

Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

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Making a custom stencil is quick and easy with Artistic digitizer. This quilted pillow is a great way to learn a feature of this software. The stencil will be made with built in shapes but it could be accomplished in many ways. At the end, there will be some bonus information about that.

Janome Supplies Required:

- Artistic Digitizer loaded on PC/MAC
- Artistic Digital Cutter with mat
- Blade for cutting product
- Template material or card stock
- Sewing machine
- FMQ foot
- 1/4" Seam foot O

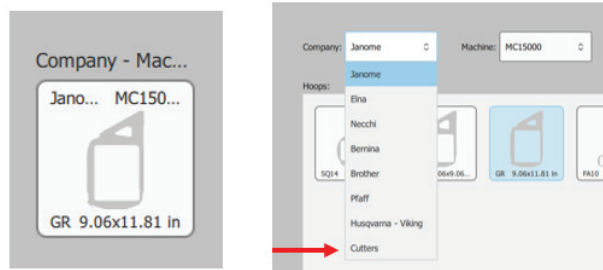
Fabric/Notions Required:

- Chalk Pencil, Pounce, or water erasable marker
- Pillow Topper Front: 9, 5" squares
- Flange strips – 4, 1 1/4" x 16"

- Backing – 2, 15" Squares
- Batting – 1, 16" square
- Thread for piecing
- Thread for quilting
- 14" pillow form

Digitizing Directions:

1. Open Artistic Digitizer.
2. Select Company/Machine.
3. Select Cutters.



4. Select Mat Size > Select Cutter type > Select Create New > Select Techniques.

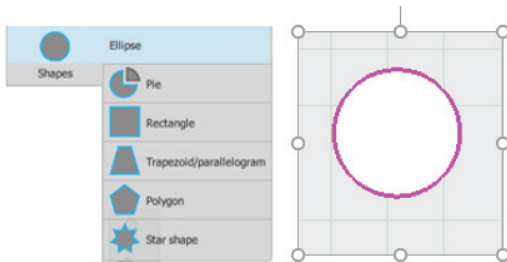


5. From the top tool bar select Techniques. The techniques tool box will open and Stencil will be selected. You do not need to do this each time – this just shows you where to pick other techniques.

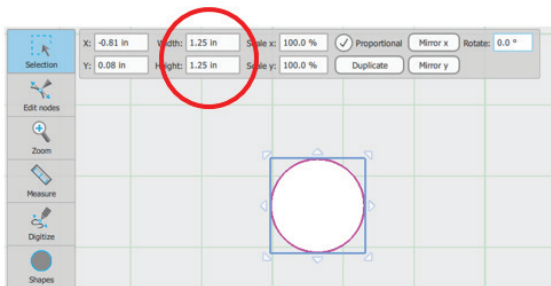
Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow



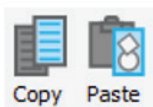
6. Select Shapes > Select Ellipse.
7. Hold ctrl, to make a perfect circle click in the design area, hold down the ctrl tab and drag your circle. Release.



8. Click the Selection tool then Click on the circle to select circle.
9. Using the Properties box change size to 1.25.



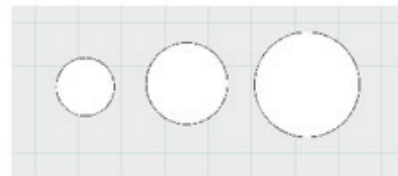
10. Select Circle > Select Copy.



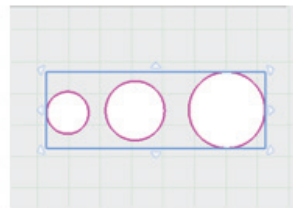
11. Select Paste > Slide Circle to the right.



12. Change size to 1.75.
13. With Circle selected, Select Copy > Select Paste.



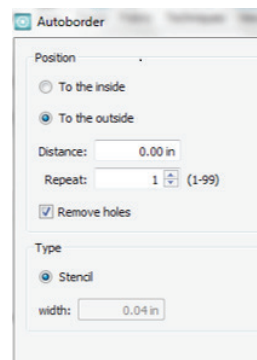
14. Change size to 2.25 and Slide to the right.
Note: To make the stencil there must be a stencil bridge applied to the line. The stencil bridge makes the little spot that holds the template material together so the centers do not fall out and a channel is made in which to place a pencil or chalk to make the lines of the stencil.
15. Select all 3 circles by holding the ctrl and A key.



16. Select Auto Border

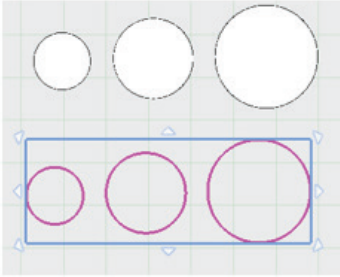


17. Stencil should be selected Select Ok.

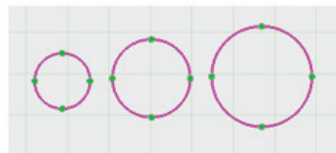
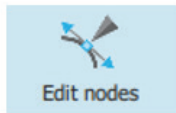


Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

18. Keep circles selected, Click and drag down to reveal outlines.



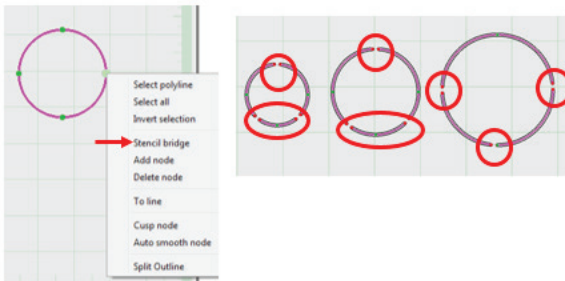
19. Delete solid circles.
20. Select Outlines.



21. Select Edit Nodes.
22. Apply Stencil Bridge.

Note: Stencil bridges are added by right clicking on a green node then selecting Stencil Bridge from the dropdown menu.

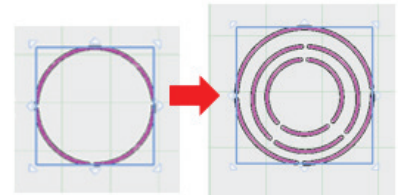
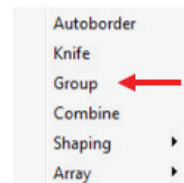
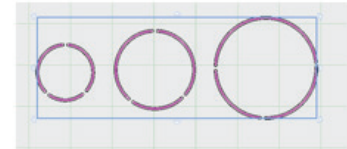
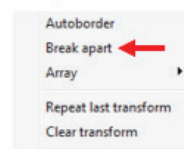
23. A stencil bridge can be added anywhere along the circles by hovering over the line then right clicking when the green node appears.



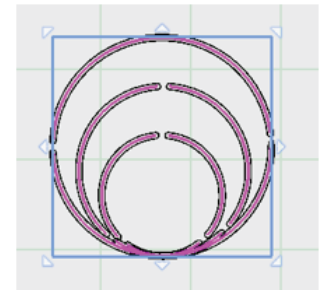
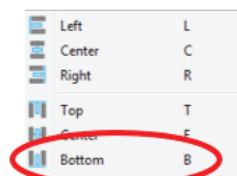
24. Right click on a node and select Stencil Bridge from the drop down.
25. The 2 smaller circles need Stencil Bridges closer to the bottom – those are made by hovering over the line and right clicking then picking Stencil Bridge from the drop down.
26. Follow the chart above for placement of the nodes.

Note: There isn't a set place to put the stencil bridges it just depends on the shape being made and what is needed to keep it together. Stencil bridges and the open areas can have their sizes changes based on what the stencil is for. No changes needed for this project.

27. The circles need to be layered on top of each other than stretched to make the slight egg shape.
28. With the circles selected right click and select break apart from the drop down. Each part of the circle is now a separate piece.
29. Select each circle using the selection box, right click within the box and select group to keep the pieces of each circle together.
30. Place each of the smaller circles in the center of the large one. Don't worry about how it is aligned that will be done with another tool.

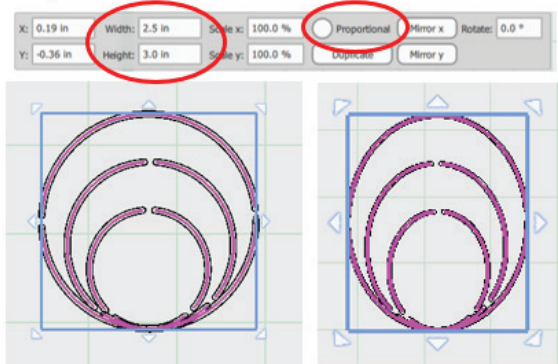


31. With the circles selected and grouped, select align from the top tool bar
32. Select Bottom from the drop down. The circles will now be layered at the bottom.



Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

33. With circles selected, uncheck the proportional circle and change the width to 2.5 and the height to 3.0.



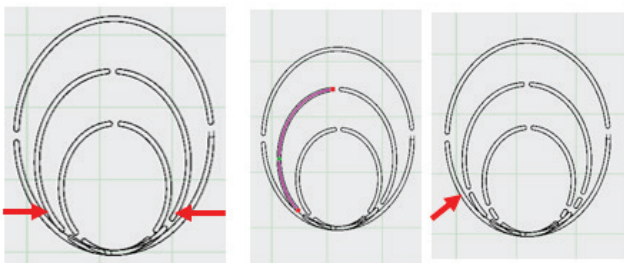
34. With the circles on top of each other take a look at the bottom of the stencil where the circles come together. The middle circle comes too close to the outer circle on each side. When this is cut it might not be very sturdy. An additional stencil node can be placed.

35. The extra parts will be deleted once these edits take place.

36. Select the inner circle, and then select edit nodes.

37. One section of the circle will be selected. Hover over the line so the stencil bridge would not be too close to the outer or inner circles.

38. Right click and select Stencil Bridge. Do the same for the middle circle.

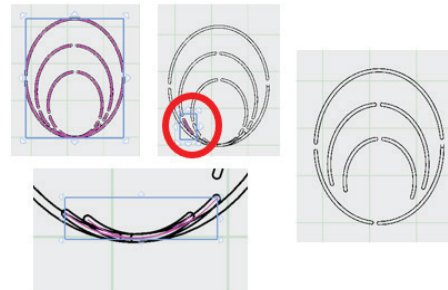


39. Edit Parts.

40. Select All, right click, and select Break Apart.

41. Select the parts that need to be deleted, then delete.

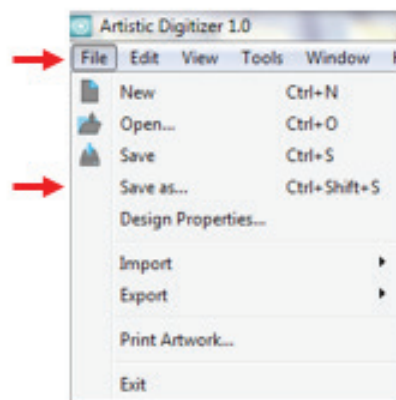
42. Select the bottom section and delete.



43. Save stencil

44. Select File

45. Save As, and then place in a folder.

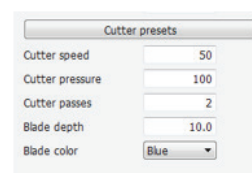


Note: I creating an Artistic Working Folder with sub folders for the designs you are working with makes it easy to find your completed designs.

Cutting Directions:

1. Attach the cutter to the PC and Turn on.
2. Assemble the supplies, mat, blade, and product to be cut.

Note: before cutting template material cut a piece of card stock to check the stencil. If it isn't what you want you can go back and make some edits to it.



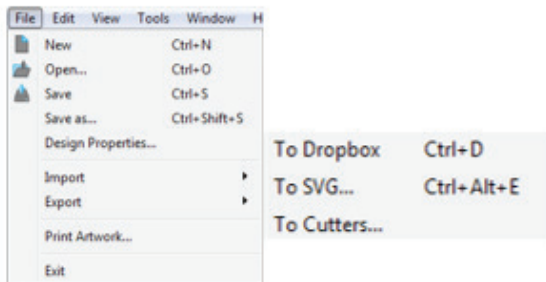
Name	Material	Blade color	Blade depth
Edge	Crystal Template Material - Flocked	Blue	6.0
Edge	Stencil Plastic	Blue	10.0
Edge	Plastic	Red	5.0
Edge	Paint/Draw	None	0.0

Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

3. Select Cutter Presets > Choose the material to be cut.

Notice the Cutter presets, Pressure, Cutter passes, Blade depth and Blade color all change with the product chosen.

4. Export to Cutter:

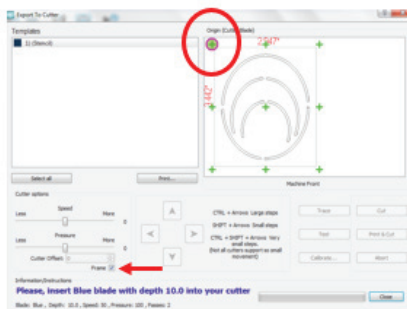


5. Select File > Export > To Cutter
6. Choose cutter.



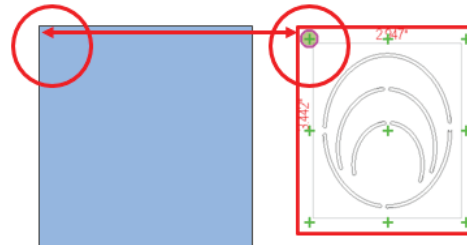
Note: The cutter window has all the information about the stencil to be cut. The green cross hairs represent blade placement.

7. If you plan to use a chalk pounce product to apply the chalk Unselect frame if it is selected. Cut your template material 3-4" larger than the stencil to be cut – this will give a wide border around the stencil. Change the blade orientation, to the center crosshair and mark the center of the template material with a small dot or crosshair.
8. If using a chalk pencil or marker check the frame box. Select the top left crosshair.

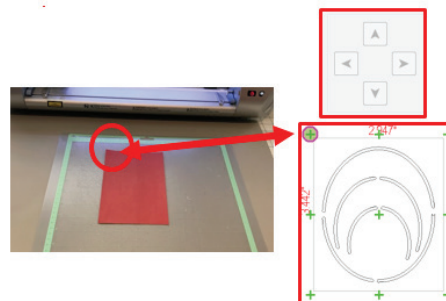


9. Change blade orientation.

Note: With the Artistic Edge digital cutter, you can control where the cutter will start to cut the stencil. The orientation relates to the product that you are cutting. Placing the orientation in the top left means the cutter will start in the top left corner of the material that is placed on the mat and move to the start of the cut – the starting cut is determined in the software. Placing it in the center it will cut the stencil from the center of the fabric.



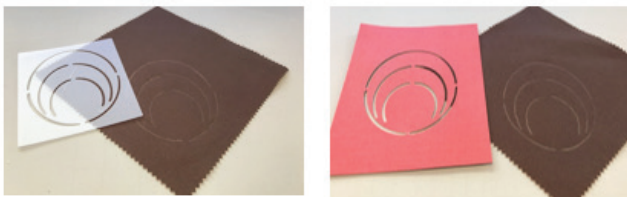
10. Place the template material on the mat.
11. Use the mouse and click the arrows on the cutter window to advance the mat. The up/down arrows move the mat in and out. Use the left/right arrows to move the blade housing into position.
12. If the top left crosshair is selected use the arrows to place the laser light on the blade housing in the orientation chosen.
13. The sample shows the orientation to the top left.
14. If using a center position align the laser with the center dot on the template material.



15. After cutting the stencil carefully remove from the mat.

Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

16. Place it on the sample fabric and use the product of choice to mark the fabric.
17. The sample test used chalk on the dark fabric the project sample used a water erasable pen.
18. The stencil can be taped to the fabric if needed.



Pillow Directions:

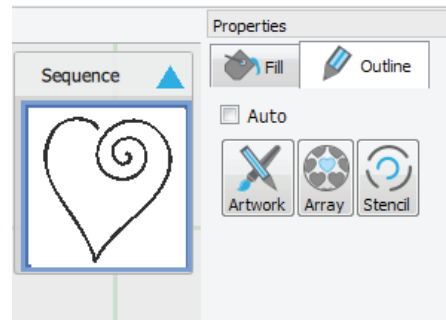
Note: All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

1. Gather the supplies to make the pillow front.
2. Thread machine with sewing thread and attach the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam foot O.
3. Lay out the 9-5" squares and Make 3 rows of 3.
4. Stitch together the squares in each row.
5. Press the top and bottom seams to the right and the middle row to the left.
6. Match the rows and stitch the rows together.
7. Press the rows in one direction.
8. Once the squares are sewn together, place the template in the corners of the blocks and mark the fabric.
9. Note: The sample test used chalk on the dark fabric the project sample used a water erasable pen.
10. The stencil can be taped to the fabric if needed.
11. Place the stencil in the corners of the blocks. The sample stencils were placed in the pattern above. The center designs will overlap in the center.
12. Layer the front section on top of the batting and pinning the layers together.
13. Place the free motion foot on the machine, change to quilting thread in the needle and bobbin.
14. Use the stenciled lines to guide the quilting.
15. Press strips wrong sides together lengthwise.
16. Place along edges of pillow front with raw edges together.
17. Strips are longer than pillow sides, overlap strips at the corners.
18. Trim any extra material.
19. Stitch in place and fold and press one back section in half wrong sides together.
20. Lay it on the pillow front with raw edges even with pillow edges.
21. Trim to fit the pillow front.
22. Make a 2" hem in the other back section.



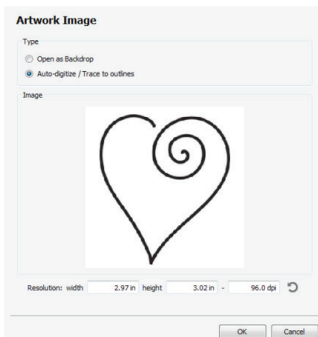
Stencil Me a Quilted Pillow

23. Lay it right side down on front section keeping raw edges even.
24. Trim to fit pillow front.
25. Sew around the pillow and enjoy.
6. Select Scale Image.
7. Select Accuracy of 5.
8. Change Color Limit to 2.
9. Select Trace Art Work.
10. Select Trace

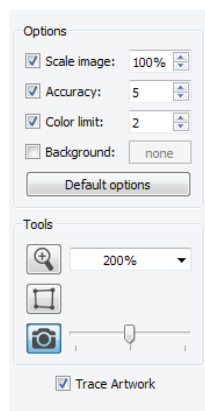


Bonus Stencil using clip art Directions:

1. Select machine, Cutters and mat.
2. Select Open and navigate to saved clip art.
3. Select clip art and open.



4. Select Auto Digitize.
5. Select Ok.



11. Select Item.
12. Select Stencil.
13. Save File.
14. Select File.
15. Select Export.
16. Select to Cutters.
17. Follow directions from the cutting directions above.

