



## DESIGN AND DISCOVER

with Madeira Thread



### Dreamy Snowman Pieced & Embroidered Pillow



Brighten any winter's day with this fun and whimsical pillow. The friendly snowman is pieced together and the phrasing is embroidered. You'll combine your love of applique, piecing and embroidery all in one fun home decor project.

**Skill Level:** Confident beginner to intermediate

**Created by:** Karen Parker, Ambassador of Education

**Supplies:**

Sewing and embroidery machine

9.5" x 14" embroidery hoop

Poly-fil

Temporary Spray Adhesive

Chalk or fabric marker

Ruler

Madeira Lana Brush or small stiff wire brush

1 yard of 1/8" cording

Cotton fabrics suitable for quilting:

Dark blue, one piece 15" x 5.5"

Light blue, two pieces 15" x 4"

Mitten and Hat applique, one piece 6" x 6"

Snowman Face, one piece 4.5" x 3" Note: you may need to add a layer of fusible interfacing to this piece before using to keep the dark blue fabric from showing through.

Scarf, one piece 6" x 4" Note: A striped fabric is very effective.

Pillow Front Border fabric, 2 pieces 3" x 15"

Pillow Back, one piece 15" x 15" Note: Pillow Front Border and Pillow Back can be the same fabric.

Fabric to cover cording, one piece 1.5" x 36"

Medium Weight Cut Away Stabilizer

Cotton batting, 2 pieces 15" x 15"

Fabric starch

Madeira Rayon thread

Madeira Lana thread

Madeira Heavy Metal thread

Madeira Metallic Supertwist thread

Madeira Aerofil (for pillow construction)

Madeira universal need, size 80/12 for Rayon thread

Madeira needle size 100/16 or 110/18 for embroidery with Lana

Madeira needle size 90/14 for metallic threads. Note: For the Lana and metallic threads a large eye needle is recommended. It is important to reduce machine speed. The tension may need to be lowered. A test stitch out is recommended.

Embroidery file included with these instructions

Layout Diagram included with these instructions. Please refer to it whenever needed.

**Note:** We used a large embroidery hoop (9.5" x 14"). If you do not have a hoop this size, you can resize the file on your machine or in embroidery file editing software or can follow the directions to create continuous embroidery on your machine.

## Instructions:

- 1) Cut and starch all fabrics.
- 2) Hoop the stabilizer only.
- 3) Prepare machine for embroidery. Open the *Dreamy Snowman Pillow* embroidery file.
- 4) Continue with the following color stop instructions.
  - a) Color stop 1 is the perimeter of the embroidery design.
  - b) Color stop 2 is the placement area for the dark blue fabric. Carefully center the dark blue fabric between the placement lines. Use a little temporary adhesive spray if needed.
  - c) Align one long edge of a light blue fabric piece with the right long edge of the dark blue fabric, RST (right sides together). Now stitch color stop 3. Flip light blue fabric and finger press.
  - d) Align a long edge of the second light blue fabric piece with the left long edge of the dark blue fabric, RST. Now stitch color stop 4. Flip light blue fabric and finger press.
  - e) Color stop 5 is the decorative stitching on top of the seam lines from steps c and d.
  - f) Color stop 6 is the placement line for the snowman face.
  - g) Position the fabric for the snowman face over the placement line and then stitch color stop 7 which is the tack down. Trim excess fabric from the applique.
  - h) Color stop 8, rosy snowman cheeks.
  - i) Color stop 9, snowman smile. This can be the same color as the rosy cheeks.
  - j) Color stop 10, blue eyes.
  - k) Color stop 11, eye details and brows.
  - l) Color stop 12, eye highlights and small area of cover stitch on snowman face. The remainder of the raw edges of the face fabric will be covered in later steps.
  - m) Color stop 13, carrot nose.
  - n) Refer to the Layout Diagram. Color stop 14, placement line for scarf section A. After stitching, place the scarf applique fabric over the placement line. Stitch color stop 15, the tack down. Trim excess applique fabric.
  - o) Color stop 16, placement line for scarf section B. After stitching, place the scarf applique fabric over the placement line. Stitch color stop 17, the tack down. Trim excess applique fabric.
  - p) Color stop 18, placement line for scarf section C. After stitching, place the scarf applique fabric over the placement line. Stitch color stop 19, the

tack down. Trim excess applique fabric. Color stop 20 is the cover stitch for the entire scarf applique.

q) Color stop 21, placement line for mitten. After stitching, place the mitten applique fabric over the placement line. Stitch color stop 22, the tack down. Color stop 23 is the cover stitch for the mitten applique.

r) Color stop 24, placement line for hat. After stitching, place the hat applique fabric over the placement line. Stitch color stop 25, the tack down. Trim excess applique fabric. Color stop 26 is the cover stitch for the hat applique.

s) Color stop 27, fur band and fur ball on the hat. Use Lana thread and change to 100/16 or 110/18 needle.

t) Color stop 28, snowflakes and lettering (refer to snowman diagram). Use metallic thread and a 90/14 needle.

u) Color stop 29, remainder of lettering. Use Rayon thread.

v) Remove hoop from the machine. Now is a good time to use the wire brush to raise the fibers of the Lana thread to create a "fur" appearance on the fur band and fur ball.

- 5) Remove embroidery from the hoop and press carefully. Square and trim to 15" W x 10.5" L. Put aside.
- 6) Cover the cording using your favorite method. Cut the cording into 2 equal pieces. Put aside.
- 7) Center the embroidered fabric on the 15" x 15" batting piece. Use a little temporary adhesive spray if needed. Align a piece of covered cording along one long edge of the light blue fabric and baste. Repeat with remaining covered cording piece and the other long edge of the light blue fabric.
- 8) Align one long edge of a Pillow Front Border fabric piece with the long edge of the light blue fabric/covered cording unit, RST. Stitch through all layers. Flip the Pillow Front Border fabric piece and press. Repeat with the remaining Pillow Front Border fabric piece and remaining edge of light blue fabric/covered cording unit.
- 9) Square and trim to 15" x 15".
- 10) Place Pillow Back piece wrong side to batting piece. Baste the perimeter at  $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- 11) Place the Pillow front unit RST with the pillow back unit. Stitch the perimeter with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, leaving an opening for turning.
- 12) Turn right side out through the opening. Carefully fill with the Poly-fil.
- 13) Hand stitch the opening to close.

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