

Springtime Appliqué Pillow

Skill level: Intermediate



by Rebecca Kemp Brent for Coats & Clark

Technique:	Sewing, Fabric Crafting
Brand:	Dual Duty XP
Crafting time:	Weekend

A lovely complement to a pieced pillow or a touch of springtime on its own, this pillow features a scattering of machine-appliquéd flowers. Choose shades of a single hue for a fabulous monochromatic look, or substitute a rainbow of colors to suit your fancy. The colors are listed from darkest to lightest.

Finished Sizes of Projects: 16" x 16"

Supplies

FreeSpirit Designer Essential Linen Solids:

- ½ yd Plum LILS0116 for pillow back
- ¾ yd Natural LILS018 for pillow front
- ¼ yd Gray LILS021 for pillow front

FreeSpirit Designer Essential Cotton Solids:

- ⅛ yd Plum, CSFSESS.PLUMX
- ¼ yd Berry, CSFSESS.BERRY
- ⅛ yd Petunia, CSFSESS.PETUN
- ⅛ yd Tart, CSFSESS.TARTX
- ⅛ yd Silver, CSFSESS.SILVE
- ⅛ yd Winter White, CSFSESS.WINTE
- ½ yd fusible interfacing

Paper-backed fusible web

Coordinating colors of Dual Duty XP All-Purpose and Coats® Machine Embroidery threads

One 16" pillow form

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CS0184

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Cutting

From the Plum linen, cut:

1 square, 16 1/2" x 16 1/2"

From the Natural linen, cut:

1 square, 12 1/2" x 12 1/2"

From the Gray linen, cut:

4 rectangles, 2 1/2" x 16 1/2"

From the Plum cotton, cut:

2 flower appliqués*

From the Berry cotton, cut:

2 strips, 1 3/4" x width of fabric

2 flower appliqués*

From the Petunia cotton, cut:

2 flower appliqués*

From the Tart cotton, cut:

2 flower appliqués*

From the Silver cotton, cut:

1 flower appliqué*

From the Winter White cotton, cut:

1 flower appliqué*

From the fusible interfacing, cut:

1 square, 16 1/2" x 16 1/2"

*Follow the instructions below for cutting the appliqués.

Two flower patterns are provided; mix and match the styles and colors as you choose.

We used the AccuQuilt Go! die cutter and the Funky Flowers die to cut the flowers for the sample pillow.

Preparing the Appliqués

1. Trace the desired flower shapes onto the paper side of the fusible web, tracing a total of 10 flowers. Roughly cut around each flower shape.

TIP: To help avoid show-through, you may want to fuse a scrap of interfacing to the wrong side of the white fabric before applying the fusible web.

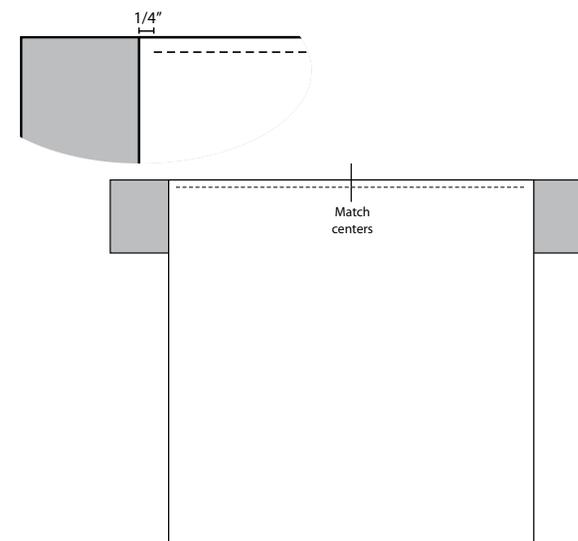
2. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the traced appliqué shapes onto the wrong side of the flower fabrics. Cut out each flower, following the traced outline exactly.
3. Remove the paper backing from each appliqué shape.

Optional: If you are using a die cutter, cut the appliqué fabrics into pieces slightly larger than the die and apply the fusible web to the wrong side of each fabric before running the fabric through the die cutter.

Seam allowance is 1/4".

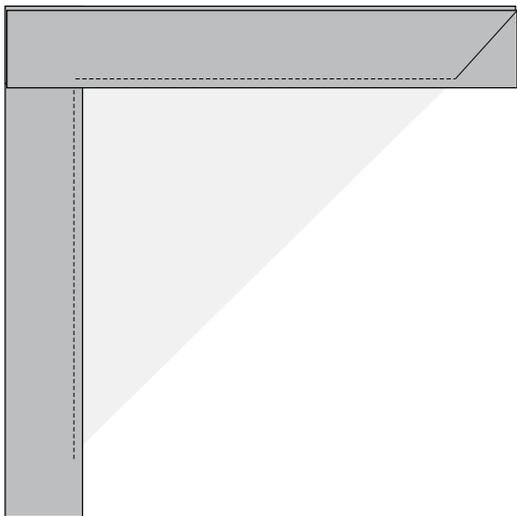
Assembling the Pillow Front

1. Find the center of a Gray linen rectangle and match it to the center of one side of the Natural linen square, right sides together. The gray rectangle will extend beyond the square on both ends. Stitch between the seamline intersections, leaving 1/4" at each end of the square unsewn. Repeat to sew a gray rectangle to each side of the square.

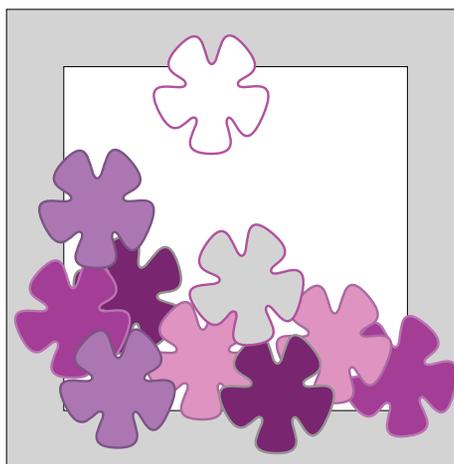


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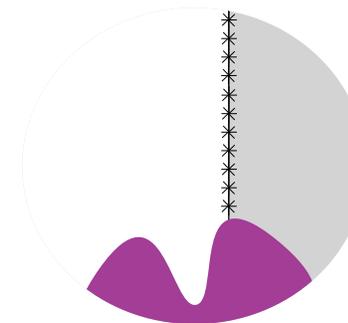
2. Fold the assembled unit in half diagonally, right sides together, matching the free ends of two adjacent gray rectangles. Draw a diagonal line across the gray fabric from the seamline intersection to the outer edge of the rectangle. Stitch along the line to miter the gray border at the corner. Finger press the seam allowances open and check from the right side to be sure the miter is straight and lies flat. Trim the seam allowances to ¼" and press open. Repeat to miter the other three corners. Press the seam allowances toward the borders.



3. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse a square of interfacing to the wrong side of the pieced pillow front.
4. Arrange the prepared appliqués on the pillow as shown or as desired. Fuse the appliqués to the pillow front.



5. Set the sewing machine for a lazy daisy or other decorative stitch about 6 mm wide. Thread the needle with variegated Dual Duty XP All-Purpose and stitch along the seamlines between the white and gray pieces. Break and tie off the stitches at the edge of each appliqué flower.



6. Thread the machine with Dual Duty XP All-Purpose or Machine Embroidery thread. Set up a satin zigzag stitch, 3.0 mm wide and 0.2-0.4 mm long. Sew along the edges of each appliqué, beginning with the flowers in the background and breaking the stitching where other appliqués cross the shape being stitched. Be sure the zigzag stitches cover the raw edges of the appliqués, and adjust the stitch settings as necessary for smooth coverage. Change thread colors as desired, using colors that contrast with the individual appliqué fabrics but coordinate with the project as a whole.

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Finishing the Pillow

1. Remove the selvages and sew two 1 3/4" x width-of-fabric strips together, using a diagonal seam. Trim the seam allowances to 1/4" and press the seam allowances open.
2. Fold the assembled strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press.
3. Trace around a glass or round object about 2" in diameter to round each corner of the pillow front. Don't trim along the curved lines yet.
4. Place the pillow front and back wrong sides together, matching the raw edges. Trim both layers along the curved lines to round the corners.
5. Pin the prepared binding strip to the front side of the pillow, beginning at the center bottom and easing the binding around the curved corners.
6. Sew the binding to the pillow. Begin sewing just 1" before the curve of the first corner, leaving the end of the binding free. Sew all the way around the pillow, stopping 1" past the final corner.
7. Open the center fold in the binding and join the ends of the binding strip with a diagonal seam, matching the binding length to the remaining pillow. Trim the excess binding, leaving 1/4" seam allowance, and press the seam allowances open. Fold the binding in half again.
8. Fold the pillow back out of the way along the gap in the binding seam. Stitch the remaining binding to the pillow front only, being careful not to catch the pillow back in the seam.
9. Insert the pillow form into the pillow cover.
10. Matching the raw edges, pin the pillow front and back together along the opening. Keep the pillow form out of the way. Stitch the pillow edges together.
11. Fold the binding to the pillow back, covering the raw edges. Slipstitch the binding to the pillow back, just covering the seamline.

TIP: The binding for this pillow may be narrower than those you use for binding quilts. The aim is to produce a well-filled binding that mimics the appearance of piping around the pillow.

Pattern template follows on next page...

Springtime Pillow
Applique Patterns
No seam allowance included

