



Cottage Quilt Designs Tutorials ctg-0G

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Transferring Appliqué Designs to Blocks

Materials needed:

- Appliqué block design
- Light box or tracing paper
- Pencil
- Fabric background block
- Prepared appliqué shapes

Light Box

You can either use a light box sold by various quilting stores or catalogs or make one for yourself. I find that I like to use a larger lighted surface than the size of the light boxes you can purchase. I have an old window saved from when we put new windows in our home. I open the dining room table and remove one of the leaves. Then the window is put on top of the table, centering it over the open space. A lamp is lighted on the floor under the window. After taping my design on the glass I put my fabric background block on top of the design sheet. Then the lines can be clearly seen through the fabric. You can also use a sheet of glass if you don't have an old window. This is a good method to use to mark quilt tops before quilting.

Tracing Paper

To use this method instead of a light box, trace the block design on a square of tracing paper. The square should be the same size as the fabric block so that you can line up the edges and get the design correctly placed inside your block. Pin the top of the paper to the block so that it can be flipped up and down as you add pieces and stitch them down. I like to use this method when there are multiple layers of shapes and the bottom ones hide the lines when a light box is used.

Picking up the first shape to be stitched down, you will slide it between the tracing paper and the background block to where it's under the drawn shape on the tracing paper. Pin the shape to the fabric block with small appliqué pins. Flip back the tracking paper out of your way and stitch down the shape. Repeat

this method to add all the shapes in your block design. Remove the pins from the tracing paper at the top edge. Press the block upside down on a towel with an iron. Trim the block to its finished sized after the block is done.

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