Child's Art Embroidered Keepsake
Skill Level: Intermediate



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Transform your child's artwork into a keepsake you can cherish forever! This embroidered wall hanging will preserve the artwork you little ones make.

Materials
8.5" x 11" SF 101 Shape-Flex®
8.5" x 11" Stick-n- Wash Away™
8.5" x 11" Muslin
9" x 12" Wool Felt (Color A)
8.5" x 11" Wool Felt (Color B)
10" x 13" Wool Felt (Color C)
Seed Beads, sequins or buttons
Ribbon

Tools
Grommet/eyelet tool
Sewing Machine
Hand sewing needle
Scissors
Iron
Optional: digital camera or scanner, computer

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Instructions:

Step1: Pick your image. Chose an image that has fairly clean lines. the more intricate the image the more embroidery you will have. The embroidery will look best if it is around 5x7 inches.

Step 2. Cut out Shape-Flex®, Stick-N-Wash Away™, Muslin and Felt.

Step 3. Transfer the artwork to the Stick-N-Wash Away™.

Scale the image to the size you want,, set your printer to print with the lightest (draft) setting, then hand-feed the Stick-N-Wash Away™ through either a laser or inkjet printer so the image comes out on the top (fabric) side (not the paper backing). (To get your child's artwork into your computer, either scan it or take a digital photograph and upload it.) Alternately, if you do not wish to use a printer, you can transfer the image by using a light box, or taping your image to a window and tracing it directly to the fabric side of the Stick-N-Wash Away™.
If you want to embroider the name/age of your little artist, add it to the Stick-N-Wash Away™ now.



Step 4. Adhere the Stick-N-Wash Away™ to the muslin. Peel off the back and stick on – no ironing necessary!

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Step 5. Embroider the artwork. The example show uses simple backstitches. Use whatever embroidery stitches you feel comfortable with. The Stick-N-Wash Away™ is a fabric stabilizer and will provide enough stability so you will not need to use an embroidery hoop.



Step 6. Wash Away! Put the embroidered artwork in a bowl of water and dissolve the Stick-N-Away™ . **Tip: Put a small amount of color catcher in the bowl of water if your embroidery floss is not colorfast.**



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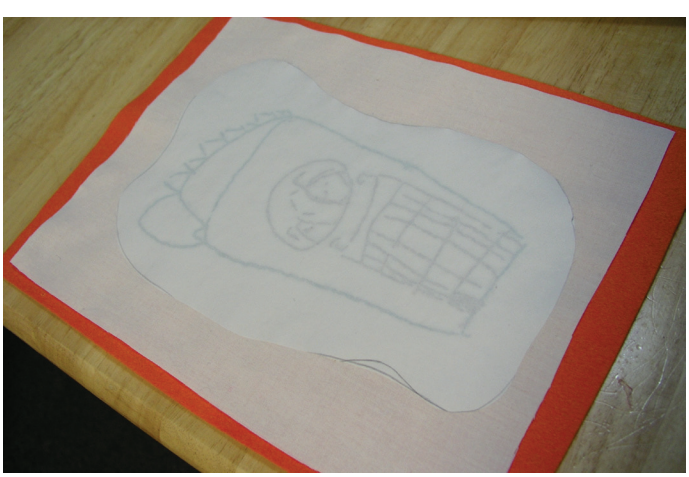
Step 7. Fuse the Shape-Flex® to the middle of the backing piece (Wool Felt - Color C) per instructions on packaging.

Step 8. Trace and cut out a "mat" shape onto the non-shiny side of the freezer paper. The embroidery portion will be double-matted, so give it enough room to have a second mat around it. You can draw the shape freehand, use a scrapbook template or trace around an object.

Step 9. Make sure the freezer paper mat template is centered over the embroidered image, and then iron it to the back of the muslin embroidery (per freezer paper instructions - shiny side facing down).

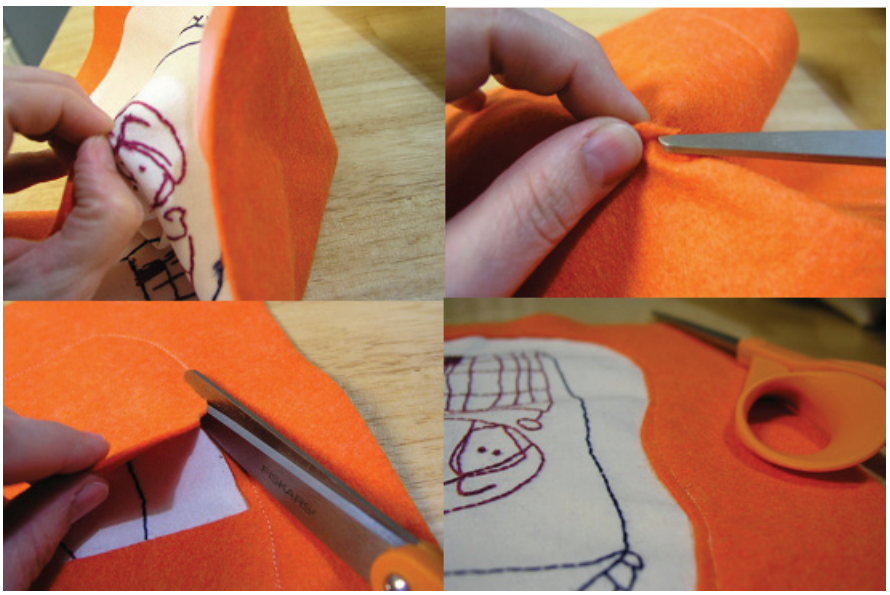


Step 10. Place the Wool Felt (color B) down and center the muslin embroidery, face down, on top of it. This is where you are making the first reverse appliqué mat. Take the felt/muslin (muslin still on top, still face down) to the sewing machine and use the freezer paper as a stitching guide (stitch just outside the freezer paper). Making sure to backstitch, sew all the way around the freezer paper template. Remove freezer paper.



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Step 11. With the two layers sewn together, expose the embroidery. Pinch the middle of the project and pull the layers apart gently. Snip a hole in the middle of the felt piece with scissors, then continue cutting the felt a small bit inside the line of stitching about 1/8".



Step 12. Place exposed embroidery, face down, on top of the Wool Felt (color A). Using the stitching line from the first mat as a guide, stitch approximately ¼-inch outside that line. Backstitch.

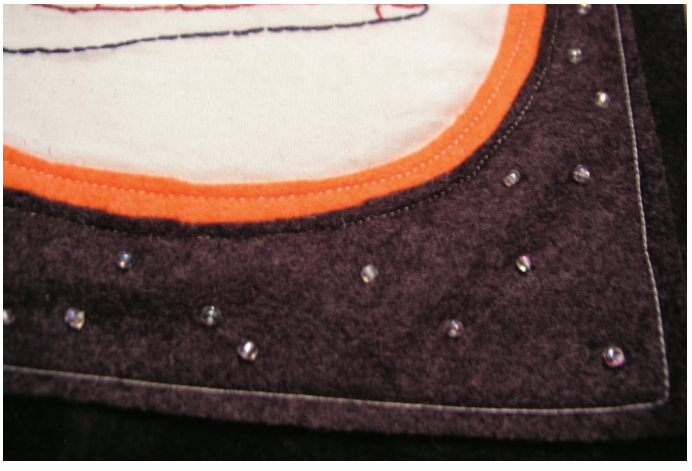
Step 13. Expose the under-layers of fabric by cutting out the reverse appliqué (see step 11) – be careful to ONLY cut the top layer of felt.



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Step 14. Pin the Wool Felt (color C) onto the back of the project (make sure it's centered) and topstitch it all together, using a ¼-inch seam allowance.

Step 15. Embellish your project with the seed beads, sequins or buttons.



Step 16. Using three-ring notebook paper as your hole guide, center two holes, mark and install the eyelets per package instructions. Hang your project with ribbon.





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