

AMERICA Quilts A creatively

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Make it Multicolor and Applique Lettering

Make it Multicolor

Pat Nelson from Coats and Clark brought wonderful information on different types of threads and how and where to use them. Pat's book, Creative Machine Stitching has many great projects using all the different kinds of threads.

Information about thread type, fiber, weight, yardage, etc. is always on the end of the spool. Variegated threads come in Cotton or polyester. For cotton threads, use a size 90/14 Microtex needle. For polyester threads, use an Embroidery needle size 75 or 90.



Coats Multicolor Trilobal Polyester Thread has beautiful tonal and vivid shades that artfully blend and contrast with fabric colors to create unique accents on projects that

will be laundered often. Strong, durable, washable and colorfast, Multi-Color Trilobal Polyester Thread is perfect for adding a special touch to baby items, uniforms, every day quilts, and more.

Coats Cotton Multicolor Machine Quilting Thread Unique works of art develop before your eyes as tonal shades artfully blend and vivid multicolors contrast with your fabric as you stitch. Mercerized for a rich, lustrous sheen, Coats Cotton thread is made from premium quality, extra long-staple Egyptian cotton for superior performance and



Pat Nelson and Sue Hausmann

exceptional beauty.

Tonal shading is different than variegated. Tonal shades are all of one color, for example red. Variegated shades combine different colors, red, orange, blue etc.



The "fluffy" center of this flower was created with yellow twist thread sewn with a fringe foot. To stitch

this fluffy center, snap on your fringe foot. Select a zig zag stitch. Adjust your stitch width to 5.5. Adjust the stitch length to .4 or adjust as desired so the "fluffy" zig zag stitches are close together but feed smoothly. If bobbin thread is coming up reduce top tension.



You can also use two multicolor threads through the

same needle. Insert a Topstitch Needle size 90/14. For the flower center, stitch in a circle around the flower center. To secure the loops of the “fluffy” stitching, thread your machine with Coats and Clark thread and snap on your standard foot. Stitch a solid yellow down the center of the loops. Another way to secure the loops is to glue or fuse interfacing on the back. This prevents the loops from coming loose in the laundry. Fun Fact: The Fringe foot was originally designed for tailor tacking. It’s a lot more fun to do flowers!



Pat also showed her fun Cookie Cutter Quilt. Trace around cookie cutters. Stitch free motion, quilt with stippling. The Coats Multicolor Thread coordinates beautifully with the fabric. One border was left un-quilted, Pat is going to embroider the name and birthdate of the new baby about to be born on border. Sue said, she doesn’t make many cookies but now has a reason to keep those cookie cutters. Pat pointed out that you can also quilt around the shapes with your feed dogs up and standard foot on if free motion isn’t your “thing”.



This elegant silk pillow is easy and fun to make with the beautiful multicolor threads. Here’s how!

Seasonal Silk Pillow

Designed by Pat Nelson
Featuring Coats and Clark Multicolor Thread

Create an elegant throw pillow for your home.

Learn three ways to use Multicolor thread: mock pintucking, appliqué and machine embroidery. You can make this pillow for every season, by simply altering the colors and motifs; green and gold with leaves for Fall, red and green with holly leaves or poinsettias for Christmas, or shades of pink with tulips for Spring. Match your fabrics to coordinate with Coats & Clark’s Multicolor threads. The pillow shown has the outline of a grape leaf which has been digitized and stitched in the hoop. If you don’t own an embroidery machine yet and are not an artist, you can use cookie cutters or the leaf pattern Pat provided for your pillow. The leaf design can be free-motion embroidered or stitched with the triple straight stitch on your machine. Your choice!!!

Pillow Top

1. Cut a 15” square for the pillow top and two 14 1/2” x 9 1/2” rectangles for the back from the green silk.
2. Insert a 3.0/90 twin needle and thread it with the multicolor thread. Purchase two

Sewing Supplies:

- Pfaff Sewing Machine
- Creative Machine Stitching book by Pat Nelson
- Coats and Clark 40 wt. Trilobal Poly Thread
- Coats and Clark mercerized 100% cotton
- Multicolor™ Thread
- Size 90 Topstitch Needle
- Size 90/14 Microtex Needle
- Size 75 or 90 Embroidery Needle
- Fringe Presser Foot #820232096
- Appliqué Foot #820214096 • Twin Needle 3mm/90
- Fusible Interfacing
- 1/2 yard green dupioni silk for pillow top and back flaps
- 1/3 yard gold dupioni silk for center square
- Two spools of Coats & Clark’s Multicolor Machine Quilting Cotton, in color #821.
- 1/2 yard t Tear-A-Way Lite stabilizer for pillow top
- 1/4” Quilting foot: #820211-096
- Optional: Open-Toe Free-Motion foot: #820544096 for free-motion embroidering
- Optional: 5” or 7” spring hoop for free-motion embroidery
- Sulky Tear Easy Stabilizer

spools or wind a spare bobbin with the multicolor thread to create a second spool to thread the second needle. Check your Sewing Machine manual on threading twin needles. Use matching thread in the bobbin.

3. Mark the pillow top with diagonal lines 1" apart in both directions.
4. Back the pillow top with the Tear-A-Way



stabilizer and pin in place with a few pins.

5. Set the machine for straight stitching with the stitch length to 3 or 4. Use scrap fabric to test before stitching.

Stitch across the pillow diagonally in both directions. Remove stabilizer carefully so the stitching is not pulled out. Trim the pillow top to 14 1/2" and set aside.

Center Design Panel



1. From the gold silk cut two 9" squares. Mark a 7 1/2" square in the center of one square.

Transfer

the leaf motifs on to the 7 1/2" square. (Note: Keep the designs at least 1/2" from the edges so the design does not go into the seam allowance or the edgeto be stitched later.) If you own an embroidery machine go to the Pfaff web shop at www.myembroideries.com for thousands of embroidery designs.

2. To stitch with the foot on and feed dogs up, select a triple straight stitch. Stitch over the design lines.
3. To stitch free motion, set your machine for free motion according to your Sewing Machine Manual. Thread with Coats and Clark Multicolor thread. Hoop your fabric with Tear-A-Way Lite stabilizer in a hand

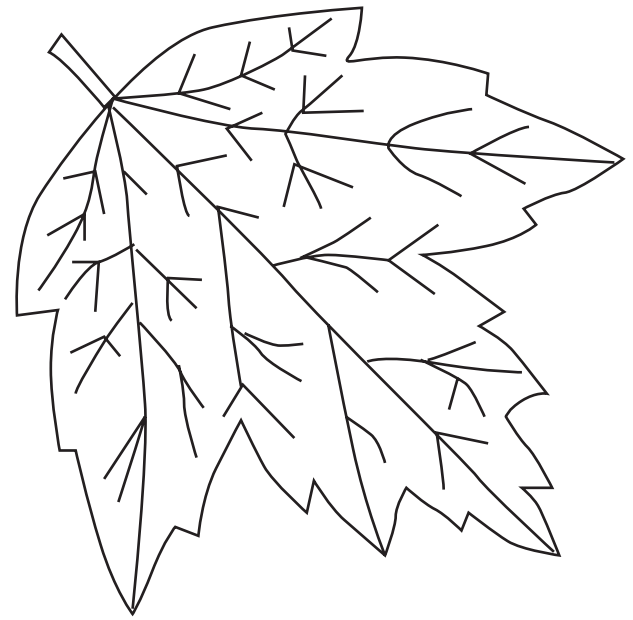
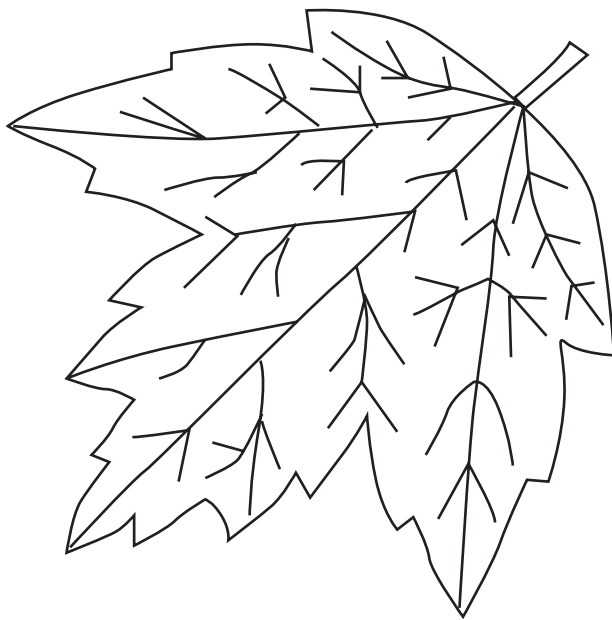
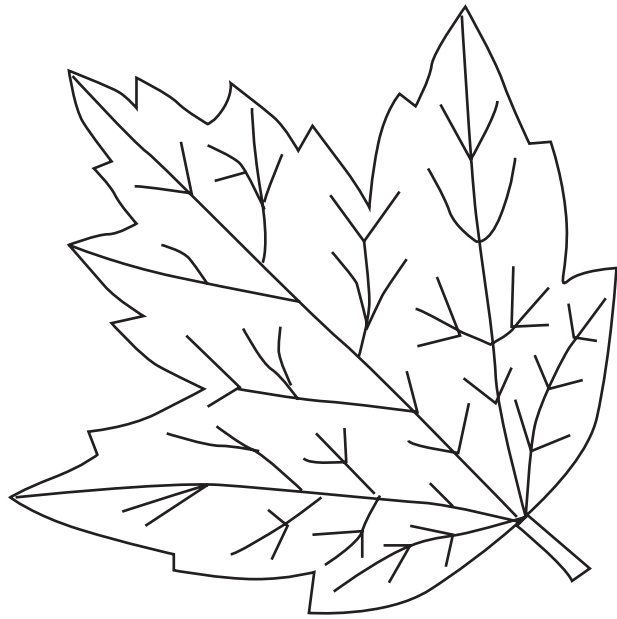
embroidery spring hoop. Insert a Microtex 14/90 needle and in the bobbin. Attach your Open Toe Free Motion Foot on top and in the bobbin. Pat recommends using scrap fabric to test the stitching and tension before sewing on the actual project.

4. When the design is totally stitched, remove the stabilizer and press.
5. Re-measure the 7 1/2" square to make sure it is still a 7 1/2" square. Redraw lines if necessary, then trim excess fabric.
6. Place the 7 1/2" square on top of the second gold square, right sides together and pin securely. Stitch 1/4" in from the raw edge of the 7 1/2" square around the whole square. Trim excess seam allowance and clip corners.
7. Cut a slit in center of the plain fabric that backs your embroidery and turn your work right side out. Press.
8. Center the embellished square on the green pintucked pillow top and pin in place.
9. Thread with Coats and Clark Multicolor Thread. Applique the square to the pillow top using a blanket stitch or Pinstitch.

Pillow Flaps and Pillow Assembly

1. Along each 14 1/2" pillow flap edge, turn under the edge 1/4" and topstitch.
2. Turn under these edges one inch, press and topstitch again. Try using a decorative stitch with the Multicolor thread for fun!
3. Place pillow top right side up on a flat surface. Then place each pillow flap right side down over the pillow top with the hemmed edges towards the center. They will overlap. Pin all edges securely and stitch together with a 1/4" seam allowance. Trim corners and turn right side out. Press and insert a 14" pillow form.

Pat also showed a lovely Dogwood quilt. The heart



Thanks to our Underwriters:

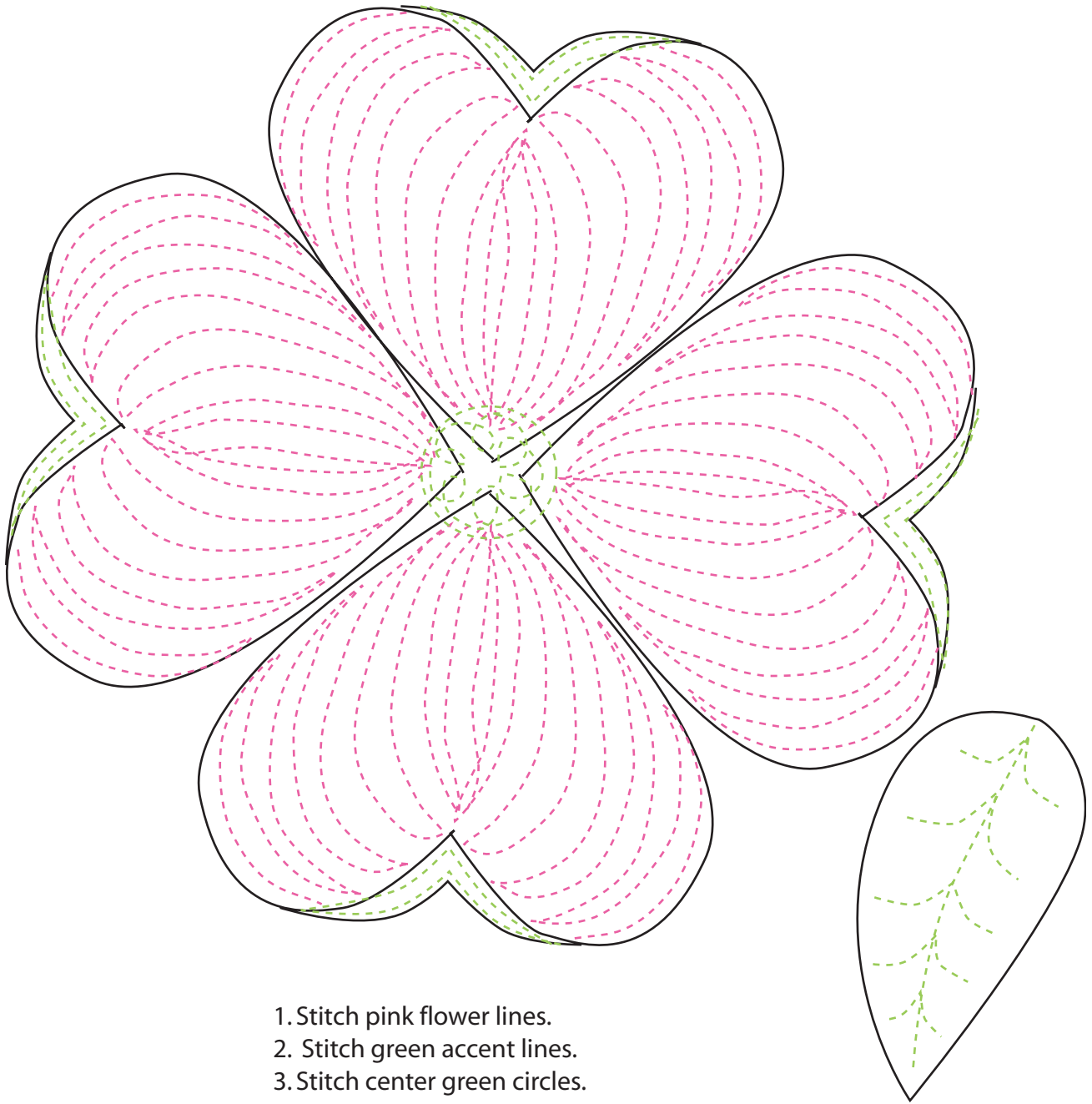


Coats & Clark

www.coatsandclark.com

www.electricquilt.com





1. Stitch pink flower lines.
2. Stitch green accent lines.
3. Stitch center green circles.

Pat also showed a lovely Dogwood quilt. The heart shape flower petals and leaves had linear quilting to define the shape of the leaves. Thank you Pat for sharing the pattern for the flowers with the America Quilts creatively viewers.



What's New to Do

Applique Lettering

Andrea Poulimenos Bishop from Electric Quilt joined Sue with fun ideas for using Appliqué Lettering in your quilts. Andrea had several of Linda MacDougall's quilts, including the Fall quilt and Sweet Dreams.

Appliqué Letters are a great way to experiment with and learn many sewing skills. You can sew them with hand needle turn method, invisible machine stitch, leaving a raw edge or using a decorative satin stitch. All of these techniques were used in the two quilts featured here. The hand appliquéd quilts were beautifully machine quilted!

Andrea showed how easy it was with the help of your computer. Just choose a font, then change size, color etc. and take it in to the Electric Quilt Program to create the quilt. Print out the pattern and yardage. Sew the appliques using your favorite method, by hand, raw edge style or with a satin stitch.

Letters can be shadowed by bringing up the letter and drawing around it, or printing the letter twice with the second being 1" larger, for example 6" and 7" to create the shadow effect. All quilts were created in the Electric Quilt

computer software program.



Sue Hausmann, Sara Boughner, and Andrea Poulimenos Bishop

Sewing Supplies:

- Pfaff Sewing Machine
- Electric Quilt 6



Technology Tip: Sara Boughner, Pfaff Educational Consultant showed an exclusive feature of the Pfaff creative 2170 called Precise Positioning. This feature makes placing your embroideries exactly where you want them super easy and virtually eliminates the need for templates. Sara showed how Precise Positioning can be used when working with a large design composed of multiple segments. Step one is to embroider the first segment of the design and identify one or two match points. Re-hoop your fabric, positioning it so that the match points are visible. On your screen, identify your first match point and lock onto it, drag your design on the screen to meet the same match point in your previously embroidered design. For even more precision you can move to a second match point and further adjust your design by rotating it slightly within the hoop, by 0.5 degree increments to ensure that 2 segments of the design are perfectly aligned. Isn't technology great?