

Appliqué with the Statler Stitcher

Anita Shackelford 2008

Follow these simple steps to appliqué a quilt, using your Statler Stitcher:

Piece the quilt top in any style. In a traditional layout, the background (appliqué) blocks will be left empty; add the sashes and borders as desired. Appliqués can also float over a wholecloth or a non-traditional background.

Appliqué motifs can be planned to have raw edges for a folk art look, or with fusible behind for a finished edge. Batiks are a good choice for fusible appliqué, because they do not ravel. Cut appliqué fabrics at least 1" larger than the motif to allow for some wiggle room and an edge for trimming.

Load the quilt layers- back, batting, and top - onto the longarm and quilt edge to edge, or custom quilt the sashes and borders. Choose your quilting style and patterns based on the mood of the quilt.

Settings: Turn on Stop at Jump Stitch. 12 spi and a heavier thread will add good texture to the appliqué stitching.

Mark a boundary for the appliqué and place the pattern using Pattern to Boundary. Patterns will stitch motifs beginning with those in the background and progress to those which lie on top of others, with a pause in between each part.

Change thread color as you change fabrics. Chose a color that will show well; darker is usually better.

If necessary, trim the edges of any pieces that lie behind another. DO NOT hit OK until everything is in place.

If you have moved the quilt, use Relocate and crosshairs to be sure of position.

When the appliqué is finished, trim away excess fabric, leaving ¼" for a ragged look, or trim closer for a more refined edge. Use the iron to set the fusible if it was used.

Bind and enjoy!

Anita