

Color Purple Cushion
Jenny Haskins © 2002-06-12

MATERIALS

- ❖ 15in square cream homespun (pillow center – cut to 13 1/2in when embroidery is completed.)
- ❖ 15in square light weight fusible batting
- ❖ 6in strip across the width of the fusible batting
- ❖ 12in floral fabric – border strips and ribbon and heart appliqué
- ❖ 4in velvet – flowers and ribbon appliqué
- ❖ 18in square backing fabric
- ❖ 8in Vliesofix/Wonder Under
- ❖ Embroidery CD's Color Purple – The Next Generation and Beyond Color Purple
- ❖ Self-adhesive tear-away stabiliser (this will need to be a heavy weight stabiliser)
- ❖ Threads: colors to match the floral fabric and velvet – I used burgundy, green, beige, and gold
- ❖ Construction thread
- ❖ Feet: open-toe foot, 1/4in-foot and embroidery foot
- ❖ Vellum Tracing paper
- ❖ Water-soluble fabric-marking pen
- ❖ Rotary cutter, quilting ruler and self-healing mat
- ❖ Small sharp pair of scissors
- ❖ General sewing requirements
- ❖ Self-adhesive –tear-away enough for two hoopings (large hoop) and patching
- ❖ Embroidery needle
- ❖ Open-toe foot, 1/4in foot and embroidery foot
- ❖ Blue water-soluble fabric-marking pen
- ❖ Ruler
- ❖ Small sharp scissors, paper scissors
- ❖ Threads to match the fabrics chosen
- ❖ Cream construction thread
- ❖ Fine pre-wound bobbins (I use Madeira.)
- ❖ Quilting pins
- ❖ Either bring their own or have access to rotary cutter, mat and quilting ruler

PREPARATION

1. Use the rotary cutter, quilting ruler and self-healing mat to cut the following:
 - from the homespun:
 - 15in square for pillow center
 - 18in square to back the pillow
 - from the fusible batting:
 - 15in square to be fused to the back of the 15in pillow center front
 - two, (13 1/2in x3in) strips to be fused to the back of the matching floral border fabric strips
 - two, (18 1/2in x 3in) strips to be fused to the back of the matching floral border fabric strips
 - from the floral fabric:
 - two, 3in strips across the width of the fabric
 - one, 8in x 10in rectangle for heart and ribbon appliqué
 - from the velvet fabric:
 - one, 6in square for floral and ribbon appliqué
 - from the Wonder Under/Vliesofix:
 - 10in strip across the width of the web (this should be fused to the back of the velvet and floral fabric to be used in the appliqué.
2. Fuse the Wonder Under/Vliesofix to the back of the floral and velvet fabric for appliqué and the fusible batting to the back of the center square and borders for the pillow.
3. Fold then mark the center 15in square with vertical and horizontal lines that intersect through the center of the square.

EMBROIDERY:

4. Use either a punch or a small sharp pair of scissors to make a hole in the embroidery templates on either end of the vertical and horizontal lines marked as well as the center. These will be used for placement positions.

5. Place the bows and the heart templates over the center 15in square and arrange them as best matches the photo.
6. Use the fabric marking pen to mark dots on the vertical horizontal and center holes on the first bow template then use the ruler and fabric-marking pen to connect these dots.
7. Call up the corresponding design on the screen of the sewing machine, then position it in the center of the screen in a direction that corresponds with the way the template has been placed on the 15in square.
8. Repeat steps No 6 and No 7 for the other side of the bow and the heart design – again this will be demonstrated in class – remember all the designs have multiple appliqué cutting and placement – interesting and very much fun.
9. When appliqué embroidery is completed and if there is time the little lace flowers can be embroidered.
10. Carefully press the embroidery then use the rotary cutter, mat and quilting ruler to square up the 15in square to 13 1/2in maintaining the center of the square.

CONSTRUCTION

11. Join the 13 1/2in x 3in strip of floral fabric backed with fusible batting to the top and bottom of the embroidered block then the 18 1/2in x 3in strips of the same fabric to either side of the embroidered block.
12. Place the backing fabric over the pillow top with right sides together and stitch around the outside edge of the fabric from the wrong side, using construction thread and a 1/4-in foot, leaving a 6in gap in one side (for turning.)
13. Turn to the right side and press, then stitch-in-the-ditch in the borders seamline (from the right side of the pillow) using the open-toe foot and construction thread (through all layers of fabric) leaving a matching opening to the outside edge of the pillow).
14. Use the open-foot and needle positions to top stitch around the outside edge of the cushion again leaving the 6in opening in one side of the cushion to match the existing two.
15. Use a pillow insert or toy fill to fill out the center of the cushion – make sure the corners are totally filled. Pin the three openings closed then stitch to finish the rows of stitching to complete the pillow.



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