

2023 Ben Franklin Saturday Sampler

Color Collage Tutorial- September

Block 9 Center Applique Only



Step 1- Cut your background squares. I cut mine 8" and trimmed down to 7" after the block was finished. I didn't want there to be any shrinkage from the applique stitching.

Making your applique pieces- If you are using the pre-cut pieces skip this step. If you are cutting your own applique pieces this step is for you. I am showing the fusible web method of applique. If you would like to try turned applique, come chat with me we can go over that method together.

You will need a yard of fusible web for this step. I like Steam a Seam Lite 2. Heat N Bond Lite will work also but the Steam a Seam is a little bit tacky and stays in place before you iron.

Lay the fusible on top of the template pieces in the pattern. Trace each piece with a pencil. If you are using Steam a Seam you want to be drawing on the yellow grid side. If you are using Heat N Bond, make sure the paper side is up. Trace all of your shapes onto the fusible. I try to keep the shapes that are using the same fabric bunched together. Rough cut around those shapes and iron them to the wrong side of the fabric. If you are using Steam a Seam you will have to remove the second layer of paper making sure the glue sheet is still connected to the yellow grid side. Once they are cooled cut the pieces out on the line. You should have all of your shapes with paper on one side and fabric on the other.

Step 2-

Cut a 1.5 x 5" piece of stem fabric. Fold it in half wrong sides together and sew on the long side. Press so the seam is open and centered on the backside of the stem. You can use a pressing bar to make it so much easier.

Step 3

Press a diagonal crease in your background square. Start placing your pieces on the square using the diagonal line to arrange your pieces. I started with my stem and dabbed a bit of glue on it to make it stick. Remove the paper from the back of the pieces and position them so they look like the picture.



Remember my square is an inch too big in this picture.



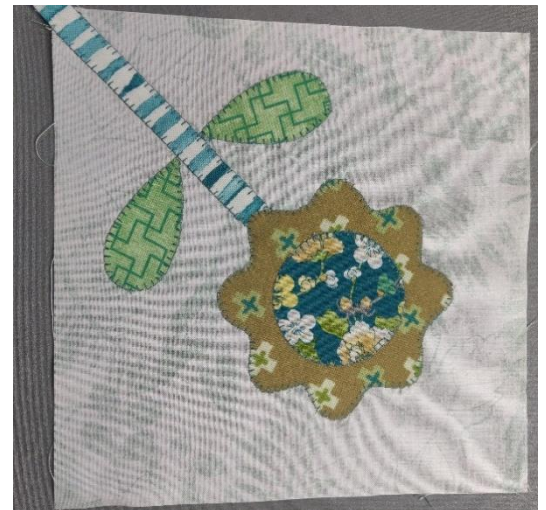
Once you have everything where you want it press with your iron. You want to press enough to melt the glue but don't leave it on too long 😊

Step 4

Decide what stitch you want to use to stitch around your pieces. I used a blanket stitch. I practiced on a scrap piece of fabric to make sure the length and width were where I wanted them and then slowly wend around each edge. Thread color is totally up to you, you can change it with the fabric, use a contrasting color or one that blends in. Lots of artistic freedom with this step.

Other stitch options are a zig zag, a straight stitch, or any other decorative stitch. Just make sure to practice a bit first.

If you cut your square bigger, trim it down. Make 4 of these and sew them to the other center blocks from last month.



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MONROE LOCATION:
19505 Hwy 2, Monroe, WA, 98272
360-794-6745 | www.bfranklincrafts.com

