

Wren ★ Feathers

Sewing Tips and Techniques: Madeira Appliqué made easy

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I assume you have basic sewing knowledge and the explanation should suffice, but if you need help please email me!
Quarter inch seams allowed unless otherwise specified.

Real Madeira appliqué is quite a time-consuming process. Years ago when I learned a supposedly easier version of the technique, it was to sew your scallops to scrap fabric, clip, turn, and press, and then rip away the scrap fabric and hand sew the scallops to the dress, praying the whole time that you didn't slip with the seam ripper or clip too closely and get stray threads poking up.

This is a MUCH faster way to add a touch of "heirloom" to anything, but don't stop there! Instead of these delicate pastels, jazz up anything – dresses, tops, pants - with a fun bit of color or contrasting print on the bottom. Scrapbooking, papercrafting, or quilting templates will give you ideas beyond the basic scallop.

If you like this, you may also like: <http://jenwrenne.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/dresden-quilt-april-2013.pdf>

It's a similar appliqué-made-easy technique applied to a vintage quilt.



Machine smocking, hand embroidery and Easy Madeira hem on 18" MyTwinn. (AG size)

Pattern was the LGG "Daydream" available here: https://www.etsy.com/listing/167592993/heirloom-sewing-pattern-set-for-18-dolls?ref=shop_home_active_21

Or here: https://www.etsy.com/listing/114542953/heirloom-sewing-pattern-set-for-kidz-n?ref=shop_home_active_3

You could also do this with the **2014 Sew-along week 2 pattern** by decreasing the neck size and making sleeves puffier (https://www.etsy.com/listing/192604949/basic-puff-sleeve-blousedress-for?ref=shop_home_active_10)



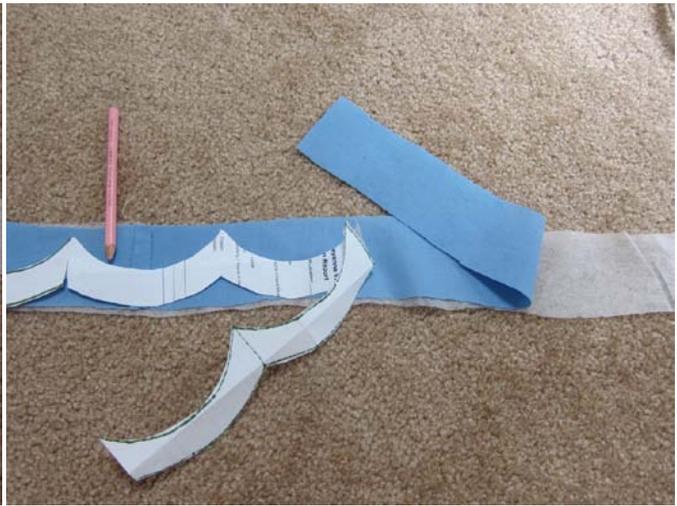
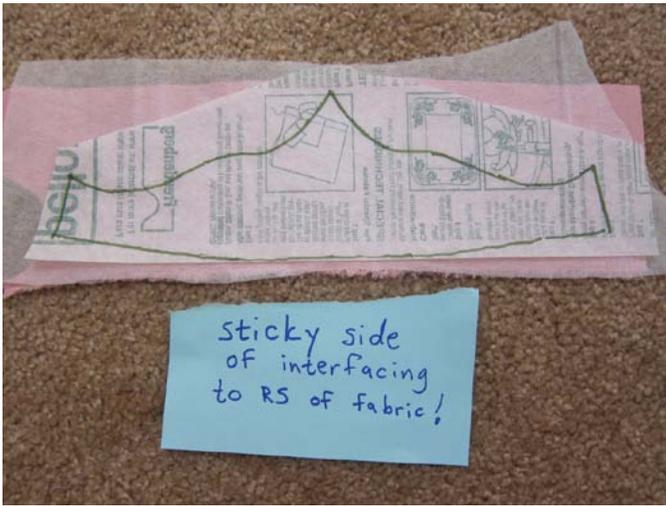
An “heirloom” version of the Summer Sew-Along week 5 pattern. (Adorable A-line). If you weren’t in the sew-along, get it here: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/jenwrenne>

Machine embroidery with faux bullion roses available in AG size FREE here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/upgthdtjffe4i2t/adorable%20aline%20heirloom%20version%20broderie.pes>

If you’re shrinking for smaller dolls, I’d suggest NOT reducing the size of the flowers much, just decreasing the length of the vine, otherwise the flowers may get too dense. I used DMC 100% cotton thread to embroider. It’s subtle, but the lack of sheen looks more “handmade” than rayon thread.

Use the lightest weight fusible interfacing you have and **DO NOT** iron it until directed.



Trace your design onto tissue or regular paper. Draw design onto wrong side of main fabric or sew directly through tissue. Sew together on guidelines with sticky (fusible) side of interfacing to right side of fabric.

Get scallop templates here: <http://jenwrenne.files.wordpress.com/2013/06/pleats-and-pockets-heirloom-variation.pdf>



Trim with pinking shears



When turning, make sure your turning tool is pushing the fabric, not the interfacing, or it's likely to poke through.

Turn and press by hand or crease with a turning tool but **DO NOT IRON!**

In this photo the right side is facing you, and the sticky side of the interfacing is down.



Sew the **RIGHT SIDE** of your appliqué to the **WRONG SIDE** of your dress. Trim and turn to right side of dress. **NOW you can iron it!** 😊 Arrange and press appliqué piece nicely down to dress. Take your time - once you've pressed it's fused!



Use a running stitch or your appliqué stitch (should look like this ...l...l...l) to sew edges down. You might also like to try buttonhole stitch or another decorative one like feather stitching...maybe in a contrasting color?



If you're not doing it on both sides of the A-line dress, make sure to line up the sides and press up back hem accordingly so both sides match perfectly.