

**BE YOU-TIFUL TEA TOWEL** 

# How to Collage Applique

# What Is Collage Applique?

Collage applique is a machine embroidery technique inspired by collage quilting. It involves organizing fabric by color and layering small, fusible fabric shapes to fill a stitched placement line, creating a unique collage project.

To begin, check the Materials Needed section for the design you would like to complete. Each part of the design has been divided into color groups and has an approximate number of fabric scraps listed instead of a precise cut of fabric. This allows you the option to create an intricate collage applique with many small pieces of fabric, or a simpler collage applique with larger pieces of fabric. Organize your fabric scraps into color groups and decide which element of the design will be which color group.

# Glossary

**Applique:** A technique that involves sewing a small piece of fabric onto a larger piece to create a design.

**Collage Applique:** A technique that involves layering small pieces of fabric inside a placement line to create a unique collage design.

Fabric Scrap: A piece of fabric that is  $5 \times 5''$ .

**Fussy Cut Fabric:** Fabric that has been cut with a specific shape and look in mind as opposed to randomly cutting.

**Shape:** A 1-3" piece of fabric cut with rounded or curved edges.

(~) **Symbol:** Indicates approximate number of fabric scraps needed. The amount of fabric used for collage applique can vary.

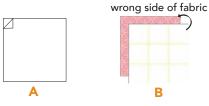
**Color Group:** Fabric scraps from the same color family grouped together.

# **Getting Started**

## You Will Need:

- Fabric scraps organized by color into color groups
- A double-sided sticky fusible web, such as Lite Steam-A-Seam 2<sup>®</sup> or Pellon<sup>®</sup> Lite EZ-Steam<sup>®</sup> II

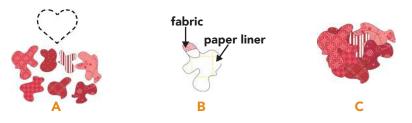
## **Preparing Fabric Scraps:**





- A. Cut out squares of sticky fusible web that are the same size as your fabric scraps. Remove (1) paper liner and adhere to wrong side of fabric scraps.
- **B.** Firmly finger press sticky fusible web to adhere to the **wrong side** of fabric scraps. If needed, quickly run a hot, dry iron over the piece with fabric side up to help secure the web to the fabric. It is important that the web adheres properly so that edges of fabric are not caught on the presser foot.
- **C.** Cut several fabric scraps from one color group into shapes with rounded or curved edges as desired.

## **Placing Shapes on Design:**



- A. Stitch placement line. Choose fabric shapes to cover the placement line.
- B. Peel off remaining paper liner from fabric shapes.
- C. Place fabric as desired. Be sure to completely fill placement line, with fabric extending beyond the placement line (See tips on page 3). Finger press shapes in place. This allows the shapes to be repositionable if needed. Do not use iron.

## Trimming and Securing Fabric on Design:







- A. Stitch the tack-down line and trim excess fabric from the edges of the tack-down line.
- B. Press fabric with iron to fuse shapes to the background.
- C. Stitch the collage detail to secure the fabric in place.

### **Tips for Cutting Fabric Shapes:**

- Pieces with rounded and curved edges work better than pieces with straight edges.
- Cut curvy pieces with "fingers" that can interlock & weave with other pieces.
- Fussy cut flowers/shapes from fabric.
- Cut shapes that mimic the collage shape (for a leaf, cut rounded and curvy shapes; for a nest, cut long skinny stick shapes).
- Patterned fabrics make the design more visually interesting.
- Add small amounts of different colors.
- Add hidden shapes/images cut from fabric (can be used to create an "I Spy" project with hidden images).

## Tips for Placing Fabric Shapes:

- Place fabrics ¼-1/2" over the edge of the placement line for easier trimming.
- Place shapes so that they flow with the design and not oppose it (for a nest, keep pieces horizontal instead of vertical).
- Weave and interlock fabrics.
- Place simple patterned shapes as a base and then add heavily patterned, fussy cut shapes on the top layer.
- Firmly finger press fabrics to temporarily adhere. **Note:** If fabric edges will not adhere, use a layer of **Kimberbell**<sup>®</sup> **Wash-Away Topping** to prevent foot from catching fabric.

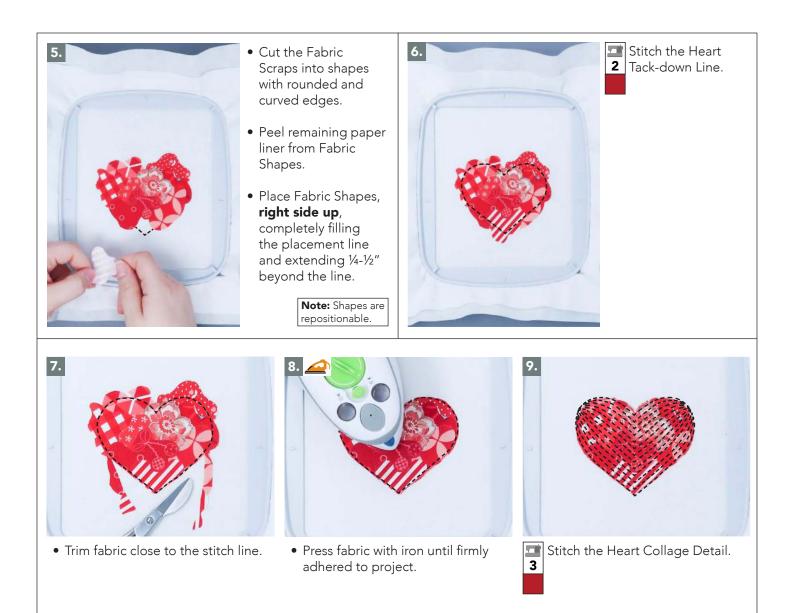
# Every Collage Project Is Unique



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Ready to Try a Simple Design? I HEART COLLAGE: Before beginning a more complicated collage design, practice collage applique on a simple design. The more you practice, the more you will master the technique. The instructions below show you how to collage applique a simple heart shape.

HOOP SIZE	<b>4</b> x4	
MATERIALS		
COLOR GROUP 1 • Heart FABRIC • Background	(~9) Fabric Scraps <u>1 Fat Sixteenth</u> (1) 6 x 6"	(~) Symbol indicates approximate number of fabric scraps needed. The amount of fabric used for collage applique can vary.
	S	
LIGHT MESH CUT-AWAY STABILIZER		4X4 DESIGN
ADDITIONAL MATERIALS		FILE: 4x4-i-heart-collage
Double-sided Sticky Fusible Web		<b>EMBROIDERY FIELD:</b> 3.50 x 2.89" or 88.8 x 73.4 mm
Making the "I Heart	Collage" Desig	jn
1. right side of fabric	<ul> <li>Hoop Light Mes Cut-Away Stabilizer and Background Fab right side up.</li> </ul>	4x4-i-heart-collage embroidery file into
3.	Stitch the Hea Placement Line	atient

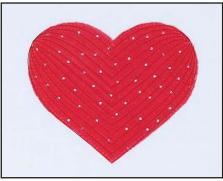


# To Collage or Not To Collage

Any element in a collage design can be made as either a collage applique or a regular raw-edge applique. Mixing collage and raw-edge elements on the same design can add visual interest. Each collage project includes a color chart with additional instructions for applique-only designs.



Collage







# DOTS & STRIPES TEA TOWEL BLANKS

18.25 x 28.25″

NAVY KDKB213 AQUA KDKB215 LEMON KDKB224 RED KDKB212





K/mberBelL

EMMA'S COLLAGI PILLOWS Hoop Sizes: 5x7, 6x10, 8x12, 9x14 KD5104

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## Pattern Notes and Helpful Tips

#### **Using Kimberbell Products:**

#### **Kimberbell Paper Tape**

• We recommend taping all applique pieces in place to prevent shifting of fabric during the tack-down stitch.

#### **Kimberbell Fusible Backing**

- To provide extra structure to the fabric and reduce puckering, we recommend using Fusible Backing. This is used in addition to the required stabilizer, and is adhered to the wrong side of the background fabric.
- To eliminate shadowing when appliqueing a light fabric onto a dark background, adhere **Fusible Backing** to the **wrong side** of the applique fabric.

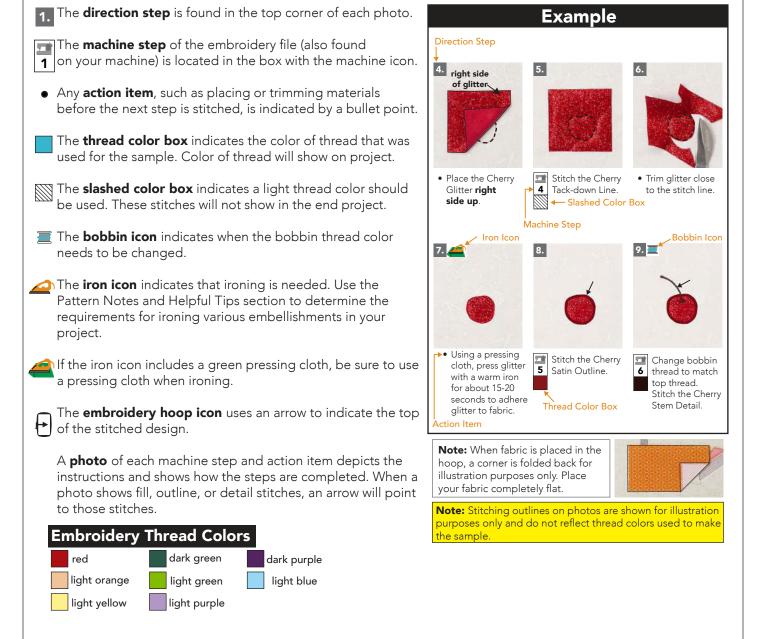
#### Notes:

**Raw-Edge Applique:** This technique will not have additional cover stitches. All tack-down lines will show in finished project. SVG files are not provided for raw-edge applique designs. It is best to use the tack-down and trim method for raw-edge applique.

**Note:** Do **NOT** use steam when ironing collage pieces onto the design.

#### **Instruction Key**

Each project will have a list of instructions to follow. These instructions include the following icons:





Applique Color Chart on Page 14.

HOOP SIZE	5x7	(~) scra	
MATERIALS		а	
FABRIC • Vase	<u>1 Fat Sixteenth</u> ( <b>1)</b> 4 x 7"		
COLOR GROUP 1 • Flower 1	(~4) Fabric Scraps		
COLOR GROUP 2 • Flower 2	(~6) Fabric Scraps		
COLOR GROUP 3 • Flower 3	(~10) Fabric Scraps		
KIMBERBELL PRODUCT	S		
NAVY STRIPE TEA TOW	EL (KDKB213)	1	
(KDST123-124)	KY-BACK STABILIZER	N. 4. 4.	
	FUSIBLE BACKING (KDST126-127)		
PAPER TAPE (KDTL100)			
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL	LS		
Double-sided Sticky Fusik	ole Web		
Fabric Scrap is 5 x 5″ A Fat Eigh Fat Sixteenth is 9 x 11″ A Fat Qua			
5X7 DESIGN	•		

FILE: kdde201-6-5x7-be-you-tiful-tea-towel EMBROIDERY FIELD: 4.81 x 6.28" or 122.2 or 159.6 mm

А

А

(~) Symbol indicates approximate number of fabric scraps needed. The amount of fabric used for collage applique can vary.



FILE: centering-crosshairs-kimberbell-designs EMBROIDERY FIELD: 3.89 x 3.89" or 98.9 x 98.9 mm



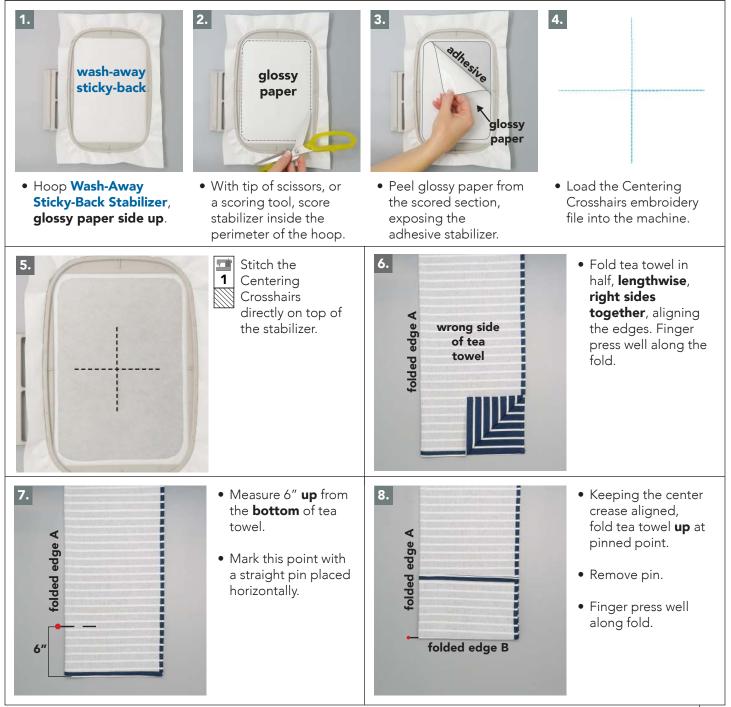
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# (2) PART PROJECT

This project is completed in (2) parts. **Part 1** is centering the tea towel. **Part 2** is embroidering the Be You-tiful design.



### Part 1: Centering the Tea Towel

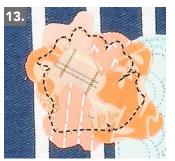




- 12.
  - Carefully peel remaining paper liner from the Flower 1 Fabric Shapes.
  - Place the Flower 1 Fabric Shapes **right side up**, completely covering the placement line.
  - Firmly finger press shapes into place to adhere to project.
     Note: Fabric is repositionable.







# Stitch the Flower 1Tack-down Line.



• Trim fabric as desired.

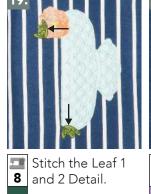




- Using a pressing cloth, press fabric with iron until firmly adhered to project. Do not use steam.
- Stitch the Flower 1Quilting Lines.









Stitch the Flower2 Placement Line.



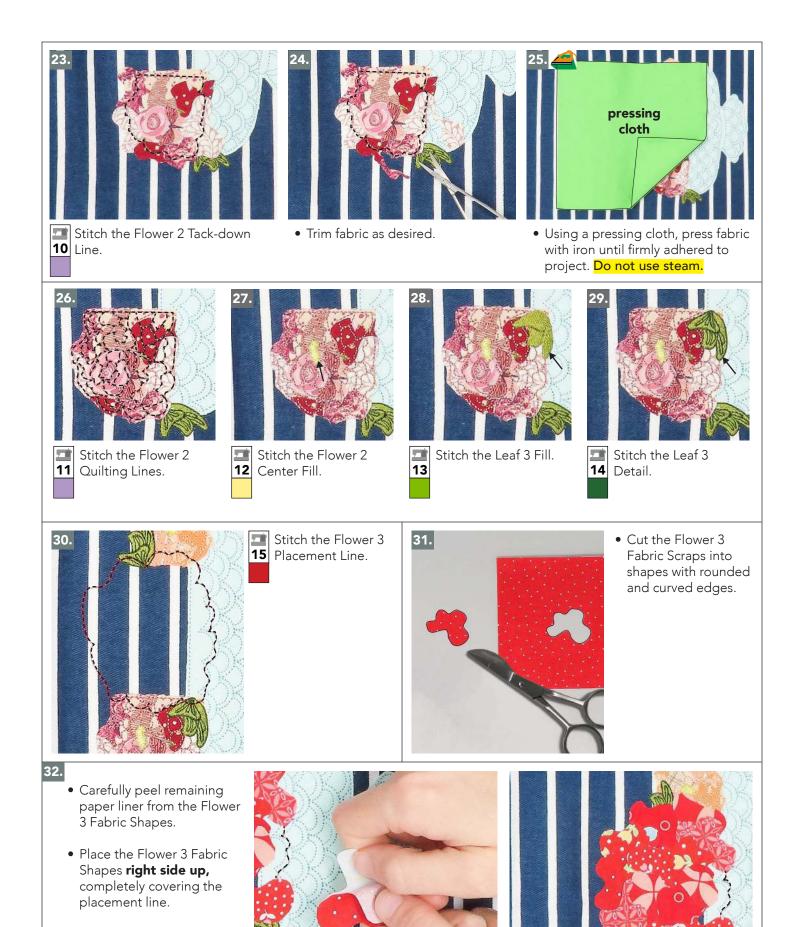
• Cut the Flower 2 Fabric Scraps into shapes with rounded and curved edges.

22.

- Carefully peel remaining paper liner from the Flower 2 Fabric Shapes.
- Place the Flower 2 Fabric Shapes **right side up**, completely covering the placement line.
- Firmly finger press shapes into place to adhere to project.
   Note: Fabric is repositionable.







 Firmly finger press shapes into place to adhere to project.
 Note: Fabric is repositionable.



- Stitch the Flower 3 **16** Tack-down Line.
- 4.
- Trim fabric as desired.

38



• Using a pressing cloth, press fabric with iron until firmly adhered to project. **Do not use steam.** 



Stitch the Flower 3Quilting Lines.

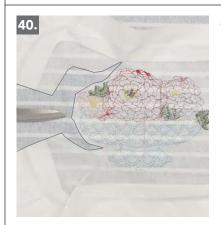


Stitch the Flower 3 Center Fill.

Stitch the Flower 3 19 Center Details.



• Remove project from the hoop.



 Trim excess stabilizer 1/8" away from the **back** of the design.



• Rinse stabilizer in cool water until dissolved. Lay flat to dry. Using a pressing cloth, press well.



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# Color Chart Key

- **Filled Box:** Indicates thread color change.
- Slashed Box: Indicates light thread color is needed.
- 1. Numbered Step: Indicates a machine step.
- Bulleted Step: Indicates an action item.

Hoop Icon: Arrow indicates top of design.

## **Color Charts**

### BE YOU-TIFUL (RAW-EDGE APPLIQUE VERSION)

HOOP SIZE	5x7	5X7 DESIGN	
MATERIALS		FILE: kdde-201-6-5x7-be-you-tiful-tea-towel EMBROIDERY FIELD: 4.81 x 6.28" or 122.2 or 159.6 mm	
FABRIC 1 • Vase	<u>1 Fat Sixteenth</u> (1) 4 x 7"	<ul> <li>Follow Part 1, Direction Steps 1-10 to center the tea towel.</li> <li>Load the desired file into the machine.</li> <li>1. Stitch the Vase Placement Line.</li> <li>Place the Vase Fabric right side up.</li> <li>2. Stitch the Vase Tack-down and Quilting Lines.</li> <li>Trim fabric as desired.</li> <li>3. Stitch the Flower 1 Placement Line.</li> </ul>	
FABRIC 2 • Flower 1	<u>Fabric Scrap</u> <b>(1)</b> 2½ x 2½″		
FABRIC 3 • Flower 2	<u>Fabric Scrap</u> (1) 3 x 3″		
FABRIC 4 • Flower 3	<u>Fabric Scrap</u> (1) 3½ × 4″		
KIMBERBELL PRODUCTS		<ul> <li>Place the Flower 1 Fabric right side up.</li> <li>4. Stitch the Flower 1 Tack-down Line.</li> <li>5. Stitch the Flower 1 Quilting Lines.</li> <li>Trim fabric as desired.</li> </ul>	
NAVY STRIPE TEA TOWEL (KDKB213)			
(KDST123-124)	ICKY-BACK STABILIZER	<ul> <li>6. Stitch the Flower 1 Center Fill.</li> <li>7. Stitch the Leaf 1 and 2 Fill.</li> <li>8. Stitch the Leaf 1 and 2 Detail.</li> </ul>	
	NG (KDST126-127)	<ul> <li>9. Stitch the Flower 2 Placement Line.</li> <li>Place the Flower 2 Fabric right side up.</li> <li>10. Stitch the Flower 2 Tack-down Line.</li> </ul>	
PAPER TAPE (KDTL10) A Fabric Scrap is 5 x 5" A Fat E A Fat Sixteenth is 9 x 11" A Fat C	Eighth is 9 x 21″	<ul> <li>11. Stitch the Flower 2 Quilting Lines.</li> <li>Trim fabric as desired.</li> <li>12. Stitch the Flower 2 Center Fill.</li> <li>13. Stitch the Leaf 3 Fill.</li> <li>14. Stitch the Leaf 3 Detail.</li> <li>15. Stitch the Flower 3 Placement Line.</li> <li>Place the Flower 3 Fabric right side up.</li> <li>16. Stitch the Flower 3 Tack-down Line.</li> <li>17. Stitch the Flower 3 Quilting Lines.</li> <li>Trim fabric as desired.</li> <li>18. Stitch the Flower 3 Center Fill.</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>19. Stitch the Flower 3 Center Details.</li> <li>Remove project from the hoop.</li> <li>Trim excess stabilizer 1/8" away from the back of the design.</li> <li>Rinse stabilizer in cool water until dissolved.</li> <li>Lay flat to dry. Using a pressing cloth, press well.</li> </ul>	