

Using the Aloha Hibiscus Pattern to Attract Customers and Increase Sales

Classes

The **Aloha Hibiscus** Table Runner or Pillow makes a great demonstration or class project. There are several ways that you can teach this technique:

Demonstration — 10 minutes

Demonstrate the procedure for using Charlotte's Web fusible thread for appliqué.

In another demo, show how to foundation paper piece one section of the border.

Watch (or show) the Fusible Thread Video Tutorials available at my website: www.byannie.com/tutorials/

Make and Take — time per person about 30 minutes

Provide premarked flowers and leaves and 12" backgrounds. Set up machines with Charlotte's Web fusible thread and MonoPoly. Let participants see how easy it is to apply the fusible thread and then fuse the shapes to their background.

Aloha Hibiscus Table Runner Class — suggested time 4 to 6 hours

In this class, students will learn a great technique for fusible appliqué as well as easy steps for foundation paper piecing.

A 4-hour class is sufficient for students to understand the process and get a good start on the project; in a 6-hour class, many will have the flowers and leaves fused in place and be started on the decorative stitching.

To save time in class, I suggest that students have their fabrics cut out before coming to class.

Class Supply Lists and a class outline follow.

You might also schedule a follow-up Machine Quilting class for students to quilt their table runners. This project is the perfect size for learning to baste, stitch in the ditch, and free motion quilt.

How about a Binding class, too?

Possible Class description:

Learn a great new technique for fusible appliqué as you make a project that is full of aloha. Have no fear — appliqué is easy using this method. You'll love having a project without the stiffness or flatness that often results when using traditional fusible products. Come play with threads to embellish your project and make it even better.

Other supplies

Customers will need a number of products as they make the Aloha Hibiscus Table Runner or Pillow. Be sure to showcase a sample of the project (check with Annie for a trunk show) near the pattern and suggested fabrics or kits. You'll also want to have these products nearby:

- Template plastic
- Mechanical pencils with white and colored leads
- Sandpaper board for tracing appliqué shapes
- Threads (see below)
- #70/10 and #90/14 Superior Topstitch Needles
- Sharp scissors such as Fiskars Soft Touch scissors
- Pressing mat and irons
- Thin flexible ruler for folding paper piecing pattern
- Washable glue sticks
- Add-A-Quarter rulers
- Revolving cutting mats, rotary cutters, rulers
- Quilting pins
- Stiletto
- Seam rippers
- Superior Snippers
- Sewing machines with decorative stitches and free-motion capabilities (for quilting)
- Sewing machine feet: open-toe embroidery foot, free-motion foot, and ¼" foot in particular
- Tear-away or cut-away stabilizer
- ByAnnie's Soft and Stable and/or batting

Thread is an important part of this project and can add an interesting design element. We suggest these threads:

- Charlotte's Fusible Web fusible thread and MonoPoly (smoke works well) or SoFine for appliqué
- MasterPiece or SoFine for assembling the table runner
- Bottom Line, Highlights, Rainbows, or King Tut for finishing the raw edges
- All are available at www.superiorthreads.com.

Pattern and information by:

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