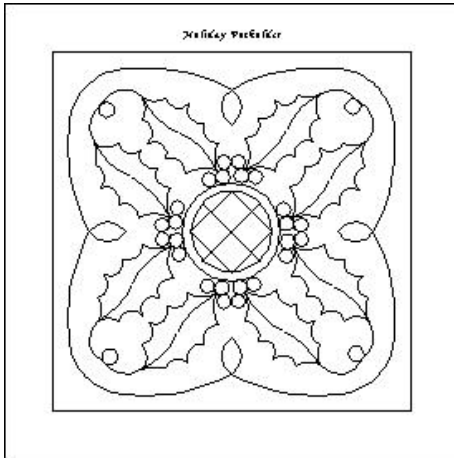


Holly Block Pattern Instructions

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This pattern can be used for hand quilting, machine quilting, hand-embroidery, coloring with inks, appliqué or a mixture of these techniques. The pattern can be used alone for a holiday pot holder, a small wall or table decoration or repeated for a quilt. These instructions are based on machine quilting an individual block/pot holder with a domestic machine.

First, make two copies of the pattern PDF file. Trim one of them at the dashed line and tape the two pieces together to create one full sized pattern.



You will need 2 pieces of fabric about 12 inches square and one piece of cotton batting the same size. Light colored fabrics that are plain or tone on tone work best to trace the pattern.

You can use a blue water erasable marker or chalk pencil to mark the design. Secure the pattern to a table or light-table if you have one. Lay your fabric, right side up-on top, centering it with the pattern. Using painters tape to secure the fabric to the table will help keep it in place for marking the design. Trace entire design. Remove tape.

Next, layer the backing fabric, batting and marked top with the marked design facing up. Secure the three layers with quilter's safety pins or baste as desired.

Choose your thread for the project. Stick with cotton threads if this is to be used as a potholder. Contrasting or variegated threads really make the pattern stand out. Use the appropriate needle for your thread choice and be sure to clean and oil your machine before starting. I like to use a darning or quilting foot, lower the feed dogs and quilt this design free-motion. Stitch on a test piece to adjust your tension, if necessary.

With a pattern of this size, I would recommend starting in the center and working out. Most of this pattern can be stitched continuously with a little retracing in the berries. Don't forget to stitch the outline square. Trim away the excess fabric and batting about an eight inch from the outer stitched square.

For a quick finish, cut another piece of fabric the same size as your trimmed block. Pin them, right sides together and stitch with a ¼ inch seam around the edge, leaving an area open to turn the project right side out. Hand stitch the un-sewn area closed. Otherwise, bind as desired.

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