

Instructions for Mug Rugs for Machine Embroidery

by Marjorie Busby

Supplies:

2 each 6-1/2" x 8-1/2" fabric rectangles (one for the front and one for the back)

Small pieces of fabric for appliqué

Square of batting (Tip: Use a natural fiber batting like Dream Cotton Request or Select weight or Warm and Natural. The lighter Request weight works best for die cut appliqué.)

Medium weight Embroidery Stabilizer—may be either cut away or tear away stabilizer; I prefer a cut-away because it gives the mug rug more body.

Coordinating thread for machine embroidery

Neutral color bobbin thread or you can use matching thread in the bobbin.

Coordinating Thread for mug rug fabric for top-stitching the edge of the mug rug

Fabric glue (optional)

Embroidery machine hoop that is at least 150 x 200 mm (6" x 8")

The example given here is for the Halloween embroidery set, but note that this applies to any of my machine embroidery mug rug sets.

<p>Prepare appliqué pieces:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circles: Press fusible web onto back of fabric to be used for the circles. Cut circles using the Accuquilt GO die # 55012 and cutter.• Appliqué Shapes: Print or trace templates for appliqué shapes onto fusible web. Cut individual templates apart leaving a margin of paper on the outside of each shape. Press each shape onto the wrong side of the selected fabric using a hot iron. With fusible paper still attached and using very sharp scissors, cut each shape out on the printed/traced line.• Remove fusible paper from all shapes by scoring the paper with a pin or large needle and peeling paper away from the fabric.
<p>Layer stabilizer and batting with batting on top and place in embroidery hoop. Mount hoop onto machine. Stitch the mug rug placement line and centering stitches.</p>	

Position mug rug fabric: Fold the mug rug fabric in half and finger press. Line up the center fold of the mug rug fabric with the center positioning guide stitches and the center marks on the side stitches. Position fabric as evenly as possible. Maintaining the centered position, open the fabric and lay it flat over the batting. Smooth the fabric with your hand. The natural fiber batting will help hold the fabric in place.



Stitch the next mug rug outline stitch which is a tack down stitch to hold the fabric in place for the embroidery step.



Stitch the first placement line for the appliqué.



Remove the hoop from the machine and fuse the first appliqué shape(s) inside the placement lines.



Mount hoop onto machine and stitch the decorative stitches.



Repeat steps 5 through 7 as needed until the embroidery is complete.

Remove hoop from machine and place the fabric for the back of the mug rug, right sides together, exactly over the front of the mug rug. Smooth with your hand. If needed, you can add straight pins in the seam allowance to hold the fabric in place.



Mount hoop onto machine and stitch the final mug rug seam.



Remove hoop from machine and remove fabric layers from the hoop.
Trim or tear away the stabilizer outside the first stitching line.
Trim the batting to the same size as the fabric. Trim corners diagonally, being careful not to cut through the stitches.



<p>Turn the mug rug inside out through the side opening. Use a seam creaser to sharpen the seam edges and the corners. Fold the opening closed so that the mug rug is square. You may use pins to hold the seam closed. Press the seam to crease it. None of the placement stitches will show.</p>	
<p>Remove any pins you have used and with fabric glue, steam the opening with a hot iron.</p>	
<p>Topstitch with the thread of your choice.</p>	

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<http://shop.b-quilts.com>