



My Fair Lady Designs

Holiday Joy Card

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HOLIDAY JOY CARD INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

This card includes two types of designs - appliqué and regular designs. Try using different fabrics and papers for a unique look. You can use decorative paper, wrapping paper, tissue paper, vellum, or fabrics for the appliqués. They all work well. Also, try using metallic, shimmer, or variegated thread for a fun look.

Paper of any weight can be used, and any kind of paper can be used - vellum, mulberry paper, handmade paper, etc. These designs also sew well on leather, suede, organza, silk, cotton, etc. Experiment and enjoy!

I have found the magazines, "Paper Crafts" and "Creative Machine Embroidery - Special Paper Embroidery Issue," and other paper craft magazines to be valuable resources for ideas and templates.

TIPS

1. Cardstock with texture embroiders beautifully. To get a good quality stitch on really heavy cardstock, hoop two pieces of tear-away stabilizer. You can also just float a second piece of stabilizer under the design area. This is a great way to use those pieces of stabilizer that are too small to hoop but too big to throw away.
2. Another way to get a better stitch on heavy cardstock (or any other material such as suede or leather) is to stitch the design twice before taking the hoop out of the machine.
3. Use the correct needle. A larger needle will create bigger holes in your paper. Smaller needles tend to break easily, so experiment with your paper to find the best size. I almost always use a size 80/12 unless I am embroidering on suede or leather.
4. Stitch a sample!

HOW TO EMBROIDER ON PAPER



1. Hoop a piece of stabilizer. You can use any kind. I prefer tear-away (the cheap stuff).
2. Get your paper ready. After you have chosen your paper and decided what your finished product will be (card, planner, etc), cut, score, or fold the paper to the finished size. Decide where you want the embroidery design and how it should be oriented.



3. Unfold the paper, and place it on the hooped stabilizer. You will need to lightly adhere the paper using small amount of adhesive fabric spray or double-sided tape. Do not hoop the paper!



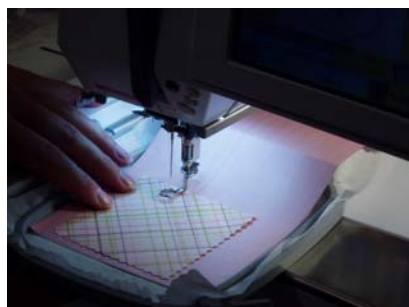
4. Gently place the hoop in the machine, and sew the design.
5. Remove paper and stabilizer from the hoop. Cut away the stabilizer close to the design. Although it is tempting to tear the stabilizer away (it is tear-away after all!), don't do it! You can easily tear your stitches or the paper.

HOW TO APPLIQUÉ ON PAPER



Paper appliqué is the same as fabric appliqué!

1. Use the same thread for the first three sequences. Hoop a piece of stabilizer and place your foundation paper on the stabilizer (see instructions above). Sew the first sequence (the outline of the appliqué). This sequence tells you where to put the appliqué material.



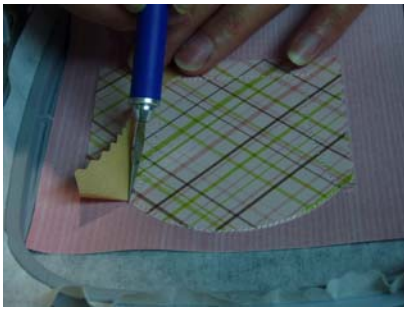
2. Place your appliqué material (paper or fabric) over the outline. You may want to adhere this piece with double-sided tape or fabric adhesive. I like to just hold this piece in place until the first few stitches are sewn.

3. Sew the second sequence (same as the first sequence). This sequence tacks the appliqué material down.

TIP

To appliqué on stabilizer:

1. Hoop a piece of stabilizer.
2. Sew the first sequence (on the stabilizer).
3. Place your appliqué paper or fabric over the sewn guideline.
4. Sew the second sequence.
5. Trim the fabric or paper close to the guideline.
6. Sew the third sequence to finish the appliqué.



4. Remove the hoop, and cut away the fabric or paper close to the sewn guideline. When using paper as the appliqué material, cut the paper away using an X-Acto knife or other sharp blade. Press hard enough to cut the top layer, but not the bottom layer! If you do cut through to the bottom layer, it will be covered by the stitching.

5. Place the hoop back into your machine and sew the third sequence. This sequence finishes the appliqué. Continue sewing the rest of the design.

HOLIDAY JOY CARD



1. Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer.

2. On the stabilizer, appliqué the mittens and hat. This is the same as appliquéing on paper, but you will just appliqué on stabilizer instead (see the Tip above). If you position the hat, mittens, and sentiment as shown, you can sew them all in one hooping. A 4"x4" hoop is shown.



3. Embroider the Holiday Joy Sentiment. Use double-sided tape to hold a small piece (about 2" x 5") of cardstock in place on the stabilizer, and embroider the "Holiday Joy" Sentiment on the cardstock. Trim the embroidered sentiment so that it is about 1½" x 4". Trim the stabilizer close to the stitching on the back of the sentiment. Cut out the hat and mittens, and trim the stabilizer close to the stitching.



4. Cut a piece of patterned paper so that it is 6" x 12".

5. Score the paper 4" from both ends.



6. The card decorations will go in the center section of the card. (In the picture, the bottom section has been folded under.) Use a hole punch to punch holes in the sentiment. Punch holes at both ends of a 6" piece of ribbon (or use small scissors). Hold the sentiment in place, and use the holes already placed to punch holes in the card. Place eyelets through the sentiment, ribbon, and card and set them with an eyelet setter.

7. Place the hat on the card and hold in place with double-sided tape.



8. With a decorative rotary cutter, cut a piece of patterned paper to 1" x 4½".

9. Use an X-Acto knife or straightedge to cut a piece of plain cardstock to 1½" x 4½".



10. Place the patterned strip over the plain strip and hold in place with double-sided tape. This will be your card pocket.



11. Sew the pocket in place with a straight, decorative, or zigzag stitch. If you would like to hold the card in place when you sew, use a very small amount of double-sided tape on the edges of the pocket.



12. Set three decorative brads, snaps, buttons, etc. on the side of the card.



13. Tape the mittens in place.

14. Trim the bottom edge of the paper with a decorative blade or scissors.



15. Fold the bottom of the card under so that it covers the stitching, brads, and eyelets. Hold in place with double-sided tape.



16. Fill the pocket with a note, gift certificate, candy, etc. and give the card to your favorite friend! ☺

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My Fair Lady Designs

<http://www.myfairladydesigns.com>

mail to: myfairladydesigns@hotmail.com