



# *Creations by Kara*

Embroidery Designs For The Creative Mind

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## *Applique Instructions for Scrap Applique Animals*

**These are instructions for an in-the-hoop project, you will not remove the project from the hoop until the design is complete.**

**List of items needed:**

- 1. Fabric patches, scraps, or one whole piece of fabric to fit over design**
- 2. Heat 'n' bond or like product**
- 3. Thread from color chart or to match or contrast with your fabric selections**
- 4. Sharp duck bill scissors or the tiny side applique spring handled scissors**
- 5. Iron that will fit within your hoop**
- 6. Project fabric or ready made item to applique**
- 7. Appropriate stabilizer for project**
- 8. Bobbin thread**

## **Things to know:**

**When working within the hoop do not distort the fabric of your project. You have to be gentle so the fabric remains taut in the hoop or you can distort the project and the design components.**

**The animals can be made using small scraps as shown in step 3, you can also use larger scraps, and lastly you can use one large piece of fabric that varies in color as demonstrated in the featured pictures. For an example of using scraps please look at our design gallery for a completed photo of the “Fashion Cat” design.**

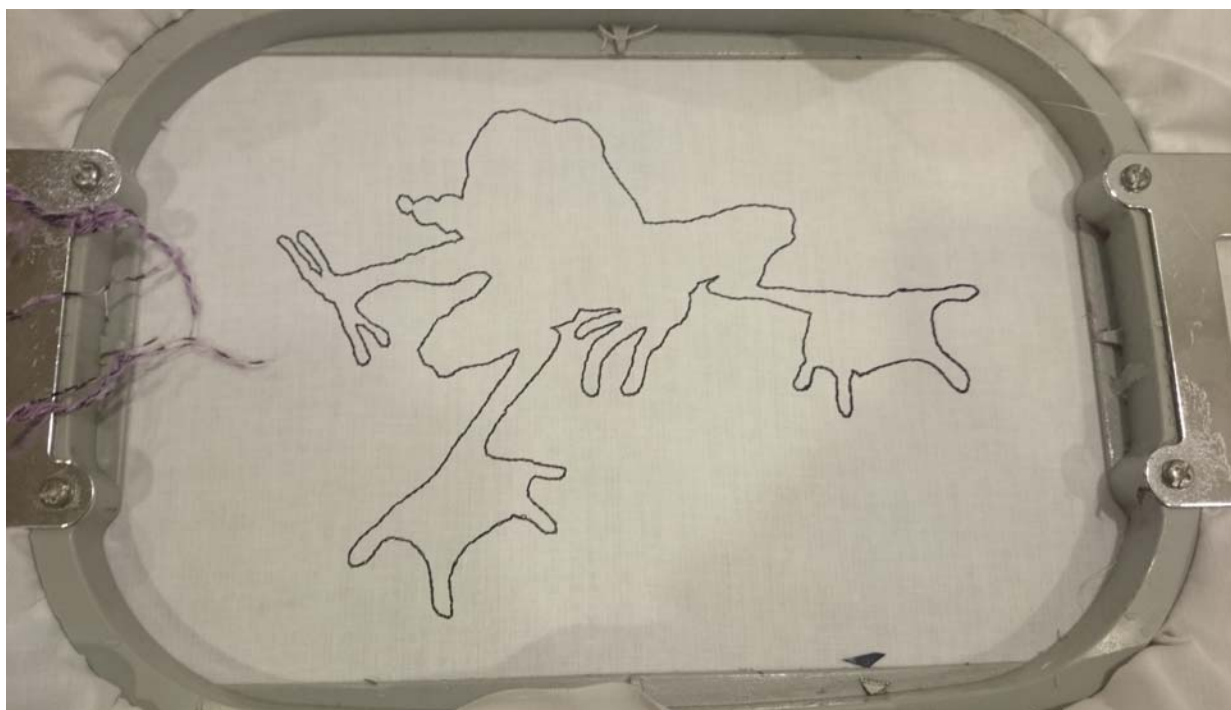
**Prep your fabric pieces by applying the heat and bond product to the wrong side of the fabrics prior to beginning the project on your machine, make sure to remove the paper backing before applying to your project.**

**The applique stitching around the pieces in these designs is no wider than a single stitch. You must trim very close to the placement line to prevent the applique fabric from showing outside the stitching. If you prefer, you can print the pieces prior to starting your project and pre-cut each piece so it is easier to create small margins. Remember if you do this you must add 1/16th of an inch to each piece or the anchor stitching will not catch the edge to anchor it to the project fabric.**

**The color charts show different colors for the placement and tack down threads. It is not necessary to have separate colors, I like to use black with these animals, so there is no bleed through of a different color after the final decorative stitching is done. I use the different colors on the color chart to indicate the different stages of the applique process.**

**Let's begin:**

- 1. Hoop the project base fabric or project in hoop with stabilizer. Make sure fabric is taut without stitching fabric. If your project cannot be contained within the hoop, hoop your stabilizer, position your project and baste through all layers around the inside perimeter of the hoop to anchor for stitching. You may also choose to use a fusible or sticky stabilizer. Be sure that the fabric for your project will not be distorted when it comes time to remove the backing stabilizer.**
- 2. I always check the first time I do a design to insure that the stops for the design are where they should be. If not, program in the stops. The easiest way to do this is to change the color of the thread for each step. The machine will automatically stop to change the thread. If you have a multi needle machine you should be able to program in the stops. Please view your manual or contact a dealer if you have trouble.**
- 3. Insert hoop into your machine and start the first color. In the designs in this collection, the first color is an applique patch, in which case the first color will be the placement line for that patch. Once the placement line is stitched, place the fabric pieces over the outline insuring that the entire outline will be covered. To hold I lightly touch with a hot iron just to activate the adhesive but not to secure. If you choose not to use the heat 'n' bond product, an alternative would be to use a glue stick to the back to assist in preventing slippage while the piece is being sewn.**



(Example of using small scraps during placement)

4. Start the next color. This will be the tack down stitch. Once the tack down stitch is sewn, remove the hoop from the machine and carefully trim around the outside of the tack down stitch with your scissors. Be careful not to cut anything but the fabric. This is also the part where you should be careful not to loosen the fabric in the hoop. If you do it can create distortion and the design may not stitch out properly.
5. Press the trimmed fabric within the hoop to activate the heat 'n' bond. This will adhere the patch to the project to keep it smooth. Using the heat 'n' bond product will also make the fabric patches easier to trim and help prevent fraying.
7. Put the hoop back in the machine and continue the stitch out to complete the design.
8. Once the design is complete, remove project from hoop, remove stabilizer and press the project. When pressing the best way to press embroidery is to press from the back side with the design laying on a padded surface. This way, the embroidery sinks in the padding enabling you to iron the fabric smooth without smashing or flattening the design.

**You're done!**