

# Cathedral Window Style Ornament

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The Cathedral Window ornament stitches in the 4x4" (100x100mm) hoop and requires only a small amount of handsewing to close up the ornament after turning, and to sew on the buttons. The embroidery on this ornament takes about 17 minutes; the hand finishing takes only a few minutes more.



I also like to machine-quilt my ornament by stitching around the satin borders on the petals. This optional step takes only a minute or two, but I think it gives the ornament a more finished look. You can choose not to do this step if you like.

## *You will need*

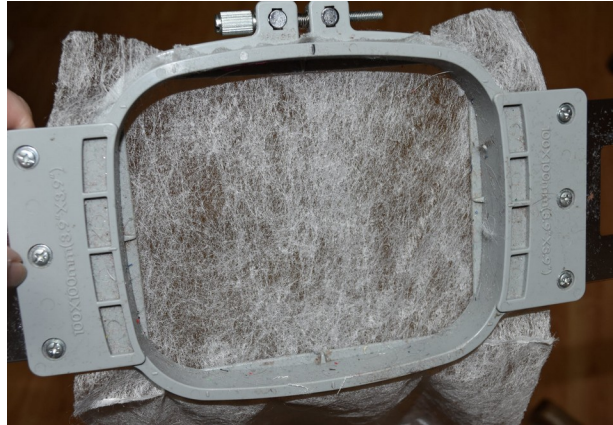
- *Two 4" squares of print fabric (I've used green plaid in the sample)*
- *Scraps of a second print fabric (the holly print in my sample)*
- *Small amount of lightweight fleece or felt (approx 4" x 7")*
- *Lightweight stabilizer*
- *String or narrow ribbon for hanging loop*
- *Two buttons in coordinating colors*

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## Instructions

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1. Hoop a single layer of lightweight stabilizer in the 4x4" hoop.



2. Lightly spray a 4x4" piece of lightweight fleece or felt with temporary adhesive and adhere it to the center of the stabilizer. I am using a piece of black fleece left over from another project.



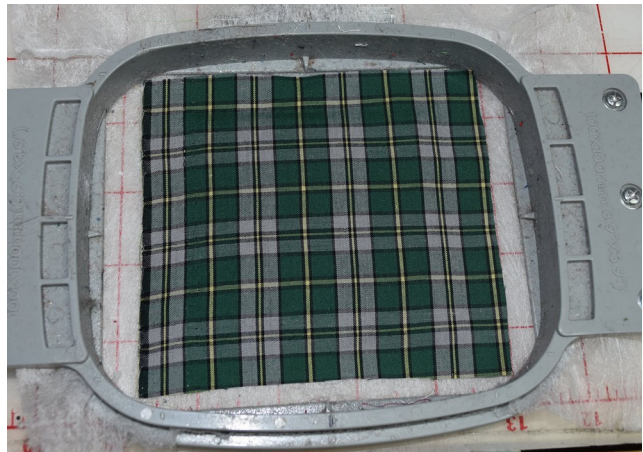
3. Place the hoop in the machine and stitch the first color. Pause the machine and remove the hoop, but do not unhoop the design.



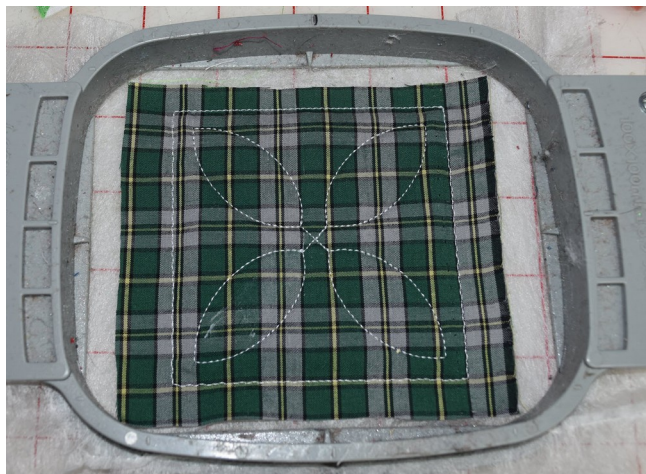
4. Carefully trim the fleece/felt just outside of the stitching line, coming as close to the stitching as you can without snipping the stitches. I use bent-handle scissors for this, although a sharp pair of curved nail scissors may also work.



5. Lightly spray one 4x4" square of the print fabric and press it in position over the fleece. Return the hoop to the machine and stitch the next color.



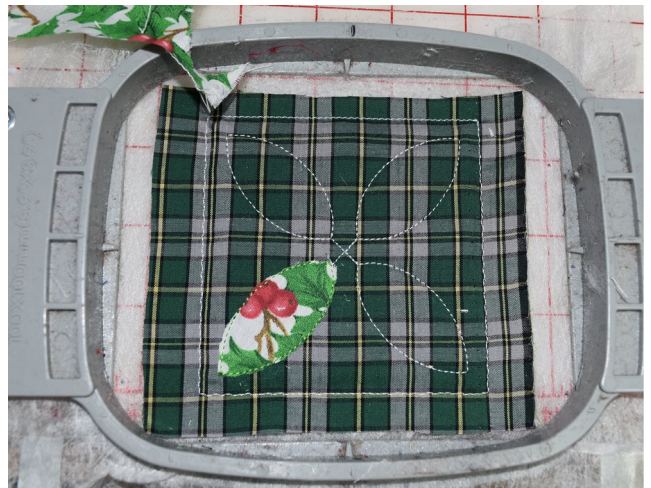
6. Pause the machine and again remove the hoop without unhooping the design. Here you can see the stitched outline and the guidelines for placing the applique fabric.



7. Lightly spray a small scrap of the applique fabric and position it over the lower left petal shape so that it covers the outline completely. Return the hoop to the machine and stitch the next color.



8. Stop the machine and remove the hoop, again without unhooping the design. Carefully trim the applique piece just outside the stitching line, coming as close to the stitching as you can without snipping the stitches.



9. Repeat steps 6 and 7 for the remaining three petals, removing the hoop and trimming after each one stitches. The completed appliques should look like the example.



10. Return the hoop to the machine and stitch the next color, which is the satin stitch border around the petals.

Pause the machine and remove the hoop.



11. Cover the design with the remaining square of print fabric. If you like, you can tape the corners with masking tape to hold it in position. Return the hoop to the machine and stitch the final color.



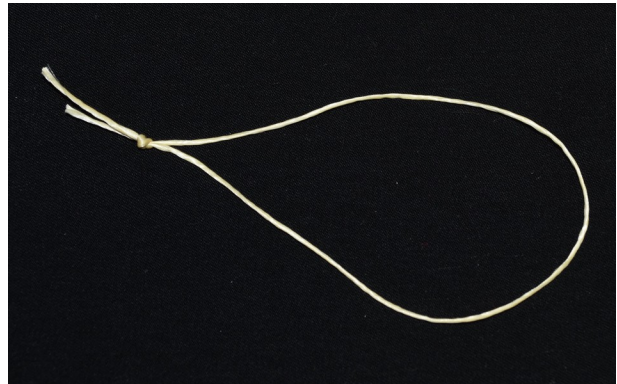
12. Unhoop the design and trim around three sides, leaving a border of about 1/8". Leave the side next to the opening untrimmed.



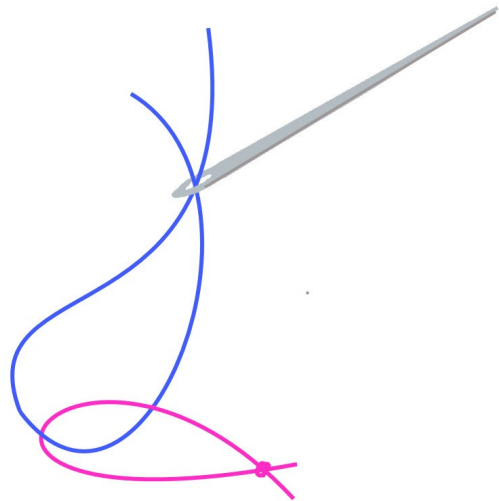
13. Turn the ornament right side out through the opening, pushing out the corners with a dowel or chopstick. Fold in the edges of the opening and finger press.



14. At this stage I like to add a hanging loop. Cut a string about 8" long, form a loop and knot the end. You will need to draw this loop up through the inside and out through one corner of the ornament.



15. Pass a length of lightweight fishing line (blue in the diagram) through the knotted hanging string, as shown. Take both ends of the fishing line and thread them through a large needle. You will be able to use this device to insert the hanging loop in one corner of the ornament.



16. Run the large needle through the opening in the side of the ornament, and out through one corner. Pull the string all the way through, so that the loop emerges and the knot catches on the inside.



I actually dislike hanging ornaments on my tree with string, so I have made my loop quite short so I can attach an ornament hook.



17. Before stitching up the opening, I like to add a second layer of fleece to the inside of the ornament. Cut a square of fleece slightly smaller than the finished ornament so it will fit inside without wrinkling.



18. Tuck the second piece of fleece inside the ornament, then smooth it so lies flat.



19. Close the opening in the side of the ornament using hand stitches.

20. I like to machine-quilt the finished ornament, stitching around each of the petals using invisible (nylon) thread. This extra step is optional, but it gives the ornament additional dimension and helps secure the second layer of fleece.



I generally use invisible (nylon) thread to do the quilting, but a coordinating thread would also be nice.

Follow the edge of the satin border of each petal, creating a quilted outline of each on the back of the ornament, as you can see here.



21. Once the quilting is complete, I hand-sew coordinating buttons to the center of the ornament on both front and back.

The buttons needn't be identical, but the hole spacing should be the same so you can stitch through both at once without difficulty.



The finished ornaments, front and back.

I have loads of single buttons in my stash, and I have used two different buttons for front and back.



Changing the applique fabric and button color creates a nice variation even when the base fabric is the same.



This purple ornament features a ribbon for hanging, instead of the small loop I used on the green ones.

