

Lesson 9 – Inner Points

Inner Points

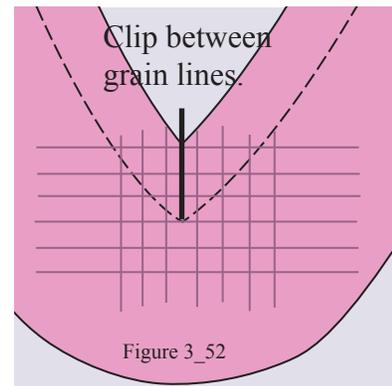
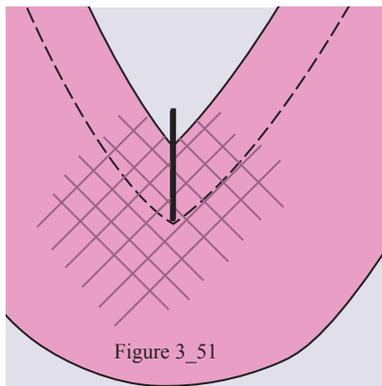
We will complete our study of the 4 elements of QuikPrep Appliqué by learning how to stitch an inner point. Prepare your sample using the instructions in the box for Exercise 4.

Exercise 4:

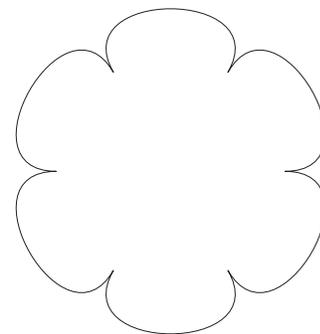
1. Cut a 6” square of background fabric.
2. Cut a 2” square of appliqué fabric.
3. Trace pattern Figure 3_50 at end of lesson 8 onto the wrong side of your background fabric. Be sure point is on grain line.
4. Using the Pin Method of Placement, position the appliqué fabric on the front side of your background fabric. Keep the point on the grain line.
5. Using the QuikPrep Stitch, baste directly on the pencil line on the wrong side of your background fabric.
6. Thread an appliqué needle with the appropriate appliqué thread.
7. Follow the steps for making an inner point.

1. Clip the inner point.
2. Appliqué to 1/2” away from the point.
3. “Paint” glue on seam allowance.
4. Fold under to point and appliqué in place.
5. Make a floating stitch.
6. Park the appliqué needle on the wrong side of our work.
7. Fold under 1/2” or so of seam allowance on the second side.
8. Place a stab stitch 3/16” away from point on the second side.
9. Place 2-3 stab stitches from the last stab stitch going back to the point.
10. Return to normal appliqué.

We will make one adjustment to the placement of our appliqué fabric. If we have just one inner point on a patch, it is helpful to place that point on the grain of the fabric. (Figure 3_52) It can either be the straight-grain or the cross-grain. Either will work. By placing the appliqué fabric on the grain we will be able to clip between the threads in one direction. This will result in half as many ends to deal with when we appliqué the inner point. If we place the point on the bias (Figure 3_51), we will cut all the grain lines, both straight-grain and cross-grain when we clip into the point. Resulting in lots of little ends to deal with.



It isn't unusually for a patch in intermediate or advanced appliqué to be similar to the patch in Figure 3_53. In this situation, position the patch so that as many inner points as possible are on the grain.



Up to this point, I haven't mentioned the use of glue to control the edges of your appliqué. I'm not a big fan of any type of glue and work very hard to avoid using it.

However, inner points on the bias are an exception. I will ‘paint’ some glue on my seam allowance to keep stray threads from popping out. (Figure 3_53A)

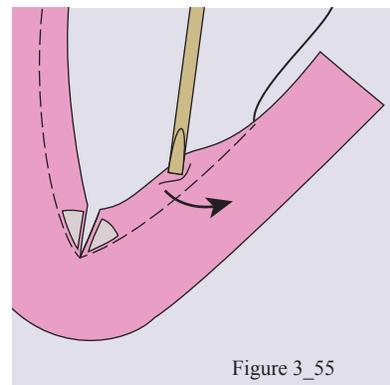
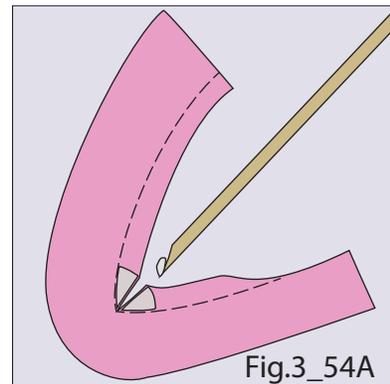
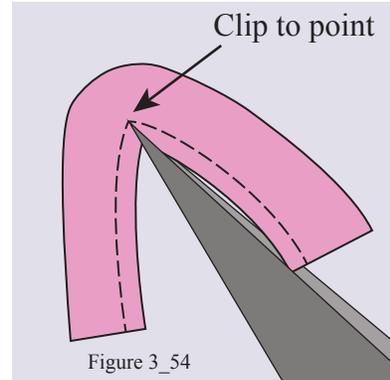
Let’s go through each step more thoroughly.

Step 1: Clip the inner point. Place your scissors so that you will be able to clip all the way to the point with just one clip. Additional clips in the point will result in lots of little threads that won’t want to turn under. To avoid this just make one clip all the way to the point. I repeat: **Only clip an inner point once.** I prefer using serrated scissors as they will hold the fabric in place while I cut.

Step 2: Appliqué to within 1/2” of inner point.

Step 3: Paint glue on seam allowance. Scrap a very small amount of glue/paste onto the flat side of your cuticle stick. Spread evenly on both sides of the clip being sure to stay in the seam allowance. Also be sure to coat both sides of the clip. (Figure 3_54A)

Step 4: How we fold under the seam allowance as we approach the inner point is important. When we are about 1/2” away from the inner point we take our cuticle stick and place it about 1/4” away from the inner point and push the seam allowance under and back towards our wrist. (Figure 3_55) The fabric will probably fold down to the point all by itself. If it doesn’t fold all the way to the point, use your **needle** to sweep



under the seam allowance until it is perfect. DO NOT PLACE YOUR CUTICLE STICK IN AN INNER POINT – EVER.

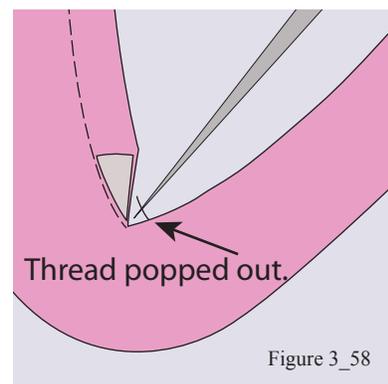
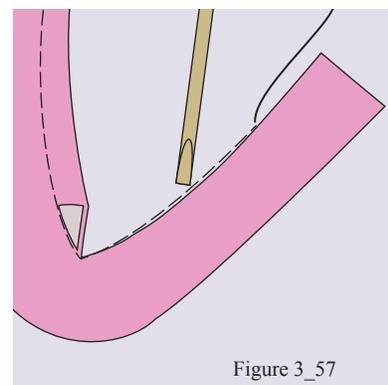
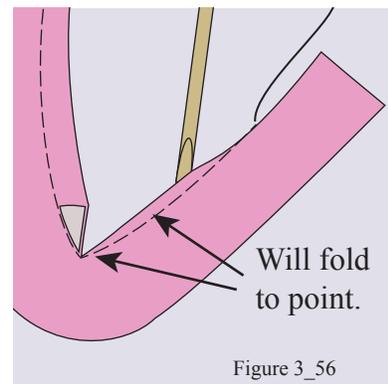
Figure 3_56 shows the fold when we have folded under about half of the seam allowance. We continue to push it under and toward our wrist until the whole seam allowance has been turned under to the point.

Figure 3_57 shows the point after the seam allowance has been turned under. Our QuikPrep stitches are on the fold. At this point we can begin appliquéing the point.

As the seam allowance folds to the point, there will be less and less seam allowance to turn under. We will not have any seam allowance right at the point.

It isn't unusual for a thread or two to pop out. (Figure 3_58) Sweep these threads under with a needle. DO NOT put wood in this point. A wooden tool will grab even more threads and pull them back out when you remove the tool. Use only your needle in the point. Hold in place by firmly pressing with your thumb and forefinger for a second or two. Then proceed to appliqué as usual.

As we stitch the edge, we will eventually reach the point where we will have to take a bite of 2-3 background threads out of our appliqué fabric. A very shallow stitch that only takes a bite of 1 background thread may distort the edge of our appliqué and the



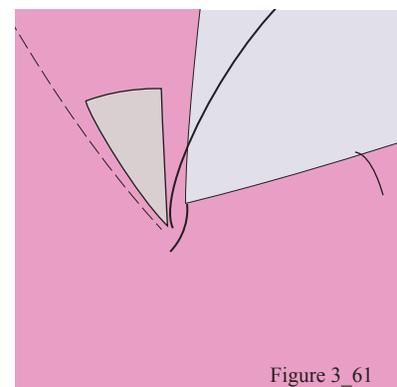
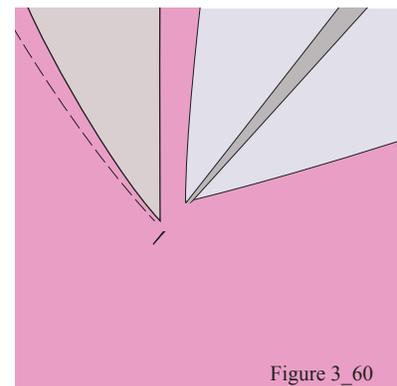
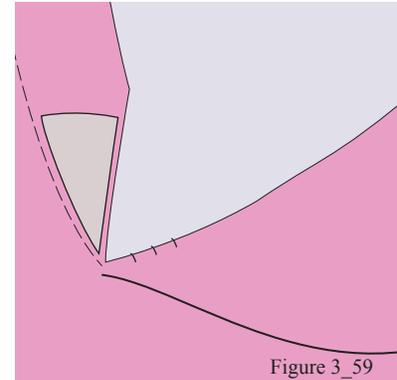
appliqué fabric may pull away from it. It is often necessary to take a deep enough bite out of the appliqué fabric to make a smooth edge and to keep it from pulling out. These stitches may lie on top of our work and will not be hidden in the fold. It is important that we use a thread that will blend into our appliqué fabric.

Our last stitch in this side will be directly in the point. This stitch should take a bite of 3 background threads. (Figure 3_59)

Step 5: Now we will make a floating stitch – that is one that is not anchored in the background fabric. It is an optional stitch. Use only if you are using appliqué thread that blends well with your appliqué fabric. If your appliqué thread shows on top of your appliqué fabric, skip this step.

Before beginning be sure to give one last tug to your appliqué thread so that the appliqué fabric is drawn up tightly to the background fabric. Then slip the needle between the background fabric and the appliqué fabric. Bring the point of the needle out under the appliqué thread. It should come out 2 background threads into our applique. Pull the thread through and gently pull on it. Then it will draw and gently roll the appliqué fabric at the point. It will pull it into a sharp point.

Step 6: Place the point of your needle at the point and slightly under the appliqué fabric. Push it through to the backside and park it. (Figure 3_62)



Exercise: Let's stitch Block 4 of our QuikPrep Appliqué Sampler. In this block we have added the final element – an inner point.

Step 7. Fold under the seam allowance on the other second side of the point. If at all possible start at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " up the next patch. Repeat these steps as

under the seam allowance in one movement pushing it away. This motion is just the opposite of the motion we used to turn under the seam allowance going into the inner point. Fold under the seam allowance and push it up and away from your needle hand towards your other hand.

BEWARE: Starting to turn the seam allowance under too close to the point will cause it to fray.

Don't panic if you have several small threads that pop out. This is normal. These little ends will need to be swept under the seam allowance. Do this with your metal

needle or a pin. Do not place wood in the point as it will grab additional threads and just make the situation worse.

Step 8: Place your first stab stitch about $\frac{3}{16}$ " away from the point. Then add 2-3 stab stitches as you work your way back to the point. After completing 2-3 stab stitches, return to normal appliqué.

Now it's time to return to our QuikPrep Appliqué Sampler to stitch the fourth block. This block will contain all four elements of hand-appliqué.

1. Trace pattern onto wrong side of background fabric.
2. Appliqué bottom most patch.
3. Repeat these steps as

