# APPLIQUÉ WITH SATIN STITCHING

SHANNON BRINKLEY



#### THE PERFECT SATIN STITCH

Ideally your satin stitch should be smooth and gap-free. Curves and points can be problematic at first, but use these guidelines below, and you will soon master the satin stitch!

#### **STITCH SETTINGS**

Choose a satin stitch or, if your machine doesn't have one, the zig-zag stitch.

Stitch width: 2.4 - 3.5mm (I start with 2.7 and adjust up or down as desired)

Stitch length: 0.5 - 0.8mm (I start with .7 and adjust as needed)

#### **TURNING YOUR WORK**

With any zig-zag stitch, turning your work can be tricky as the needle may zag in the opposite direction you'd like. Also, when turning your work around curves or in corners, if the needle is not in the right position when you turn, gaps may appear in the otherwise dense satin stitch. To avoid that, you'll need to pay attention to the needle position when turning.

- When turning work to the right (clockwise), your needle should first be down on the left
- When turning work to the left (counter-clockwise), needle down on the right
- Raise and lower the needle manually to ensure your stitch will start exactly where you'd like.

#### **GENTLE CURVES**

When going around a gentle curve, simply turn the fabric as you sew.

#### **SHARPER CURVES**

Sharper curves are trickier. You want the curve to look smooth and to not have noticeable points where you've stopped and started.

To achieve this:

- 1. Stitch a few stitches
- 2. Stop with needle down
- 3. Turn work 45 degrees
- 4. Repeat steps 1-3 until around curve

#### POINTS

For points, simply sew to the end of the point, stop with needle down, turn work, and begin in the new direction.



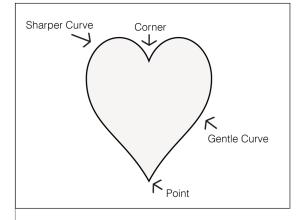
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## FRESH QUILTING

#### CORNERS

Corners are a bit trickier. When you reach a corner:

- 1. Sew to the corner
- 2. Sew a few stitches past the corner (the width of your satin stitch)
- 3. Stop with needle down and turn your work
- 4. Continue sewing in new direction.





For more tutorials, patterns, and Shannon's Scrappy Appliqué Class, visit shannon-brinkley.com

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