

Quick Gifts and Decorations



To make these projects QUICK, I chose to applique all my shapes. The EPP patterns are the easiest to use, but you can certainly use the FPP patterns. If you chose to use FPP patterns, you'll need to glue the smaller shapes together to great the large shape. For either, don't fuss about the individual sew lines. Just cut out the whole larger shape that creates the silhouette.

Some patterns need to be resized. First make sure that your printer really prints at 100%. Some customers have indicated that they have to change their settings to be 97 or 103 % so that it prints at 100%. I have indicated what I've changed my print scale to be where necessary.

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Materials Needed:

Fabric scraps
Batting scrap
FlexiFuse
Fabric for binding
4.5" NP Pattern

COASTER

For this project, select a square pattern. I chose the baby bear pattern and the pine tree. Cut out the full shape, not along all the sew lines.

Cut the background fabric to 5.25" (cut batting and backing fabric slightly larger.)

Attach FlexiFuse or fusible webbing to the back of your silhouettes, then iron onto the background fabric. Make sure to leave room for a seam allowance or binding.

Make a coaster sandwich with the top, batting and backing, then stitch around the shape using a straight stitch. **TIP!** If you don't have an extension table for your sewing machine, put books behind the throat to create a flat surface large enough for whatever you are top stitching to lie flat. With out this, your design can bunch up and warp.

Trim the block to 5.25".

Attach 1.25" wide single binding to the block. I did not miter the attachment of the binding, but I did miter the corners.

Bonus Idea! You could use wool felt if you didn't want to sew coasters. I wouldn't use FlexiFuse if you use felt.



Materials Needed:

Felt

Ribbon

Resized pattern

ORNAMENT

For this project select a pattern that doesn't have a lot of detail. Blocks that might be tricky are ones like John Day Fossil Beds. Whereas the bear block is simple.

I used the Baby Bear pattern, and resized the pattern to 75% which made the bear 3.5" wide.

Cut out the center of the 3.5" circle template. You won't need this part.

Choose the felt colors you wish to use. Cut the background felt to 4" square. This will give enough room for overage. Pin the circle template to the 4" square. Make sure you have enough felt on all sides for 'seam allowance'.

Slide the foreground (if you want one) under the pins, and place the bear where you want it to be (centered on the template).

Remove the felt bear, and stitch the foreground to the background.

Put the bear felt back where you want it. Pin and stitch around the bear.

Cut a length of ribbon about 5" long. Fold in half, and pin at the top of the template with the loop out. The tails should be about .5" inside the template. This will create the loop to hang on the tree.

Cut a backing piece of felt a bit larger than 4.5".

Place on the back of the template. No need to remove pins - this could cause shifting with the design. Carefully sew around the circle template. **TIP!** If you don't have an extension table for your sewing machine, put books behind the throat to create a flat surface large enough for whatever you are top stitching to lie flat. Without this, your design can bunch up and warp.

Remove the pins, and trim the ornament being careful not to cut the loop.

Bonus Idea! You could use an ornament as a place setting. It could double as a gift for each guest. I would write/type each person's name on a piece of kraft paper or paper bag (rustic but cute!!!), and place on top of the ornament place setting.

Materials Needed:

4.5" NP Block (finished)
2 5 x 9.5" pieces of fabric
for the front and back
Snap or hook and eye
Napkin Ring template

NAPKIN RING

TIP: It is best to use FPP or appliqued blocks for this project. I used EPP, and noticed that the stitching is coming out - oops!

Cut one 5 x 9.5" rectangle in half width wise, so you have 2 fat rectangles.

Sew to either side of the NP Block. Press seams out.

Finger press to find the middle of the NP block (vertically).

Finger press the second 5 x 9.5" rectangle to find the center.

Lay fronts together.

Fold the napping ring template in half.

Line up all the folds, unfold the paper template, pin, then sew. Be sure to leave an opening to turn the napkin ring right side out.

Turn right side out, then pin and top stitch. Press.

Place the snap or hook and eye on the back of the napkin ring.

TIP: blocks that work best for this project are ones that have interest in the middle of the block. The Baby Bear pattern, for example, would be challenging, since his cute little face would be off the side of the ring.



Materials Needed:

Resized pattern
Fabric scraps or scrap-
book paper
FlexiFuse or glue
Kraft card stock
Ribbon or string
Hole punch
Gift Tag template

GIFT TAG

Resize a pattern either 50% for 9" wide blocks or 75% for 4.5" wide blocks. You may still need to fiddle with these settings.

For this project I used the Cardinal pattern, and cut out the silhouette. You could use the layering technique described in the place setting project if you want something more detailed.

Trace the gift tag template on kraft paper card stock, and cut out. Press the silhouette onto the template.

Punch a hole in the template, and draw a string through. Tie the ends together with an overhand knot



Materials Needed:
Scrapbooking paper or
card stock
Glue
Resized pattern

OR
Kraft paper card stock
Fabric scraps
FlexiFuse

PLACE SETTING

Resize a pattern to be 3.5" wide. For the standard square block, you'd scale the pattern to 75%.

Cut out a 3.5" square of the sky or background color.

For this project, I found that it was easier to cut out the template pieces in reverse order: sky, mountain, hills, tree, foreground, each time omitting one thing from the previous layer. This eliminates the issue of bits of the background poking through, and much of the fiddly work. The result is a dimensional, layered place setting. Work in reverse order as previously mentioned, lining up the layers. Glue each layer.

Place the 3.5" circle template on top of the place setting, and trace to create a circle. Cut out.

On a piece of kraft paper, trace a 3.5" circle leaving at least 1/8" space around the outside. Then free hand a larger circle that is at least 1/8" off set from the first circle. This will be the backside, so don't worry about markings. Your circle doesn't need to be exact; in fact, it shouldn't be! You are creating a "log" - tree branches aren't perfectly round!

Place the place setting image on top of the "log" to see if it needs to be larger. If it's large enough, cut it out. Don't over think this step or try to make it "perfect". Just like nature is perfectly imperfect, your place settings will be as well.

Cut out the "log". Trace another, then cut out as well.

Glue the paper logs together, then glue the place setting image on top.

Cut out the stand template (x2) out of kraft card stock.

Glue one on top of the other.

Fold in half lengthwise (long rectangle), then carefully cut the center with a craft knife or rotary cutter (please be careful - use your ruler). If the place setting log doesn't fit well, flip the stand over and cut a bit on the back side.

Write the name of the guest (or print the names on your computer) on the stand.

If you use fabric scraps, you will press the layers instead of glue them.

Bonus Idea: This would be great to use all white paper. The result would be subtle and beautiful. You could also hang a string from the place setting log so it doubles as an ornament for the guest!

Gratias



Materials Needed:

Napkin

Fabric scraps

FlexiFuse

Tear away stabilizer

NAPKIN

Use a 4.5" pattern. If you use a 9" wide pattern, you'll likely want to resize it.

Cut out the paper template pieces.

Adhere FlexiFuse to the fabric, and trace the design onto the paper backing. Cut out. **TIP:** I layered my pieces. The bottom of the acorn is 1/4" longer and under the top layer. This will keep the piece from fraying in the wash. When you trace the pieces that fit under another, add 1/4" to the layered side, rather than tracing all sides, and sliding the layer under the top. This results in a shorter acorn.

Arrange where you want the design to be, then press.

Place tear away stabilizer behind the napkin. **TIP:** If your sewing machine doesn't have a table extension, add books behind and to the left of the throat so you have a flat surface to sew. If the design hangs off the back or sides, the result is applique that is not flat, because the piece will curve around the throat.

Sew a satin stitch around the outside. Take your time. I became too impatient toward the end, and stitches weren't as neat. **TIPS:**

1. For best applique results, lift up your presser foot instead of pivoting with the needle down. This makes for a neater edge.
2. If you are making an OUTSIDE (everywhere except the upper inside part of the acorn top) turn, stop with your needle on the OUTSIDE. The result will be a nice, smooth edge on the outside of the applique. If you are making an INSIDE turn, stop with the needle on the INSIDE of the turn. The result will be a smooth edge on the outside. You can see where I didn't do this, because there are gaps.

Tear away the stabilizer when you are done.

Bonus Idea: In my family, we each have a different color cloth napkin to identify which is whose. It would be fun to have each family member choose a site or motif that they really like, and applique that onto their napkin to identify theirs!

TEMPLATES



