

avatar nation trays



A SEWING PATTERN BY



avatar nation trays

On its own, this project is just a simple fabric tray, using layers of interfacing for stability. The optional applique designs add a flair from the Avatar: The Last Airbender cartoon.

DIFFICULTY: 

The appliqué and use of heavy interfacing is likely the most difficult part here, everything else is cake.

MAKES:

one 6 1/2" x 6 1/2" x 2" tray

MATERIALS & TOOLS

- 1/3 yd. of light to medium weight fabric for the tray (I used quilting cotton)
- 12" x 12" piece of heavyweight fusible interfacing
- 7" x 7" piece of ultra-firm fusible interfacing
- 7" x 7" piece of coordinating appliqué fabric (cotton, felt, etc.)
- 7" x 7" piece of light or heavyweight fusible web
- Matching sewing thread
- Basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Print out the project pattern, pages 6-9
2. Assemble the pattern pieces by lining up the page markings (A1 to A2, B3 to B4, and so on)
3. Lay out the pattern pieces on your fabric/interfacing and cut them out
4. Mark the fabric pieces with the guidelines from the pattern

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SEWING TUTORIAL



1

The first step is to prepare your interfacing. From the heavyweight interfacing, cut 1 piece that is the shape of your tray without seam allowances. You can go ahead and use your pattern, but with the seam allowances trimmed off. The ultra-firm interfacing piece should be the center portion of your tray, which can also be cut from your original pattern. Fuse these in place to the wrong side of one of your tray pieces, the heavyweight going first and the ultra-firm going next. Center them on the tray piece as the photos shows. This will be the outside of your tray when we finish.



2

On the other tray piece (the blank one without interfacing) is where we'll be applying the appliqué. Select one of the appliqué designs from the pattern and trace it to your fusible web. Iron the fusible web to the wrong side of your appliqué fabric, cut out the shapes, and peel away the fusible web paper. Then apply it to your other tray piece as shown, centering it in the middle to get the placement right. Iron it down according to your manufacturer's directions.

3

sew desu ne?

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SEWING TUTORIAL

If you've used heavyweight interfacing, your appliqué pieces should stay on just fine on their own. But if you've used lightweight interfacing like me, you'll need to sew the appliqué pieces in place. Go around the edge of the motifs with a straight stitch or a zigzag stitch as I've done here.

3



Your tray front and back are now all ready to sew! Align the pieces together with right sides facing and sew around the entire perimeter of the tray, leaving an opening in one side as the pattern indicates for turning the tray right side out. When you're finished, clip the corners of the shape and turn it right side out through the opening. I find that ultra-firm interfacing is more malleable if you heat it up with your iron first.

4



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SEWING TUTORIAL



5

When the tray is all turned, poke the corners a bit with a chopstick or another similar tool so all the corners and edges look nice. Tuck under the seam allowances from the opening where you turned it previously, and iron the whole tray flat. Next you'll want to topstitch around the long edges of the tray both for looks and to close up the opening from the previous step.



6

To finish the tray, fold it diagonally to match up the short sides of the tray. These form the corners. Sew along these edges for all four corners to bring the sides up and finish the tray!



Avatar Nation Tray

P A T T E R N

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TRAY: FRONT & BACK

Cut 2 from main fabric

Cut 1 from heavy fusible interfacing (sans seam allowances)

Cut 1 of ultra-firm interfacing (from center panel)

1/2" seam allowance



opening for turning



A1 A2



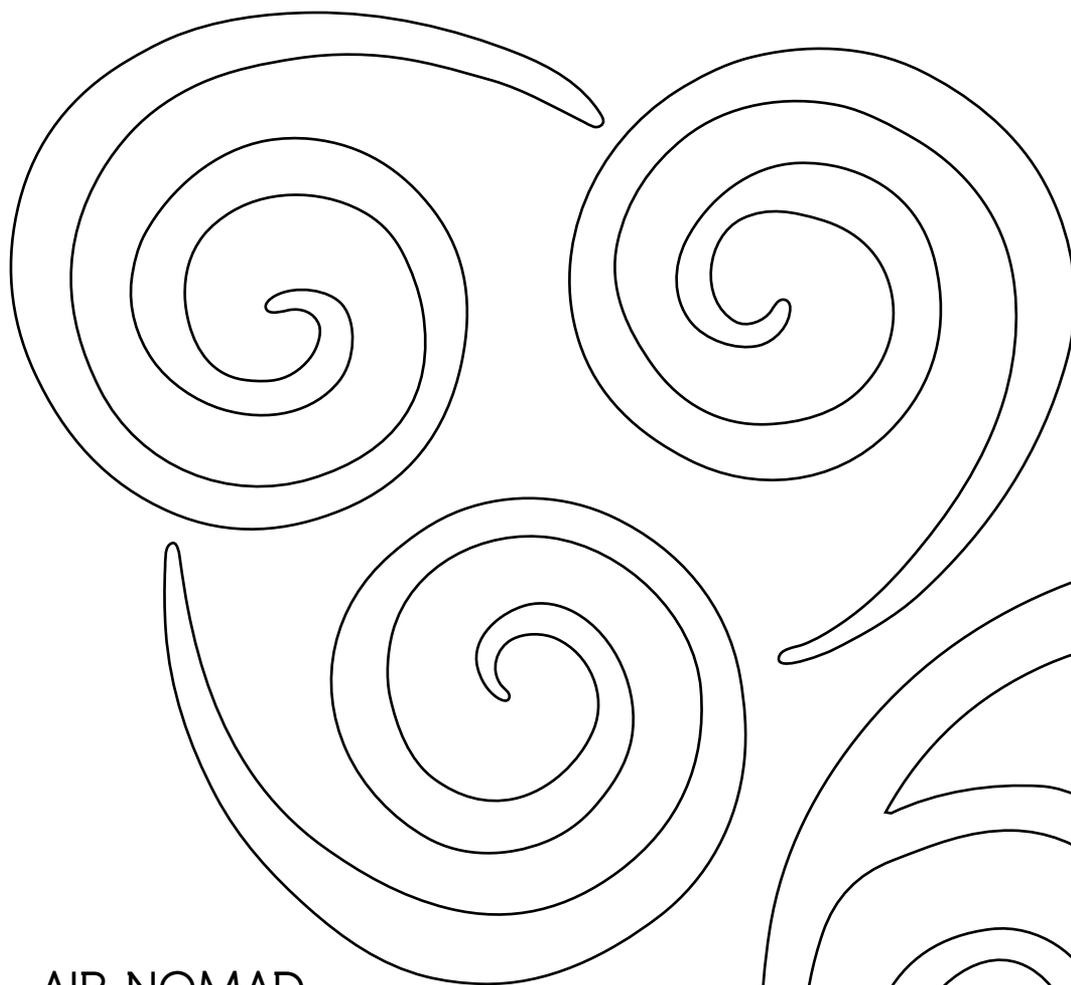
ultra-firm interfacing: trim here

heavy interfacing: trim here

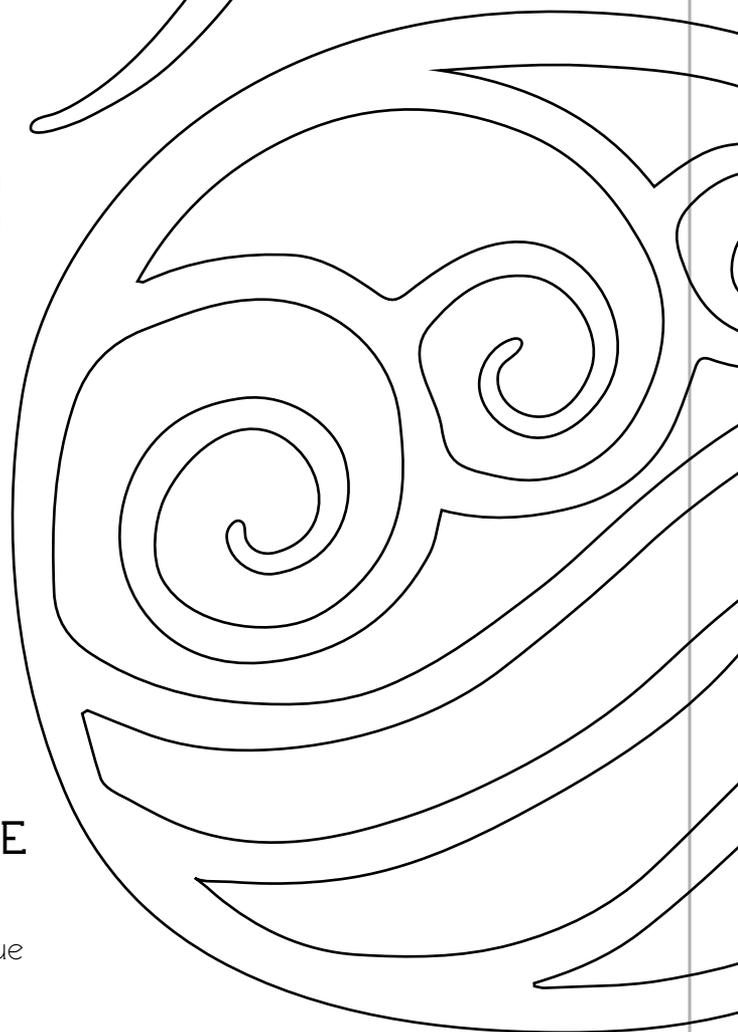
B3 B4

B1
B2

C1
C2



**AIR NOMAD
APPLIQUE**
Cut 1 from orange

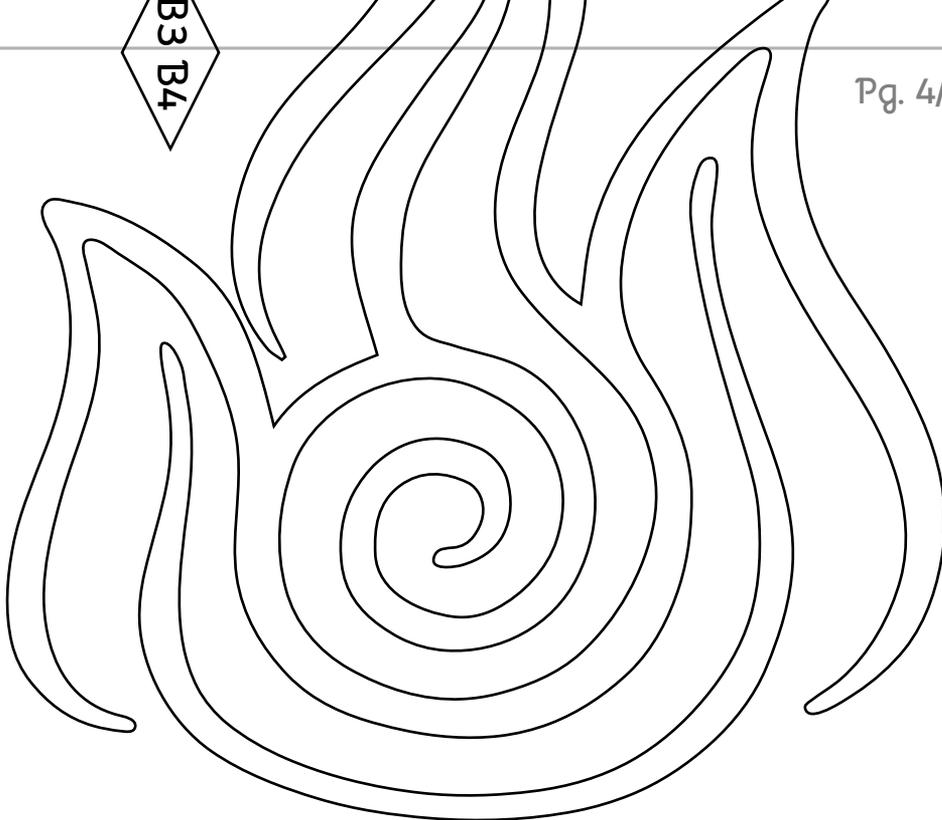


**WATER TRIBE
APPLIQUE**
Cut 1 from dark blue

B3 B4

FIRE NATION
APPLIQUE

Cut 1 from black



C1 C2

EARTH KINGDOM
APPLIQUE

Cut 1 from brown

