Free: Halloween Designs - 2014

This freebie includes a cute Halloween bat and a free text design. The Halloween Bat design uses mylar; the text design does not use mylar.

If you haven't done any mylar designs before, these instructions will help you. For more information, you can also check this page:

http://www.CharmingStation.com/MylarDesigns.html

Supplies

Fabric   You can choose any garment or fabric that you like for these designs. These would be perfect for a Trick or Treat bag for Halloween!

Thread colors   You can alter the suggested thread colors to match your fabrics.

Stabilizer   These designs are light enough to use most any stabilizer; we used a light weight tear away.

Mylar   We recommend using the mylar that is made for embroidery and can withstand washing and a pressing with a press cloth.   We used Opal Iridescent mylar for the design.

For more information on mylar and what the differences are, please visit this website:

http://www.heirloomsbysharon.com/

Tip for sewing on dark fabric

Mylar designs have less density (the rows of stitching are farther apart to allow the mylar to sparkle through. If you use a dark fabric or garment for the background, that color will show through when your design is finished. If you don't want that to happen, you can create a "color blocker" to place on your fabric before you embroider the design.

Use one of these methods:

1. Try White Mylar, available from http://www.heirloomsbysharon.com/ We have a sample with photos of how this works here: http://www.charmingstation.com/WhiteMylar.html

2. Use a piece of "**Hide It**[1]" that is the same color as your main design. If you don't have this product, you can use stabilizer with one of the techniques below.

3. If you have software that will print out a template of the design in it's actual size, print out the design and use this as a template to cut out the shape from a medium weight cutaway stabilizer.

Or

4. Hoop a piece of medium cutaway stabilizer and sew out the first color of the design you plan to use. Remove this from the machine and trim just to the inside of the stitching all the way around.

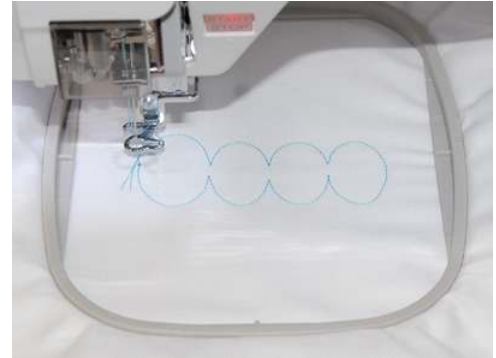This piece of stabilizer will be your "color blocker" for use in the steps below.

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[1]We purchase this product from http://www.nancysnotions.com//

Embroidery Steps

Since these designs were created for mylar, please take a minute to read through these steps, even if you have used mylar designs in the past.

Note: **The first two colors in the Halloween bat design are the outline and tack down stitches for your mylar. To save color changes, you can use the same light colored thread for each of these steps as color #3 (white). Then follow the steps below to avoid having to change colors:**

- Hoop your fabric/stabilizer

- The first color will sew out an outline for the mylar. Use white which appears as color #3 on each chart. This eliminates the need to change thread colors for the first three color stops.

- If you are using a dark or printed background, lay your "color blocker" or "Hide It" on the outline you just sewed. If your background is light or white, just skip this step.

- Place a piece of mylar on top of the hoop, making sure that it covers the entire outline sewn in the previous step (and your "color blocker" if you want to use one).

- You can use small pieces of tape to hold this in place if you want - I find that the mylar may bunch up a little if you don't tape it down.

- Sew the second color (use the same color as in step 1). This will tack down the mylar for you and hold it while you sew the filler parts of the design.

- Do NOT try to trim at this point. There is a much higher rate of tearing the mylar that will be under the design at this step. For these designs, we suggest you trim after the design is sewn.

- Sew out the remaining colors.

- Remove the hoop from the machine.

- Remove the excess mylar by gently pulling it back toward the stitching. The needle has perforated the mylar for you so it will be very easy to remove. If you have any little pieces sticking out you can remove those with tweezers.

That's it, that's all you have to do to make these fun designs!

Little Charmers - Free Halloween Design - 2014
The colors listed here are only suggestions - feel free to use the colors that you prefer.   All of these designs have been sewn out several times on different machines using one layer of tear away stabilizer. The first two colors in each design create an outline that cover with the mylar, and then tacks the mylar down for you.
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1	Snow White
2	Palest Ivory
3	Snow White
4	Dark Texas Orange
5	Gold/Yellow
6	Midnight
7	Iris
8	Old Gold
9	Black

File: batTreats-4x4.pes
Stitches: 6434   Colors: 8/9
Size: 3.67x3.91 "   Stops: 8
Size: 93.1x99.2 mm   Stops: 8

1	Snow White
2	Palest Ivory
3	Snow White
4	Dark Texas Orange
5	Gold/Yellow
6	Midnight
7	Iris
8	Old Gold
9	Black

File: batTreats-5x7.pes
Stitches: 9809   Colors: 8/9
Size: 5.01x5.33 "   Stops: 8
Size: 127.3x135.4 mm   Stops: 8

1	Dark Texas Orange
2	Black
3	Dark Texas Orange

File: TrickorTreat-4x4.pes
Stitches: 4442   Colors: 2/3
Size: 3.13x3.74 "   Stops: 2
Size: 79.5x95.1 mm   Stops: 2

1	Dark Texas Orange
2	Black
3	Dark Texas Orange

File: TrickorTreat-5x7.pes
Stitches: 6032   Colors: 2/3
Size: 4.44x5.32 "   Stops: 2
Size: 112.9x135.1 mm   Stops: 2