

All over the world children prepare for the magical visit from Santa!



Minimum Hoop Size 8"x12"
Formats: art dst exp hus jef pes vip vp3

The lower picture includes designs from the
optional "Critter Pack"!



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Home for the Holidays Supply List

Design: **Home for the Holidays** (finished size 39"round)

Fabric Supply List:

- 1 ½ yards White, cream, light gray (looks like snow) tone on tone Background Fabric
- ½ yard Blue (looks like nighttime) tone on tone Center Background Fabric
- ½ yard Interfacing for Blue Fabric (I used Polymesh)
- 1 yard White tone on tone (snow border)
- 4 yards Fusible Woven Interfacing by OESD or Shape Flex 101 by Pellon (20" wide)
- ½ yard Binding **(Not needed in class)**
- 1 ½ yards Backing **(Not needed in class)**
- 50" x 50" Batting **(Not needed in class)**

Embroidery Supply List:

Hoop Requirements: stitch field must be 8" wide x 12" high or **larger** / bring your largest hoop & grid

All Hoops must have a grid/template (you would want to make one if you don't have one)

15 yards Heavy Weight Tear Away (Pellon #806 Stitch & Tear)

Temporary Adhesive Spray: Suggested 505 or Mettler Web Bond 101 Spray Adhesive

Removable fabric marking pen (No air erasable pens)

Mechanical Chalk Pencil (like Fons & Porter)

Needles 80/12 and 90/14 Sharps (both work but some machines prefer one over the other)

Terrial Magic Starch (mandatory)

Basic embroidery kit including small double curved scissors, tweezers, **Jumbo Wonder Clips**, Arrow shaped post it notes by Post-It-Notes (they say: **SIGN** HERE)

18"x24" Wool Ironing pad suggested



Bobbin Thread: (light neutral color & black)

Embroidery Thread: Isacord 40 wt. Embroidery Threads listed

Blues

- 3543 Royal Blue
- 4010 Carribean Blue

Greens

- 6043 Yellowgreen
- 5933 Grasshopper
- 5912 Erin Green

Purples

- 2830 Wild Iris
- 2910 Grape

Golds & Yellow

- 0824 Liberty Gold
- 0700 Bright Yellow

Reds

- 1904 Cardinal
- 1911 Foliage Red

Greys

- 0142 Sterling

Browns

- 0933 Redwood (Trees)
- 1154 Penny (horses)
- 0842 Toffee (reindeer)
- 0853 Pecan (Roof)
- 1311 Date (fox)

Black & White

- 0020 Black
- 0015 White

Flesh

- 1760 Twine

Sewing Supply List

50wt. Cotton Thread matching the fabric for piecing **(not needed in class)**

Basic sewing kit including scissors, pins, rotary cutter & mat, long straight ruler, etc. **(not needed in class)**

20 ½" Square Ruler by Creative Grids for accurate marking & trimming

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TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL EMBROIDERY!

Keep these pages accessible, you will need to refer to these “Tips” throughout your embroidery!!
Follow Claudia’s two step “**Perfect Placement Technique**” for accurately multi-hooping large designs!

Step #1: Marking the design’s first stitch location on the grid:

- Attach the **hoop and grid** to the module with no fabric.
- **Open the design** to be embroidered.
- Advance to the **embroidery sewing screen**. Embroidery Machines open a design in an editing screen. Touch the icon that moves you to the embroidery sewing screen. Advancing to the embroidery sewing screen takes you to the first stitch of the design, where you are ready to embroider!

Brother, Babylock, Janome, and Singer machines have an automatic center stitch programmed into the machine. You must advance past this “programmed center stitch” to move to the first stitch of my designs. These machines will have an additional icon (usually a +/- key) you will need to touch to move you to first stitch of my design.

Bernina machines with a Basting Box option must make sure the built in basting box option is turned off before they advance to the embroidery sewing screen.

- By hand, lower your needle to touch the grid. Place an arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid so the tip of the arrow touches the tip of the needle. (See picture) This marks the first stitch location of my design on the grid (not the center of the design, not the center of the hoop, but the first stitch of the opened design).
- Raise the needle; remove the hoop and the marked grid from the module.

Step #2: Hooping the Fabric

- Place the **inner hoop with the grid** on the (stabilized and marked) background fabric. The arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid should be pointing to either the **Needle Alignment** or to the **Placement Line** location on the background fabric. The location is noted in the Embroidery Instructions and will be different for each hooping (it will almost never be the center of the hoop).
- Hoop the (stabilized and marked) fabric with the lines on the grid parallel and perpendicular to the drawn lines on the fabric. The drawn lines need not lie exactly under the lines of the grid, but must be parallel and perpendicular to the lines on the grid. This keeps the larger piece of fabric square and straight as you embroider.
- Remove the grid from the hoop and attach the hoop to the module.
- It may be necessary to re-position the needle exactly over the **mark** indicated in the instructions. Use your Move Motif Icon to tweak the needle perfectly over the mark.
- **Needle Alignment** is to place the needle over a specific mark like the drawn crosshair on the fabric
- **Placement Line** is to sew (without thread) over previously sewn stitches to ensure correct placement.
- To watch a demo of the “Perfect Placement Technique” from your computer go to:
www.claudiascreationsaz.com Select the “Workshops” tab and choose Instructional Videos / Perfect Placement.

Additional Tips and Helps!

Tip #1: Built in Basting Box!

Many embroidery machines have a built-in basting box option. When this option is enabled it may add a color stop to the stitching order of the design. This option should be disabled before opening a design. If the basting box option is on or enabled when you advance to the embroidery sewing screen, you would be marking the grid with the first stitch position for the basting box and not the first stitch of the design! Be sure to disable the basting box option before opening a design. Mark the first stitch of the design with the post-it note arrow.

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Tip #2: Hooping Tips

I place sections of **permanent** double sided tape (**not repositionable**) on the wrong side of the inner hoop. Then I flip the inner hoop right side up and place the inner hoop, with the grid inside of it, on the fabric. The doubled sided tape holds the inner hoop to the fabric. This makes it easier to pick up the inner hoop and fabric and place it in the outer hoop with ease. (Always loosen the outer hoop screws as much as possible). Remove the tear away stabilizer from the last hooping to reduce the stabilizer "bulk". Roll the excess fabric in a tube shape and use clips to hold the excess fabric out of the way. This will prevent the fabric from accidentally catching under the hoop.

Tip #3: Unusual Embroidery Instructions:

Needle Alignment: This is placed first in the stitching order to align the needle exactly where it goes.

It is strictly for needle placement and not to be sewn out (unless indicated). If it is accidentally sewn out it will look like a crosshair. Pick it out!

Placement Line: This is a line that is to be sewn out without thread over an existing line to ensure correct placement. It is an alignment tool for connecting one hooping to another.

The blank line after the thread color: Thread Purple # _____ (Write your thread Color # on the line)
It will help you remember what color you used when you return to embroidering.

Tip #4: Ironing/Pressing

Place the embroidered background fabric **wrong side up**, over a wool mat. Padding the stitches with a wool mat won't crush them. I usually spray with starch and then press the fabric.

Tip #5: Trimming the Blocks

For best accuracy, use a square ruler to trim all the blocks. Place the square ruler on the block lining up two sides, then trim. Trimming with a 6" x 24" ruler is not as accurate and leads to slips and miss-cuts. If you have difficulty keeping a ruler from moving when you cut, place double sided tape on the side that goes against the fabric! Also, using quilting gloves helps to hold it in place!

Tip #6 Sewing without Thread

Every machine has a icon where you can advance or move backwards through a design. This is usually used when you "**break a needle**" or "**run out of bobbin thread**" and you need to backup to replace stitches. I use this icon to advance through a design to "**sew without thread.**" As you advance drop the needle often to check the position to make sure you are correctly following the placement line. Watch my video on website.

Fabric Preparation

Removing Dye:

Usually I do not wash my fabrics before embroidering or piecing them into a quilt. However, if I am using darks I may want to test a piece to see if it is color fast. If it is not, you may want to treat the fabric with a product that will remove the excess dye. Products like Retayne and Synthrapol always work great.

Woven Interfacing:

First steam iron and starch the fabric. Then place the woven interfacing (Fusible Woven by OESD or Shape Flex 101 by Pellon) adhesive side down, on the wrong side of the fabric. Spray with water to activate the adhesive. Use your hands to smooth out the moistened Interfacing over the fabric before using the steam iron. Set the steam iron on the center area and hold the iron long enough to dry & seal the two layers together, but not so long that it burns! Pick up the iron and place it close to the first spot. Repeat until all the interfacing is sealed to the fabric. This will "pre-shrink" both fabric and interfacing. The Interfacing will shrink, that is expected. All the edges of the Interfacing should be sealed to the fabric as if they were one piece so they can't be separated.

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Cutting Instructions

Background Fabric: (1 ½ yards)

Trim the fabric to a square

Cut (1) 44" +/- strip

It will be a 44" square (or your width of fabric 42"-44")

Fabric Preparation

Starch the fabric: Terial Magic.

Saturate the background fabric (shown above) in **Terial Magic**. This product is a heavy starch. The fabric must be very stiff to avoid stretching during embroidery. Let the fabric almost dry then iron the fabric flat and smooth.

(YouTube / claudiascreationsaz / Videos / Terial Magic)

Interfacing: Shape Flex 101 by Pellon (woven) or Fusible Woven by OESD

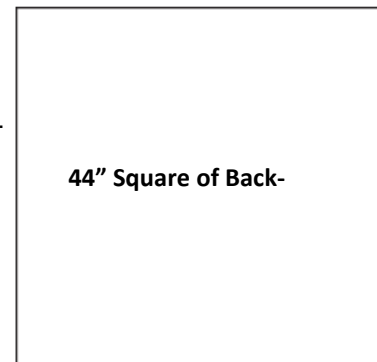
Center and Iron interfacing (after Terial Magic) adhesive side down, to the back of the 44" Block. Piece the interfacing to get the size needed. Over lap the pieced sections by ½".

The interfacing may be smaller than the fabric blocks & it will shrink when you iron it. Lightly spray with water to activate the adhesive. Smooth the interfacing with your hands (this will help to displace the air between the interfacing & fabric).

Start pressing in the center and work out slowly. Iron the interfacing to the fabric. All edges should be sealed together. If you see air bubbles, spray with water and iron again.

Watch my Fabric Prep video for a demo.

(YouTube / claudiascreationsaz / Videos / Fabric Prep)



Marking Instructions

Mark the Fabric:

On the front side of the fabric (with removable ink) mark a **horizontal & vertical line, the full length & width of the fabric centered on the fabric** (aka=center crosshair / shown in red) use a 20 ½" square ruler to mark the lines to ensure a **90° center**. See instructional video for example.

claudiascreationsaz.com / videos / Marking Fabric

Use a **6" x 24"** Ruler:

Place the ruler on the fabric so there is **12"** above and **12"** below the center mark.

Mark additional lines:

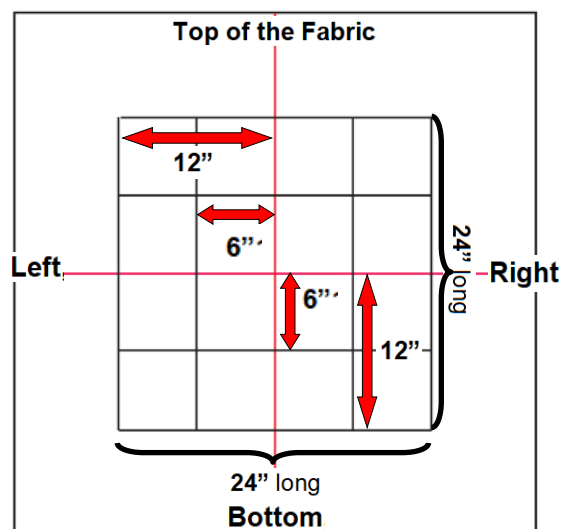
Vertical lines 6" & 12" on both sides of the **Center Vertical Line**.

Horizontal lines 6" & 12" above & below the **Center Horizontal Line**.

The lines form a grid. The lines only need to be **24"** long and centered on the fabric. Lines must be **parallel & perpendicular** to each other (**90°**). If you prefer you can draw the lines the **full width and length** too!

Write the words **"Top of the Fabric"** at the top of the fabric. See picture. Also write **Bottom, Left, & Right** in the appropriate locations.

Follow the next page for **more** marking instructions.



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Blue Center Appliqué Instructions

Fabric Preparation

Blue tone on tone Background Fabric: (½ yard)

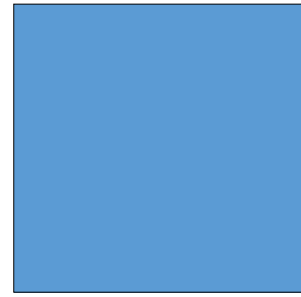
Cut (1) 18" square of Blue Fabric

Starch the fabric: Terial Magic.

Saturate the background fabric in **Terial Magic**. This product is a heavy starch.

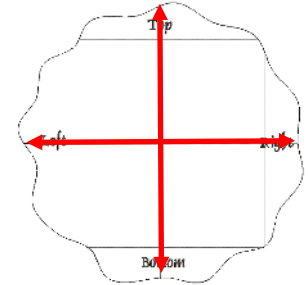
The fabric must be very stiff to avoid stretching during embroidery.

Let the fabric almost dry then iron the fabric flat and smooth.



Paper Pattern:

Print the **Blue Center Template**. Tape the sections together according to the instructions on the template. The **Horizontal & Vertical Center lines** measure **15 ½" wide and high**. Measure your pattern and adjust if needed. Trace the pattern onto to a large piece of tear away stabilizer **include the markings**. (The stabilizer is thicker than the computer paper and easier to work with)



Cut the pattern out following the outer lines on the template.

Spray the wrong side of the pattern with **505 Temporary Adhesive Spray**.

Set template (gluey side up) aside to let the glue set/tack up.

Backing:

Cut (1) 17" square of Polymesh (or equivalent)

Make Fabric Sandwich:

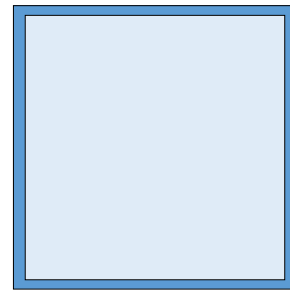


Blue Fabric (right side up) place on the table.

Polymesh (no right or wrong side to it) center on blue fabric.

Template Pattern (sticky side down) centered on the Polymesh.

Pin the fabric layers together.



Sew next to the **edge** of the Template Pattern from the start all the way around to where you began.

Gently remove the Template Pattern. Trim the fabric sandwich with a ¼" seam allowance. Clip the seams.

Slit the Polymesh and **turn** the Fabric right side out.

Finger press all the edges, then iron the edges smooth and flat.

Lay the Blue applique fabric over the Template Pattern.

Copy **top, bottom** and **sides** placement marks with a chalk pencil, on the top of the Blue Appliqué fabric. (Chalk shows on dark fabrics)

Center the Blue Applique fabric on the 44" Background Fabric.

Position **TOP of the applique** at the **TOP of the Background Fabric**.

Align the **left, right & bottom marks** with the drawn grid.

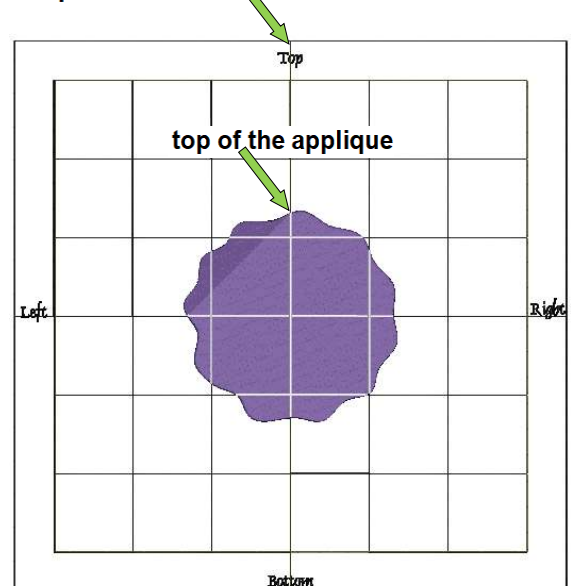
Pin frequently!

Finish the Edges:

- Straight stitch close to edge
- hand or machine applique or use your own technique

Carefully **re-mark** all the grid lines (white chalk pencil) on the top of the **Blue Appliqué Fabric**.

Top of the Fabric



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Marking Instructions continued

Marking a 40" Circle Shape: (use removable pen)

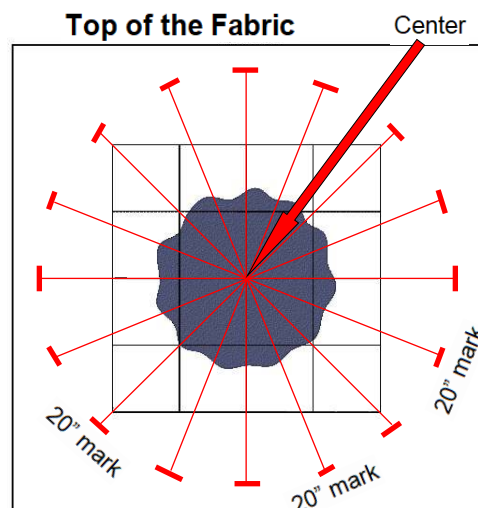
This circle shape will be a guide as you embroider the "snow border".

Step #1:

To mark a "circle shape" on the fabric:

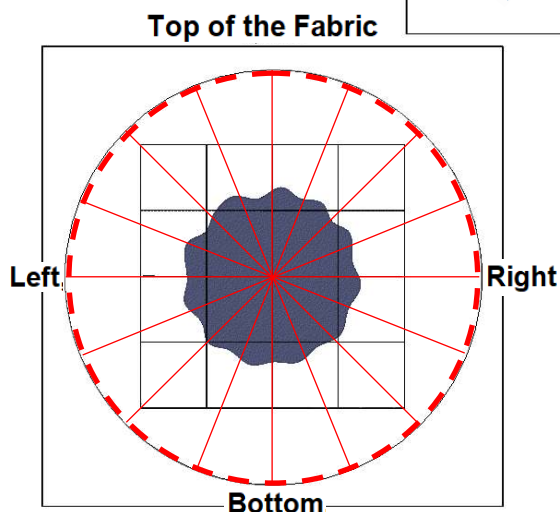
Using a 6x24" ruler place marks on the fabric **20" from the center** at the top, bottom, left & right. This will help you start to form the circle.

Add additional marks between each of the sections 20" from the center. The more marks you add, the more the "circle shape" is developed. Add as many marks as you can to help form a circle shape.



Step #2:

Connect one mark to the next mark with a short line to finish forming the circle shape. Continually check the measurements to ensure a circle!

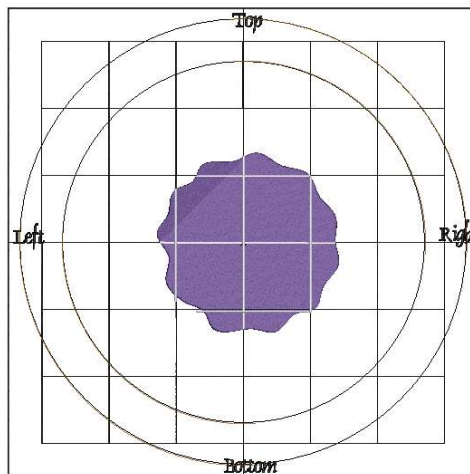


Step #3: Optional Critters Elements

If you plan on adding "Critters Elements" mark another circle shape **16 1/4" from the center**.

This is a **guide only** to keep the "Critters" from being positioned in the Snow Border area where they would be covered by the snow border appliqué.

Try to keep the added "Critters" inside the Inner Circle. Add additional "Critters" after the Snow Border has been added!



Also, try not to add "critters" in the area where the **next hooping will be added**.

If you aren't careful you could place a critter right in the way of the next hooping!

If you **are not** adding the "critters" you will not need to draw the inner circle.

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