

Frame Quilts – Centre Square

Appliqué Virgins Note: There are very good basic instructions in the book, "The Appliqué Sampler" by Linda Jenkins and Becky Goldsmith ISBN 0-9674393-5-3 which I will place in the group Library.

Cut a 17" square of background fabric – it may shrink a bit when you are appliquéing.

Design your block. I used cut paper shapes for the urn, flowers, buds and leaves.

Stems I cut bias strips about one and an eighth inch wide and press in half. Pin into place, stitch along a bit less than ¼" away from the raw edges. Turn the folded edge over and hem down. The raw edges of the ends go under the flowers and into the urn.



The Urn, Buds and Leaves are needle turn appliqué where the edges are (carefully) turned under with the iron and they are pinned then hemmed into place. As Janet Bolton told me, "You bully the points until they go where you want them!"

The Flowers and the flower centres are made with fine sew-in Vilene (as we did with the stars on Harriet's quilt). Draw the design onto Vilene in pencil. Place fabric Right Side up and Vilene on top. Machine stitch on your pencil line. Cut away around the outside, slit the Vilene and turn through. Press so that the Vilene doesn't show on the right side, Trim away excess Vilene and hand stitch into place. Try to sew only through the edge of the flower fabric and the Vilene won't show.

Assemble your components.

Pin the Urn into place and stitch leaving the top open. Tuck the ends of the stems under the top of the urn. Hand stitch the bud centres then the outer parts. Hand stitch the leaves and flowers. If you wish, you can cut away the excess fabric from behind the larger pieces to reduce bulk. Be careful not to cut through the top fabric!

Note that my design is not completely symmetrical and the flowers are slightly different sizes.

Do have a go at designing your own block – you will be very pleased with yourself!

