



Helpful Tips from Husqvarna Viking Holiday Season 2007

Tips for embroidering on Towels

Embroidered Towels are fun, easy presents if you follow these guidelines:

Hooping:

- Either use your Do All Quilters Hoop with the “heavy” center hoop to allow for the thickness, or hoop a Water Soluble Stabilizer with Hoop Ease and baste the towel to the stabilizer. Either method works, and eliminates the possibility that the heavy towel will “pop” out of the hoop, before the embroidery is complete.
- Wind a bobbin with the same thread that is in the top so the back of the towel looks nice.
- Baste Inspira Clear’n Melt Stabilizer or 3D Aqua Magic (140002982) to the top of the towel before beginning your embroidery. These keep the embroidery from “sinking” into the loops of the terry cloth. The Clear’n Melt can be torn away with any remaining bits removed with a “COOL” iron. The 3D Aqua Magic needs to be removed by soaking in water.

Heirloom Tip

Heirloom Sewing is easy if you know some secrets. You are sewing on light weight fabrics and that can sometimes be a challenge. We used water soluble stabilizer to stabilize the fabric, but you can also stiffen it with what we call “Solvly Soup”. Just save all your water soluble stabilizer scraps, such as Solvly scraps. Save them in a jar or plastic bag until you accumulate a few. Then put them in a container with a lid and add water. Continue adding water until it is the consistency of latex paint. Using a new, clean paint brush, and with your fabric on a water proof surface, paint it with the “Solvly Soup”. Allow to dry, and what you have is a very stiff fabric that is perfect to stitch on, whether it is decorative stitches, hemstitching or embroidery. After your stitching is complete, simply rinse the fabric and all the stiffness goes away, and there is no stabilizer to pick out of the stitches.

How to Fill the Giving Jar

It’s great to put loose change in the Giving Jar at the end of each day. It will accumulate very quickly! But, many people don’t use cash in this age of the debit card so we have some suggestions for filling the jar more quickly!

- Every time someone says a certain word, like “dumb”, they have to put a quarter in the Giving Jar.
- Every time Mom or Dad say a “swear” word, they have to put a quarter in the Giving Jar.
- Instead of sending the kids to their rooms, or a time out chair, they have to put in a quarter.
- Take up a collection at family gatherings from Grandma, Grandpa etc. for the Giving Jar.
- Every time you eat a forbidden food, like chocolate, that you are trying to avoid, you have to pay the Giving Jar a dollar! It will make you think twice!
- Offer to make a Giving Jar for those who admire it, but only if they will put \$5.00 or \$10.00 in yours!
- Assign some chores to kids to earn money to put at least some of, if not all of into the Giving Jar.



Felting Tips

- The Husqvarna Viking Huskystar ER10 Needle felting Machine is great fun for kids to use! They love to cut up fabric, yarn or choose roving and create designs much as they would color or paint! Why not give them a base fabric and lots of scraps and let them go! The resulting “masterpiece” could be made into a pillow for Grandma, Dad, Teacher or a friend! They will love it, I guarantee it!
- An America Sews guest had a great tip for using your Huskystar ER10 Needle felting Machine. She uses it to piece batting! Just overlap the edges by 1” or so, and “run” it through the felting machine. The batting will be felted together without leaving a ridge that can be felt through the finished quilt.
- When you are felting through a “tough” spot like the seam in jeans, place the area to be felted under the needles and push on the control. Felt for a few seconds but don’t move the fabric. Allow the machine to stop, move next spot and repeat. By not moving the fabric under the needles, you are less likely to break a needle.
- Try “texturizing” fabrics like silk or organza. Just run the fabric under the needles of the Huskystar ER10 Needle felting Machine and the fabric “scrunches” up. After you have texturized the fabric, then use it for appliqués or to make a garment or part of a garment like collar and cuffs.
- Place a mini ball of yarn (use about 12”) under the needles of the Huskystar ER10 and felt to create a button!

Programming Candlewicking

Candlewicking is an age old technique that was a popular way to create texture and embellish fabric when dyes and colored fabric was very expensive. It was used extensively in colonial America and is a hand embroidery technique featuring French knots.

Today we can program it on our Husqvarna Viking Sewing Machines. Be sure to snap on your Candlewicking Foot #412510845 before beginning to sew. The underside of the foot has a very deep groove to allow the buildup of thread to pass under the foot.

Select the zig zag stitch, A1:11. Adjust the length to 0.0 and the width to 2.0 or 2.5. On the Designer SE, touch X2 six times. On other models, select, adjust and enter the stitch six more times. Then touch straight stitch to enter the “traveling” stitch. You can put in several straight stitches at 2.5 or one at 6.0 length.

Appliqué Tips

When doing appliqué, there are lots of different methods but using Steam-A-Seam makes the project go very smoothly! There are two different types of Steam-A-Seam. Regular Steam-A-Seam and Steam-A-Seam 2. Steam-A-Seam is a paper backed fusible web. It enables you to trace your appliqué, and then press the web to the wrong side of your fabric. You then cut out the appliqué and remove the paper backing. It is then ready to fuse to your project.

Steam-A-Seam 2 is a double sided sticky back paper back fusible web. Trace on the paper side that does not remove easily. It’s easy to trace if you remove the paper that removes easily, and “stick” the Steam-A-Seam 2 to the pattern that you are tracing. After tracing, “stick” it to the wrong side of your appliqué fabric and cut out the appliqué. Then remove the paper and “stick” it to your project. The sticky surface allows you to place everything, and then press with steam to fuse in place.