

# Professor T.H. Read's

## ★Lessons in Carefree Embroidery★



### All About Appliqués

**Appliqués** offer an unlimited number of looks and textures on an embroidery design while reducing the stitch count. This factor makes many embroiderers explore appliqués as another option.

1. The guide stitch shows you where to put your cut appliqué shape.	1.		
2. Place the cut appliqué shape (with Bemis Hot Melt Adhesive Film 6242) into the space indicated by the "guide stitch" with an appliqué iron or a regular iron. Tack piece into position.	2.		
3. With the piece in position, sew the "tack down stitch" which will securely hold it in the final stitching phase.	3.		
4. The "column/satin stitch" is sewn next and will cover the edge of the appliqué and the "tack down stitch" in one operation, completing the appliqué procedure.	4.		

### Instructions for Use:

When running an appliqué, the first order of business is the "guide stitch". This stitch outlines the edge of the cut appliqué shape. Once this is sewn, tack down the appliqué material in its proper position. Please note that the use of a hot melt adhesive film such as BEMIS 6242 adds considerable stability. A quick low pressure tack prepares the appliqué material for subsequent stitching.

Once the appliqué material has been affixed with an iron, the piece is ready for the "tack down" stitch (a running stitch or a zigzag stitch slightly narrower than the column/satin stitch which finishes the appliqué process). This stitch is positioned on the the outside edge of the column, satin or zigzag stitch which sews next and will cover both the guide and tack down stitches.

Have you ever wondered how the proper shape of an appliqué is cut? For short runs, run the "guide stitch" portion of the design on card stock using a broken needle. This will punch visible holes of the shape of the design and serve as a template. Trace the outline onto the appliqué material and cut it out. For longer runs, the expense of having a die cut to fit the appliqué should be considered. There are some companies that will digitize and precut materials specifically for appliqué projects. Call your customer service representative for more information.



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