

Preparing for appliqué

Due to the intricate nature of appliqué, carefully cut out shapes and add interfacing (see p.45) as needed to assist with producing smooth and stable edges. Baste shapes before attaching to reduce shifting.

CUTTING SHAPES

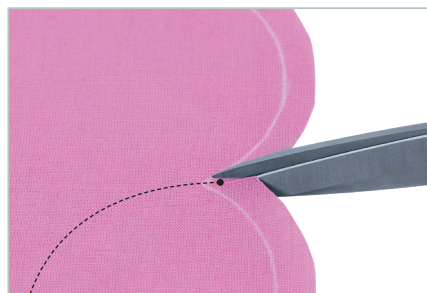
Heavily starch fabric before cutting out appliqué shapes using scissors. When tracing or drawing shapes, add $\frac{1}{8}$ in (6.4mm) seam allowance to the outside of a shape unless preparing for raw edge appliqué.

TRANSFERRING TO FABRIC

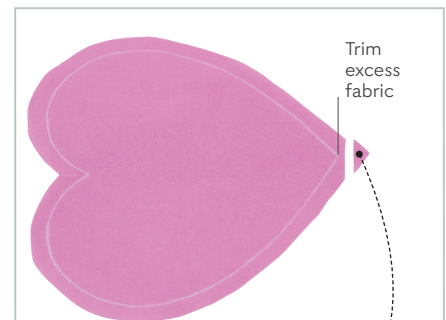


Trace or draw shapes onto template plastic or cardstock (see p.17), using a light box (see p.22) as needed. Orient the shape on the appropriate side of the fabric based on the appliqué technique.

CLIPPING CORNERS



1 Before folding seam allowances under, clip inner corners to allow the seam allowance edges to separate and lay flat. Clip just up to, but not past, the desired seam line.



2 Trim outside corners to reduce bulk when folding seam allowances under. Trim excess fabric approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3.2mm) away from the seam line at the corner.

ATTACHING INTERFACING

Add sew-in or fusible interfacing to provide stability, reduce fraying in raw edge appliqué, and produce smooth edges in prepared edge appliqué. Keep in mind that most interfacing is permanent.

SEW-IN INTERFACING

Trace the appliqué shape onto interfacing and cut out. Place the interfacing on the wrong side of the fabric and pin. Sew slightly less than $\frac{1}{8}$ in (6.4mm) inside the fabric edge to secure the interfacing. Use scissors to trim interfacing $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3.2mm) outside of the stitch line.



FUSIBLE INTERFACING

Trace the appliqué shape onto fusible interfacing and cut out. If folding seam allowances under, cut the interfacing $\frac{1}{8}$ in (6.4mm) smaller than the shape. Place the fusible side of the interfacing onto the wrong side of the shape. Press with a dry iron and allow to cool before handling.

