

The applique blocks provided for March program were packaged with 5 techniques included for illustration:

1. Stems (or trailing vines) are created from bias strips, folded in half and machine stitched for the first edge. Roll the folded edge over the seam allowance to hand-finish the second side. Tuck in the raw edges at the bottom of the stems. Thread is included for this step to get you started.

There are THREE leaves in each kit:

2. One leaf is drawn on the front side of fabric. Trim the leaf a scant quarter inch from the marking. Needle turn to stitch, rolling under the marking as you go. This leaf can be placed where-ever you like.

3. One leaf is machine stitched of a centre seam to create a leaf from two fabrics, then dryer sheet is stitched to the outer finished edge. Trim this piece a scant quarter inch from the outside stitching, clip the inside curves closely, slash the dryer sheet to turn the piece right side out. Finger press the edges to smooth the curves before you stitch this leaf where-ever you choose.

4. A back-basted leaf has been placed, with the basting started. Finish basting. On the front side, trim the applique leaf one quarter inch from the basting. As you needle turn this piece to stitch it down, the basting becomes the barrier against which your fabric edge will stop to keep a consistent turn-under and finished size. Placement of applique pieces in this technique is guided from the design that is drawn on the back of the foundation. Pins are eliminated by basting flat fabric pieces before they are trimmed to the applique shape and size. - A convenient pack and carry technique!

5. Two circles are packaged to use to form flowers of a dimensional technique. With a long running stitch around the outside, draw the edges tightly together to form a "yoyo", raw edges to the back. Before cutting thread, wrap it around the circle edge, return the needle thru the centre, from front to back. Pull tightly to form a tuck. Stop here for a sweet pea bloom, or repeat two more times to form a three petal bloom, as for a violet. Place the blossoms where you like on the block.

The toothpick is included (a tip from Kim) to use to poke under your seam allowance as you needle turn. (Saves bending the needle for this step!)

Questions? Call Jerri Burke