

# APPLIQUE

## Various techniques for doing applique

1. **Hand applique:** all the stitching is done by hand.
2. **Machine applique:** all the stitching is done by machine.
  - a. **Raw edge:** no edges are turned under. The fabric pieces are stabilized with fusible paper which is ironed onto the back of the fabric. Then the pieces are ironed into position on the background of the block and then stitched down.
  - b. **Turned edge:**
    1. **Needle turned:** The pieces are cut out with a 1/8 inch margin for turning by using the needle to do this as the piece is stitched to the background.
    2. **Hand pressed or ironed:** The pattern pieces are drawn on wax paper and then cut out with a 1/8 inch seam allowance. Seam allowance is then ironed over the wax paper. Wax paper is removed when ready to stitch down. Another way to do this is to glue the edges. A tool called

**Appliquick rods makes it very easy to turn seam allowance.**

- 3. Reversed applique: Two layers of fabric are placed down. The pattern is placed on top and drawn. The shape is cut away leaving a 1/8 " hem which is turned down as it is sewn. The bottom fabric shows through in the shape of the pattern.**
- 4. Three-dimensional applique: a pattern piece is placed on two pieces of fabric which are put together with right sides together. The piece is cut out leaving about a 1/8" seam. The piece is sewn together leaving an opening for turning. It is turned to right sides out. It may or may not be slightly stuffed. It is then placed on the background and attached either part way down on all the way, depending on the design.**

## **THREADS**

**A variety of threads can be used in applique. These are cotton, rayon silk, polyester, wool, and monofilament.**

**Weights may vary from 30/2 up to 100/2 with the heaviest being 30/2.**

**Hand applique is usually done with 60/2 for an invisible look. Monofilament can also be used on top for an invisible look.**

**Monofilament used on the bottom with all weights . This enables you to sew without changing the bobbin thread with every change of color.**

**Thread color can either match the different pieces of applique or one color can be used for everything such as black. This depends on the overall look of the project.**

### **NEEDLES for Machine Applique**

**It is important to use the proper size needle for the thread being used.**

**60/8 is best for embroidery 60 weight embroidery or cotton**

**70/10 is used with 50 weight thread**

**80/12 is used when stitching on heavier fabrics**

**90/14 is used with heavier fabrics and thread**