

Basic Applique Instructions

By:

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POSSIBLE SUPPLY LIST

Fusible Web – used to adhere appliqués to project piece (Heat and Bond, Wonder Under, etc.)

Fashion Fabric (Cotton, Denim, etc.)

Applique Fabric (Denim, Cotton, Fleece, Chenille, etc.)

Garment (Jeans, T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, etc.)

Water Soluble Marking Pen

Embroidery Machine

Sewing Machine

Thread (Polyester, Cotton, Rayon, etc.)

Embroidery Floss

Temporary Spray Adhesive – used to hold appliqué pieces to project area

Fabric Motif

Drawn or Printed Design

Pencil

Dark Permanent Marker

Scissors

Iron

Press Cloth

Water Soluble Stabilizer – used as a topper (clear plastic-like film) on fabrics with a nap or delicate fabrics (Sulky Solvy)

Tear Away Stabilizer – best for woven fabrics

Cut Away Stabilizer – best for knit fabrics

Tear Away Adhesive Stabilizer – for fabrics you don't want to hoop (just hoop the stabilizer and then secure the fabric to the stabilizer in the hoop)

Poly-Mesh Fusible – iron over the back of your finished appliquéd area for a polished finishing touch. Also makes the back soft against the skin (especially great for baby and children's garments).

BASIC MACHINE EMBROIDERY APPLIQUE INSTRUCTIONS

It's quick and easy to create great appliques with your embroidery machine...

1. Hoop the fabric you want to embroider the design on or hoop some sticky stabilizer in the hoop and stick the fabric to that.
2. Embroider the design until you get to the "applique position" in the stitch order.
3. The "applique position" is a straight stitch to indicate where to place your fabric for the applique. Embroider this stitch.
4. Place a piece of the fabric you wish to use for the applique over the indicated area. Do not remove the fabric from the hoop. You may want to use a temporary spray adhesive to hold the applique fabric in position.
5. Then let your machine stitch the applique fabric down with a straight stitch.
6. Remove the hoop from the machine and cut the excess fabric off the design. Be careful not to cut your main fabric (garment). Do not remove fabric from the hoop yet.
7. Put hoop back into the machine and continue with the embroidery of the design and/or any additional applique steps.
8. When the design has finished stitching out you can remove the fabric from the hoop.
9. Trim threads and remove any stabilizer.

Tips, Hints, Ideas, Suggestions, etc...

- If the fabric you are stitching the applique to is a knit (or similar fabric), you may want to use a fusible tear away or cut away stabilizer on the back of the garment to keep the knit from stretching as you stitch out the design. Once the design is stitched, you can carefully cut or tear away any extra stabilizer.
- If the applique fabric is a fleece, chenille, or fur (or similar fabric), you will want to add a water soluble stabilizer to the top of your applique piece(s), so the design can stitch out better. This stabilizer will dissolve with water. It is also fairly easy to tear after your design is stitched out.
- If your applique design is being added to a t-shirt or other garment that will be against the skin (especially for babies and children), I like to add an iron on soft mesh stabilizer to the back side of the project. This is for a professional look, as well as, for comfort. The back of the applique area is covered, so it looks very nice. Also, the mesh is very soft against the skin and much nicer against the skin than the back of your applique project.
- For a list of great machine embroidery/applique design sites, please take a look at the Confetti Kidz "Design Directory", available at www.confettikidzboutique.com and www.idealzimbloom.com.

BASIC FABRIC CUT-OUT APPLIQUE INSTRUCTIONS

It's fun to make an appliqué using a cut-out of your fashion fabric...

1. Cut out a piece of your fashion fabric to be used for your appliqué(s). Make sure that there is at least an inch of fabric around the motif you'd like to use as your appliqué(s).
2. Cut out a piece of fusible web that is slightly smaller than your fashion fabric piece.
3. Following the manufacturer's directions on the fusible web to iron it to the back of your fashion fabric piece.
4. Cut out your motif(s)/appliqué piece(s), using a scissor. Leave a little space beyond the edges of your motif.
4. After you have your appliqué piece(s) cut out, tear the backing paper off.
5. Position the appliqué piece(s) on your garment. If your appliqué design has several layers, make sure to pay attention to the order. You may even want to number them on the back side, for reference.
6. Iron the appliqué pieces on your garment, according to the manufacturer's directions on the fusible web packaging.
7. Stitch around the appliqué piece(s). You can try a variety of stitches...decorative machine stitches, decorative hand stitches, zig zag stitches, blanket stitches, etc. You can even do free motion stitching inside the appliqué pieces, to secure them and add a unique touch to your appliqué. There really are many different looks that can be achieved, using different stitch techniques. You will want to test your stitching on a scrap of fabric before you do it on your project.

Tips, Hints, Ideas, Suggestions, etc....

- There are two steps to using fusible web (also called iron-on adhesive). The first is to attach the adhesive to your transfer piece (the appliqué piece). The second step is to iron the appliqué onto your garment.
- If the fabric you are stitching the appliqué to is a knit (or similar fabric), you may want to use a fusible tear away or cut away stabilizer on the back to keep the knit from stretching as you stitch out the design. Once the design is stitched, you can carefully cut or tear away any extra stabilizer.
- If the appliqué fabric is a fleece, chenille, or fur (or similar fabric), you will want to add a water soluble stabilizer to the top of your appliqué piece(s), so the design can stitch out better. This stabilizer will dissolve in water. It is also fairly easy to tear away.
- Covering the project with a press cloth when ironing is a good tip.
- If your appliqué design is being added to a t-shirt or other garment that will be against the skin (especially for babies and children), I like to add an iron on soft mesh stabilizer to the back side of the project. This is for a professional look, as well as, for comfort. The back of the appliqué area is covered, so it looks very nice. Also, the mesh is very soft against the skin and much nicer against the skin than the back of your appliqué project.

BASIC APPLIQUE DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS

It's really fun to get creative and make your own appliqué designs...

1. Draw your design on the paper part of the fusible web. You can draw your own design, purchase an appliqué design, or print one. If you want to trace a design, the fusible web is see through, just like tracing paper, so it works nicely. The only tricky part to remember, is that the appliqué design will end up in the reverse. So if it is a design that is symmetrical or one that it really doesn't matter which way the design goes, then no problem. If it is a design that you don't want reversed, then the easiest thing to do, is to first draw your design on tracing paper (or other thin paper). Then turn the paper over and using a dark marker trace over the design. Now your design is in the reverse and this is what you should trace onto the paper side of your fusible web. This may sound a little tricky, but it's not really that bad. You just have to think it through before you start your project and then double check to make sure you have it right before you add the appliqué pieces to your garment.
2. Cut your fabric scrap to a size large enough for your design.
3. Cut a piece of fusible web just slightly smaller than your fabric. With the paper side of the fusible web to the iron, press to the wrong side of the fabric piece. You shouldn't have to press it for more a couple of seconds-- just enough to get it adhered to the fabric. Follow the manufacturers instructions on the fusible web packaging.
- .5. Carefully cut around your applique piece with scissors.
6. Remove the paper backing of the fusible web and position the applique on the item you would like to embellish. Press with a hot iron. You don't want to melt the fabrics, but you do want enough heat to ensure that a good bond has been made between the appliqué piece and the project piece .
7. Stitch around the appliqué piece(s). You can try a variety of stitches...decorative machine stitches, decorative hand stitches, zig zag stitches, blanket stitches, etc. You can even do free motion stitching inside the appliqué pieces, to secure them and add a unique touch to your appliqué. There really are many different looks that can be achieved, using different stitch techniques. You will want to test your stitching on a scrap of fabric before you do it on your project.

Tips, Hints, Ideas, Suggestions, etc....

- There are two steps to using fusible web (also called iron-on adhesive). The first is to attach the adhesive to your transfer piece (the applique piece). The second step is to iron the applique onto your garment.
- If the fabric you are stitching the appliqué to is a knit (or similar "unstable" fabric), you may want to use a fusible tear away or cut away stabilizer on the back to keep the knit from stretching as you stitch out the design. Once the design is stitched, you can carefully cut or tear away any extra stabilizer.

- If the appliqué fabric is a fleece, chenille, or fur (or similar fabric), you will want to add a water soluble stabilizer to the top of your appliqué piece(s), so the design can stitch out better. This stabilizer will dissolve in water. It is also fairly easy to tear away.
- Covering the project with a press cloth when ironing is a good idea.
- If your appliqué design is being added to a t-shirt or other garment that will be against the skin (especially for babies and children), I like to add an iron on soft mesh stabilizer to the back side of the project. This is for a professional look, as well as, for comfort. The back of the appliqué area is covered, so it looks very nice. Also, the mesh is very soft against the skin and much nicer against the skin than the back of your appliqué project.
- Don't forget you can layer several appliques for more variety. Don't be afraid of mixing fabric textures.
- Beads and buttons can also add interest to your applique.
- Coloring books are a great place to get appliqué design ideas.

Let your creativity blossom and have fun!

Thanks for purchasing my instructions!

Enjoy,
Susan

If you have any questions, please email me at:
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Applique Basics

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Applique



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