

## Free Download: Athletic Alphabet and Numbers

*as seen on Simplicity® pattern S3183*

Customize your pet jersey with these Athletic Alphabet and Number appliques. Follow the basic instructions below to apply letters for great results.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Fabric of your choice or to match your team/jersey colors: we recommend craft felt for best results. Amount of fabric needed will depend on how many letters you will be using.
- Scissors – we recommend small trimming scissors with pointed tips to cut corners cleanly.
- Paper-backed fusing web – this is available in most fabric and craft stores. Fusing web consists of a paper base with a thin layer of glue attached to the entire surface. This glue melts when heated, fusing fabrics together. When the glue cools the fabrics are securely bonded.
- Fabric Glue – if you choose not to use fusing web, glue formulated for fabric will work as well.
- Files for Athletic Alphabet and/or Numbers – all files are designed to print on standard 8-1/2" X 11" paper in .pdf format - you will need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader in order to download them. Many new computers come with it already installed, but if you don't it's available for free at Adobe.com.

All letters and numbers have two cutting lines: the solid line is for basic letters and numbers, used on their own or on top of accent letters cut from a complementary color. The dotted line is for the accent letters or numbers, which are slightly larger and less-defined. **If you are planning on using accent letters or numbers, we recommend printing a second copy of the alphabet and/or numbers to use just for cutting accents.**

Athletic Alphabet contains all letters on a single page. Each letter measures approximately 1-1/2" high; widths fluctuate depending on each individual letter.

To download the Athletic Alphabet, [click here \(link to S3183\\_Athletic Alphabet.pdf\)](#)

Athletic Numbers are contained on two separate files, one for numbers 0 through 4, one for numbers 5 through 9. Each number measures approximately 5-1/2" high; widths fluctuate depending on each individual number.

To download Athletic Numbers 0 through 4, [click here \(link to S3183\\_Athletic Numbers\\_1\)](#)

To download Athletic Numbers 5 through 9, [click here \(link to S3183\\_Athletic Numbers\\_2\)](#)

### DIRECTIONS

#### Cutting the Appliques

1. Use the downloaded printout as your applique pattern. Cut out the specific letters or numbers you need from the alphabet. Each letter can be used as many times as needed.

2. With the right side of the pattern facing you, place it on the RIGHT side of the fabric. If you place it on the wrong side the letter will be backwards when it is cut out.
3. Pin the pattern in place, being careful to pin around any openings within the letter to ensure straight, even cuts.
4. Use a pair of sharp, pointed scissors to cut out letters. The points will be into the corners and angles of the letters for clean, crisp lines.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 for each letter (and accent letter) you will be using.

#### General Directions for Fusing Appliques

1. With the right side of the pattern facing you, place it on the GLUE side of the paper-backed fusing web.
2. Pin in place and cut out in the same manner as you did with the applique fabric.
3. Place the GLUE side of the fusing web on the WRONG side of the fabric applique, matching all cut edges.
4. Follow manufacturer's directions and use a hot iron to fuse the web to the WRONG side of the applique. Press from the paper side first, and then allow to cool.
5. Turn the applique over, apply a pressing cloth and press from the fabric side to ensure a complete bond. IMPORTANT: the pressing cloth not only prevents glue from sticking to the sole plate of your iron if any is peeking out from behind the fabric, but is essential when using craft felt to prevent scorching of the felt.
6. After the applique has cooled completely, peel off the paper, revealing the glue on the WRONG side of the applique.
7. If layering basic and accent letters, now is the time to do it. Place the basic letter with glue side down on the RIGHT side of its accent letter, centering it so that the same amount of accent is showing on all letter edges. Cover with a pressing cloth and press basic letter to accent letter. Allow to cool.
8. Place with glue side down on the RIGHT side of the garment as desired. Cover with a pressing cloth and press to the bag fabric, being sure to press all of the letter edges. Allow to cool.
9. Turn the garment inside out and press again, from the WRONG side to set completely.