

# Candy Lobster Ornament

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Candy Lobster dispenses candies through an opening in his belly. Smarties or M&Ms are best; you may also use chocolate or yoghurt covered raisins, very small gumballs.

Jujubes, jellybeans, or other sticky candy are not suitable.

No candy should be left inside the lobster for long periods.

When stitched, the Candy Lobster measures approximately 3" x 3.9".



*You will need*

- Two 4.5" squares of red or orange felt
- Lightweight tear-away stabilizer or Glad Press & Seal

# Candy Lobster Ornament Instructions

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1. Hoop a single layer of your chosen lightweight stabilizer in the 4x4" hoop. You can use either tear-away (preferred) or cut-away and trim it away in the final step.



You can also use a double layer of plastic wrap product such as Glad Press N Seal (sticky side up) or even plain cling wrap.

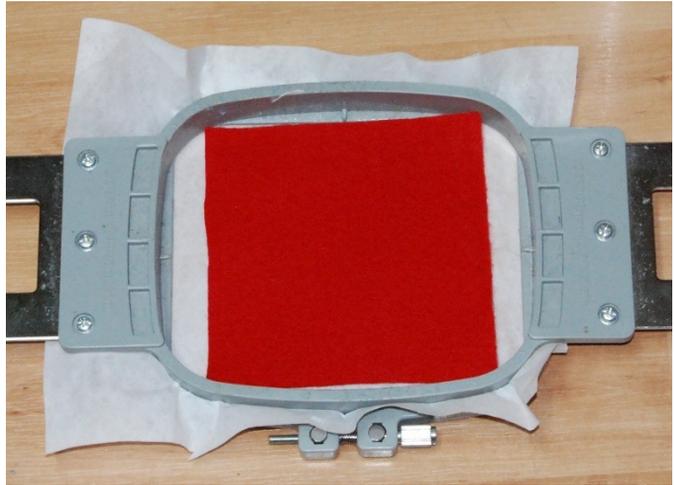
You want the finished lobster to be sturdy but pliable enough that the candies can be easily removed. I like the Press N Seal, which provides a food-safe lining that keeps the candies separate from the felt.



*Also, having read that sturdy plastic bags can work as stabilizer, I've been using them for many small projects and ornaments, and am happy to report that it worked well for the Candy Lobster too. In the photos I am using such repurposed plastic.*

**Note:** *It appears that not all machines will tolerate plastic used in this way (mine does, but my sister's doesn't). If you find it won't work with your machine, choose any lightweight stabilizer, fine tulle, or organza instead.*

2. Lay a 4.5" square of red or orange felt on top of the stabilizer. As the lobster will be used to contain candy, I chose to place the felt without adhesive. If you are concerned about the felt shifting, hold the corners in place with a bit of masking tape.



If you are using the Press & Seal, of course, the sticky surface will hold the felt in place.

3. Place the hoop in the machine and stitch the lobster back design. The final element to stitch will be four cross-shaped registration marks, one in each corner.

When the design has finished stitching, remove it from the machine and unhoop.



4. Remove the stitch-out from the hoop and trim the stabilizer from around the edge of the square.



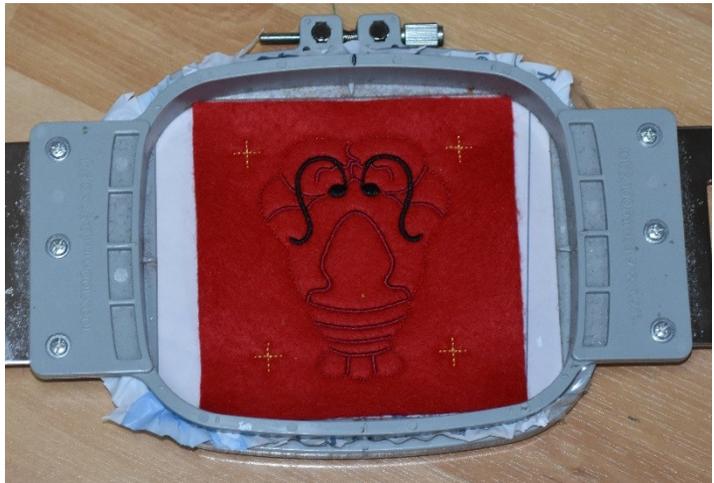
5. Carefully slit or snip the button hole opening. Then set the back piece aside while you stitch the lobster front.



6. Hoop a second piece of stabilizer and place a 4.5x4.5" square of red or orange felt in place, just as you did for the lobster back.



7. . Return the hoop to the machine and bring up the lobster front design. Stitch up to the crossed registration marks. Pause the machine before the final color stitches and remove the hoop from the machine. Do not unhoop the design.



8. Turn the hoop over and lay it face down on your work surface. You will clearly see the stitches on the back of the stabilizer.



9. Place the previously stitched back piece over the back of the hoop, carefully lining up the crossed registration marks with the ones on the front.



10. Without disturbing the placement of the stitched back, tape the corners with masking tape to hold the back piece in position with the registrations marks lined up.



11. Change the bobbin to match the top thread color.



12. Return the hoop to the machine, taking care that the taped back piece does not shift out of position. Stitch the final satin stitch outline.



13. When the design has finished stitching, remove it from the machine. Unhoop, remove the tape, and trim around the edge of the design, leaving a narrow border. You may find it easier to trim the front first and then the back.



12. Turn the lobster over and fill with candies through the hole in his belly. The candies can be squeezed out through the buttonhole opening by manipulating the Candy Lobster with your fingers.



The finished Lobster Candy Dispenser, front and back.

