

4th of July Flag Canvas

Welcome all to your home with this ruffly version of Old Glory.

Crafter Level: Medium
Time Needed: 4-6 hours

What you'll need

- $\frac{3}{4}$ yd. each of red and white 100% cotton fabrics and $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. of blue fabric
- 4-in. circle template for yo-yos
- Scissors, needle and pins
- Quilting thread in red, white and blue to match fabrics
- Fabric glue or low-temp hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Paintbrush and paint to match blue fabric
- 14 in. x 20 in. pre-stretched canvas frame
- 6 large white star buttons
- Pencil and 24-in. ruler



How to make it

1. On the pre-stretched canvas frame, lightly draw a rectangle about 10 inches wide and 7 inches tall at the top left corner with your pencil. Use blue paint to color in the rectangle, using additional coats as needed, letting dry between coats. Paint over the edges of the canvas, too, if desired. Let dry completely and set aside.
2. Tear 3-inch-wide strips from red and white fabrics, from selvage to selvage, until you have 13 strips total (seven red and six white).
Tip: To tear fabric, snip through one selvage and, holding the fabric on either side of the snip, pull fabric apart in a quick motion. Continue to tear along the grain until you've torn through to the other selvage. If you have 100% cotton fabric, it will tear in a straight line.
3. To make red ruffled stripes, use needle and red thread to gather each strip with a large running stitch about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from one torn edge. Gather longer ruffles (you'll need four red ones for the bottom stripes) to be about 21 inches long. Shorter ruffles (you'll need three red ones) should be about 12 inches long. If your shorter ruffles are too full, trim off 10 to 15 inches from the strip before gathering.
4. Repeat process to make your white ruffles using white thread. You'll need three longer ruffles (21 inches long) and three shorter ruffles (12 inches long). Set aside.
5. To make the yo-yos, use the template provided to draw 30, 4-inch circles on your blue fabric. Cut out the circles along your drawn lines.
6. Fold over the curved edges of one fabric circle about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and use needle and blue thread to sew a running stitch along the fold all the way around the circle as shown at right.
7. Gather the circle tightly until you have a "sack" shape. (We recommend using quilting thread because it's less likely to break for this step.) Make a knot and clip thread. Flatten "sack" until your



Hallmark

gathered edge is at the center of the circle. You've made a yo-yo! Now repeat steps 6 and 7 until you've made 30.

Tip: The yo-yos are the most time-consuming part of this project. If you don't want to spend hours on this step, you could simply paint or make ruffles for the the blue rectangle out of the blue fabric.

8. Lay out the yo-yos over the blue corner of the canvas to make sure you have enough. If needed, make more. We used five equal rows of six on our canvas, but you could fill in the corner however you'd like. Now remove the yo-yos from the canvas until you've added your ruffles.

9. To start adding ruffles, first draw faint stripes across your canvas with your pencil and ruler. You'll want to have 13 stripes of equal height, with the bottom of the sixth stripe aligning with the bottom of the blue rectangle.

10. Now, starting at the bottom of the canvas, add your first red long ruffle, aligning your running stitch with your pencil line. Pin in place until your ruffle is straight. Then glue ruffle to the canvas along the underside of your running stitch, leaving the bottom edge of the ruffle unglued for a fluttery effect.



11. Repeat Step 10 with a white ruffle above your first red ruffle. Then continue repeating Step 10 (alternating red and white ruffles) until you've glued all your ruffles to the canvas frame. When you get to the shorter ruffles, make sure you cover the canvas frame up to the blue rectangle but not over it. The left edge of the shorter ruffles will be covered by the yo-yos.

12. Once your ruffles are in place, arrange your yo-yos on the blue rectangle and glue in place. Then add white buttons on top of and between your yo-yos, and glue them in place. Let the project dry completely before hanging.

Template for yo-yos

Print provided template and cut out to make your 4-inch, blue-fabric circles.

