

Mini Stocking Ornament – Sequined

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The Mini Sequined Stocking features a metallic rickrack border and a sparkling array of shiny sequins, which are attached with glue after sewing. The completed stocking measures approximately 3.3" x 3.9" (82x 86mm) when finished and stitches up quickly on felt in the 4x4" hoop (100x100mm).



You will need

- Two 4.5" squares of felt in a color of your choice (I have used red)
- Lightweight stabilizer
- Metallic embroidery thread for the "rickrack" trim
- A selection of sequins
- Gem-tak glue or glitter glue for attaching the sequins

Mini Sequined Stocking Ornament Instructions

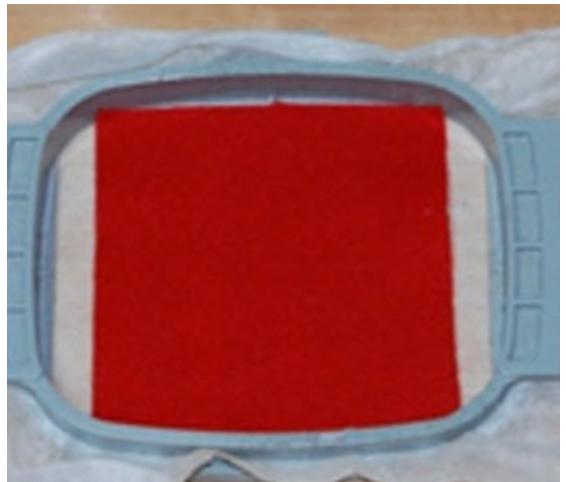
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1. Hoop a single layer of very lightweight stabilizer in the 4x4" hoop. Regular cut-away tends to be too heavy for this project, so you might rather select a lightweight interfacing intended for dressmaking. Tulle or organza can also work as stabilizer for the mini stockings.



In the photos I am using exhausted fabric softener (two sheets stitched together will fit my 4x4" hoop). I find it has just the right heft for the mini stockings. The main thing is to avoid heavier cut-away or tear-away stabilizers, because they are too stiff. The finished stocking needs to be pliable, so that a toy or tiny gift can be inserted when it's finished.

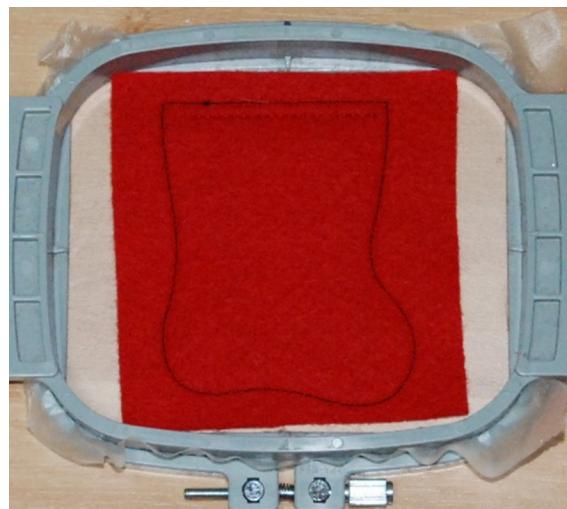
2. With temporary adhesive, lightly spray a piece of coloured felt approximately 4.5"x 4.5" in size; centre it in the hoop. (I am using red felt for the stitch-out).



3. Lightly spray one of the 4.5" felt squares with temporary adhesive and press it into position in the centre of the hoop.



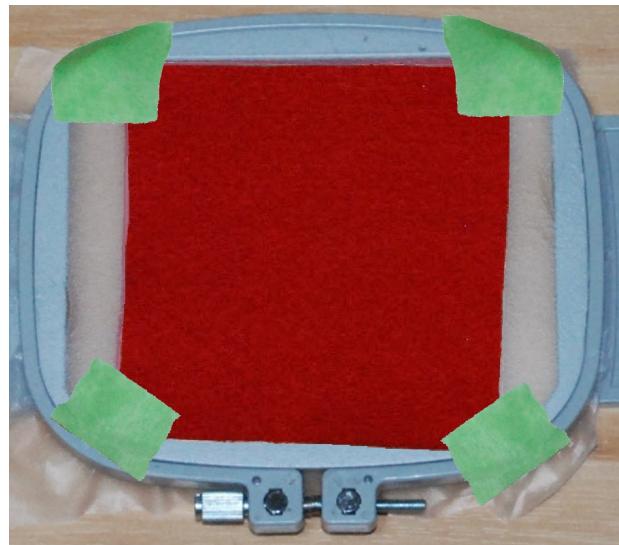
4. Place the hoop in the machine and stitch the first two colours. (There will be two colours left to sew). Pause the machine and remove the hoop, but do not unhoop the design.



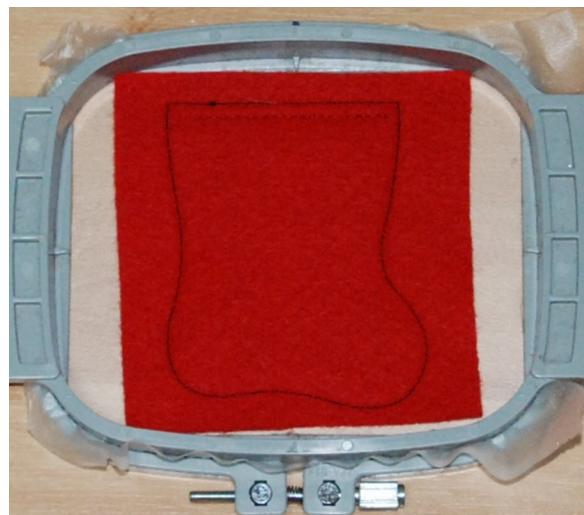
5. Turn the hoop face down. You will be able to clearly see the back of the stitching through the stabilizer.



6. Take the second 4.5" square of felt and lay it on the back of the hoop so that it completely covers the stitching. Tape the corners down using masking tape – do not use adhesive spray.



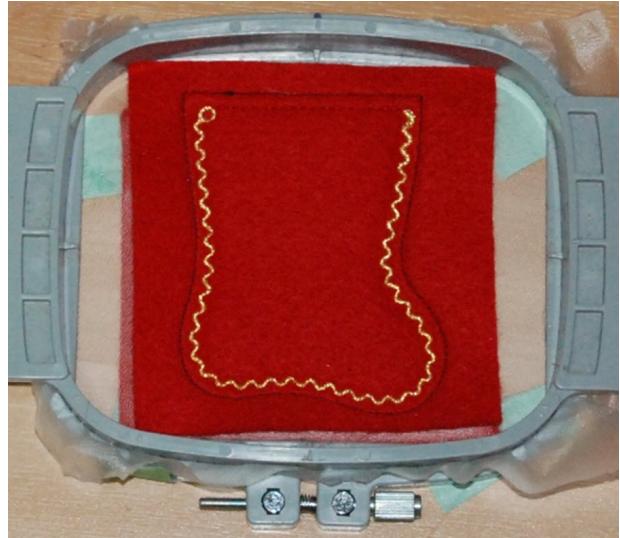
7. Return the hoop to the machine and stitch one more colour. Pause the machine so you can change the bobbin. If you need to remove the hoop to do this, don't unhoop the design.



8. Change the bobbin thread to an appropriate contrasting colour for the final line of stitching. Because I am sewing the "rickrack" outline in metallic gold, I have chosen that same colour thread for the bobbin.



9. Once the bobbin has been changed, carefully replace the hoop in the machine and stitch the final colour, the gold rickrack trim. Remove the hoop from the machine and unhoop the design.



10. With sharp scissors, trim around the edges of the design. The felt, fabric, and stabilizer are all trimmed away in this step. Cut just inside the outer line of stitching, leaving a narrow border of felt around the decorative stitching.



You may find it easier to cut one layer at a time, trimming the front first and then the back. Cut as carefully as you can, as this will be the outside edge of the stocking.

11. The next step is to add sequins, which are applied randomly across the front of the sock. These can be stitched on by hand or attached with a jewel or gem glue. Lay out your sequins in a tray or box cover before you begin.

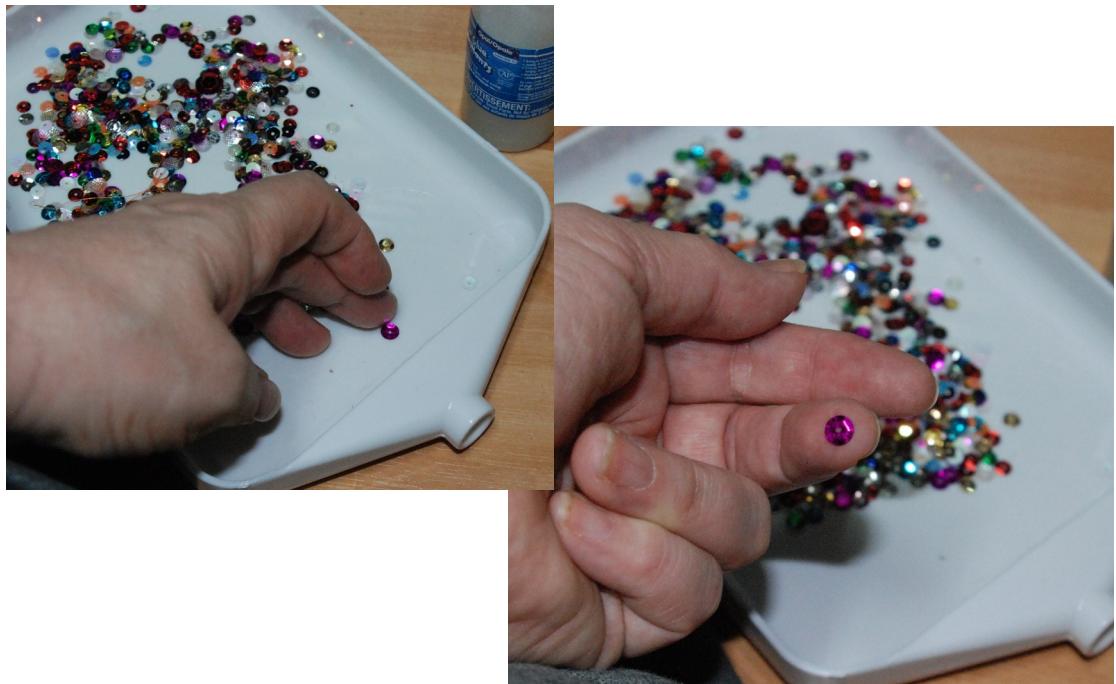


12. If you are attaching the sequins with glue, start by placing small dots of glue randomly on the front of the sock. Cover about 1/3 of the area to begin, and then add the sequins before making more glue dots.



13. When you have set the first group of sequins, add more glue dots. Continue adding sequins and dots until you have as many sequins as you like.

14. To place the sequins, use your finger. Slightly moisten your fingertip, and touch it to the cupped side of a sequin. The sequin will cling to your finger.



15. Touch the sequin to the glue dot and press into place. I have used multi-coloured sequins, but if you prefer you could make them all one colour or even use tone-on-tone (red on red, green on green, etc).



16. I love sequins, so I have used quite a few on the front of this sock ornament. I've also added some star sequins to fill the spaces between the cupped sequins. Because they aren't faceted, the stars don't catch the light as well; I have used fewer of them, but I do like the bit of visual contrast they provide.



NOTE: I used Aleene's Jewel-It to attach the sequins, but I find that even that one doesn't really hold the sequins to the acrylic felt, so I've been in the habit of hand stitching them as well. I usually do the hand stitching at this stage, after the final trimming has been completed; however, it might be possible to stitch them down while the front of the stocking is still in the hoop, before you add the backing piece. If you have a good strong gem glue, this step may not be necessary.

17. To finish off the sock ornament, poke a hole through the stitched eyelet using a stylus or just the point of a small scissors. Add a string or hanging hook and place a little mini toy inside.



18. The Sequined Mini Stocking ornament looks great in a variety of colours, and with almost any of the tiny toys inside.



A Gallery of Mini Stocking Ornaments

Top row: This tuxedo cat looks pretty fancy in the sequined stocking; a sports logo sock, personalized for the recipient.

Middle row: A “zigzag” stocking and Snoopy, personalized; an Eaton’s stocking brings a touch of Canadian nostalgia.

Bottom row: The holly swirl stocking is home to a stuffed candy cane ; the vintage snowman sock is a small-scale replica of the real stocking that my sister had when she was a child.

Below: Harry’s Griffindor stocking contains an owl toy.

