

# NATURE CALLS

Explore the adventure of outdoor camping with *Nature Calls!*

Enjoy the vast expanse of green tinted forests, the symphony of water falling down a mountain stream, and the abundance of wild life as all co-exist on majestic mountains.

When it comes to nature, sometimes you just “gotta go”!

In this 2-Day Workshop students will use Claudia's multi-hooping technique for 100% Perfect Placement!

What can students expect to learn?

- Master your embroidery machine!
- Improve hooping skills
- Re-position designs within the hoop
- Rotate designs for precision placement
- Marking grid for “1st Stitch placement”
- “Sew through a design” without thread
- Get tips & techniques that make your embroidery flat, fun, & flawless!
- Learn how to read & use the 20 ½” ruler

Must have an 8”x12” hoop or larger  
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Pre-class Preparation Needed  
 Each student is required to purchase the pattern (\$90.00) to attend the workshop.

Friends, family, and animals may not audit the workshop with a paying student.

Finished size 50” x 65”



Each student is required to bring an empty USB drive, that will work with their embroidery machine to class.

Students will receive the full pattern on a **Claudia's Creations** USB drive.  
 If their machine cannot read my USB drive I will copy and transfer the designs to the USB drive the student brought.

**Note:** After the workshop: Each student will be responsible for transferring the **Design and Instruction folders** from the USB drive to a computer or external hard drive. USB drives are a temporary storage and are known to fail. The student is responsible for immediately transferring the information from the USB to their computer. The designs and instructions will not be replaced by Claudia's Creations.



## Nature Calls! Supply List

Design: **Nature Calls!** by Claudia Dinnell \$90.00 (each student must purchase the design to attend the workshop)

### Fabric Supply List:

2 yards	Cream tone on tone Background Fabric
1 ½ yards	Blue Sashing & Border Fabric
¼ yard	Gold Fabric for Quarter Inch Borders surrounding blocks
1/3 yard	Contrast fabric (Green) for Seminole Piecing
6 yards	Fusible Woven Interfacing by OESD or Shape Flex 101 by Pellon (20" wide)
2 yards	Outer Border Fabric (no piecing) (Not needed in class)
½ yard	Binding (Not needed in class)
4 yards	Backing (Not needed in class)
72" x 60"	Batting (Not needed in class)

### Embroidery Supply List:

Hoop Requirements: stitch field must be 8" wide x12" high or larger

All Hoops must have a grid/template

Light to Medium Weight Tear Away (5 yards)

1 Roll Polymesh Cutaway Stabilizer by OESD (20" wide x 10 yards)

Temporary Adhesive Spray

Removable fabric marking pen (thin tip/ do not use air erasable)

Embroidery Needles 80/12

Terrial Magic Starch (mandatory)

**Basic embroidery kit** including small doubled curved scissors, tweezers

Large Wonder Clips (4-6 clips) to hold embroidery out of the way

Arrow shaped post it notes by Post-It-Notes

Threads: Isacord 40 wt. Embroidery Thread

#### Greens (Trees):

5934 Moss Green

5833 Limabean

6133 Caper

5633 Lime

0453 Army Drab

#### Browns:

1233 Pony

0941 Golden Grain

0747 Golden Brown

0922 Ashley Gold

1115 Copper

0933 Redwood

#### Tans:

0722 Khaki

1123 Carmel Crème

1172 Ivory

#### Blue & Gray:

3842 Copenhagen

0152 Dolphin

#### Additional Colors:

0015 White

0020 Black

### Sewing Supply List

50wt. Cotton Thread matching the fabric for piecing

Basic sewing kit including scissors, pins, rotary cutter & mat, long straight ruler, etc.

Optional but recommended: 20 ½" square ruler for accurate marking & trimming

**Note:** You will receive the full pattern, Nature Calls! on a USB drive in the workshop.

Please bring your own **USB drive** that you know works with your embroidery machine in case my USB doesn't work on your machine.

Family, friends, and animals are not allowed to audit the workshop! Only the student paying for the workshop may attend.

# TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL EMBROIDERY!

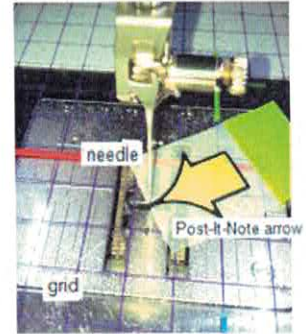
Keep these pages accessible, you will need to refer to these "Tips" throughout your embroidery!!  
Follow Claudia's two step "**Perfect Placement Technique**" for accurately multi-hooping large designs!

## Step #1: Marking the design's first stitch location on the grid:

- Attach the **hoop and grid** to the module with no fabric.
- **Open the design** to be embroidered.
- Advance to the **embroidery sewing screen**. Embroidery Machines open a design in an editing screen. Touch the icon that moves you to the embroidery sewing screen. Advancing to the embroidery sewing screen takes you to the first stitch of the design, where you are ready to embroider!

**Brother, Babylock, Janome, and Singer** machines have an automatic center stitch programmed into the machine. You must advance past this "programmed center stitch" to move to the first stitch of my designs. These machines will have an additional icon (usually a +/- key) you will need to touch to move you to first stitch of my design.

**Bernina** machines with a Basting Box option must make sure the built in basting box option is turned off before they advance to the embroidery sewing screen.



- By hand, lower your needle to touch the grid. Place an arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid so the tip of the arrow touches the tip of the needle. (See picture) This marks the first stitch location of my design on the grid (not the center of the design, not the center of the hoop, but the first stitch of the opened design).
- Raise the needle; remove the hoop and the marked grid from the module.

## Step #2: Hooping the Fabric

- Place the **inner hoop with the grid** on the (stabilized and marked) background fabric. The arrow shaped post-it-note on the grid should be pointing to either the **Needle Alignment** or to the **Placement Line** location on the background fabric. The location is noted in the Embroidery Instructions and will be different for each hooping (it will almost never be the center of the hoop).
- Hoop the (stabilized and marked) fabric with the lines on the grid parallel and perpendicular to the drawn lines on the fabric. The drawn lines need not lie exactly under the lines of the grid, but must be parallel and perpendicular to the lines on the grid. This keeps the larger piece of fabric square and straight as you embroider.
- Remove the grid from the hoop and attach the hoop to the module.
- It may be necessary to re-position the needle exactly over the **mark** indicated in the instructions. Use your Move Motif Icon to tweak the needle perfectly over the mark.
- **Needle Alignment** is to place the needle over a specific mark like the drawn crosshair on the fabric
- **Placement Line** is to sew (without thread) over previously sewn stitches to ensure correct placement.
- To watch a demo of the "Perfect Placement Technique" from your computer go to:

[www.claudiascreationsaz.com](http://www.claudiascreationsaz.com) Select the "Workshops" tab and choose Instructional Videos / Perfect Placement.

## Additional Tips and Helps!

### Tip #1: Built in Basting Box!

Many embroidery machines have a built-in basting box option. When this option is enabled it may add a color stop to the stitching order of the design. This option should be disabled before opening a design. If the basting box option is on or enabled when you advance to the embroidery sewing screen, you would be marking the grid with the first stitch position for the basting box and not the first stitch of the design! Be sure to disable the basting box option before opening a design. Mark the first stitch of the design with the post-it note arrow.



## p #2: Hooping Tips

I place sections of permanent double sided tape (**not repositionable**) on the wrong side of the inner hoop. Then I flip the inner hoop right side up and place the inner hoop, with the grid inside of it, on the fabric. The doubled sided tape holds the inner hoop to the fabric. This makes it easier to pick up the inner hoop and fabric and place it in the outer hoop with ease. (Always loosen the outer hoop screws as much as possible). Remove the tear away stabilizer from the last hooping to reduce the stabilizer "bulk". Roll the excess fabric in a tube shape and use clips to hold the excess fabric out of the way. This will prevent the fabric from accidentally catching under the hoop.

## Tip #3: Unusual Embroidery Instructions:

**Needle Alignment:** This is placed first in the stitching order to align the needle exactly where it goes. It is strictly for needle placement and not to be sewn out (unless indicated). If it is accidentally sewn out it will look like a crosshair. Pick it out!

**Placement Line:** This is a line that is to be sewn out without thread over an existing line to ensure correct placement. It is an alignment tool for connecting one hooping to another.

**The blank line after the thread color: Thread Purple #\_\_\_\_\_** (Write your thread Color # on the line) It will help you remember what color you used when you return to embroidering.

## Tip #4: Ironing/Pressing

Place the embroidered background fabric **wrong side up**, over a cotton towel to iron. Ironing on the right side of embroidery will crush the embroidery stitches! Padding the stitches with a folded cotton towel won't crush them. I usually spray with starch and then press the fabric.

## Tip #5: Trimming the Blocks

For best accuracy, use a square ruler to trim all the blocks. Place the square ruler on the block lining up two sides, then trim. Trimming with a 6" x 24" ruler is not as accurate and leads to slips and miss-cuts. If you have difficulty keeping a ruler from moving when you cut, place double sided tape on the side that goes against the fabric! Also, using quilting gloves helps to hold it in place!

## Tip #6 Sewing without Thread

Every machine has a icon where you can advance through a design or move backwards through a design. This is usually used when you break a needle or run out of bobbin thread and you need to backup to replace stitches. I use this to "walk through a design". Watch my video on website.

## Fabric Preparation

### Removing Dye:

Usually I do not wash my fabrics before embroidering or piecing them into a quilt. However, if I am using reds or greens I may want to test a piece to see if it is color fast. If it is not, you may want to treat the fabric with a product that will remove the excess dye. Quilt products such as Retayne and Synthrapol always work great.

### Woven Interfacing:

First steam iron and starch the fabric. Then place the woven interfacing (Fusible Woven by OESD or Shape Flex 101 by Pellon) adhesive side down, on the wrong side of the fabric. Spray with water to activate the adhesive. Use your hands to smooth out the moistened Interfacing over the fabric before using the steam iron. Set the steam iron on the center area and hold the iron long enough to dry & seal the two layers together, but not so long that it burns! Pick up the iron and place it close to the first spot. Repeat until all the interfacing is sealed to the fabric. This will "pre-shrink" both fabric and interfacing. The Interfacing will shrink, that is expected. All the edges of the Interfacing should be sealed to the fabric. If "air bubbles" are showing on the fabric, you need to spray with water and press again.



## Cutting Instructions

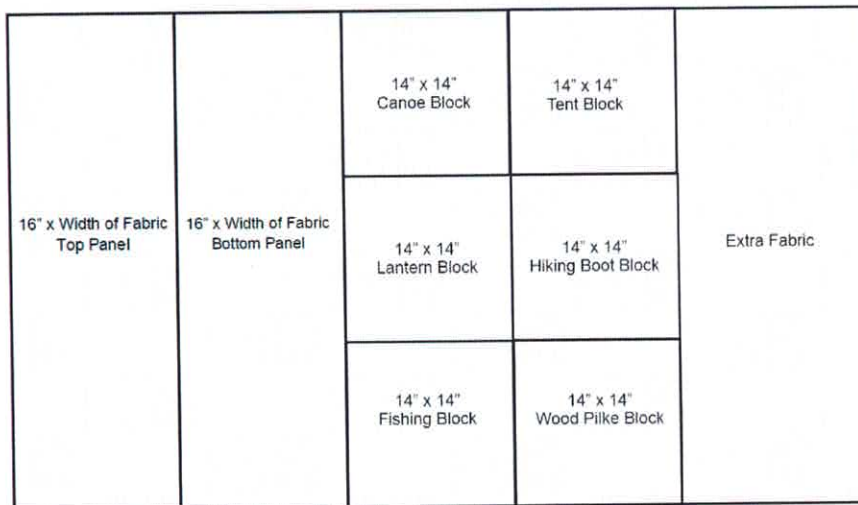
Please read all the Cutting Instructions before cutting

**Background Fabric:** (2 yards)

Cut (2) **16"x 42"** strips (or Width of Fabric) for the top and bottom panels.

Cut (2) **14"x 42"** strips (or Width of Fabric) for the 6 center blocks.

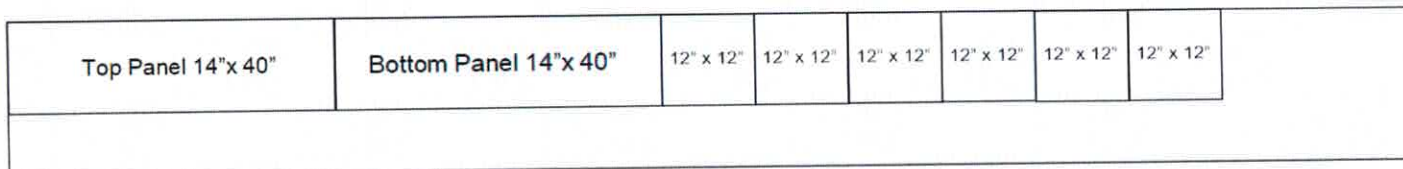
Sub Cut each **14"** strip into (3) **14" squares** (slightly smaller/larger size depending on width of your fabric)



Saturate both panels & all 6 blocks with Terial Magic:

Lay **flat to let dry**. **Press /iron** each block flat and smooth.

This process is mandatory! It will help eliminate the stretch in the block. The fabric should be very stiff.



**Fusible Woven Interfacing:** (6 yards of Fusible Woven Interfacing by OESD or SHAPE FLEX by Pellon 101)

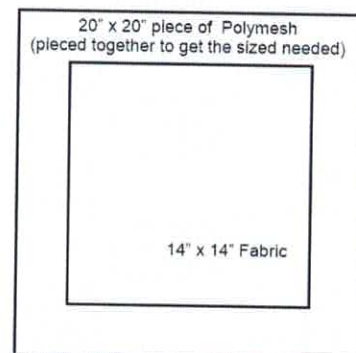
- Cut the Fusible Woven Interfacing into the sections shown above. The remainder will be used later.  
 (2) 14" x 40" strips      (6) 12" x 12" squares
- **Center** the interfacing (it's smaller than fabric) to the back side of each starched block and both panels.
- **Spray with water:** Use your hands to smooth out the moistened interfacing over the wrong side of the fabric.
- Set the steam iron on the center area of the interfacing and hold the iron long enough to seal the two layers together, but not so long that it burns or scorches! Repeat until all the interfacing is sealed to the fabric
- If "air bubbles" are showing on the fabric, you need to spray with water and press again. The fabric and the interfacing will shrink some.

## Fabric Preparation Instructions

**Instructions for all Blocks** (blocks should already have the interfacing (Shape Flex) ironed to the back of them)

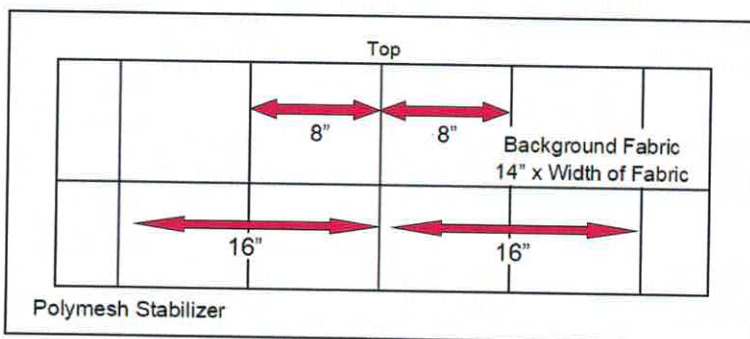
### Polymesh Cutaway Stabilizer:

- Cut the Polymesh 3" wider (on all sides) than the size of the block. Some blocks will need two sections of the Polymesh pieced together to get the correct size: overlap those sections by 3" or more (ie: Block 14" square Polymesh 20" square Panel 16" x wof Polymesh 22" x 46")
- Center the (interfaced) fabric on the (pieced) Polymesh. Use temporary adhesive spray to fuse the Polymesh to the fabric. The fabric should be smooth and lay flat. Each fabric block will have a 3" border of Polymesh surrounding it on all 4 sides. This extra border is important when hooping especially when the fabric is smaller than the hoop. Prepare all 8 blocks and both panels with the Polymesh stabilizer.



**Mark the Top & Bottom Panels:** Use a removable pen but **do not use an air erasable pen.**

- Mark with thin clean lines. Make sure you **can easily see** the line. Try not to go over the lines multiple times!!
- On the front (right side) of **each** panel draw a center crosshair the full length and width of the fabric. Lines must be **perpendicular** to each other (90° angle). (watch my video for a demo [claudiascreationsaz.com](http://claudiascreationsaz.com) / Instructional Videos)
- Draw additional lines 8" & 16" to the left and to the right of the center crosshair.

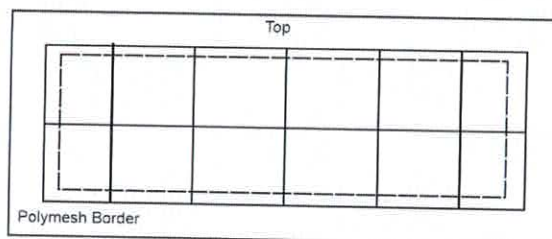


You do not need to mark the 14" square blocks.

- **Write the word "Top"** at the top of each fabric block & panel: especially important for directional fabric.
- This will be referred to in the embroidery instructions as **"Top of Fabric"**.

### Sew the Stabilizer to all 6 Blocks & both Panels:

- Sew (using a walking/dual feed foot) close to the edge ( $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ ") completely around the edge of the fabric. Use a normal stitch length with regular piecing thread. This will secure the stabilizer to the fabric and reduce stretching during embroidery. The two fabrics must be smooth and lay flat without puckers. (Use temporary adhesive spray to hold the layers together before sewing.)



**Dotted lines in the picture:** represent the stitches around the edge of the fabric securing the fabric to the stabilizer using a normal stitch length.

Hang the cut, stabilized, & marked blocks from a pant hanger and bring to class. Borders, binding, & batting are not needed in class.