

Using Overlay Sheets for Mirror Images and Appliqué

by Susan Purney Mark & Daphne Greig

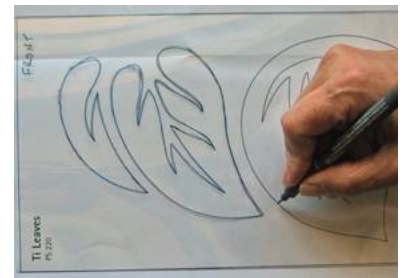
Have you ever tried to figure out how to reverse an image (make a mirror copy) or lay out the appliqué pieces in exactly the same places as the diagram? I have found that very few books or resources show you simple and effective methods for these steps.

In many of our patterns we use mirror images to create interesting and appealing design motifs. By using an overlay sheet we accomplish both steps in a very easy way.

There are several options for overlay sheets: Quilters Vinyl is a sturdy clear plastic available by the yard; clear acetate sheets and plastic page protectors are commonly available at office supply stores. Look for a size that is large enough to completely cover your appliqué shapes or block. If transferring a block or group of shapes it is helpful to have the plastic sheet the exact size of the block.

These are the steps to follow after you have cut your overlay sheet to size:

1. Trace the appliqué shapes onto the overlay using a fine tip permanent marker. Label this as the front.



2. To reverse the image, flip the overlay and trace the appliqué onto the paper side of the fusible web or freezer paper (if using these appliqué methods) or a new paper copy of the pattern if desired. It is helpful to put a white sheet of paper behind the overlay to get a clear image and prevent shadowing.



3. To place the appliqué shapes on a background: Place the marked plastic sheet over the background block and pull it back on one side. Position the appliqué shapes and lower the plastic to check their placement. You may need to readjust the shapes to get the correct positioning. Remove the overlay and pin or fuse your appliqué shapes in place.

The design pictured here is from our pattern **Ti Leaves**, part of our fun *Give & Take Appliqué™* pattern series. This pattern and the other designs in the series are available on our website.



Susan and Daphne are authors of *Fat Quarter Frenzy Two* and *Simple Stained Glass Quilts* and have developed designs together since 1996.

Their **Too Easy Stained Glass™** and **Give & Take Appliqué™** patterns are popular with quilters worldwide.

Visit their website to order patterns, books and review their teaching information.

www.patchworkstudio.com

(250) 595-4411