

ISSUE
4

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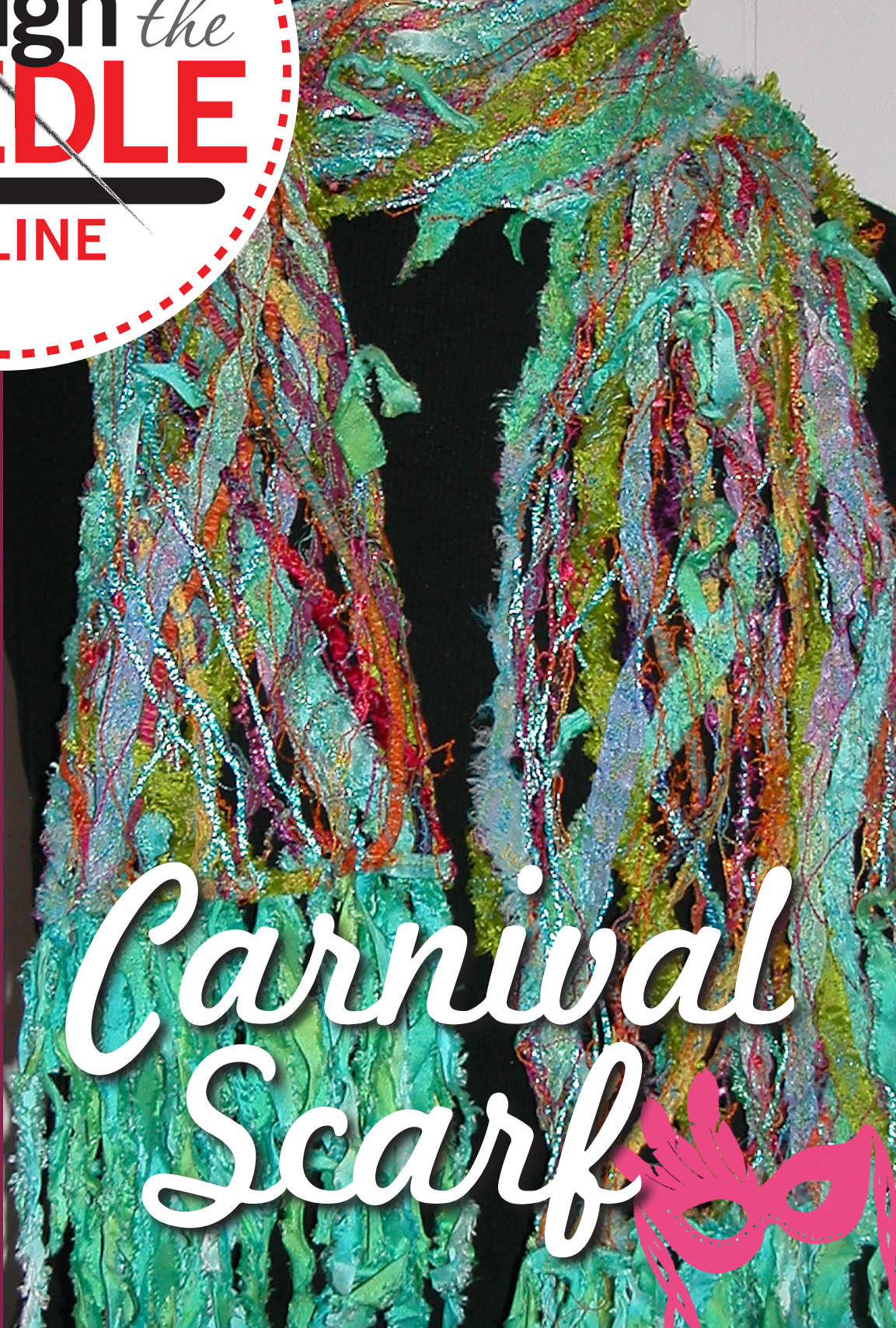
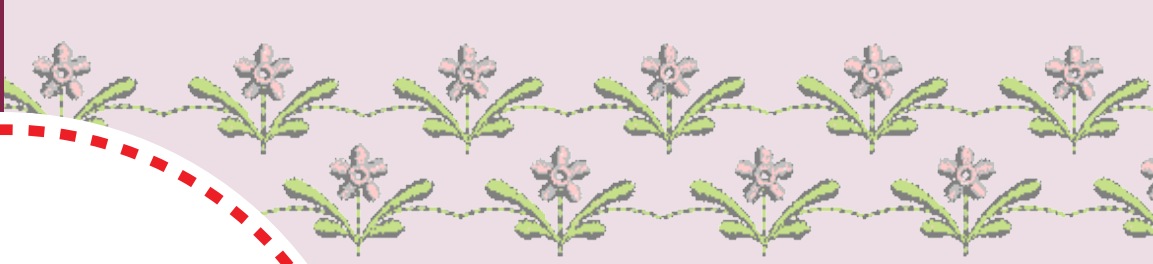
Sterling Monogram Napkins



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Carnival Scarf



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- 10 Gather a bundle of pretty novelty yarns, ribbons, and trims, and then use the decorative stitches on your sewing machine to sew them into a lovely, lacy, festive scarf. It’s the perfect project for showing off the collection of beautiful trims you’ve been hiding in your sewing room.

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Sterling Monogram Guest Towels

- 17 Be prepared for compliments when you display these elegant monogrammed hand towels. This lovely addition to your guest bathroom features OESD’s Sterling Monogram Collection #010 and adds a touch of classic style to any décor. The attractive monograms stitch up quickly, making these embroidered guest towels ideal for a last-minute hostess “thank you” or shower gift.

The Last Word

- 20 Valuable coupons, a list of quick links, and a sneak peek inside the next issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE*.



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Needle Notes

The weather is cold and frosty at BERNINA headquarters in Chicago, but the days are getting longer and we know that spring is on its way. This issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* is full of brightly-hued projects to help chase away the winter blahs.

Diane Gloystein's "Carnival Scarf" is sure to draw comments and pick up your spirits every time you wear it. Whip up a set of "Shelly's Magic Mats" for an instant burst of color in your home; you'll find embellishing with Cedar Canyon stencils and Shiva Paintstiks so addictive you'll want them in every shape and color. Embroider a set of guest towel blanks with initials from OESD's Sterling Monograms collection for an elegant wedding or house-warming gift. Have you noticed that aprons are back in style in a big way? We have a new interpretation of this timeless classic for the retro-chic hostess: a charming ruffled apron featuring the new "Chloe" fabric collection by Benartex and embellished with coordinating "Chloe" embroidery motifs from OESD. Visit the Benartex and Embroidery Online websites to see more of these beautiful floral designs. Contemplating the creation of a special dress for a little lady? Add a bit of tiny piping to the seams for an extra pop of color. And for the best Easter Egg Hunt ever, create playful eggs in a rainbow of hues to hang all around the yard; with BERNINA's CutWork Tool, all the tedious trimming is done by your machine!

So make yourself some hot chocolate, relax in your favorite comfy chair, and read through the projects in this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE*. Then get out your sewing machine start stitching!

Jo Leichte
Jo Leichte
Editor



Snuggly Owl

Know a little one who's afraid of the dark? Then this friendly night owl is the perfect plus pal to watch over them. Use their favorite fabrics and colors to create a whole nest full of unique bird buddies they'll be sure to give a hoot about! WHOOO wouldn't want another cuddly companion to keep close?

Project by Ashley Johnston

Visit sewingrepublic.com for more project instructions and sewing tips!



The Chloe Apron

by LINDA WENTURINE

The name Chloe means "blooming." Lovely flowers in happy colors flourish on this charming apron. You'll enjoy the fast and easy construction as you create your own garden of joy using designs from OESD's Chloe Embroidery Collection and the Benartex Chloe fabric line.

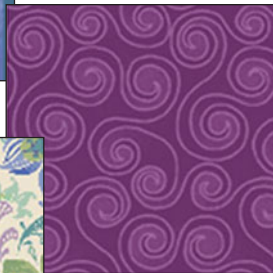


Benartex fabrics from the Chloe Collection used in the Chloe Apron



Corrigan Surf

Candice Red Grape



Chloe Ivory/Blue

Supplies

- Chloe BERNINA Exclusive Embroidery Collection #1101, designs #BE110120, BE110101, and BE110108
- ½ yard cotton terry cloth for apron
- ½ yard cotton print fabric for waistband
- ½ yard cotton print fabric for upper/bodice ruffle
- ¼ yard cotton print fabric for lower/hem ruffle
- Isacord embroidery thread
- All-purpose thread
- OESD HeavyWeight Tear-Away Stabilizer
- OESD AquaFilm Topping
- 505 Temporary Fabric Adhesive Spray
- Temporary fabric-marking pen
- All-purpose presser foot (BERNINA Reverse Pattern Foot #1/1C/1D)
- Edgestitch or blindstitch foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10/10C/10D)
- Gathering foot (BERNINA Wide Gathering Foot #16/16C)
- Embroidery system
- Sewing machine
- Serger

Cut the Fabric

Cut and label the following pieces:

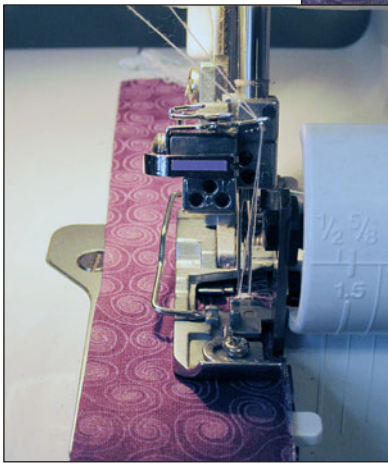
- One 18" x 24" rectangle for the apron base
- Two 7" x WOF (width of fabric) strips for the waistband
- Two 9" x WOF strips for the upper ruffle
- Three 2½" x WOF strips for the lower ruffle

Construct the Lower Ruffle

Sew the lower ruffle strips together, stitching the short ends together at a 45° angle. Trim the seam allowances to ⅛" and press open. Fold the strip in half lengthwise; press.



Serge the raw edges of the ruffle strip together with a 4-thread overlock stitch.



Attach the gathering foot to the sewing machine, and set the stitch length at 5-6 mm. Align the serged edge of the lower ruffle strip with the edge of the gathering foot. Stitch, creating a long ruffle.



Use a small dish to round off the lower corners of the apron base.



Stitch the lower ruffle strip around the sides and lower edge of the apron base. Trim the excess even with the top edge of the apron base. Serge-finish the stitched edges together. Press the seam toward the apron base.



Attach the edgestitch foot to the sewing machine and move the needle two steps to the left of center. From the right side of the apron, stitch along the edge of the apron base with the guide in the center of the edgestitch foot riding in the ditch of the seam.

Construct the Upper Ruffle

Cut one of the upper ruffle strips in half to measure 9" x 12". Join one short piece to each end of the uncut upper ruffle to form one long strip. Serge one long edge of the ruffle, using a 3-thread rolled hem.

Gather the upper edge of the upper ruffle, using the gathering foot and the same settings used for the lower ruffle.

Fold the upper ruffle in half and mark the center of the ruffled edge with a straight pin. Fold the apron base in half and mark the center with a straight pin.

Place the upper ruffle strip on the apron base, aligning the center marks, with the right sides of both pieces facing up. It may be necessary to adjust the gathering stitches and/or trim the upper ruffle strip so that it is the same size as the apron base top edge. Baste the upper ruffle to the apron base.

Finish both sides of the upper ruffle strip, using a 3-thread rolled hem.

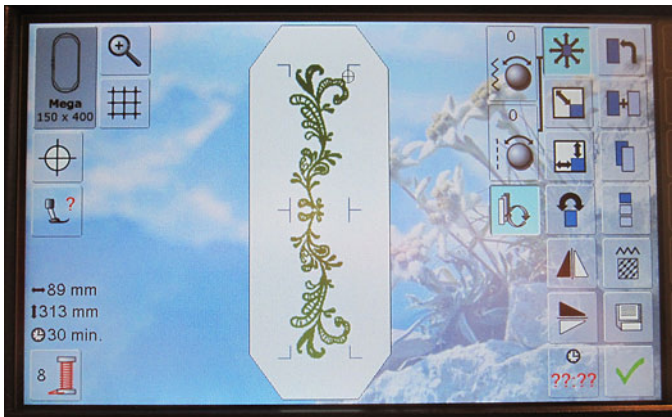


Construct the Waistband

Cut one of the 7" waistband strips in half to measure 7" x 22". Join one short piece to each end of one of the uncut waistband strips to form one strip, approximately 85" long.

Fold the waistband strip in half lengthwise and press. Mark the center of the folded waistband for placement of two #BC110120 designs.

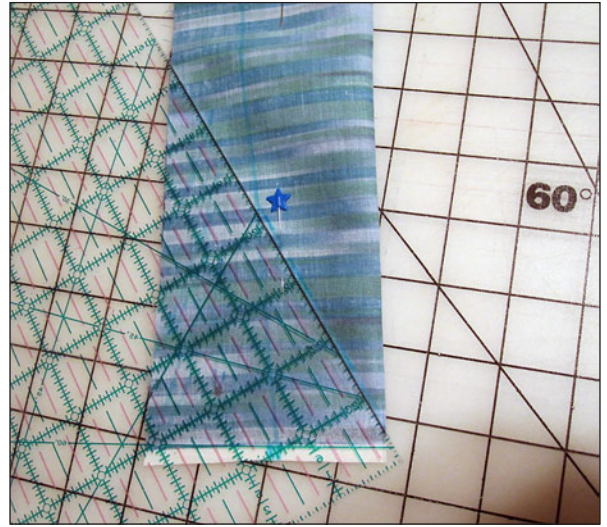
Hoop a layer of OESD HeavyWeight Tear-Away Stabilizer and lightly spray it with 505 adhesive. Unfold the waistband and smooth it into place on the stabilizer. Stitch the embroidery designs, mirror-imaging one of the designs as shown.



With the waistband still unfolded, pin the right side of the embroidered waistband front to the apron base, aligning centers. Stitch.



Fold the remaining unsewn waistband strip in half, right sides together, and pin. Mark a stitching line so that the waistband narrows at the end of the band. This will make it easier to tie the ends when the apron is worn. The ends may be cut at an angle if desired.



Stitch along the marked seam line, stitching only the parts of the waistband/tie that extend beyond the sides of the apron base. Turn each tie right side out; press.

Turn up ¼" along the unsewn edge of the waistband.



Fold the waistband along the original fold line, aligning the ¼" hemmed edge just beyond the stitching that attaches the waistband to the apron base; pin. Baste in place.

Attach the edgestitch foot to the machine and move the needle as needed to stitch close to the fold of the waistband/ties. With the apron right side up, stitch along the edge of the waistband, making sure that the stitching catches the fold of the bottom layer of the waistband.

Embroider the Apron

Mark the centers of designs #BE110101 and #BE110108. Hoop a layer of OESD HeavyWeight Tear-Away Stabilizer and lightly spray it with 505 adhesive. Smooth the apron base into place on the stabilizer. If you are embroidering on terry cloth, cover it with a layer of OESD AquaFilm Topping to prevent the embroidery stitches from getting lost in the nap of the fabric.

Shelly's Magic Mats

by SHELLY STOKES



©2010 Shelly Stokes, Cedar Canyon Textiles

Materials

- Fabric and interfacing for one placemat:
 - One 9" x 17" rectangle of focus fabric (to be painted)
 - One 18" x 17" rectangle of border/backing fabric
 - ¾ yard medium-weight fusible interfacing
- One set of DesignMagic™ Stencils
- One or more Shiva® Artist's Paintstiks® (or one set of minis)
- One or more stencil brushes
- Grip-n-Grip no-slip mat
- 404 Spray & Fix Fabric Adhesive
- Removable chalk pencil
- Straight edge or ruler
- Permanent marker
- Iron and ironing surface
- Construction thread
- Universal needle, size #80/12
- All-purpose presser foot (BERNINA Reverse Pattern Foot #1/1C/1D or Clear Foot #34/34C)
- Edgestitch foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10/10C/10D)



Create your own magical fabric designs – it's easy! These simple placemats are a breeze to make, and what could be more fun than coloring and painting your own fabric? Once you start playing with DesignMagic™ Stencils and Shiva® Artist's Paintstiks®, you won't want to stop!

Fuse Interfacing to Fabric

- Cut two rectangles of fusible interfacing slightly smaller than the fabric rectangles.
- Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the focus fabric and to the border/backing fabric following the manufacturer's instructions.

Prepare Fabric and Stencils

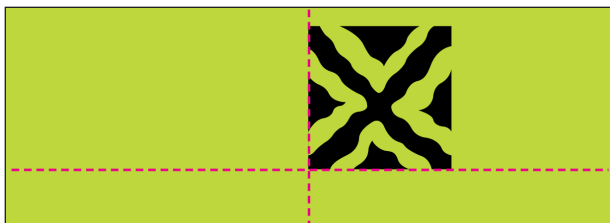
- Mark the horizontal and vertical center lines on the focus fabric with a removable chalk pencil.
- Place stencils right side up on a flat surface. Clearly mark the stencils as Stencil A and Stencil B with a permanent marker.
- Place stencils wrong side up on a piece of newspaper and spray the BACK of each one with 404 Spray & Fix Adhesive. (I spray my stencils in the garage and then go back into my work area to avoid the fumes.)

Paint DesignMagic Images on Focus Fabric

- Place the focus fabric on the Grip-n-Grip mat, right side up.

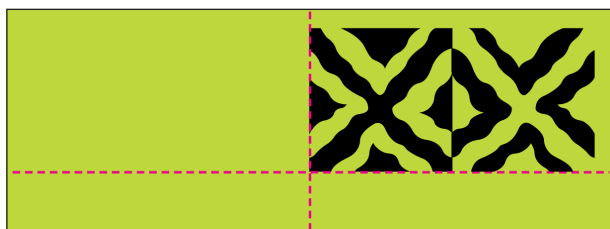
Paint the first image:

- Position Stencil A so that two alignment guides are even with the registration marks on the fabric.
- Paint the first image, using Paintstik color and a stencil brush.
- Lift the stencil from the fabric. If you are using more than one color, place the stencil on scrap fabric and gently wipe away any excess paint before using the stencil again.



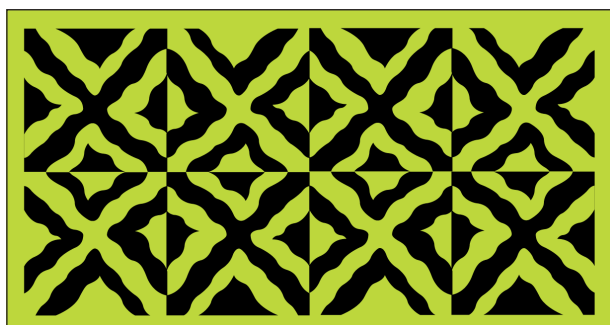
Paint the second image:

- Position Stencil B next to the first painted image, rotating the stencil until the images on the stencil match those of the painted image. Use the alignment guides and registration marks to make sure the stencil is in the right place.
- Paint the image, lift the stencil, and remove excess paint from the stencil if necessary.



Continue painting alternate images:

- Alternate between the two stencils until you have painted eight DesignMagic images on the focus fabric.



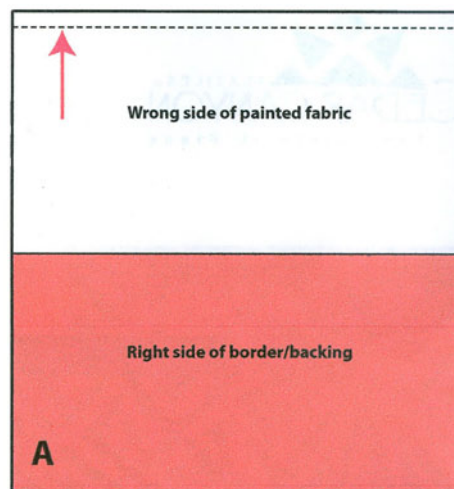
Set the Paint

- Allow the paint to dry for 24 hours.
- Place the painted fabric on an ironing board, right side up. Cover with a piece of muslin or scrap fabric.
- Preheat a dry iron to an appropriate temperature for the fabric, and then press each section of the fabric for 10-15 seconds. (Press with an up-and-down motion; do not move the iron from side-to-side over the paint.)

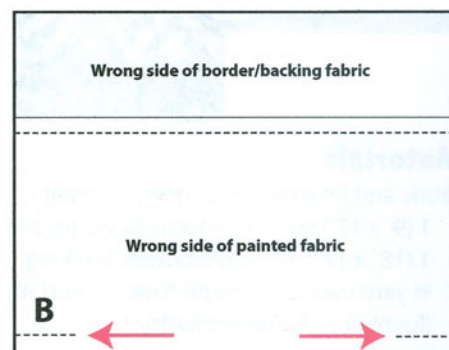
Assemble Magic Mats

Use a ½" seam allowance for all seams.

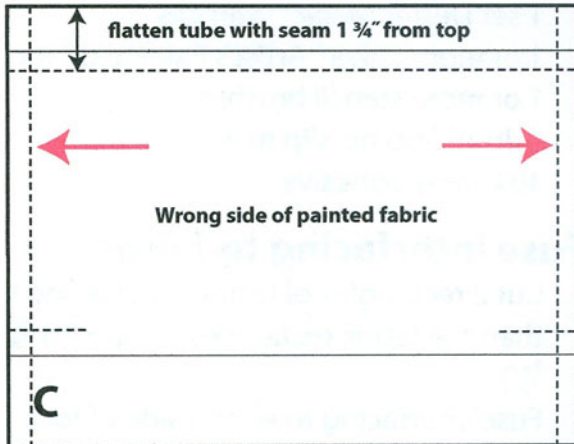
- Align one long edge of the painted fabric with one 17" edge of the border fabric, right sides together. Pin as needed, and then stitch the seam. (A)
- Press the seam allowances toward the border fabric.



- Fold the remaining 17" edge of the border/backing fabric to the wrong side and press. Open the fold for the next step.
- Align the second long edge of the painted fabric with the remaining 17" edge of the backing fabric, right sides together, forming a tube of fabric.
- Pin as needed, and then seam the pieces together for 3" at each end, leaving the center of the seam open. You will turn the Magic Mat through this opening. (B)



- Turn the tube right side out and check to see that the unpainted edges of the focus fabric do not show at the seams. Adjust and re-stitch the seams if necessary.
- Turn the tube wrong side out. Flatten the tube so that the long seam is $1\frac{3}{4}$ " from the folded edge. **DO NOT PRESS** the tube at this time.



- Pin the ends of the tube together and then stitch each end. (C)
- Peek inside to make sure the unpainted sections of the focus fabric to not show at the side seams.
- Trim the seam allowances to $\frac{1}{4}$ " if desired.
- Gently turn the Magic Mat right side out. Use an awl or point turner to push the corners out for nice square corners.
- Flatten and press the mat.
- Topstitch along the edge of the border fabric, close to the seam allowance or fold.

Optional: Stitch along the grid lines in the painted section of the mat, starting and stopping next to the border fabric or the edges of the placemat. Pull the thread tails to the back, knot them together, and bury the thread tails inside the placemat.



Make More Magic!

If you like Shelly's Magic Mats, you'll love *Design Magic for Paintstiks on Fabric*.

Learn to make your own designs, turn them into stencils, and transfer the images to fabric. It's your chance to design your own special fabric!



Shelly Stokes is an artist, author, and quilter with a passion for transforming fabric using both traditional and unexpected techniques and materials. She is best known for her work with Shiva® Artist's® Paintstiks and the many ways they can be used with fabric.

Shelly lives with her husband in a rural area near Alexandria, Minnesota. She started quilting in 1995, after leaving the corporate world. As one thing led to another, she began dyeing fabric and exploring the world of fiber art. In 1997, Shelly founded Cedar Canyon Textiles to sell her hand dyed fabric and completed art work.

After publishing *Paintstiks on Fabric: Simple Techniques, Fantastic Results* in 2005, Shelly focused her energy and her business on the world of Paintstiks. She designs and manufactures rubbing plates, stencils and patterns for quilters, sewers and mixed media artists.

cedarcanyontextiles.com

Carnival Scarf

by DIANE GLOYSTEIN



Gather a bundle of pretty novelty yarns, ribbons, and trims, and then use the decorative stitches on your sewing machine to sew them to a long strip water-soluble stabilizer. When the completed fabric is washed the stabilizer disappears, revealing a lovely, lacy fiber creation.



Supplies

- Sulky Ultra Solvy, approximately 9" wide by 5' long
- Sulky KK 2000 Temporary Spray Adhesive
- Assorted ribbons, tapes, novelty yarns, and trims
- Assorted rayon, variegated, and metallic threads
- Needles appropriate for the selected threads (Embroidery, Metallica)
- Clear embroidery foot (BERNINA Clear Embroidery Foot #39/39C)



Instructions

Place the water-soluble stabilizer on a flat surface. To create a 5'-long strip, overlap the ends of 9"-wide pieces and secure them with temporary spray adhesive.

Thread the sewing machine with matching decorative thread in the needle and bobbin.

Select a decorative stitch pattern. Starting at one short end of the stabilizer strip, stitch a length of ribbon or trim to the stabilizer in a meandering path. Continue to the opposite end of the stabilizer strip. If the trim isn't long enough to reach the end, overlap the tail end with a second trim and continue stitching.



Continue adding trims and ribbons to the stabilizer, changing stitches and threads as desired until pleased with the scarf "base fabric."

Thread the machine with rayon thread and select a triple straight stitch. Stitch randomly over the ribbon trims, joining them and filling some of the "blank" spaces between them.

Thread the machine with metallic thread. Still using a triple straight stitch, stitch across the scarf, zigzagging from side to side.

Use a rotary cutter or scissors to square the ends of the scarf.

Turn under ¼" two times at each end of the scarf, enclosing the raw ends of the ribbons and trims. Select a straight stitch and secure the turned edges in place.

Place the completed base fabric into a lingerie bag and run it through a wash cycle. The Ultra Solvy disappears, revealing a lovely lacy fiber creation. Lightly press the base fabric.

Cut 12" lengths of ribbon trim for the fringe. Loosely tie an overhand knot near the center of each strip, up to 1½" from the actual center point to create an uneven edge.



Position the fringe pieces along the short ends of the scarf, placing the knots over the hemmed edge. Select an eyelet or bartack stitch. Stitch through the knots to secure the fringe to the hemmed edge.

Cut approximately three dozen 3"-4" lengths of ribbon trim. Position half of them randomly over one side of the scarf, tying them around strands of the base fabric. Repeat for the other side of the scarf.



Diane Gloystein

Diane loves to create unique one-of-a-kind creations on her BERNINA artista 730. As a National Educator representing Sulky of America, she travels around the country entertaining and educating fellow sewing enthusiasts, inspiring others with creative ideas as she shares her passion for the art of sewing. Visit her website, Design On A Whim!, for more information and to view her textile creations.

DesignOnAWhim.com



Tiny Piping

by SUSAN STEWART

Tiny piping is such a wonderful accent! It adds a pop of color, emphasizes design lines, and stabilizes seams and edges. Here is one of my favorite ways of making tiny piping, shown on the hem band of a girl's dress.

Supplies

- Accent fabric
- Fine thread (60-weight cotton embroidery thread)
- Filler cord (perle cotton or crochet cotton)
- Tweezers
- 5-groove pintuck foot (BERNINA Pintuck Foot #31)
- Open-toe embroidery foot (BERNINA Open Embroidery Foot #20/20C)

Instructions

Cut bias strips about 1¼" wide. I almost always use bias strips, even for straight piping that doesn't need to go around curves.

Thread the sewing machine needle and bobbin with fine thread, such as 60-weight cotton embroidery thread. There will be several passes of stitching, and using fine thread helps eliminate bulk and stiffness caused by heavier thread.

Fold the bias fabric around the cord, so the cord is snugged up into the fold. Perle cotton and crochet cotton are my favorites.

Attach the 5-groove pintuck foot to the machine. Place the cord under the foot so it fits under the center groove on the sole of the foot. Adjust the needle position so the needle will stitch close to the wrapped cord (about two needle positions away). Stitch.

Trim the piping seam allowance to the width of the garment seam allowance. The piping shown has a ¼" seam allowance.



Place the piping on the right side of the garment piece, with the raw edges even. Again, place the cord under the groove in the pintuck foot. Move the needle one position closer to the cord. Stitch the piping to the garment.

At the seamlines, use tweezers to pull a bit of the cord out of the piping. Clip off a scant seam allowance width, then slide it back into the fabric. This helps eliminate bulk at the garment seamlines.



Place the garment pieces right sides together, with the piped piece on top.



The hem band is embellished with design #FQ496 from OESD's Loopy Florals Collection (pack #12225).

Attach an open-toe embroidery foot to the machine; this will provide added visibility of the needle and the previous stitching. Move the needle position one step to the right so that the narrow seam allowance is under the toe of the foot and in contact with the feed dog. Stitch directly on top of the stitching nearest the cord.



The finished dress, made using Susan Stewart's "Rose" pattern, with tiny piping accenting the major seam lines.

SUSAN STEWART

Many of you will recognize Susan Stewart from her many designs and articles for *Sew Beautiful* magazine and other Martha Pullen Co. publications, from her guest appearances on "Martha's Sewing Room" PBS TV show, and from her classes at the Martha Pullen School of Art Fashion. Her "Sue Says..." column in *Sew Beautiful* was one of the most popular features of the magazine. She is the author of *Easy Elegance*, a book of heirloom sewing techniques and patterns, and publishes several new heirloom garment patterns every year.



She recently began integrating her expertise in heirloom sewing by machine with the exciting creativity in the quilt world. Her first "serious" quilt was "Heirloom Dreams," which won a blue ribbon at the 2004 IQA show in Houston. She has also written a book, *Heirloom Machine Sewing for Quilters*, published by AQS.

Susan lives in Pittsburg, KS, with her husband, Mark, and enjoys the companionship of Stella and Fluff the cats, who "help" her with her sewing.

RICKY TIMS'
Super QUILT SEMINARS

Eau Claire, WI
May 12-14, 2011

Bettendorf, IA
(Quad Cities)
July 21-23, 2011

Asheville, NC
Sept. 15-17, 2011

Ricky Tims with special guests Alex Anderson and Libby Lehman

Registration forms and complete details are at www.rickytimes.com

The ultimate learning experience for quilters includes: 2 1/2 days of learning—everyone attends all sessions; exclusive 120-page color syllabus; no supply list—no sewing; fabric shopping; a quilt show featuring works from Ricky, Alex and Libby; and more! Registration fees are based on registration deadlines and group size as indicated on the registration form.

"Two and a half days of seminar sitting without sewing/hands-on activities? Yes! What an absolutely informative and inspiring experience!"

Sponsored in part by **BERNINA+**



Angie's CutWork Eggs

by ANGIE STEVESON

It's not too early to start getting ready for the Easter Bunny! Perfect for holiday decorating, these colorful eggs are embroidered, cut, and sewn together entirely on the embroidery machine. Hang them around the yard for a new spin on the traditional Easter Egg Hunt, then give them away as prizes—just make sure you make enough to give one to everyone!

Supplies (for one egg)

- Two 5" x 6" rectangles of fabric
- OESD Fusible PolyMesh Cut-Away stabilizer
- OESD LightWeight Tear-Away stabilizer
- OESD AquaMesh Plus stabilizer
- 505 Temporary Adhesive Spray
- One 8" length of 1/8"-wide ribbon
- Organ Embroidery needle, size 80/12
- Isacord embroidery thread, assorted colors
- Extra bobbin wound with Isacord to match fabric
- OESD Bobbin Thread, white
- Fabric glue stick
- Havel's 7" sewing scissors
- Small craft paint brush
- BERNINA Embroidery System compatible with the CutWork Tool
- Medium embroidery hoop
- BERNINA CutWork Tool
- BERNINA CutWork Stitch Plate
- BERNINA CutWork Foot #44



Download Angie's CutWork Eggs files at
www.throughtheneedle.com

Angie's Eggs Design One
Angie's Eggs Design Two
Angie's Egg Satin Stitch Assembly



Embroidery

Load Angie's CutWork Eggs design files onto a USB stick or embroidery system.

Set up the embroidery system with an Embroidery needle, white bobbin thread, and Isacord thread in the first color for the design.

Open Angie's Eggs Design One or Angie's Eggs Design Two in your embroidery system.

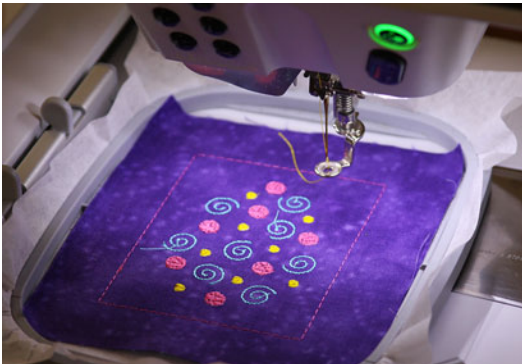
Cut two 4½" x 5½" rectangles of Fusible PolyMesh. Fuse one to the wrong side of each 6" x 7" rectangle of fabric.

Hoop a layer of LightWeight Tear-Away stabilizer.

Spray the wrong side of one fabric/stabilizer rectangle with 505 Temporary Adhesive Spray. Smooth it into place on top of the hooped stabilizer.

Stitch the first color of the design. This basting stitch will secure the layers of stabilizer and fabric.

Continue stitching the embroidery steps in the stitch sequence.



CutWork

When the egg embroidery is complete, the cutwork sequence will begin.

Unthread the embroidery machine. Change to the CutWork stitch plate.

Remove the needle and insert the CutWork Tool. Attach the CutWork foot to the machine.

Complete all four CutWork positions
Remove the embroidery hoop from the machine
Remove the egg from the stabilizer. Clip threads as needed.



Repeat the Embroidery and CutWork instructions for the back of the egg.

Assembly

Return the embroidery system to embroidery: Remove the CutWork Tool, foot, and stitch plate. Reinstall the Embroidery needle, embroidery presser foot, and regular stitch plate.

Thread the machine with matching Isacord thread in the needle the bobbin.

Open the Angie's Egg Satin Stitch Assembly file in your embroidery system.



Hoop a layer of OESD AquaMesh Plus.

Stitch the first color in the design sequence, the egg outline.

Remove the embroidery hoop from the machine.

Position one egg appliqué on the back of the hoop, wrong side

to the stabilizer, inside the stitched placement line. Use fabric glue stick to secure it in position. Repeat for the remaining egg appliqué, securing it to the front of the hoop.

Fold the 8" length of ribbon in half. Insert the ends between the egg appliqué and stabilizer at the top of the egg.

Place the hoop back on the machine. Stitch the next color, the satin stitch. It may be helpful to reduce the motor speed at the beginning to make sure everything is aligned and secured correctly.

Angie Steveson

Angie Steveson is the founder of Lunch Box Quilts, where she creates appliqué quilt patterns designed specifically for embroidery machines. She has received awards for her unique quilt designs both locally and nationally, and her articles and projects have been featured in magazines such as *Creative Machine Embroidery* and *Quilting and Embroidery*. Angie travels nationally teaching Lunch Box Quilts workshops; between events she lives in Scottsdale, Arizona with her husband and two grown sons.



lunchboxquilts.com



When the embroidery is complete, remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop.

With a small paint brush, apply water around the satin stitch edge to dissolve and remove the water-soluble stabilizer.



Sterling Monogram Guest Towels

by JEANNE DELPIT

Be prepared for compliments when you display these elegant monogrammed hand towels. This lovely addition to your guest bathroom features OESD's Sterling Monogram Collection #010 and adds a touch of classic style to any décor. The attractive monograms stitch quickly, making these embroidered guest towels ideal for a last-minute hostess "thank you" or shower gift.



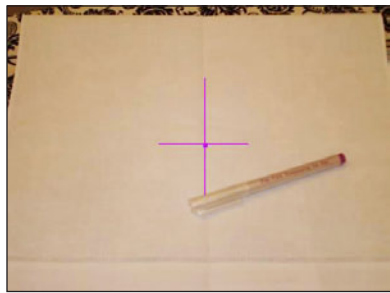
The Sterling Monogram Collection monograms in two sizes, with individual ornaments for design motif combinations. Both alphabet sizes have been digitized with and without floral ornamentation, providing great versatility.

Supplies

- OESD Sterling Monogram embroidery collection #010
- Embroidery system, such as the BERNINA 830
- Large Oval Hoop and Template
- Teardrop Embroidery Foot #26
- Wash-away fabric marker
- Organ Embroidery needle, #75/11 Sharp
- OESD AquaMesh Plus Water-Soluble Stabilizer
- Embroiderer's Wand
- Press Cloth
- Mary Ellen's Best Press Starch Alternative
- Iron and ironing board
- Linen guest towel blanks (samples are 55% linen / 45% cotton, 13" x 21½", with beaded hems)

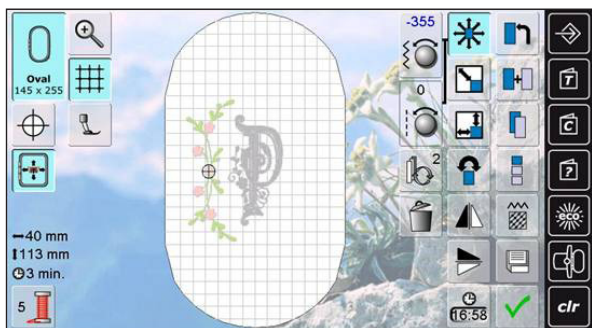
Instructions

Fold the towel into quarters and crease the folds. These vertical and horizontal center lines mark the center of the towel.



Select the Large Oval Hoop. Engage the on-screen grid and select a letter. In the sample, a small letter was used.

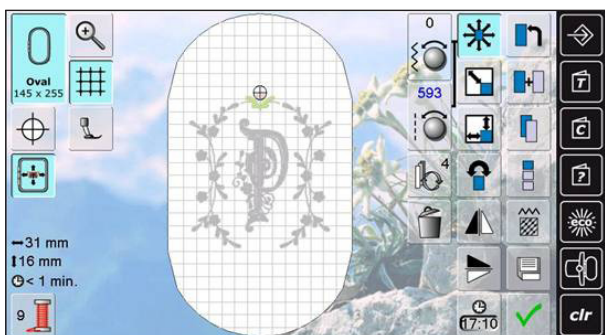
Select Add Motif and choose an ornament. Position the ornament as desired.



Select the Duplicate icon. Touch the Move Motif icon to center the duplicate. Touch Mirror Image Right/Left and move the duplicate into position.

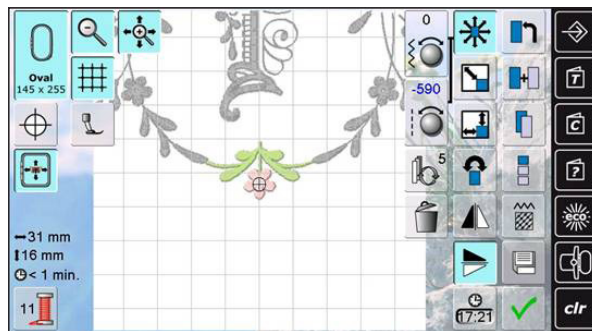
TIP: Note the position of the first ornament by selecting it and looking at the numbers in the Stitch Width and Stitch Length icons on the screen. The Stitch Width number should be nearly the same for both ornaments but with a “minus” in front of the number for the duplicate. The Stitch Length value of all three elements should be zero, centering them on the horizontal axis.

Select Add Motif and choose a second ornament. Touch Rotate two times to rotate the ornament 90°. Select Move Motif and move the new ornament into place between the ends of the previous ornaments by dragging and dropping it or by turning the Stitch Length knob to move it higher in the hoop. Keep the Stitch Width number at zero to keep it centered on the vertical axis. Note the number in the Stitch Length icon.

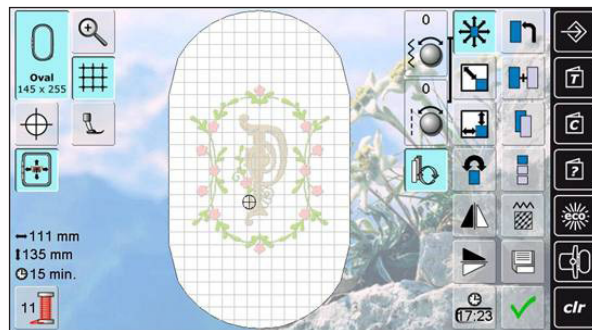


Select the Duplicate icon. Touch Move Motif to center the duplicate. Touch Mirror Image Up/Down. Use the Stitch Length knob to position the ornament below the initial, between the ends of the side motifs.

For a closer look at the ornament positioning, select the Zoom icon and touch Pan. Drag the motif across the screen. Fine-tune the placement of individual motifs by deselecting Zoom, selecting the ornament, and touching Move Motif.



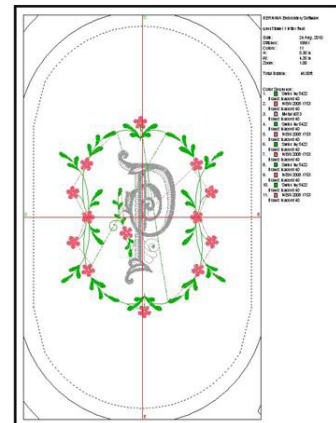
When all of the ornaments are positioned as desired, touch Retrieve to select all of the motifs.



Select the Save icon, touch the Machine icon in which to save your motif, and touch the flashing “New” icon.

To check the size of the motif, look at the height and width measurements on screen (25 mm is about 1”).

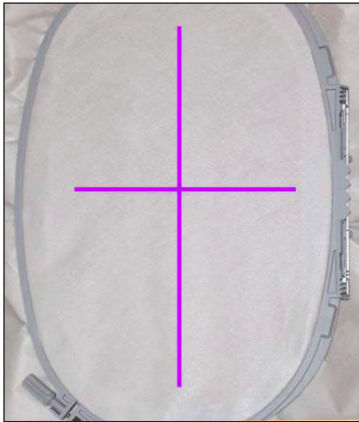
To print a template, save the motif to a USB stick. At your computer, open the EXP design file in BERNINA Embroidery Software 6. (If you don't have EditorPlus or DesignerPlus, you may download a free version of ArtLink at www.berninausa.com > Products > Software. ArtLink 6 allows you to perform basic manipulations of the motif, and is also a good tool for printing templates.)



Select File > Print Preview to view the motif in the hoop. Select Print Now from the Print Preview screen.

Cut around the printed motif. Place it on your marked guest towel, aligning the center marks.

If your motif is too large for the guest towel, reduce the size in the software and print another template. Be sure to write down the size (percentage) of the reduced design; you'll use this number when you



return to the BERNINA 830 to embroider the towel.

Hoop a layer of OESD AquaMesh Plus, paper side up, and insert the Large Oval Hoop template.

Hold the hoop up to the light so you can see through the grid

to the template. Mark the horizontal and vertical center lines on the wrong side of the stabilizer, dark enough to see from the other side.

Remove the template and place the hoop right side up on a light-colored flat surface. Use the Embroiderer's Wand to score the stabilizer inside the edge of the hoop, and then peel the paper away. The center marks should be visible; if not, hold the hoop up to the light and remark the lines on the sticky side of the stabilizer.



Place the guest towel over the stabilizer, aligning the center marks, with the extra fabric toward the back of the machine. Finger-press the towel onto the sticky surface of the stabilizer.

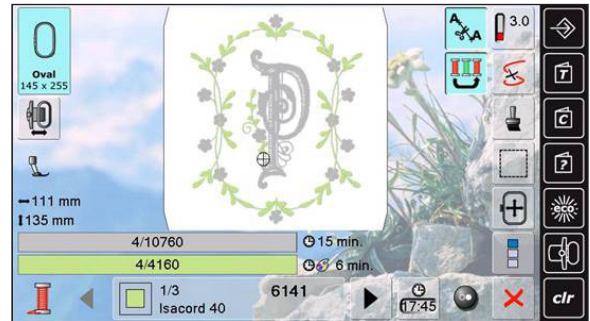
Attach Embroidery Foot #26 to the machine and insert a size 75/11 Embroidery needle. Attach the hoop to the machine.

The design should still be open on the screen. If you reduced the size of the motif in the embroidery software, reduce it the same amount on the machine screen.

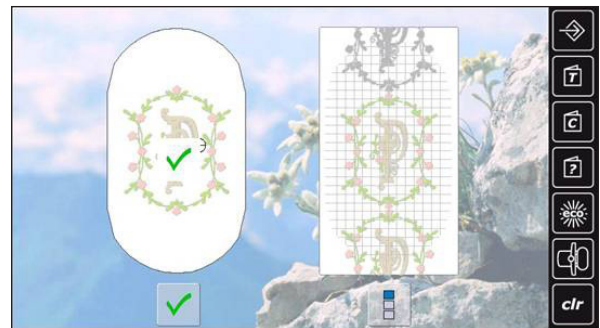
Select the Design Center icon; this places the center of the design directly under the needle.

Hand-walk the handwheel to move the needle close to the fabric. If it is not positioned directly over the center mark, hand-walk your needle back up into its highest position, select Move Motif, and fine tune the position until they meet. Touch Check.

Select the Color Resequene icon. The machine will automatically resequence the stitching order, combining areas of the same color and eliminating excessive thread changes.



Thread the embroidery machine with the first color. Thread the bobbin for embroidery. Stitch the motif, changing colors when prompted. When the embroidery is complete, select Check for Single Motif.



Before removing the guest towel and stabilizer from the hoop, trim the stabilizer close to the embroidery being careful not to clip the threads or fabric. Trimming away as much stabilizer as possible makes it easier to rinse out the remaining AquaMesh Plus in warm water.

Rinse out the remaining stabilizer and let the towel dry. Press using a pressing cloth. For a crisp finish, spritz with Best Press and press again using a press cloth.

Variations: Create motifs with single, double, or triple initials (with or without ornaments and/or borders). Consider mixing the sizes and styles.



The Last Word

A sneak peek at what's coming in
Through the Needle ONLINE, Issue #5:

Floralicious Placemats

These reversible placemats, made with fabrics from the Benartex "Floralicious" fabric collection, are a bright and cheery accent for spring. Appliquéd flowers from the coordinating OESD "Floralicious" Embroidery Collection are stitched entirely by embroidery machine. The side pocket holds a coordinating napkin.

Posies & Petals Glasses Case

The perfect Mother's Day or birthday gift! Pretty cutwork embroidery from OESD's "Posies & Petals" embroidery collection embellishes this elegant glasses case. The collection includes both traditional and BERNINA CutWork Accessory files, making this a simple project to stitch and construct.



February 2011 Special

30%
off



Zip-a-dee-do-dah!

Inserting zippers is so much easier when you use the proper foot! If you've been avoiding a project due to zipper-anxiety, now is the time for some presser foot therapy. For February only, get 30% off any BERNINA or bernette zipper foot! Included are Zipper Foot #4, Zipper Foot with Guide #14, Invisible Zipper Foot #35, and Non-Stick Zipper Foot #54.

Offer good February 2011 at participating BERNINA dealers in the USA and Canada.

Quick Links

These are the main links featured in this issue; see the articles for links to specific products, projects, and technique information. Please visit our sponsors and contributors for more inspiration, information, and stitching fun!

- <http://www.throughtheneedle.com>
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- <http://www.berninamylabel.com>
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March 2011 Special

FREE
Replacement
Needles



You've Never "Felt" so Good!

If you're searching for a way to break out of the winter blahs, look no further. Install BERNINA's Decorative Needle Punch Accessory Set on your sewing machine and get ready to explore the making of needle-felted embellishments! For March only, purchase the BERNINA Decorative Needle Punch Accessory Set and Stitch Plate, and receive a set of replacement needles FREE (\$13.25 value).

Offer good March 2011 at participating BERNINA dealers in the USA and Canada.

Until April ...

As always, we hope this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* has inspired you to learn something new and make your own adaptations of our projects. We love seeing your creations; send e-mail and photos to jo@berninausa.com.