

Seagull Applique Picture



Easy machine applique and a little hand embroidery combine to make this great seaside design. This one is mounted on a 10 x 12" canvas block, but it would also make a great cushion cover or beach bag design.

You will need:

Main background fabric 10" tall x 15" wide (I used Cath Kidston Sailboats)

Second background fabric 5" tall x 15" wide (I used blue dotty fabric)

4" square cream felt, small pieces gold, grey and black felt.

1 yard aqua ric rac braid

Scraps patterned fabric for flags.

Embroidery floss – dark blue, black and light grey.

Fabric adhesive and/or bondaweb.

Sewing machine thread in black and grey

Canvas block and staple gun (if mounting onto frame)

To make your panel:

Join the two pieces of background fabric along the long bottom edge of the wider piece edge and press seam open.

Transfer the design to your fabric. It is given here the right size to fit a 10" x 12" artists' block, but you may wish to resize it. Do check the size in any case as all printers are different and what is correct for me, might not be for you.

Cut the seagull and post-top pieces and secure to base fabric, using the transferred design as a guide. Always work from the bottom pieces upwards – so start with the post, then the legs, body, wings, tail and finish with the beak.

Using grey thread in the bobbin and black in the needle work two rows of machine stitching around the seagull as shown in the design. Work a single row around the legs, with some zig-zags to represent knees. Also work a single row around the beak.



The stitching shouldn't be too neat as a little messiness somehow adds to the effect.

Before you add your flags work the text by hand using back stitch and 2 strands of dark blue floss. (If you apply the flags first then your hoop might damage and distort them).

Stitch the seagull's tail feathers in 2 strands of grey floss and back stitch. Also give the top of the post some detail (imagine the light is shining on it) with 3 strands of grey floss and straight stitch (see image for details).



Press lightly on the reverse.

Now apply and secure (with adhesive or Bondaweb) your flags. Run 2 lines of machine stitching for the line across the top of the flags. Then stitch a third line, but this time stitching around the flags to secure them in place.

Press on reverse again.

Position your work centrally on the canvas block. Make sure it is straight, especially if you are using dotty or stripey fabric as any wonkiness will be really obvious to the eye (I mention from sad experience). Turn over and secure fabric at the back with your staple gun, carefully folding the corners to avoid lumpiness.

Apply your ric rac braid by stapling it at the back of the frame, pulling until taut and then stapling again at the other side. Do this at the top and bottom.

Finished!

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I do like to
be beside the
Seaside

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