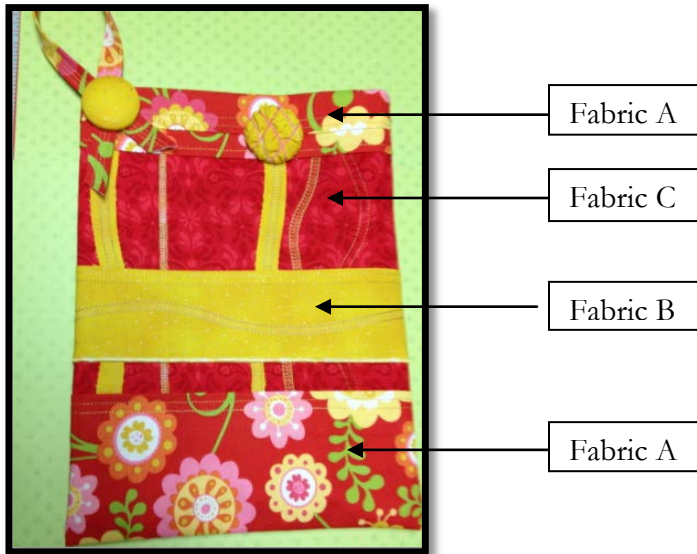


## Serger Applique Instructions for Creative Handbag

By Cheryl Stranges



What a wonderful way to explore Serger techniques with creativity and Serger Applique is as exciting as it gets. This appliqué technique can be used on any project you choose. Handbags are great to embellish because each time you can create something unique. We will be using many different stitch techniques, such as; 4 thread overcast, 3 Thread Rolled Edge, Coverstitch wide, 3 Thread Flatlock, Chainstitch, plus the Belt Loop Foot and Clear Coverstitch Foot.

### Sewing Supplies

- INSPIRA® 4 ½” Opposable Tweezers curved 620103896
- INSPIRA® 8” Bent Trimmer 620102996
- INSPIRA® Clear Coverstitch Foot 620096896
- INSPIRA® Strap and Belt Loop Foot 620097196
- INSPIRA® 6” Applique scissors 620102696
- INSPIRA® Overlock needles, size 90 620106996

- INSPIRA® Fusible No Show Mesh 620097601
- INSPIRA® Fabric Magic 320003596
- INSPIRA® Stick N Fuse II ¼” 620133196
- INSPIRA® Fusible Web 620133496
- INSPIRA® Fast & Easy Tear Away 620113096
- Fabric A – 1 Fat Quarter for upper and lower bands
- Fabric B – ¼ yard for center band, stem, handles and button
- Fabric C – 1 Fat Quarter for middle of bag
- General Construction 4 cone threads to co-ordinate with Fabric B
- Sulky 30wt Blendables to coordinate with 4 cone threads above
- Signature variegated thread to contrast with fabric B
- Polyester thread to match above thread
- Seam Ripper w/3 Replacement Blades 620103296
- Trucut Large Cutting mat 24” x 36” 143100010
- Trucut Non-skid pad 24” x 36” 14300022
- Trucut Rotary cutter 143100015
- Trucut Ruler 6.5 x 24.5” 700000301
- (2) 1 ½” covered buttons
- Hem gauge ruler
- Marking tools
- 1 Mary Ellen’s Best Press Spray scent free
- Pins
- Hand sewing needle

## Cut

### Fabric A

- 20”L x 22”W
- 1”L x 12”W Cut after all of the folds have been established on your fat quarter

## Fabric B

- 3”L x 42”W
- 2- 5”L x 5”W

## Fabric C

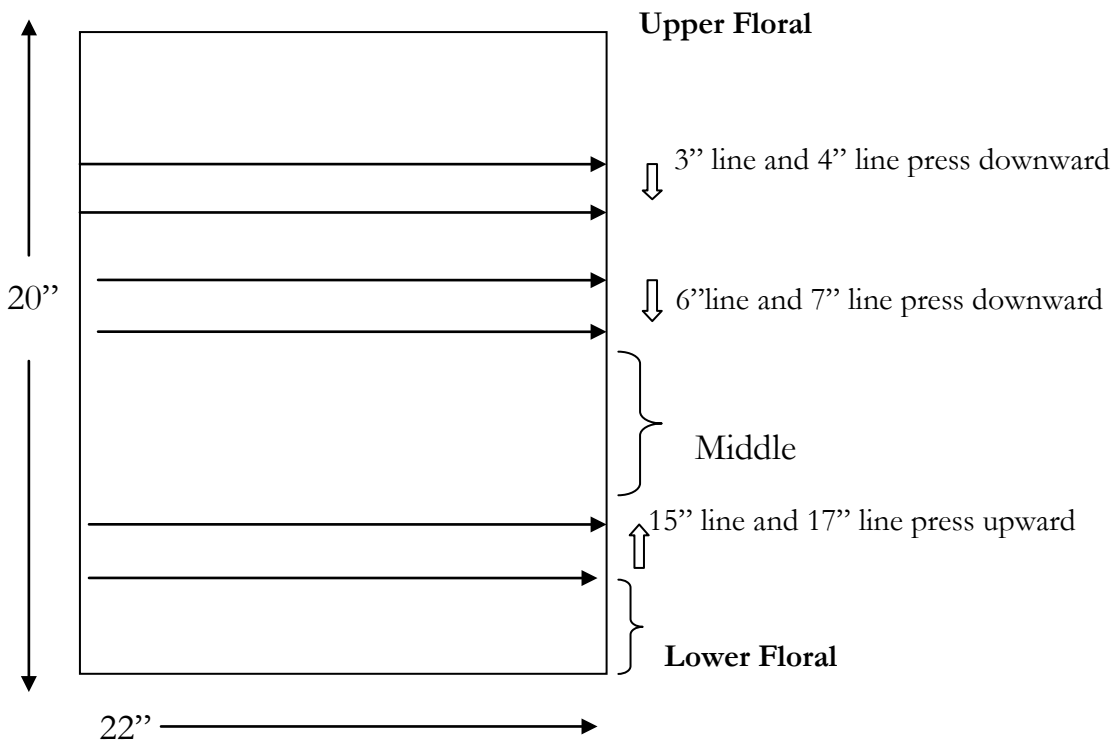
- 9”L x 20”W (This piece will be trimmed to size later in the project)

## Stabilizer

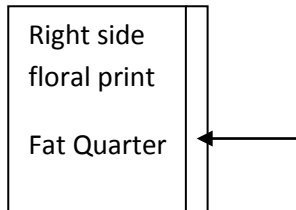
- Inspira™ No Show Fusible Mesh 27” x 12”
- Inspira™ Fabric Magic 6” x 6”
- Inspira™ Fusible Web 12” x 6”
- Inspira™ Fast & Easy Tear Away 9” x 20”

## Prepare

### Fabric A - Fat Quarter Sectioned



1. Cut a strip 1”W x 20” L from the right edge of your fat quarter after you have pressed your lines. From this piece – cut 1”W x 12”L., set aside to be used for your strap.



## Middle Section Embellishment

Place the 9” x 20” INSPIRA® Fast & Easy Tear Away stabilizer onto the wrong side of this cotton middle section.

2. Draw a few wavy lines to represent stems on the stabilizer but the stems should be no wider than 3” in the width of the wave
3. Using coverstitch wide, stitch wavy stems on the right side of the mid-section.
4. Place a piece of stem with fusible web onto the right side of the mid-section. Do not fuse onto the middle section.
5. Using the coverstitch wide, stitch the stem onto the fabric, with the stem piece on the right side of the middle section
6. When complete, using appliqué scissors, trim stem close to the stitching with about 1/4” on each side of the stitching left. Complete stems then press the stem. This will prevent fray on the raw edge serger appliqué.



Applique Scissors

- Continue with an assortment of coverstitched stems without the stem fabrics, as embellishment on both the right and wrong side of the mid section.



- Stems and coverstitch embellishment (Cut to assorted sizes)
- Cut 3" x 20" from long jelly roll strip.
- Fold over upper edge of this cut piece 1/2" approx and press.
- Place Fusible web strip on wrong side of upper folded edge.
- Press fusible web, and then remove paper side.
- Use a rolled edge application along the other unfinished edge using Sulky Blendable thread for embellishment.



Coverstitch wide

Rolled Edge

- Take this strip and stitch a coverstitch wide on the wrong side of the fabric and a wavy motion down the middle of the strip.
- Audition the strip onto your Middle section after all of coverstitched embellishments are complete.
- Fuse the strip in place.
- Using a coverstitch wide on the right side of band, stitch this in place.



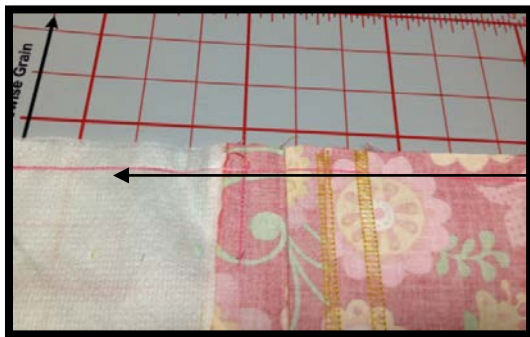
## Lining your Project



Chainstitch or 4 thread serge along the upper edge with the Fusible side of the stabilizer facing you



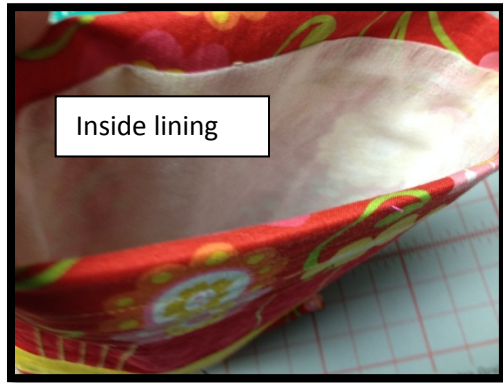
Use the INSPIRA® stabilizer just as you would a lining fabric. Stitch around all outer edges and leave 3" opening at bottom of stabilizer to turn



Use chainstitching to construct your seams



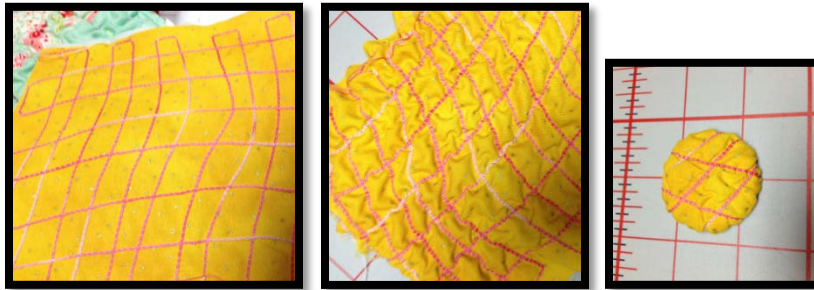
When the INSPIRA® Stabilizer is turned to the inside it will be approx 1/2" from upper edge. Press



## Covered button

Place your fabric magic behind your 5" x 5" Fabric B piece.

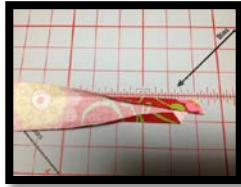
18. Using a chain stitch on the INSPIRA® Fabric Magic side stitch a multitude of rows crossing each other.



19. When complete, hover a steam iron over the surface. The fabric will show texture and shrink up to 30%. This will be used to create your covered button
20. Do this for one button. The second button will be done without fabric magic.
21. See covered button manufacturer's instructions for construction.

## Handle

22. Use the 1" x 12" strip of cotton print floral piece for a strap for your handbag.
23. Strip should be approx 1" wide



24. Cut the end of the strip on an angle, feed into your belt loop foot and using a coverstitch wide, stitch the strip and cut to desired length.



Strap Placement

25. Hand stitch each button in place, and machine or hand stitch strap onto edge of handbag

*Thanks so much for attending today. We hope you enjoyed our class*