



FREEZER PAPER APPLIQUÉ METHOD

There are different ways of doing fine hand appliqué. What I'm about to describe is what works really well for me.

Here are a few tools I find useful for the prep work.



ONE QUILTING STITCH AT A TIME 2018

My fine hand appliqué is done using Freezer Paper. It's available from most quilt supply shops and online of course. I draw my own designs but there are loads of pattern books you can use with everything all set out for you. Once you have chosen your design you can do one of two things. You can either make templates of the shapes you will need to build your picture or you can trace the shapes. Tip: while tracing your shapes take in consideration any directional patches. For this reason, I prefer to cut templates so that I can flip the templates to trace them onto the Freezer Paper which will produce patches facing the correct direction. Once all the shapes are traced cut the Freezer Paper shapes on the drawn line.

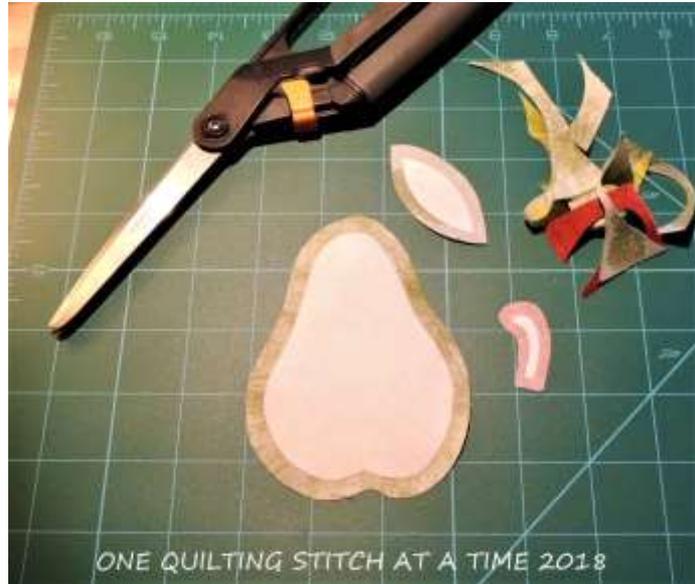
The next step is to choose you fabric for each shape and iron the appropriate shapes onto the wrong side of the fabric.



I place a piece of greaseproof paper between the iron and the Freezer Paper before applying the iron. I hate getting gunk on the sole plate of my iron and the greaseproof paper helps with that issue.



I let everything cool off before I even attempt to cut the fabric patches out. I leave a $\frac{1}{4}$ " margin around the Freezer Paper shape.



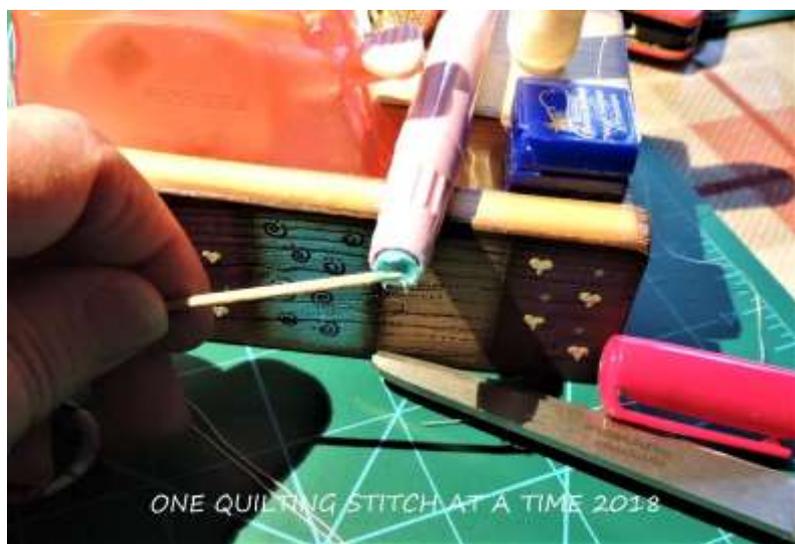
Let's start with the leaf. For me the leaves are the simplest curved shapes to work with. Some curves need clipping but my leaves are mostly convex which is fairly simple to deal with. The most difficult part of the leaf is getting a good point.



The first thing I do is roll the fabric around the back of the Freezer Paper and finger press. Notice that I work with the fabric toward me. Rolling the fabric away from you is easier than rolling it toward you. To get good shapes it's quite important to wrap the fabric around the Freezer Paper snugly. Once you have finger pressed the fabric giving it a preview of what you want to do to it, clip a little bit of the point away. This helps you remove some of the bulk which definitely helps to give you a good point.



Fold the point fabric back toward the centre of the leaf. This is where your glue pen and cocktail stick comes in handy.



This is where your glue pen and cocktail stick comes in handy. Tease a little of the glue onto the cocktail stick and fold the leaf fabric one side over the other, inserting the gluey cocktail stick between the layers of fabric and pinch together and remove the cocktail stick. This will give you a super leaf point.



The next step is with the fabric facing you roll the fabric around the paper edge and sewing all the way around. You don't need to use good thread for this step as this stitching will be removed.



Let's move onto the pear. The pear consists of both convex and concave curves. You will need to do a bit of clipping in the concave curves. Clipping the concave curves helps your pear lay flat and smooth.



Repeat the sewing as you did with the leaf. And you deal with the stalk in the same fashion by clipping the concave curves. Because the stalk is rather small it will be fiddly so you might consider using your glue pen again to hold things in place while you sew it onto the paper.

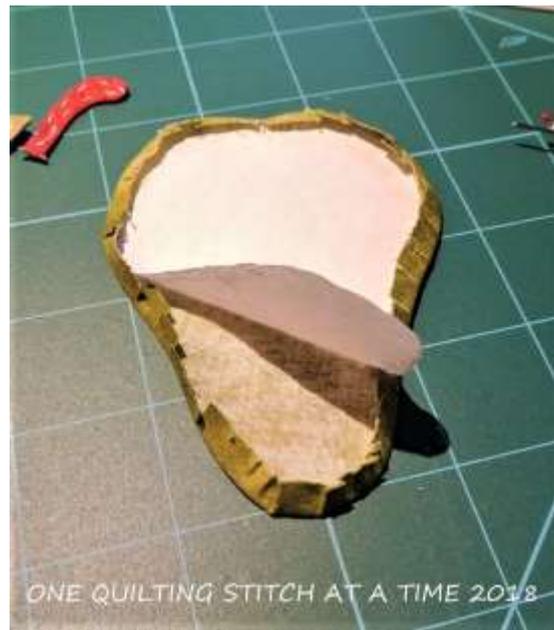


Once all your fabric shapes are tacked to the Freezer Paper you must press the shapes first do the right side and let it cool. Then I turn the shapes and press the wrong side. Let it all cool before you remove the tacking stitches.



When the tacking stitches have been removed you can pull the Freezer Paper. As you can see the fabric has taken on the shape of the patches you require to build your picture.





Now it's time to pin the patches onto your chosen background fabric. If you look really hard at the photo below you can see that I have finger pressed guidelines to help me centre my shapes.



I like to use appliqué pins to pin my patches in place but you can use regular pins. Once you're happy with the placement of your shapes you tack them in place.



Now you're ready to do the fine hand stitching.



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