

- * Cupcake templates on page 130
- * Solid-color cotton or linen apron
- * Felt for the cake, 6in/15cm square
- * Solid-color fabric for the frosting, approx 3½ x 4¼in/9 x 12cm
- * Patterned fabric for the cupcake liner, approx 5 x 4¼in/13 x 12cm
- * Fusible web
- * Fabric glue or white (PVA) glue
- * Embroidery floss and embroidery needle
- * Fading fabric marker or water-soluble pen
- * Tapestry yarn in two colors
- * Large-eyed yarn needle





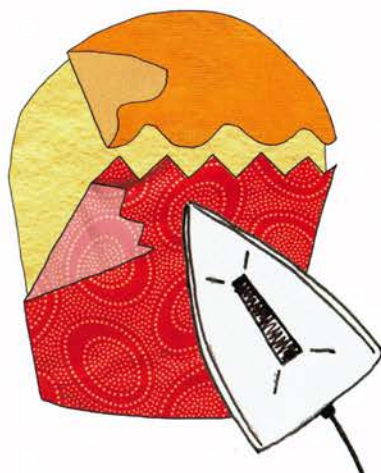
MAKING THE APRON

PREPARATION

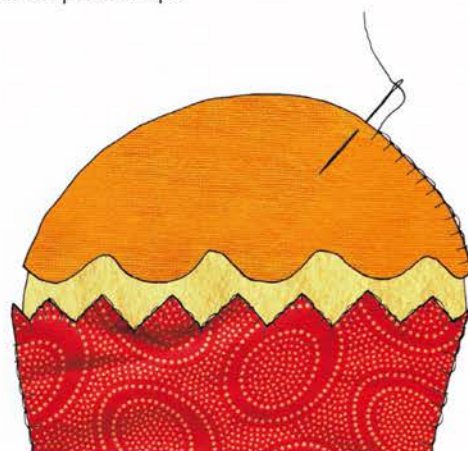
1. Copy the cupcake templates on page 130. Cut out the cupcake shape from the cream felt, the frosting shape from the solid fabric, and the cupcake liner from the patterned fabric.
2. Iron fusible web onto the wrong side of the frosting and cupcake liner fabric pieces, draw around the templates, and cut out the shapes.

STITCHING THE CUPCAKE

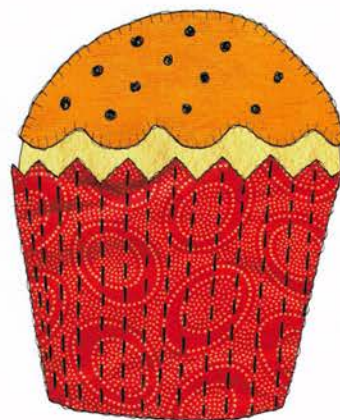
3. Using a small amount of fabric glue, stick the felt “cake” part of your cupcake to the apron—you can center it on the bib, as I have done, or place it on one side of the “skirt.”
4. Remove the fusible web backing paper. Position the solid-color “frosting” and patterned fabric liner pieces on top of the cake and iron in place **[A]**.
5. Using a contrasting color of embroidery floss, blanket stitch [see page 11] around the edges of the cupcake liner and the frosting **[B]**.
6. To create the folded effect of the cupcake liner, sew lines of evenly spaced running stitch [see page 10] vertically down the fabric.
7. “Decorate” your frosting by sewing about 12 French knots [see page 11] at equal intervals, using a contrasting color floss if you like **[C]**, or multicolored knots for a pretty “sprinkles” effect.



A. Ironing the frosting and liner in place on the felt cupcake shape.



B. Blanket stitching around the shapes.



C. Adding French knots and running stitches.

DECORATIVE DETAILS

You can add further decoration with some woolen embroidery. For example, embroider wording over the cupcake using backstitch and decorate the pocket with a mixture of simple running and cross stitches.

8. To create the lettering, trace out your chosen words—I used “YUM YUM”—onto the apron with a fading fabric marker or water-soluble pen.
9. Using tapestry yarn and the large-eyed needle, backstitch [see page 9] along the lines you have just drawn. Sew the letters in one color thread, then repeat next to the stitching in a second color.
10. Using a fading fabric marker, draw vertical lines approx 1in/2.5cm apart on your apron's pocket. If your pocket is shaped, like mine, start in the center and work out to the edge, creating shorter lines as you do so.
11. Work a line of running stitches along the lines, changing color every other row, and then work cross stitches in the same color over the running stitches.

