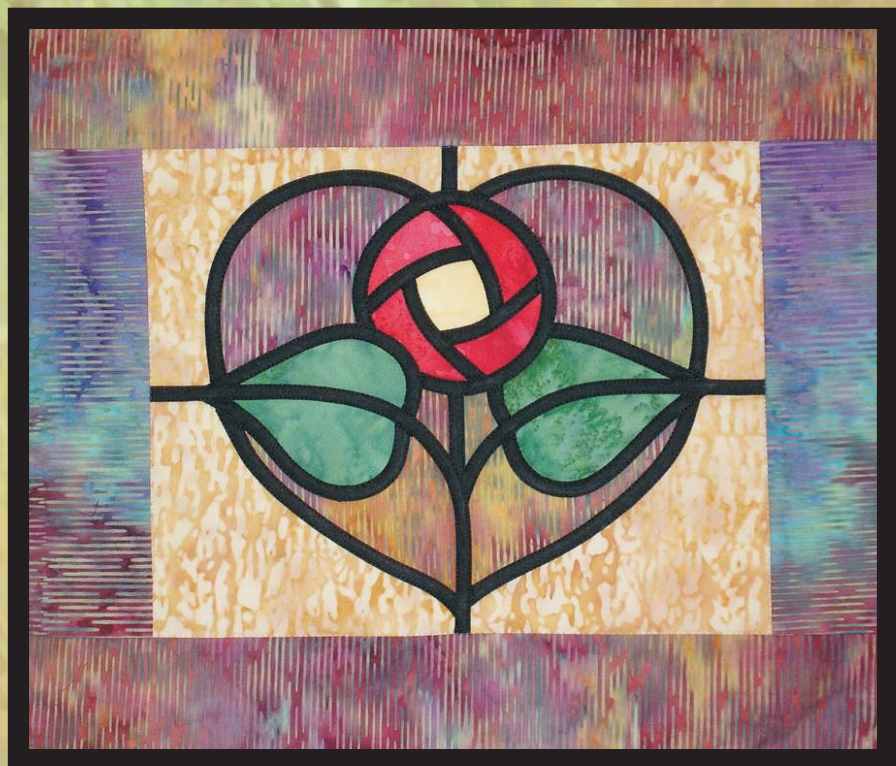


Quilt As You Go
Stained Glass
Basic Instructions



Quilt As You Go Stained Glass

Fabric Selection & Preparation

When selecting fabric for stained glass quilts I look for mottled prints that give the illusion of actual stained glass windows. Batik fabrics provide the wonderful fluid appearance that I search for when designing the project.

The fabrics in this quilt are current as this pattern goes to print. Unfortunately, fabrics are forever being discontinued and new ones introduced. When searching for the perfect fabric for use in your quilt, please contact your local quilting shop; they are your best source for current fabrics.

Prewash all fabrics to be used in this project! This removes the sizing that may prevent the fusible bias tape from adhering properly. Press the design fabrics. Do not use spray starch or sizing on fabrics as you press them. Spray starch and other fabric finishes should be avoided as they may also reduce the effectiveness of the fusible.

Cut the fabrics as detailed in the cutting instructions on the reverse side of these instructions.

Foundation Selection and Preparation

Selection of the correct foundation is an important part of a successful project. I have chosen 100% cotton, woven fusible interfacing for this project. All areas of the interfacing will be covered with colored fabrics to create the design. The background fabric will be applied to the foundation as will the design elements.

Cut the fusible interfacing 2 - 3" larger than the full size pattern. This measurement can be found in the supply list of each pattern.

I highly recommend that you do a shrinkage test. Cut a 4" square of interfacing and fuse it to a piece of cotton fabric using a hot steam iron. If the interfacing no longer measures 4" after it is fused, you should consider pre-washing it. If it shrinks and distorts with application of heat and steam, do not use it.

Center the fusible interfacing - with the fusible side up - over the pattern, and tape or pin in place to eliminate shifting. Trace the entire design onto the foundation using a Sharpie permanent marker. Use a ruler whenever possible to ensure straight lines. Do not transfer any numbers, boxes, or circles to the fusible interfacing. These markings may show through your design fabrics.

Background Preparation

Center 8" background fabric squares, right side up, over the letter and swag patterns and pin in place.

Trace the letter/swag designs onto the right side of the background fabric using a #2 pencil or an Ultra Fine Point Sharpie permanent marking pen. Do not transfer any numbers, boxes or circles to the background fabric. These markings may show through your design fabrics.

Fabric Application

Place the interfacing foundation, fusible side up, on your pressing surface.

Position the cut squares and rectangles on the fusible interfacing foundation. Be sure that the applique' pieces are touching. Do not leave any gaps.

Place a pressing paper over the applique' pieces that have been positioned on the interfacing foundation. This will protect the surface of your iron from exposure to fusible web. I use Clover Quick Bias Design Sheets with good results. Follow the directions that come with the pressing paper for the best results.

Press applique' pieces in place. Let the pressing paper cool completely and remove.

Continue fusing applique' pieces until the entire surface of the interfacing is covered.

Freezer Paper Templates

Cut 4 10" squares of freezer paper. Center the freezer paper, paper side up, over the pattern - pin or tape in place. Trace the letter/swag designs, right side up, onto the freezer paper using a #2 pencil or an Ultra Fine Point Sharpie.

You may label each piece of freezer paper with placement and fabric selection information to simplify assembly of the design. Do not label the background fabric, as these numbers may shadow through the design fabrics.

Cut the freezer paper exactly on the pencil lines with paper scissors. Do not add seam allowances.

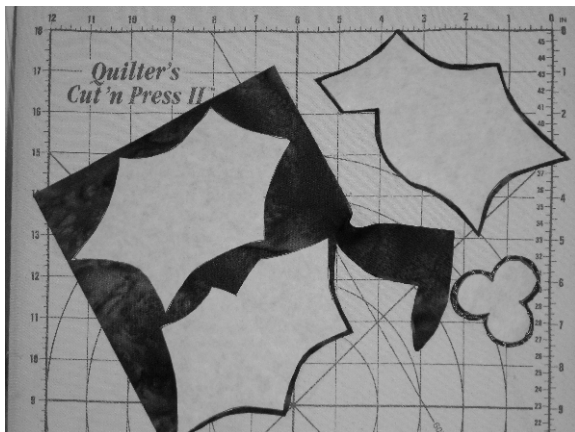
Adjacent pieces that are of the same fabric may be cut as one unit - such as leaf halves. Pay close attention to directional fabric. The resulting placement of a directional print may be undesirable.

Press the shiny side of the freezer paper to the right side of the selected fabrics using a warm iron. Avoid overheating the freezer paper; it may cause the paper to be difficult to remove.

Fabric grain lines are not important. Place freezer paper in such a way as to make the best use of a fabric design.

Cut the fabric slightly larger than the adhered freezer paper - 1/16" extra will allow the fabric raw edges to overlap a little when basting the pieces to the background.

Remove the freezer paper from the cut fabric section. The freezer paper pieces can be saved and reused if you wish to make another project of the same design. Labeling the paper pieces is helpful.



Glue Basting

Place dots of basting glue on the background fabric along the outline of the piece to be placed. Glue basting is diagramed on page 5, below left, using **Roxanne's Glue-Baste-It!**

Carefully position the fabric piece on the background fabric. All dots of glue should be covered by the applied fabric. Allow the glue to dry.

When applying colored fabrics to the background, I work from the back toward the front. The layers that appear to be toward the back are applied first, the "closer" layers are applied last.



After glue-basting all fabric pieces to the background, use a pencil to retrace any lines covered by the fabric appliqué pieces that have been cut as one unit - such as lines between the leaf halves.



NOTE If you anticipate the need to wash the completed stained glass quilt, consider securing the edges of the appliqué pieces by overcasting with a machine zig-zag stitch before applying the bias tape.

Bias Tape

Clover Quick Bias is the bias tape used in this project. This specific bias tape is used for a number of reasons:

- 1) Fusible web has been applied to the wrong side of the bias tape, allowing all of the bias tape to be pressed in place on to the project before stitching begins.
- 2) It is slightly narrower than the standard bias tape available and very flexible, allowing tight curves to be negotiated.
- 3) The fusible web allows the bias tape to be gently pulled from the design and repositioned for the desired results.

Clover Quick Bias is packaged 11 yards per spool.

NOTE: When using the **metallic** fusible bias tape, lower the temperature of your iron. This will lessen the possibility of damage to the bias tape caused by excess heat.

Homemade Bias Tape You are not limited to commercial bias tape. The ability to create bias tape specific for your project opens up a world of possibilities. Print fabrics can be used, introducing texture and interest to the bias tape. Homemade bias tape is very economical. It is a terrific alternative if commercially prepared bias tape is not readily available in your area.

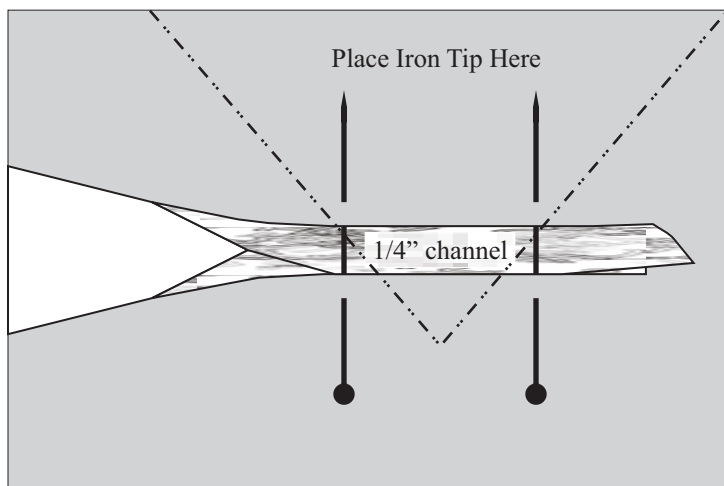
Clover Needlecraft has created a bias tape maker that allows a strip of paper backed Fusible web to be applied to the fabric strip as it is drawn through the device. Follow the directions included in the bias tape maker package to complete the process.

Bias tape can also be made entirely by hand without the use of any special tools.

Step 1 Cut bias strips 7/8" wide. One half yard of fabric will yield about 29 yards of 1/4" wide bias tape. Join the strips together using 1/8" diagonal seam allowances. Press open to reduce bulk.

Step 2 Fold one end of the bias strip into thirds and press (right side out). Fold and press 12" of the bias tape.

Step 3 Make a channel using two straight pins for the bias strip to travel through as diagramed below. A scant 1/4" channel is desirable.



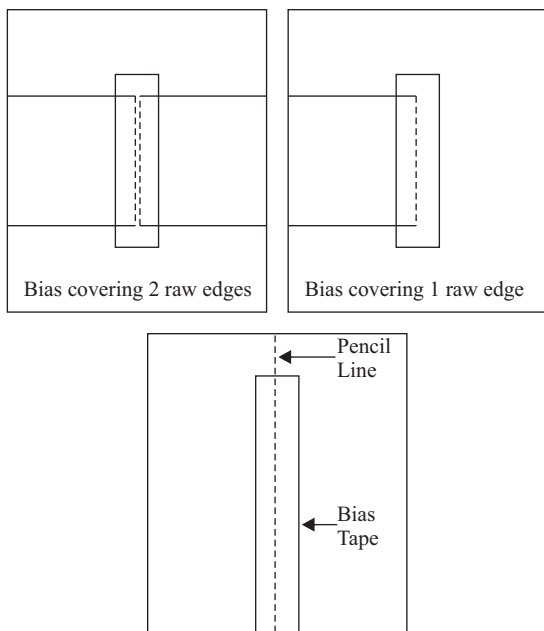
Step 4 Gently guide the strip through the channel, assisting the folding process as necessary. Once started, the strip should continue folding with only a little guidance. Position a warm iron over the folded strip to press it as the folds are formed.

Step 5 Wrap the newly formed bias tape around a cardboard to help the pressed 1/4" wide bias tape to hold its shape. Use dots of fabric glue to adhere the homemade bias tape. I find that Roxanne's Glue-Baste-It works well.

Bias Tape Application

The purpose of the bias tape is to cover the raw edges of all fabric pieces and to simulate stained glass leading.

Bias tape will cover all raw edges of the appliqué. The bias tape is centered directly over the junction of the appliqué raw edges, over a single raw edge or over the drawn leading line.



All bias tape ends must be covered! Be sure to plan ahead!

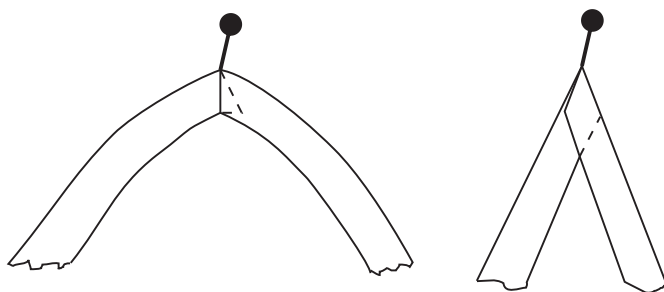
The Bias Tape Numbering System has been established to help you place bias tape in sequential order. This is not to imply that all pieces of bias tape will have a unique number in the sequence. Rather, there will be multiple pieces marked #1, multiple pieces marked #2, etc.

Lead all lines marked #1 first. Bias tape lengths marked #1 do not cover the raw end of any other piece of bias tape! All #1 pieces can be fused without disturbing the order of any other pieces. After placing all pieces marked #1, place all #2 pieces, which will cover raw ends of #1 pieces, and so on...

The only place that a raw edge - bias tape or fabric - is allowed, is at the very outer edge of the quilt. This will be encased in the quilt binding!

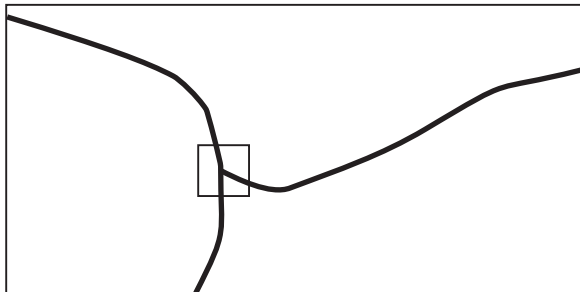
Mitered Corners

Miter the bias tape at each point. Press the fusible bias tape into place up to the point. Insert a pin into the edge of the bias tape where the point of the miter will be positioned. Pull the bias tape against this pin as you fold under the excess fabric, causing the mitered angle to form. In the case of a very sharp point the fold may lay along the outer edge of the bias tape as shown below-right.



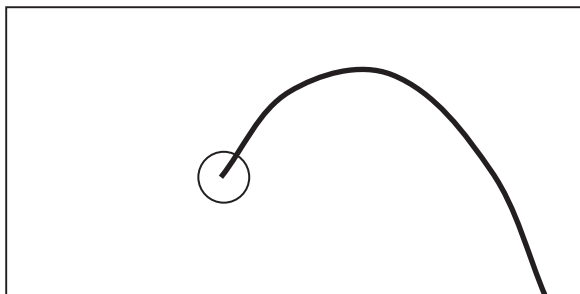
Boxed Intersections

The pattern may include bias tape intersections that are diagrammed enclosed by a small box. The box indicates that the first piece of bias tape applied will need to be released from the design and another piece of bias tape inserted. Occasionally this cannot be avoided. Heat may be applied to the bias tape to make it easier to lift.



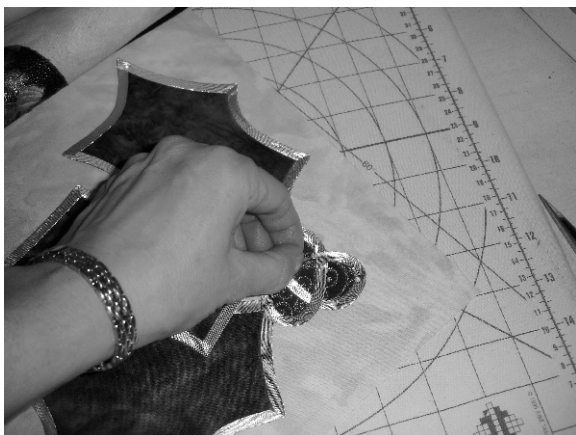
Circled Bias Tape Ends

Occasionally it is necessary for the bias tape to dead end in the center of a design without the benefit of being crossed by another piece of bias tape. At these points it is necessary to fold the raw end of the bias tape under itself to create a finished edge. Trim the bias tape 1/4" beyond the end of the drawn line and fold it under itself. The bias tape is very light weight and will fold nicely into place.



If you find that you have accidentally applied a piece of bias tape before its time, carefully pull the bias tape away from the appliqué to release just enough space to insert the next bias tape

end. You may use a pin to lift the prematurely-placed bias tape from the design. Heating the area a little with the tip of your iron may make the loosening process easier.



Trim the end of the bias tape along the leading line that is intersected. This will allow the raw end of the bias tape to be covered (overlapped 1/8") by the next piece of bias tape. This may mean trimming the end of the bias tape at an unusual angle to accommodate the leading line.



If you have positioned a piece of bias tape poorly, simply lift it from its place, reposition it, and press it in place with a warm iron.

Layering the Project

Layer the quilt with batting and backing. Cotton batting works best. The cotton fibers of the batting grip the quilt top and backing. This helps to prevent shifting and puckering.

The backing and bobbin thread should match the color of the bias tape. If the bobbin thread should happen to pop to the surface of the quilt, it will not be noticeable. Less than perfect stitches will hide if the bobbin thread and quilt back match in color.

Baste the layers together using safety pins.

Stitching Bias Tape In Place

Insert a very fine needle into the sewing machine; size 70/10 works well. The holes left by the needle are very small, preventing the bobbin thread from popping to the surface.

Thread the sewing machine needle with a fine gauge thread to match the color of the bias tape.

Black Cotton

Superior Threads Bottom Line #625 Black

Sulky 40 100% Rayon 40wt #1005 Black

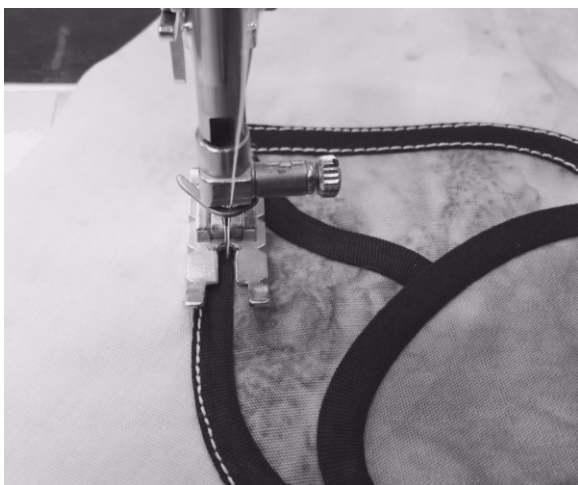
Gold Metallic

Superior Threads Bottom Line #619 Tan

Sulky 40 100% Rayon 40wt

The bobbin thread may be cotton in a color to match the bias tape.

Use a sewing machine foot that is open to the needle. It will be easier to see what you are doing.



Stitch both sides of the bias tape in place using a straight stitch. Back stitch at both ends to secure the seam. Stitch at the very edge of the bias tape to avoid an unsightly pleat of bias tape that is not secured. Either side may be stitched first.

Clip threads close to the surface of the quilt, front and back. Use a sewing awl to adjust and smooth bias tape if any puckering has occurred at tight curves.

If any bias tape should loosen as you are working, it can be secured again by gently pressing it back in place.

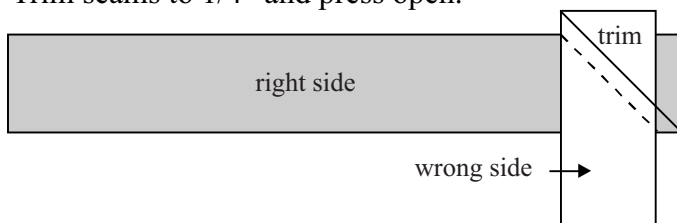
Additional Quilting

Stipple quilting may be added to some areas of the project. Large areas might benefit from machine quilting to stabilize the layers and prevent any possible sagging of the layers.

Binding

After all bias tape segments have been sewn, trim the completed quilt along the outer edge of the design.

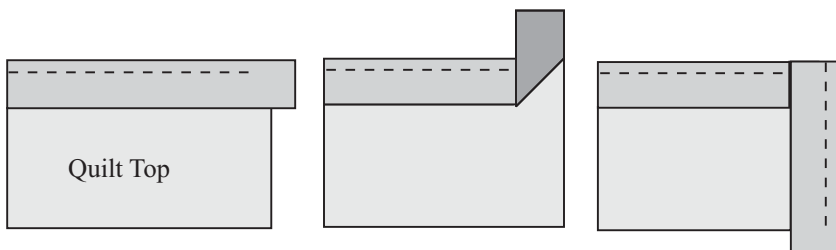
Cut 4 strips 2" wide of binding fabric. Make cut selvage to selvage. Stitch strips together on the diagonal as diagrammed below. Trim seams to 1/4" and press open.



Press the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.

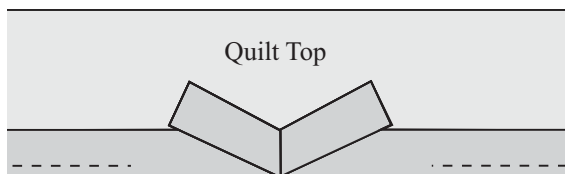
Position the folded binding strip so that its lengthwise raw edges are even with the raw edge of the quilt top. Leave 8" free, and begin stitching the binding to the quilt a few inches beyond the center of one edge. Stitch with a 1/4" seam allowance; back tack to secure the seam. Stop stitching 1/4" from the edge and back tack. Remove the quilt from the sewing machine, and snip threads. Rotate the quilt to prepare to sew the next edge.

Fold the binding strip up, away from the quilt, it will fold nicely at a 45° angle. Fold it again to bring the strip edge along the raw edge of the quilt top. This fold should be even with the top edge of the quilt. Begin stitching at the fold, stitch through all layers.



Continue sewing around the quilt in this manner until you are within 12" of the starting point; back tack.

To finish the quilt, fold each strip back on itself so that the folds meet in the middle of the 12" gap. Finger press a crease at the folds. Trim the excess strip fabric 1" from both folds.



Open the folded strips and place the strips right sides together as diagramed at right. Fold the quilt out of your way to allow the binding strips to be aligned properly. Stitch the strips together with a diagonal seam. Trim the seam allowance to 1/4" and press the seam open.

Fold the binding strip together again and finish stitching the binding strip to the edge of the quilt.

Hand stitch the folded edge of the binding to the back side of the quilt. With a blindstitch. Use a thread that matches the binding. The fold of the binding should just cover the seamline.

Fold Quilt
to allow
binding strips
to align

