

## A QUILTER'S PORTABLE PLAY STATION

by Cindy Scraba

Quilters realize (and embrace) the reality that it can take months, even years, to complete a quilt. That's a lot of sitting time! It's important to find ways to make that time as convenient and pain free as possible. Think of the Lap App as a quilters' butler, serving handwork enthusiasts our favourite supplies on a tiered platter with everything you need to create and stitch at your fingertips.

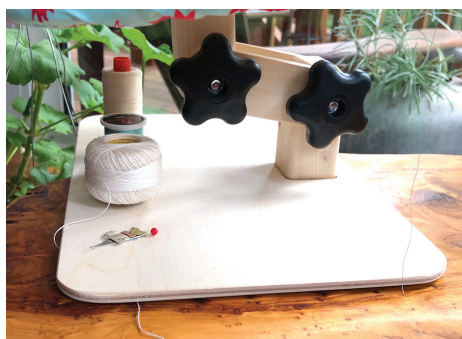
Designed to position your handwork in a way that makes it comfortable to work on, this versatile mini table sits on your lap. Maintaining an upright spine posture while seated automatically reduces tension in the neck, shoulders and wrists. The Lap App checks off many benefits for quilters who choose soulful hand methods including English paper piecing, piecing, embroidery, appliqué, quilting, perfect circles or whatever crafty tasks you enjoy!

### LAP APP FEATURES

- The table pedestal's height and angle are easily adjusted using ergonomic star knobs and the main screws are removable, allowing you to swap the knobs for left-handed access.
- Its compact 12" x 8" work surface pivots flat or on the diagonal, depending on your desired position.
- An elastic casing on the padded cotton fabric cover makes for easy removal and every table includes a pattern and template to create your own custom portable play station cover, as I've done.
- Beneath the cover there's a handy sandpaper sheet affixed to the table providing a non-slip surface for tracing.



With the Lap App portable table, you can personalize your play station with the tools and notions suited to your project. Comfortable, lightweight and portable, your tools and notions stay in place.



Star knobs make it easy to raise and lower the Lap App's height or change the table angle.

- Tuck your scissors, markers, seam ripper, glue pen, clips, etc. into the handy pocket.
- Three pegs on the bottom shelf provide convenient thread storage; just pull tails to release!



A sheet of sandpaper bonded to the top provides for a non-slip surface for tracing onto fabrics.

- A magnetized area secures needles, threaders and pins.
- It is handcrafted from lightweight pine and Baltic birch for easy portability and to resist warping.



# APPLIPOPS® MAKE FOR EASY PERFECT CIRCLES



Whether you need one circle or dozens, here's a quick and easy way to prep them. Applipops® interlocking stainless steel rings help create turned-edge circles that are ready to appliqué by hand or machine. This clever tool was invented by quilter Ellen Rosenbach. It's a set of set of eight sequentially sized rings ranging from .375 inches up to 2.0 inches. Just follow these steps.

**1** Frame your motif with the larger of two Applipops® interlocking rings.

**2** On the flip side, insert the smaller ring into the larger ring, securing the fabric.

Trim to between ¼" to ⅜".

**3** Apply liquid starch to fabric edges and wrap to pull tightly around the smaller ring.

**4** Press to heat set the starch; smooth edges, removing tucks during the process.

**CAUTION** The rings will be hot!



Allow time to let them cool. You can place a thermos of ice on top to speed up the process.

**5** When cooled, tap off the outer ring. You may wish to use a small set of tweezers.

**6** Pop out the inner ring and voilà – the raw edges are beautifully turned under, ready to be hand or machine appliqué.

Kudos to Lap App creator Joyce Haskins for this practical invention and for including her bonus DIY pattern to help you customize yours. Create a matching pin cushion to further personalize and organize your handwork play space.

It's always my sincere pleasure to carry products and tools for quilters, stitchers and fibre artists that offer benefits beyond time, money and convenience.

This portable table also works great for Zoom meetings to prop up your computer screen to eye level height. I love it when products are both fun and functional!

Enjoy the video of Joyce sharing the details about the Lap App: [youtu.be/Ep64LsGEZOA](https://youtu.be/Ep64LsGEZOA) and share your creative Lap App covers on social media #LapAppCinderella. Tag me – @cindythreadworks – I'd love to see your creations! 🌟

Cindy's Threadworks is your Canadian source for Lap App and Applipops®; visit [cindythreadworks.com](https://cindythreadworks.com). Follow Cindy on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

Thank you to editor Marie Cheesman for her suggestion to share Lap App and Applipops® with you. I've especially appreciated her intuition and skill, which have contributed greatly to the issues of *Canadian Quilter* that she has produced for CQA/ACC.

