

DESIGNS

IN MACHINE EMBROIDERY

10

Classic &
Sassy Skirts

I can't
believe
it's a
\$10
shirt!

p 18

Appliqué
the easy
way

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The Bottom Line

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wearable

Embroidery Products

Flourishing Appliqués, pack #12205;
Design #324_48 available at
www.embroideryonline.com

Materials

Basic skirt pattern (sample from My Label 3D Fashion Pattern Software)
Fashion fabric, lining and notions as required by the pattern
¾"-1" Ribbon
Fusible interfacing (Armo-Weft by HTCW, Inc.)
Polymesh stabilizer
Temporary embroidery adhesive (505 Spray)
Fabric marking pen or chalk marker

Step 1. Pattern and Fabric Selection

Embroidery draws the eye, adds color and interest while turning a wardrobe staple into a unique designer separate. Hemline embroidery is well suited to a wide variety of skirt types since, as a rule, there is minimal detailing to plan around.

When evaluating a skirt pattern for hemline embroidery, keep in mind the overall style of the garment. If the embroidery is meant to be the focal point, avoid excessive detailing in other areas that will compete for attention. Details such as godets, wrapped skirt overlaps or asymmetrical hemlines provide interesting palettes for embellishment. Use the pattern pieces to audition embroidery by placing the design templates on the areas that will be embroidered. For perfect placement on unique pattern shapes, scan the pattern piece into embroidery software to customize the layout over the image of the pattern piece. Be careful not to extend the embroidery into the seam allowances.

Figure 1



Remember to evaluate the type of fabric that is suitable for the style of skirt. A very full skirt for example, is best sewn from a light weight fabric, requiring light and airy designs. Select the designs and colors for a full skirt carefully to avoid losing the embroidery in the fullness of the skirt. Heavily patterned or textured fabrics will require highly contrasting thread colors to prevent the designs from blending into the background.

Always make a test garment to fine tune fit and perfect the length. As the embroidery is completed prior to construction of the skirt, the length needs to be confirmed for proper placement.

Step 2. Fabric and Embroidery Preparation

Lay out pattern pieces on right side of fashion fabric and trace. Select embroidery designs; experiment with placement of motifs by printing design templates and positioning them on skirt pieces. Keep in mind the hem allowance and distance the embroidery designs should be from the bottom edge of the garment.

Fuse interfacing to the wrong side of the fashion fabric, behind the area to be embroidered.

Note: The interfacing is used in addition to, not instead of traditional stabilizer. The interfacing adds body to the fabric, supporting the embroidery over the lifetime of the garment.

Step 3. Embroidery

Note: Designs shown were combined using embroidery software; embroidered buttonholes were added to the design file. Additional buttonholes were added to the skirt to fill in and complete the border. If embroidery software is not available, all buttonholes may be added using the sewing machine, once the embroidery is complete. Buttonhole slit length should be long enough to accommodate the width of the ribbon (Figure 1).

Use temporary embroidery adhesive to secure the stabilizer to wrong side of skirt. Use design templates to mark embroidery locations on skirt. Hoop with the first design centered.

Note: Secure design template to fabric with double sided tape. Align design template x-y lines with hoop template x-y lines to ensure accuracy.

Embroider each design and remove the excess stabilizer.

Press from the wrong side on a well-padded surface to prevent embroidery from being flattened.

Mark the position for each buttonhole. Stitch.



Note: Use a strip of tear-away stabilizer to support the fabric when stitching buttonholes.

Run a thin line of seam sealant behind each buttonhole; when completely dry, cut open.

Step 4. Construction

Cut the skirt from fashion fabric, following the markings. Follow the pattern guide sheet to construct the skirt.

Step 5. Finishing

Before inserting the lining, run the ribbon through the buttonholes, tack in place at side seams by stitching in the ditch of the side seam.



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