

CRAFT CORNER

Easy applique from print fabric

It's easy to applique a bouquet, especially when you start with a floral printed fabric. You simply cut out the flowers, arrange them in a bouquet and stitch them to a contrasting background.

For extra interest, you can make a vase, basket or bow from a contrasting fabric scrap. Machine stitches create all the stems you'll need.

The appliqued bouquet is ideal for a throw pillow. With matching print fabric for a ruffle, the pillow becomes even more beautiful.

Here are the directions for the ruffled, appliqued pillow:

MATERIALS: 7/8-yard print fabric for appliques and ruffle; 1/2 yard solid-color fabric for pillow front and back; 18 x 18-inch section of polyester fiber-fill; sewing supplies; zigzag sewing machine. Optional; fusible webbing.

CUTTING: 1. Cut one 18 x 18-inch square each for pillow front and pillow back. 2. Cut 18 x 18-inch square from batting. 3. Cut 18 x 18-inch square for backing. 4. From print fabric, cut three 7 x 36 inch strips for the ruffle.

APPLIQUES: 1. Cut several flowers from remaining print fabric. 2. Cut leaves, or anything else desired from print fabric. 3. If desired, cut a vase, basket or bow shape from contrasting fabric. 4. Optional: Using your shapes as patterns, cut corresponding shapes from fusible webbing.

ASSEMBLY: 1. Arrange flowers and other appliques on right side of pillow front. 2. Slide fusible webbing beneath appliques. 3. Following directions on webbing package, fuse appliques to fabric with an iron.

BASTING: 1. With right side of pillow front on top, sandwich batting between pillow front and backing. 2. Baste a large X-shape through all three thicknesses.

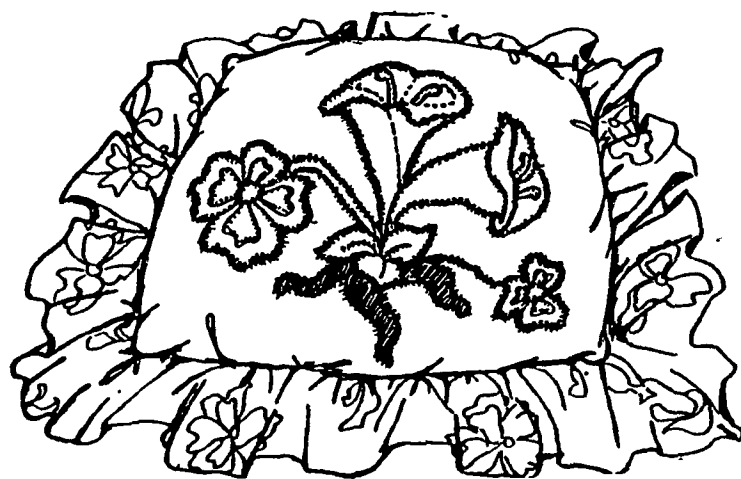
STITCHING: 1. Set zig-zag machine for a medium stitch. 2. Stitch around appliques, one at a

time, with matching or contrasting thread. 3. If desired, for added interest, stitch extra lines on a vase, basket or bow. 4. Add lines of zigzag stitches as needed for stems.

RUFFLE: 1. With sides facing, stitch short ends of ruffle together to form one continuous circle or fabric. 2. Press open seams. 3. Fold ruffle in half length-wise, keeping seams inside. 4. Sew two rows of long, gathering stitches at raw edges of ruffle. 5. Gather stitching to fit around pillow front. 6. Lining up raw edges of ruffle with outside edges of pillow, baste ruffle to right side of pillow front.

PILLOW: 1. With ruffle inside and right sides together, baste pillow front to pillow back. 2. Machine stitch around pillow, leaving small opening for turning.

3. Clip corners, trim batting close to seam; turn pillow to right side. 4. Stuff pillow with polyester batting or fiberfill. 5. Sew opening closed with tiny hem stitches.



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