

Project: Snowflakes and Hearts

DESIGNER: ROSEANN MEEHAN KERMES



## Project: Snowflakes and Hearts

**Materials**

- $\frac{1}{3}$  yard mottled cream felted wool (large scallop, snowflake and heart appliqués, backing)
- 13×16" piece blue felted wool (small scallop, snowflake and heart appliqués)
- Embroidery floss: light blue, white, silver metallic
- 14—size 4mm pearl beads
- Lightweight fusible web

Finished table mat:

11½" diameter

Quantities are for 100% wool fabrics.

When the weather outside is frightful, whip up a few snowflake table mats for your friends and family this holiday season. All you need is a little wool, a few beads, some colorful thread—and you're all set to be snowed in!

A winter theme and beautiful wools blend together to create this delicate table mat by designer Roseann Meehan Kermes. Beading and silver metallic thread give it sparkle, dimension, and texture. Typically, beads are sewn to a quilt after it is completed, but they can also be added as embellishments during construction, as done in this project.

The wool snowflakes and hearts on this table mat were die-cut with the Accu-Cut system (typically used for cutting paper shapes for scrapbooking). Every shape is cut precisely, so there are no rough or uneven edges. Just as real snowflakes are delicate, so are wool ones. "Wool shapes are fragile, so handle carefully,"

Roseann says. To make the smaller shapes easier to cut with scissors, she suggests that you use lightweight fusible web.

See the Winter 2007 issue of *Quilts and More™* magazine, pages 72-74, for instructions for Pennies & Stars, a red-and-green folk art version of this table mat with stars, circle shapes and gold seed beads.

**Cut Fabrics**

Felted wool (available in many quilt shops) doesn't fray, so there is no need to turn under the edges of the appliqué shapes. If you want to felt your own wool, machine-wash it in a hot-water-wash, cool-rinse cycle with a small amount of detergent; machine-dry it on high heat and steam-press.

To make the best use of your fabrics, cut the pieces in the following order. To use fusible web for cutting appliqué shapes, complete the following steps.

1. Lay fusible web, paper side up, over patterns. Use a pencil to trace each pattern the number of times indicated in cutting instructions, leaving  $\frac{1}{2}$ " between tracings. Cut out fusible web shapes roughly  $\frac{1}{4}$ " outside traced lines.
2. Following the manufacturer's instructions, press fusible web shapes onto backs of designated fabrics; let cool. Cut out fabric shapes on drawn lines and peel off paper backings.

From mottled cream wool, cut:

- 2 of Pattern D
- 4 of Pattern B
- 4 of Pattern C

From blue wool, cut:

- 1 of Pattern A
- 10 of Pattern B
- 10 of Pattern C

**Appliqué Table Mat**

Use one strand of embroidery floss for all stitching.

1. Referring to **Appliqué Placement Diagram**, position mottled cream B and C pieces on blue A scallop piece. Fuse in place.
2. Using light blue embroidery floss, whipstitch B heart pieces to A piece.
3. Using silver metallic embroidery floss, stitch "arms" of each snowflake to A piece by pulling thread up from back of A piece through outer end of snowflake arm and down through center of snowflake. Using white floss, make a tiny tack stitch at the end of each snowflake arm (where metallic thread ends) to secure.
4. Referring to **Seed Bead Diagram**, sew a pearl bead in center of each snowflake and through all layers.
5. Referring to **Appliqué Placement Diagram**, position blue B and C pieces on mottled cream D scallop piece. Fuse in place.
6. Using light blue embroidery floss, whipstitch B heart pieces to D piece.
7. Repeat steps 3 and 4, using light blue floss for tack stitch, to stitch arms of snowflakes and pearl beads to D piece.
8. Using one strand of light blue floss, whipstitch A scallop piece to D scallop piece (Appliqué Placement Diagram) to make appliquéd table mat.

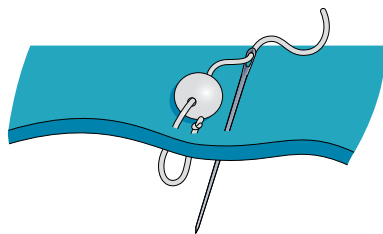
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9. Layer appliquéd table mat to mottled white D backing piece. Using light blue embroidery floss, blanket-stitch together along scalloped edges to complete table mat. Press, being careful to avoid pearl beads and metallic thread.

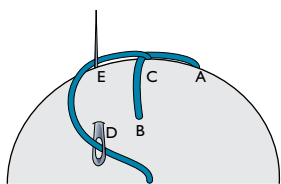
To blanket-stitch, pull needle up at A, form a reverse L shape with floss, and hold angle of L shape in place with your thumb. Push needle down at B and come up at C to secure the stitch. Continue in same manner around shape.

Tips

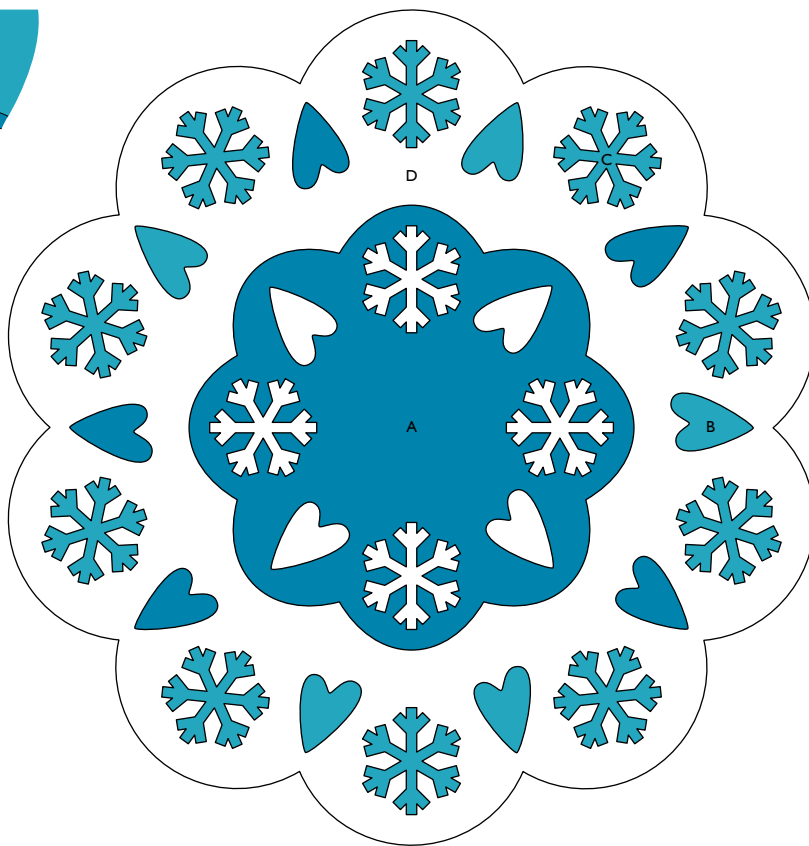
1. Thread needle with thread that matches the pearl bead and knot one end. Push needle through quilt top to back where you want the first bead. (The knot will be covered by the bead.) Take a few stitches on back to secure the thread, then bring needle through to top, right next to knot.
2. Slip bead on thread. Insert needle into top close to the bead and pull needle through to the back (Seed Bead Diagram).



SEED BEAD DIAGRAM

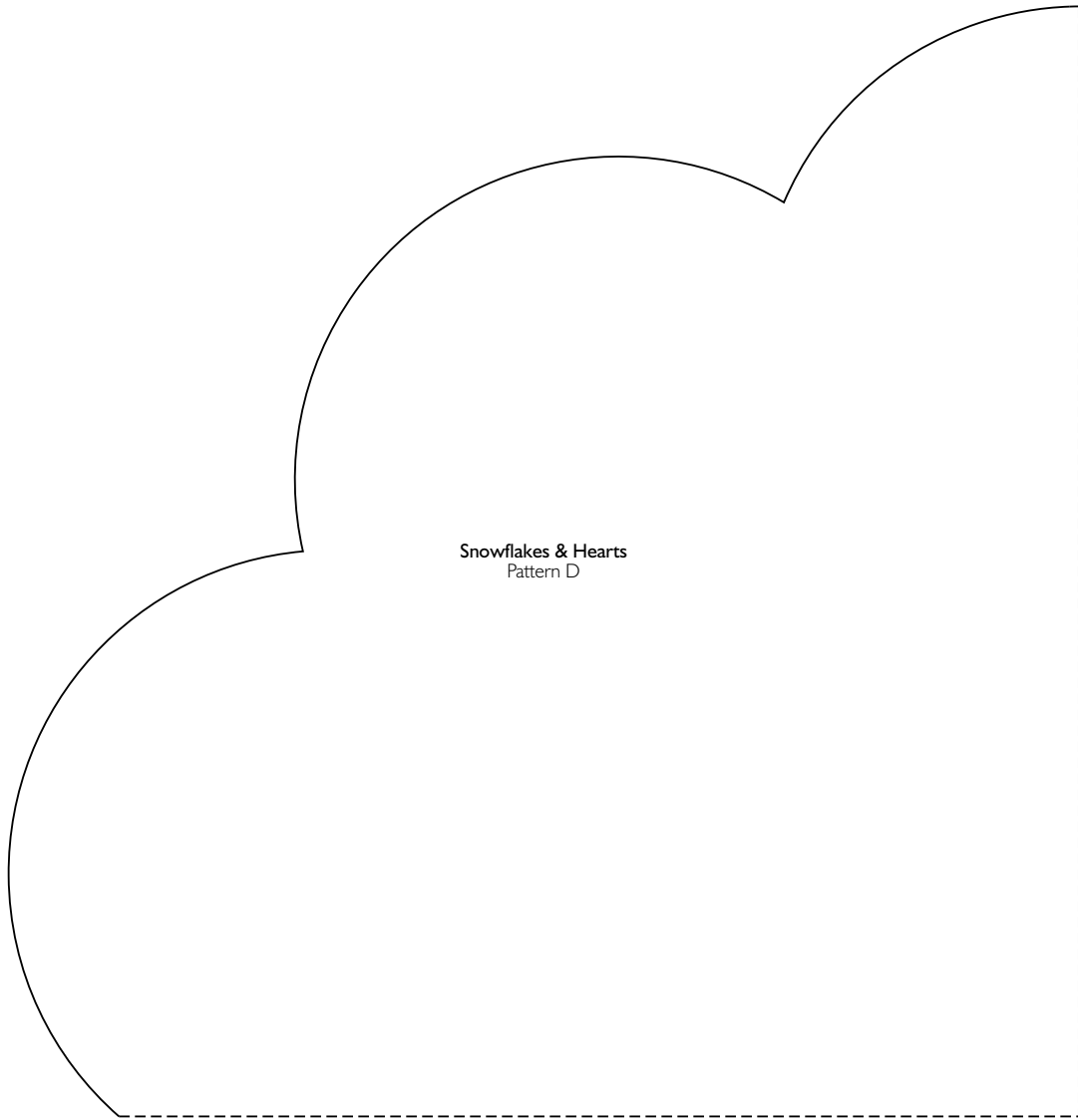


BLANKET STITCH

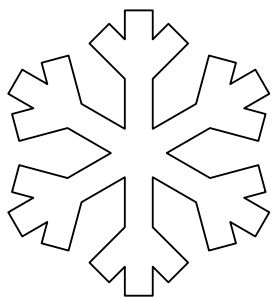


APPLIQUÉ PLACEMENT DIAGRAM

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Snowflakes & Hearts  
Pattern D



Snowflakes & Hearts  
Pattern C



Snowflakes  
& Hearts  
Pattern B



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