

AMERICA Quilts A creatively

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Easy Curved Piecing Needle Turn Appliqué

Easy Curved Piecing

Elisa Wilson from Back Porch Designs creates beautiful quilts using her precision acrylic templates. The quilts are made from Fat Quarters and are a great way to use lots of fabrics!



All instructions are included in the 7" template.

Elisa brought the multicolor Circle Dance quilt made from bright fun fabrics.

She brought several quilts to show the creative opportunities using one template set with different fabric and block arrangements. Elisa uses a variety of different quilting designs. Here, this swirly stippling accents the curves in the quilt.



Elisa Wilson and Sue Hausmann

Sewing Supplies:

- Pfaff Computerized Sewing Machine
- Elisa's Back Porch Small Paths 3 1/2" Template
- Elisa's Back Porch Crazy Curves 7" Template
- Pfaff 1/4" Right Guide Foot #820541096
- Rotary Cutter
- Rotary Cutting Mat
- Elisa's Back Porch Sew Easy Tweezers
- 20 fat Quarters
- Sulky Blendables
- Crazy Curves Book by Elisa Wilson



All the quilts are simple and quick to make with templates. The large one uses 20 fat quarters of fabric. The Drunkards path quilt pattern is the basis for all the quilts. The fabric and block arrangement and quilting make each one unique.



Elisa likes to leave the paper on the templates to keep them from slipping when cutting, but takes the paper off for fussy cutting to line up the template on a particular part of the print on the fabric.



1. Begin by selecting your fabrics. Elisa had a Rainbow arrayed on the table. She chose fabrics of different colors with the same values. They were not a combination of lights and darks. She suggested experimenting with different pallets, pastels, lights and darks.



2. Once fabrics are chosen, the placement is totally random. You can cut all the pieces in less than 30

minutes.

3. A Fat quarter, 18" x 22, is one yard cut in half, then the half is cut in half. This is the perfect size for this technique!

4. Press the fat quarter. Fold to 22" x 9". Then fold again.

5. Layer two pieces of fabric folded the same way, matching the folded edges with the selvage to your left.

6. A Rotating mat or other small mat makes cutting easiest. Cut eight thicknesses at once. Place the two large templates on the fabric near the selvage and cut edge. Cut curved edge. Hold down on the template and pull fabric away to see that all layers are cut. Cut all of one side first. Then turn the mat and cut the next side. Cut outer curve and inner curve at once.

7. The two curves on the templates don't match when placed side by side, because seam allowances are included on the template. When you sew the seam, the edges match perfectly.

8. Cut eight pieces from each fat quarter. On remaining fabric, open out fold and use the smaller template set to cut the small blocks. When four small blocks are sewn together, they form a block the same size as the large block. This means you can combine small blocks and large blocks in the quilt top for unlimited design opportunities. Elisa's Crazy Curves Book shows how!

9. To sew: Place the "L" shape on the bottom and pie shape curve on top, right sides together. Match the beginning points.

Snap on the Pfaff 1/4" Right Guide Foot. Engage IDT. Select needle stop down. Then guide the edge you are sewing and 1/2" or so in front of the foot. Guide the two layers



independently. Use Elisa's tweezers at the end. The curves stitch together like magic!

10. Press either way but don't clip. Press with wrong side up first, then from the right side.

11. Once you have pieced all the blocks, play with the arrangement until you have the quilt top design you love! Then piece the blocks, quilt and bind!

What's New to Do

Needle Turned Appliqué

Nancy Giles representing Colonial Needle Co. brought a great new way to do hand turned needle appliqué without tedious hand turning! Usually, this is a hand technique where the edges are turned with a hand needle and hand stitched to the fabric.

Trace off the pattern pieces from the pattern on the next page. Make an applique template for each piece using a manila folder as a base. Mark the right side on each template. To cut out each piece, place the template piece on a "chunk" of fabric and cut 1/2" to 1" outside the template edge. Don't be precise, just cut a chunk of fabric. Moisten the fabric. Nancy places the pieces in a diaper wipe container with a little water to moisten them. Nancy works on a great turntable. It is a "spice" turntable from 20 years ago re-born into a new life. Add three or four layers of cotton batting and a piece of an old sheet or muslin on the top to make a pressing surface. Place the applique fabric chunk wrong side up. Place the template on top. Pin with a couple pins through the template and the fabric into the batting. Using a small iron, hot, without steam, press the edges around the manila template.

Use a Sixth Finger Stiletto to manipulate the fabric around the template tightly and press well.

Trim excess fabric on the wrong side to 1/4". Layer with the other pieces onto a fabric background. . . Stitch as you do any other appliqué with a hand-look appliqué stitch on your Pfaff Sewing Machine.



Nancy Giles and Sue Hausmann

Sewing Supplies:

- Pfaff Sewing Machine
- Manila File Folder
- Havel's Scissors
- Colonial Needle Rotary Blade Sharpener
- Ergo 2000 Rotary Cutter
- Hobico Custom Sealing Iron
- Colonial Needle Sixth Finger Stiletto
- Sulky 40 wt. Rayon Embroidry Thread
- Pfaff Open-toe Appliqued Foot 9mm w/IDT #820213096
- Pfaff Sewing Star Foot #820654096
- Colonial Needle Mat Smoother

Nancy also taught how to sharpen rotary cutter blades with the Colonial Needle Rotary Cutter Blade Sharpener and how to clean groove cut in a self healing rotary cutting mat with the Colonial Needle Mat Smoother.

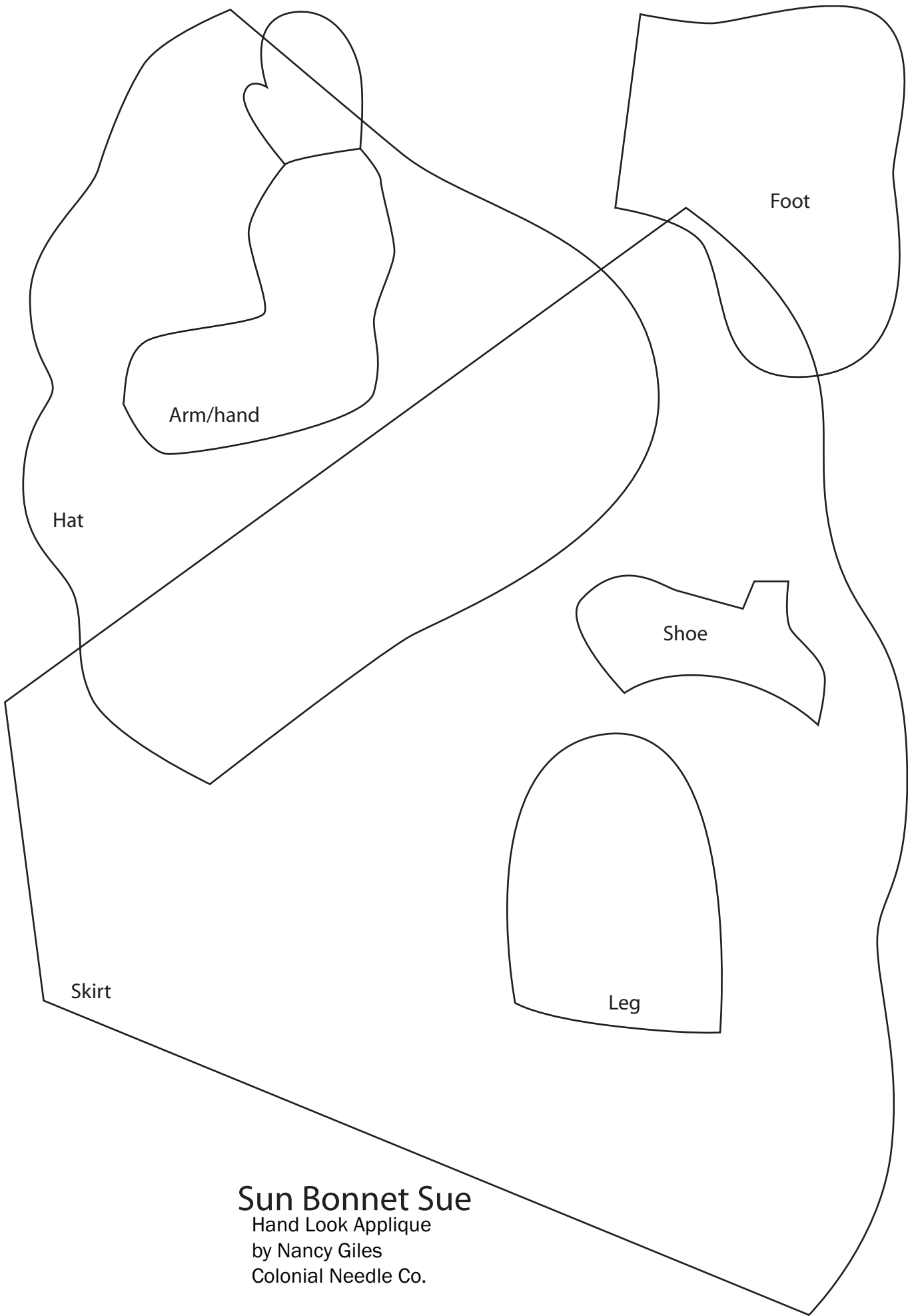
Thanks to our Underwriters:



www.backporchdesign.com



www.colonialneedle.com



Sun Bonnet Sue
Hand Look Applique
by Nancy Giles
Colonial Needle Co.