

**SMART SIMPLE DELIGHTFUL  
PROJECT #5**

# APPLIQUE FLORAL POSTCARD

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By Amista Baker

My name is Amista Baker, I'm a sewing enthusiast, pattern designer, and stay at home Mom from a small town in Ohio. I'm here today to teach you how to make a keepsake you can send to family and friends during this time of social distancing, in honor of my good friend and sewing buddy Jill.

I received a sweet surprise in the mail from Jill recently - a quilted postcard she had made me. We haven't seen each other in nearly 2 months and I sure do miss her and our time spent together with friends sewing and going on fabric shopping adventures.

Nothing about this appliqué project is perfect or exactly symmetrical, and that's what I love about it. Nature isn't perfect and neither are we. Petals are different shapes and sizes, even on the same flower, so we'll be using that to our advantage here. You are more than welcome to use your own hand drawn templates, but if that's not something you're skilled at, you can use mine. You can also raid your fabric stash for floral prints and cut out flowers directly from those prints and eliminate the need for templates all together.



## materials

- (1) 7" x 9" piece of fabric for mug rug exterior (background for floral arrangement)
- (1) 7" x 9" piece of fusible fleece (I like Pellon 987F)
  - (1) 7" x 9" pieces of fusible woven interfacing (I like Pellon SF101)
- (1) 6" x 8" piece of white card stock for post card back
  - Marking pen or pencil
- Pinking shears or rotary cutter with pinking blade
- Printed appliqué templates from this tutorial
- EZ Steam II (or a similar appliqué fusible backing)
- Sewing machine and basic supplies



## step #1

Gather your desired fabrics. Cut all pieces from fabric and woven interfacing, then iron the interfacing to backside of your exterior top piece. Print out the provided appliqué templates and cut the pieces from the page. Trace templates to the \*backside\* of your EZ Steam II (on top of the grid) with a pencil or marking pen.



## step #2

Now we'll begin cutting our flowers and leaves. Peel of the plain white side of your EZ Steam II and press it to the back side of your fabric. Cut out the shapes with nice sharp scissors. If you're not using templates and have a floral piece printed on fabric you'd like to cut, skip drawing the templates and instead, apply your EZ Steam II to the backside of your floral fabric, then cut the shape desired using lines on the fabric. You can see below how I backed the butterfly fabric with EZ Steam II then cut the butterfly from the fabric instead of using a template.



### step #3

When working with appliqué its important that background pieces are applied first. Go ahead and arrange your floral bouquet pieces and center them on top of your postcard exterior to get a sense of how you'll be fusing it. We'll be trimming this piece down to 6" x 9" in a later step, so keep everything centered and at least  $\frac{3}{4}$ " away from all edges.



### step #4

Once you have a good layout, snap a photo with your phone and begin removing the top layers of the appliqué pieces until you have your first single layer of pieces only. Follow your fusible package instructions and use your Oliso Smart Iron to fuse those pieces to your post card exterior.

Next, you'll add your floral layers back one at a time, fusing them as you did in the previous step. When you're finished, iron your fusible fleece to the *\*backside\** of your exterior.

Now, you can leave it as is, or do some crosshatch quilting / free motion quilting / etc. to secure everything down. I chose to leave mine be and simply go with only fusing the pieces.



## step #5



Once your exterior top (with bouquet stitched finished and backing with fusible fleece) is done, trim the piece to 6" x 8". Place card stock on the back side of your appliqué piece and clip with binding clips to hold in place. Stitch around the entire perimeter of the postcard 2 to 3 times with a ½" seam allowance. When finished, trim allowance to ¼" with pinking shears or a rotary cutter with a pinking blade on it. Press flat if needed to get everything nice and crisp.

## mail it!



You're done! Flip the post card over to the card stock side and write a sweet message for your friend or family member on the left side. Add their address to the right and stamps up stop (Ask your local Post Office howm many stamps are required).

I hope you've enjoyed this free tutorial and make many postcards for your loved ones! If you're missing a sewing buddy (or several) during this time like I am it's a great way to show you're still around even if you can't be together. If you use this tutorial please tag @amistabaker and @olisohome on Instagram and share your creations with us! We would love to see what you make. Stay home, be safe, and create as much as you can! - Amista

# Applique Floral Bouquet Postcard

By Amista Baker for Oliso

This is a beginner friendly machine appliqué pattern with basic instructions on using adhesive backing on fabric and machine appliqué on a mailable postcard.

I have provided free hand drawn templates for you to use if you don't want to make your own, but you are free to draw your own or cut from pre-existing floral design printed on fabric that you have in your stash (which makes this process MUCH faster!). I will use a mix of both techniques in this free tutorial which you'll find on the Oliso blog.

If you make a postcard, please tag @amistabaker and @olisohome on Instagram to share your creations with us!

