Christmas Quilted Dog Coat

A festive, adjustable sewing project | measurements in centimeters



A warm handmade coat with a quilted red center, green accents,

holiday appliques, soft lining, and adjustable hook-and-loop tabs.

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Skill: confident beginner / intermediate Time: 4-7 hours
Technique: layered quilting, applique, bias binding and closures
Base reference: 54 cm overall width x 36 cm overall height
Important: size to your own dog before cutting fabric.

Original step illustrations were created for this guide; photos supplied as references are not reproduced here.

Dog measurements & fit

Use a flexible tape. Do not rely on breed or weight alone.

Measure three points

BACK LENGTH (L): measure along the spine from the base of the neck to the desired hem.
CHEST (C): measure around the widest part of the rib cage, behind the front legs.
NECK (N): measure around the lower neck where the collar rests.
Add ease: about 2-4 cm at neck and 3-6 cm at chest. Fit loose enough to breathe and move.

REFERENCE SIZE CHART (suggested starting points)

Size	Back L	Chest C	Neck N
S	25 cm	36 cm	26 cm
M	30 cm	42 cm	30 cm
L	35 cm	48 cm	34 cm
XL	40 cm	54 cm	38 cm

Fit check before stitching

Make a paper or scrap-fabric mock-up. The upper and lower tabs wrap under the chest; adjust overlap to 3-5 cm. Keep the neck edge away from the throat. Move the dog through a gentle walk and sit test before finishing.

SAFETY: Never restrict breathing, shoulders, urination or movement.

Remove the coat if the dog becomes warm, distressed or entangled.

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Materials and fabric plan

Choose washable materials, smooth surfaces, and secure embellishments.



- Outer: 0.5 m red quilting cotton and 0.25 m green cotton (fabric width 110 cm).
- Lining: 0.5 m soft cotton or breathable flannel; batting: 0.5 m thin cotton blend.
- Bias binding: 2.3-2.8 m of 2.5 cm finished-width red binding.
- Hook-and-loop tape: 20-30 cm total, 2-2.5 cm wide; sewing thread.
- Decor: scrap felt/cotton for tree, holly, snowflakes, Santa and present; fusible web.
- Tools: paper, ruler, fabric scissors, clips, rotary cutter, iron, marker and sewing machine.

Cutting layers

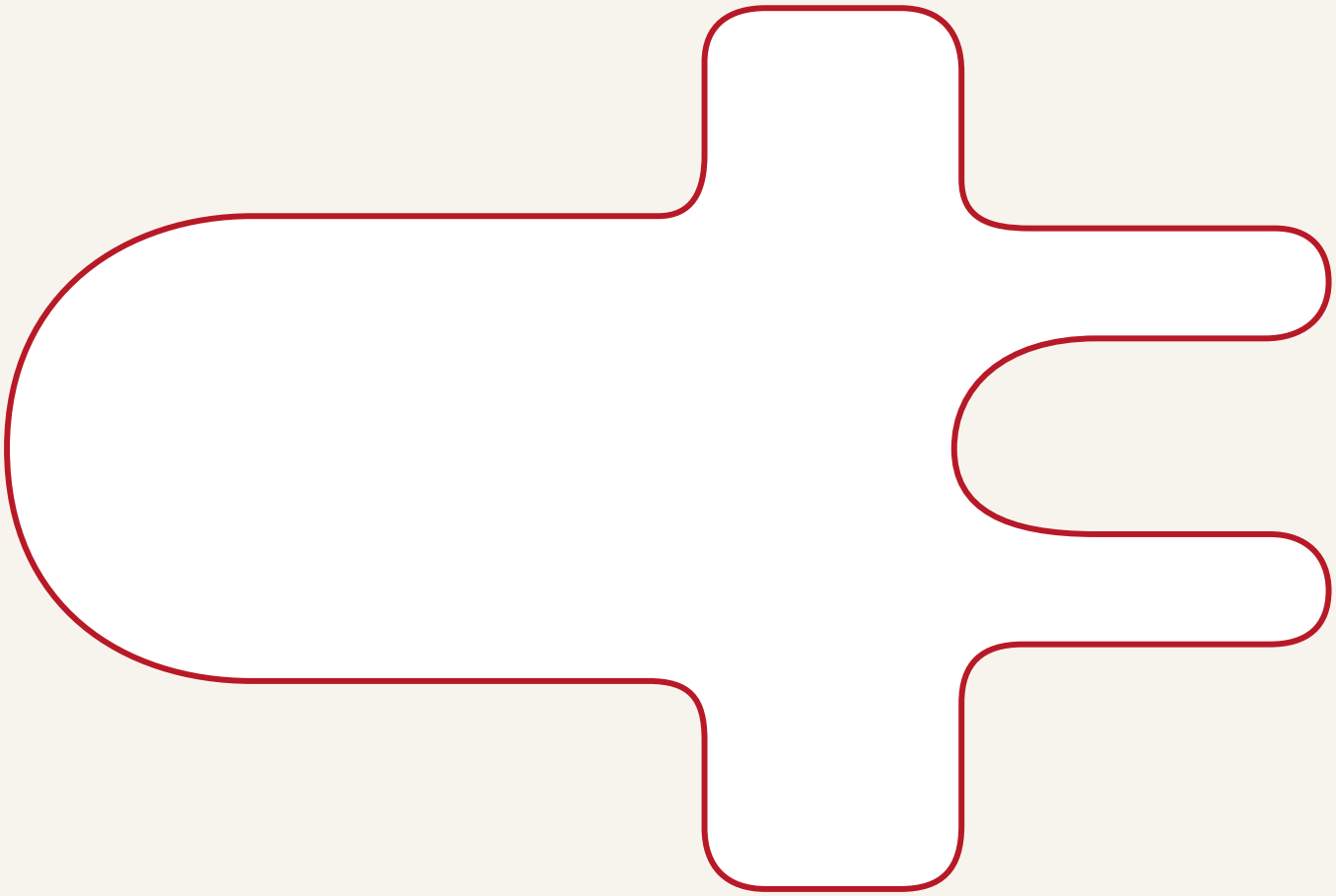
Cut 1 decorative outer panel, 1 lining and 1 batting layer from the adjusted coat shape. For a pieced red-and-green outer, sew color sections together first, press, then cut the full outer shape. Keep all three layers aligned.

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Draw the coat outline

Dimensions below describe the flat coat, not the dog wearing it.



MASTER REFERENCE OUTLINE

- Draw a 54 x 36 cm bounding rectangle. Sketch a rounded back at the left.
- Mark the central body from the left end to about 32 cm; keep the back gently curved.
- At the center, add a 12 cm wide upper neck/positioning tab, rising about 8 cm.
- Add a matching 12 cm wide lower tab, dropping about 10 cm below the body edge.
- Extend two right-facing fastening tabs about 12 cm beyond their shoulders.
- Shape the gap between right-facing tabs into a wide U, roughly 16 cm deep.
- Smooth corners with gentle curves, avoiding narrow or pointed projections.

Scale warning

This page and the final pattern page are NOT full-size. Use the separate 100% tiled print pattern, or redraw the reference dimensions on large paper before cutting.

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Cut the three coat layers

Plan the color blocking before quilting.





01 Paper-first cutting

Trace the fitted draft onto paper. Confirm that the right-hand tabs overlap comfortably under the chest and that the collar clearance is adequate. Use the paper as your only master cutting template.

02 Cut red and green decorative sections

If desired, trace curved green corner pieces from the paper template. Add a 1 cm seam allowance at each joining edge, sew these accent panels to the red center, and press the seams flat.

03 Make the quilt sandwich

Place lining wrong side up, batting on top, and finished outer right side up. Baste from the center toward the edges using safety pins or temporary basting spray.

Helpful cutting allowance

Trace the final cutting shape on the outside after quilting: quilting may shrink it slightly. Trim all layers together to the master shape, then bind the edges. If using a traditional turned-edge finish instead, add a 1 cm seam allowance.

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Quilt the front panel

Use an even diamond grid to give the coat texture and structure.



01 Mark your lines

On the outer face, mark 45-degree parallel lines about 2.5-3 cm apart. Add a second set in the opposite direction to create diamonds. Test the marker on a scrap first.

02 Sew gently

Install a walking foot if available. Quilt from the center outward; avoid pulling layers. Use a 2.5-3 mm stitch length, coordinating thread and a fresh 80/12 needle.

03 Check and trim

Flatten without stretching; inspect the back for puckers. Place the paper pattern on the panel, trace the finished perimeter, and trim all three layers together.

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Add Christmas appliques

Secure motifs before finishing the outer edge.



01 Prepare each shape

Trace and cut a layered Christmas tree, a small Santa face, holly leaves and berries, a wrapped present, and optional snowflakes. For beginner-friendly work, use printed cotton motifs or felt pieces.

02 Fuse and stitch

Fuse lightweight web to the back of each applique following the product instructions. Place motifs away from tab ends. Sew around every edge with a narrow zigzag or blanket stitch.

03 Keep the coat comfortable

For holly berries or ornaments, prefer stitched circles rather than beads or loose buttons. Do not leave small parts that could be chewed off or swallowed.

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Finish the coat edges

Clean curves and dependable fasteners make the coat wearable.



01 Stabilize before binding

Sew a stay-stitch 0.5 cm inside the raw edge, especially around the U-shaped cutout and all rounded tab corners. Check that batting is not exposed beyond the edge.

02 Attach bias binding

Open the binding and sew its first fold to the right side. Ease it around curves without stretching. Fold over the raw edge and stitch from the right side, catching the back evenly.

03 Apply hook-and-loop fasteners

Place the soft loop side against the dog wherever practical. Sew hook and loop pieces on opposing overlapping tabs with a rectangle-and-X stitch. Verify overlap and body clearance on the dog.

Important construction note

This version uses bound quilt-sandwich edges, not a turned bagged lining. Do not both turn the entire coat through a hole and then assume the same cutting allowance applies.

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Inspect, fit and care

A useful handmade gift should also be comfortable and easy to wash.



- Trim loose threads and inspect all seam and applique edges.
- Place the coat on the dog; wrap tabs comfortably and check full movement.
- Ensure that the neckline is not tight and that the coat clears the shoulders.
- Wash gently with mild detergent. Air dry fully before storing.
- If fit is off, alter the paper master and remake the panel rather than forcing the closure.

Printing the pattern

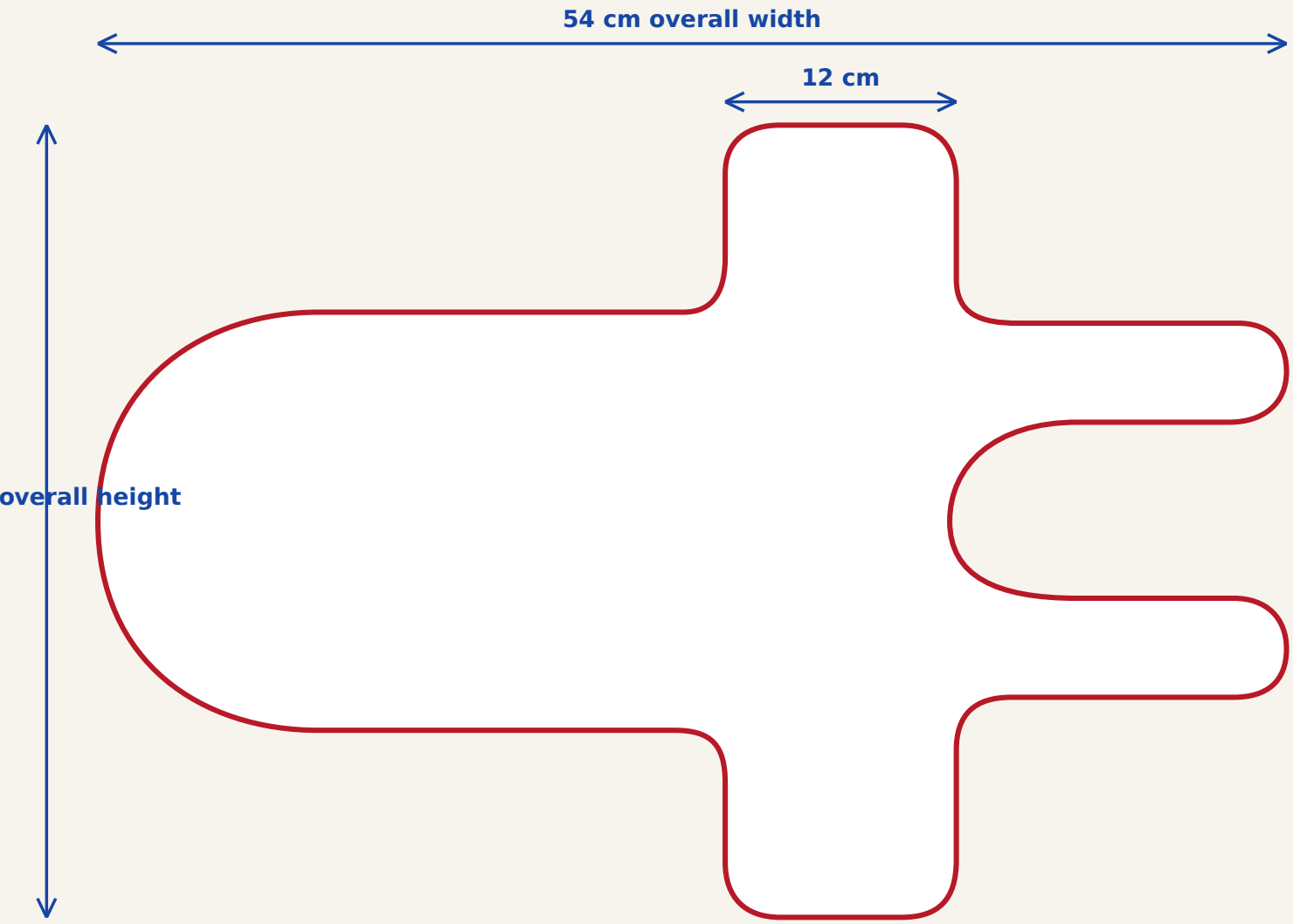
The next (final) tutorial page is a clean, dimensioned overview of the entire shape. To cut actual fabric at full scale, use the accompanying 100% TILE PRINT file: print on A4, select ACTUAL SIZE / 100%, verify its 5 cm calibration bar, align the lettered tiles, and tape them together.

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Full coat pattern - dimensioned overview

Diagram is schematic: use the separate tiled file for full-size cutting.



REFERENCE DETAILS

Body length: about 32 cm | Upper tab: 8 cm high | Lower tab: 10 cm

Upper/lower tab width: approx. 12 cm | Right tabs: approx. 12 cm

Fit and closure overlap must be checked on your dog before cutting.

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