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Project: Fussy-Cut Flowers Pillow

INSPIRED BY LA PETITE FLEUR FROM DESIGNER LISA BONGEAN OF PRIMITIVE GATHERINGS (PRIMITIVEGATHERINGS.US) QUILT TESTER: LAURA BOEHNKE





Fussy-cut delicate floral designs, such as these from the Abigail collection by Sara Morgan for Blue Hill Fabrics (bluehillfabrics.net), to showcase in appliquéd circles on a round pillow. Flat piping cut from the same fabric as the Pattern A circles mimics the layered circle look on a larger scale.

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Materials

- 15" square blue-and-red print (pillow top)
- ½ yard cream print (appliqués, piping)
- Scraps of red print, dark blue print, and tan-and-pink floral (appliqués)
- 2/3 yard blue print (appliqués, pillow band, pillow back)
- Lightweight fusible web
- Polyester fiberfill

Finished pillow: 13½" diameter

Quantities are for 44/45"-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Cut Fabrics

Cut pieces in the following order. Patterns A and B are on page 4.

To use fusible web for cutting circle appliqués A and B, complete the following steps.

- Lay fusible web, paper side up, over patterns A and B. Trace each pattern seven times, leaving ½" between tracings.
 Cut out each fusible-web circle roughly ¼" outside traced lines.
- Following manufacturer's instructions, press fusibleweb circles onto wrong side of fabrics designated in cutting instructions; let cool. Cut out fabric circles on drawn lines.
 Peel off paper backings.

From cream print, cut:

- Enough 1¼"-wide bias strips to total 45" in length for piping
- 6 of Pattern A

From red print, cut:

1 of Pattern A

From dark blue print, cut:

3 of Pattern B

From tan-and-pink floral, cut:

1 of Pattern B

From blue print, cut:

- 1—15" square
- 1—3**½**×43" strip
- 3 of Pattern B

Cut and Appliqué Pillow Top

Cut out Pillow Top/Back Pattern, page 4, on outer lines.

- Fold blue-and-red print 15" square in half twice to make a 7½" square. Place Pillow Top/ Back Pattern on folded square and trace curved line. Cut on marked line. Unfold to make pillow top circle.
- Using blue print 15" square, repeat Step 1 to make pillow back circle; set aside until pillow assembly.
- 3. Referring to Appliqué Placement Diagram, position all A and B circle appliqués on pillow top circle. Fuse appliqués in place.
- 4. Using threads that match or contrast appliqués as desired, machine-blanket-stitch around A and B circles to complete pillow top.

Assemble Pillow

- **1.** Cut and piece cream print 1¼"-wide bias strips to make one long strip. Press seams open.
- 2. With wrong side inside, fold Step 1 bias strip in half lengthwise to make a flat piping strip; press.

- 3. Aligning raw edges, place piping strip on right side of pillow top. Pin in place 1/4" from the edge, easing in excess piping so it will lie flat when the pillow is turned right side out. Baste in place a scant 1/4" from raw edges (Diagram 1). Fold pillow top in quarters and mark each fold with a pin.
- 4. Join short ends of blue print 3½×43" strip to make a ring (Diagram 2). Press seam open. Fold ring in quarters and mark each fold with a pin.
- 5. With right sides together and matching quarter marks, position one edge of blue print ring along edge of pillow top over piping (Diagram 3). Pin together 1/4" from the edge all around ring, clipping into edge of ring with tiny clips if necessary to make it lie flat. Sew in place, stitching just past basting of piping.
- **6.** Repeat Step 5 to join remaining edge of blue print ring to pillow back circle, leaving a 6" opening for stuffing.
- Stuff pillow with fiberfill and hand-sew opening closed to complete pillow.

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