

Project: Merry Embroidered Ornaments

DESIGNER: ROBIN KINGSLEY AND BUCILLA



Whether you hang them on the tree or hand them out as special gifts, these redwork ornaments will deliver loads of Christmas joy.

## Project: Merry Embroidered Ornaments

**Materials**

- Tracing paper
- Unbleached muslin
- Ultra-fine-tip red permanent marker
- Red embroidery floss or #8 pearl cotton
- Medium-weight cardboard
- Lightweight quilt batting
- Fabrics glue
- Red wool felt
- Pinking shears

**Transfer the Pattern**

Trace the desired pattern from page 3 onto tracing paper. Cut a piece of muslin 6" larger in both directions than the design. Tape the traced pattern to a sunny window or light box. Tape the muslin over the pattern. Trace the pattern onto the muslin with the red permanent marker. Do not trace the outer ornament-shape lines, dashed lines, or lazy daisy loops.

**Embroider the Ornament**

1. Secure the fabric in an embroidery hoop and embroider the design using two strands of red floss or a single strand of pearl cotton. Note: For embroidery-stitch instructions, see pages 2-3.
2. Backstitch the long solid design lines and the words. Add lines of running stitches where indicated on the pattern. Make French knots for dots. Make lazy daisy stitches as indicated by a loop on the pattern. When the stitching is complete, press the fabric from the back.

**Finish the Ornament**

1. Cut a piece of cardboard and quilt batting to the size indicated by the outer ornament-shape lines on the pattern. With the design centered, trim the embroidered muslin piece  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " larger in both directions than the cardboard shape.
2. Use pinking shears to cut a shape from red felt  $\frac{1}{2}$ " larger in both directions than the cardboard shape.
3. Glue the batting shape to the cardboard. Center the batting side of the cardboard on the back of the embroidered muslin piece. Wrap the muslin edges to the back and tape in place.
4. For the hanging loop, cut a  $\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ " strip of red wool felt. Fold the strip in half, and glue the ends at the center top back of the cardboard. Glue the felt to the back of the ornament.

**Embroidery Stitches****Backstitch**

To backstitch, pull the needle up at A, insert it back into the fabric at B, and bring it up at C. Continue in the same manner.

**French Knot**

To make a French knot, bring the needle up at A. Wrap the floss around the needle twice without twisting it. Insert the needle into the fabric at B, about  $\frac{1}{16}$ " away from A. Gently push the wraps down the needle to meet the fabric and then pull the needle and floss through the fabric slowly and smoothly.

**Lazy Daisy Stitch**

To make a lazy daisy stitch, pull your needle up at A and form a loop of floss on the fabric surface. Holding the loop in place, insert your needle back into the fabric at B, about  $\frac{1}{16}$ " away from A. Bring the needle tip out at C and cross it over the trailing floss, keeping the floss as flat as possible. Pull the needle and trailing floss until the loop lies flat against the fabric. Push the needle through to the back at D to secure the loop.

**Running Stitch**

To make a running stitch, pull the needle up at A and insert it back into the fabric at B. Continue in the same manner, loading several stitches on your needle at a time. Leave about a stitch's width between stitches.

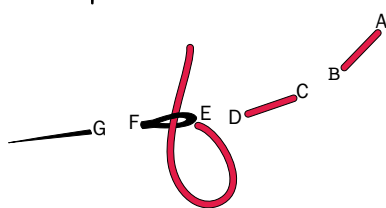
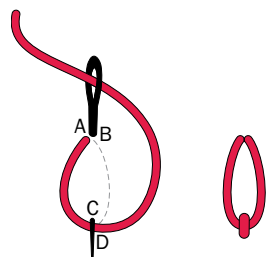
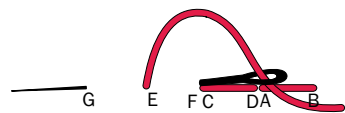
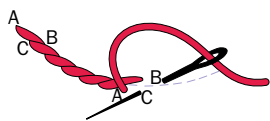
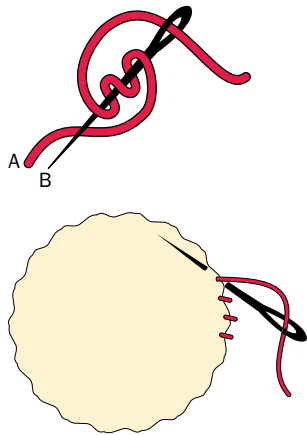
**Stem Stitch**

To stem-stitch, pull the needle up at A. Insert the needle back into the fabric at B, about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " away from A. Then, holding the floss out of the way, bring the needle back up at C and pull the floss through so it lies flat against the fabric. Pull with equal tautness after each stitch.

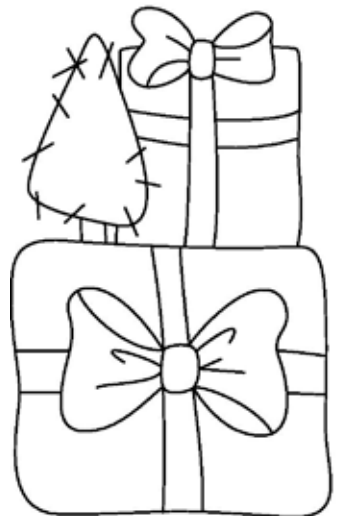
**Whipstitch**

To whipstitch, work a series of small, evenly spaced straight stitches to secure an appliqué in place.

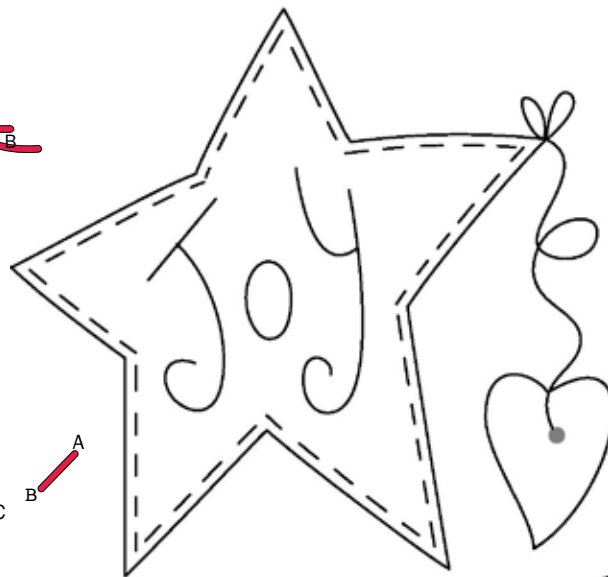
Project: Merry Embroidered Ornaments



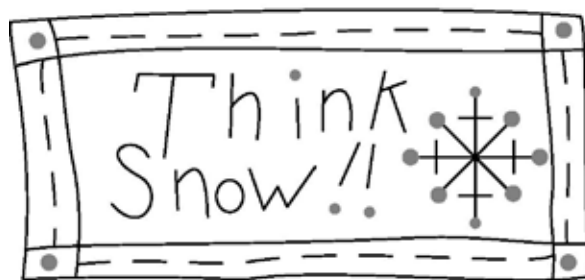
REDWORK ORNAMENTS



REDWORK ORNAMENTS



REDWORK ORNAMENTS



REDWORK ORNAMENTS



REDWORK ORNAMENTS

This box should measure 1".



**\* NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT "Shrink to Fit" or "Fit to Printable Area."

## Make and Use Templates

### Make Templates

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

### Use Templates

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the previous tracing (**Diagram 1**), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (**Diagram 2**); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

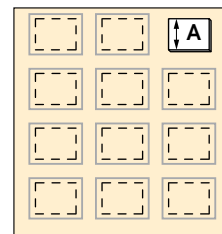


DIAGRAM 1

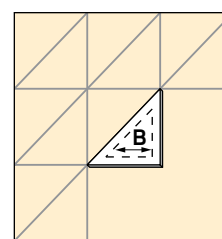


DIAGRAM 2