



Valentine Pocket Sampler

Project by: Samantha Walker

Project Level/Time: Intermediate/6-8 hours

Equipment:

Janome MC 15000 use Janome Hoop SQ23 and GR (smaller hoops can be used if you divide the design into individual parts)

Janome Artistic Edge Cutting Machine (cutting machine optional for cutting applique.)

Software:

Artistic Creative DRAWings if you want to modify the file.

Embroidery Design and Pattern Provided:

SW-Valentine-hearts-medium-pink-fabric.jef

SW-Valentine-Envelopes-White-Fabric.jef

SW-Valentines-envelopes-Pink-Fabric.jef

Supplies:

Light-weight iron on interfacing (16x9 inch piece for pocket)

Light iron-on stabilizer 1/4 yard

Quilt batting (16x20 inch piece)

Double sided fusible for applique



Thread:

Red, Black, Grey for the stamp (or pink or white) embroidery thread, white, red, pink quilting thread

Fabric:

This is a perfect project for getting rid of your scraps.

If you are buying new fabric you will need a fat quarter for the backing,

A selection of 1/8 yard cuttings of 5 to 8 fabrics in varying shades of pink and red and white.

1/4 yard fabric for your binding.

To start:

Cut a 2 X 16 inch strip for the hanging loops at the top.

Cut your 16 X 20 inch piece for the backing

Cut binding strips 3 inches wide. You'll need about 75 inches to go around the perimeter of the project.

Cut the applique hearts using the provided printable pattern. Attach the fabric you are using for the hearts to double sided fusible so you can easily attach them to your project.

You can also cut the the hearts with the Artistic Edge Cutting machine.

(However, you must stabilize the fabric first.)

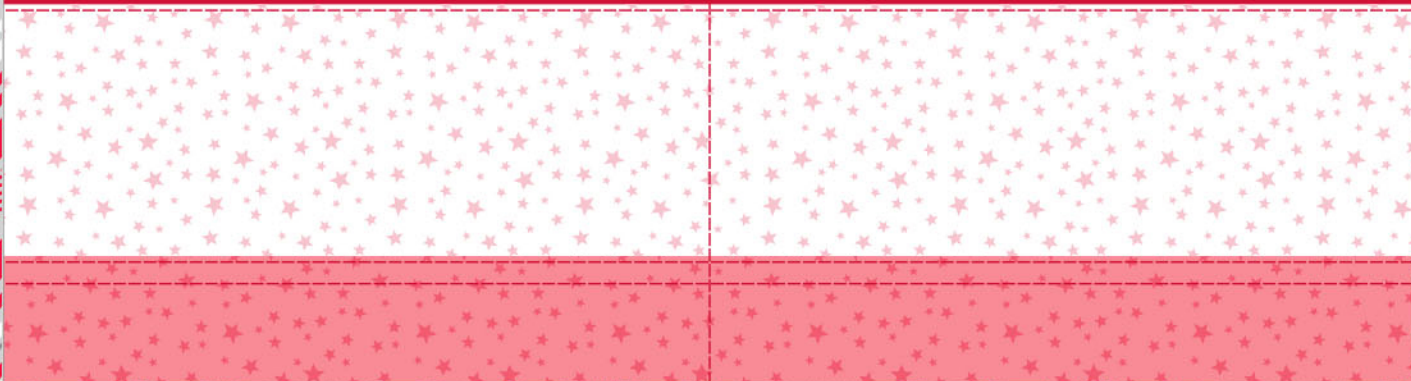
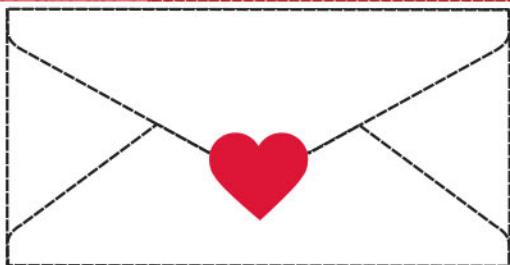
Save the block cutting for after the embroidery

Be My Valentine

YOUR SECRET ADMIRER
123 GUESS WHO DRIVE
ANYTOWN, USA 08310



MY SWEET VALENTINE
831 LOVERS LANE
ANYTOWN, USA 08310



Be My Valentine

16 X 3.5



4.75 X 6



4 X 6

YOUR SECRET ADMIRER
123 GUESS WHO DRIVE
ANYTOWN, USA 08310

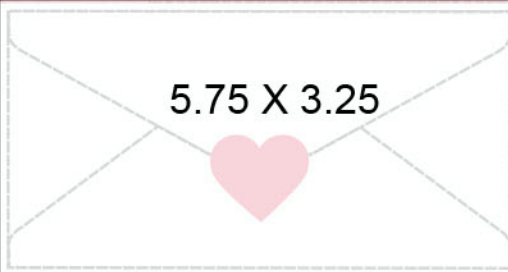


MY SWEET VALENTINE
831 LOVERS LANE
ANYTOWN, USA 08310

8 X 6



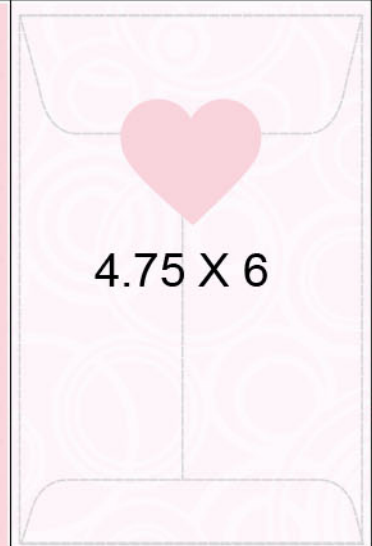
3 X 3.25



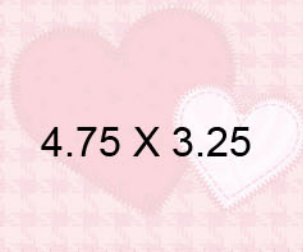
5.75 X 3.25



4 X 6



4.75 X 6



4.75 X 3.25



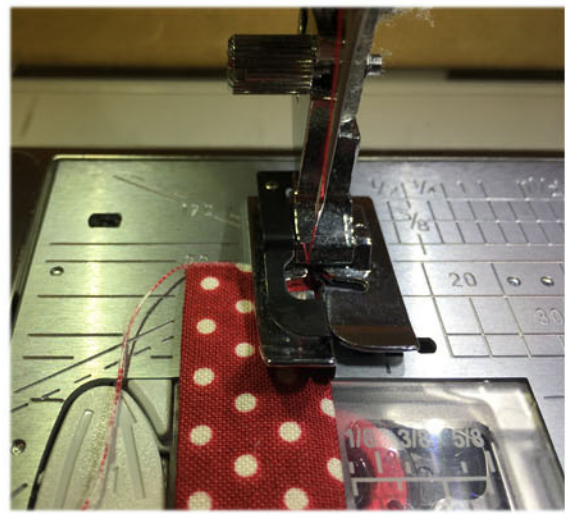
4 X 3.25

16 X 6 This block sits behind the pocket

16 X 10

This is the pocket piece. Fold the pocket over lengthwise wrong sides facing. Pocket will be lined with the same fabric as the front, the fold will be at the top of the pocket. You will also need a 16 x 5 piece of stabilizer. This will be sandwiched between the front and reverse side of the pocket.

16 X 1.75



Start with the loops first

1. Fold your 20X2 inch strip of fabric in half (right sides facing.)
2. Sew edges together using a 1/4 inch seam.
3. Next we will turn the sash right side out.



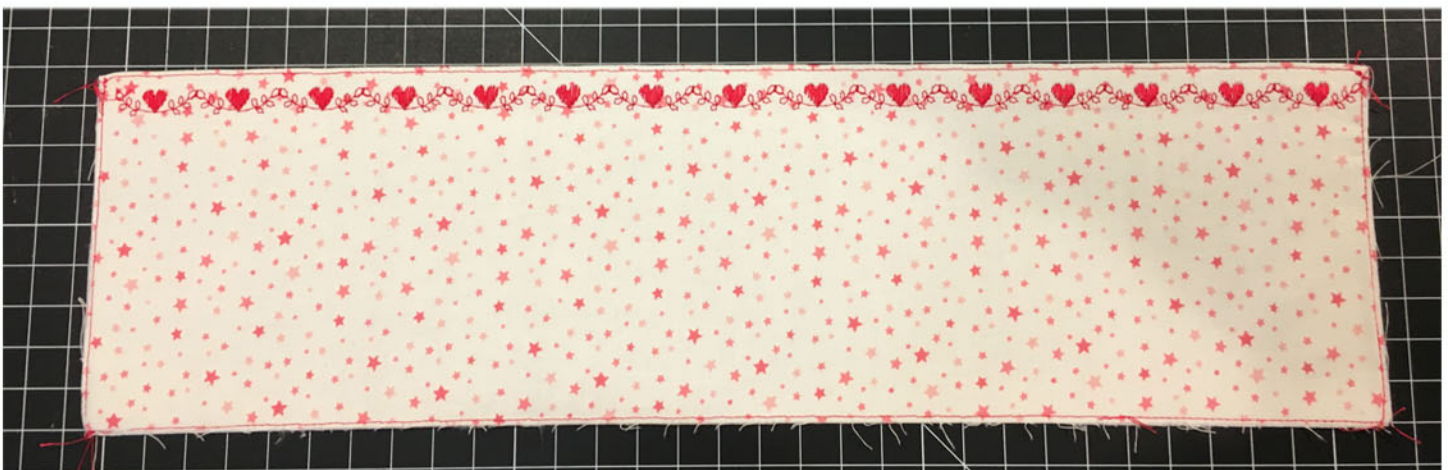
Hint: We are making 5 loop pieces, but it's easier to sew one big long strip. However, I prefer turning smaller sections, so go ahead and cut the strip into 5 equal sections before turning right side out. This will make it super easy to turn each one.

4. Press the sections so that the seam does not end up on an edge. (see left picture above.)
5. We will now top-stitch the loop pieces on both edges, so they won't go all skee-wampus.

Hint: For this step, use your "G" foot. Adjust your needle position so that your needle hits about 1/16 to 1/8 from the edge when fabric is aligned with the foot's guide. (see right picture above.)

5. Set aside your 5 loop pieces as we won't need them again until we bind the sampler.

Hint: Clip them together so you don't lose one.



Now we will make the pocket

6. Fold your 16 x 10 inch piece of fabric in half lengthwise. Iron the folded edge.
7. Insert your interfacing between the fold, and adhere with your iron.
8. Top stitch the top edge of the pocket using your "G" foot. Be sure to adjust your needle so it runs very close to the edge.

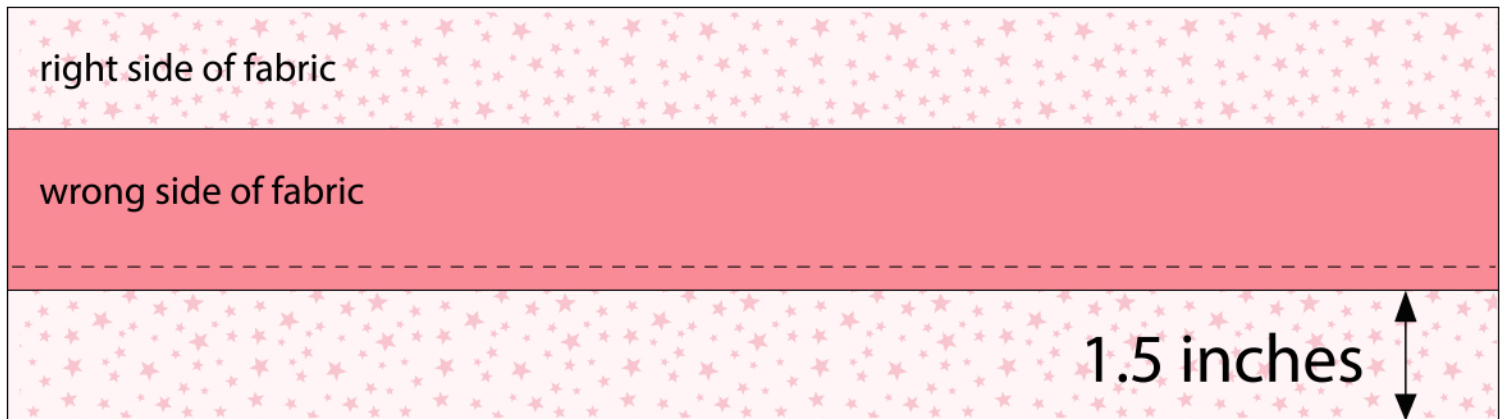


9. Add a decorative stitch to the top edge of the pocket. I used this cute heart and vine stitch that is an included stitch on the Janome MC 15000. Can I tell you...I JUST LOVE THIS STITCH!!!

10. Attach the 16 X 1.75 inch contrast strip to the pocket.

Measure up 1.5 inches from the bottom of the pocket, lay the contrast fabric on top of the pocket wrong side will be up (right sides pocket, and contrast strip will be facing.)

Attach the strip to the fabric by sewing 1/4 inch from edge of the contrast strip, then fold down and press so the right side is facing.



11. Top stitch the top edge of the contrast strip using your "G" foot. Remember, adjust your needle position. (See top right picture.)

12. Top stitch again 1/4 inch down from the edge stitching on the contrast piece. (Top left picture shows both stitches.)

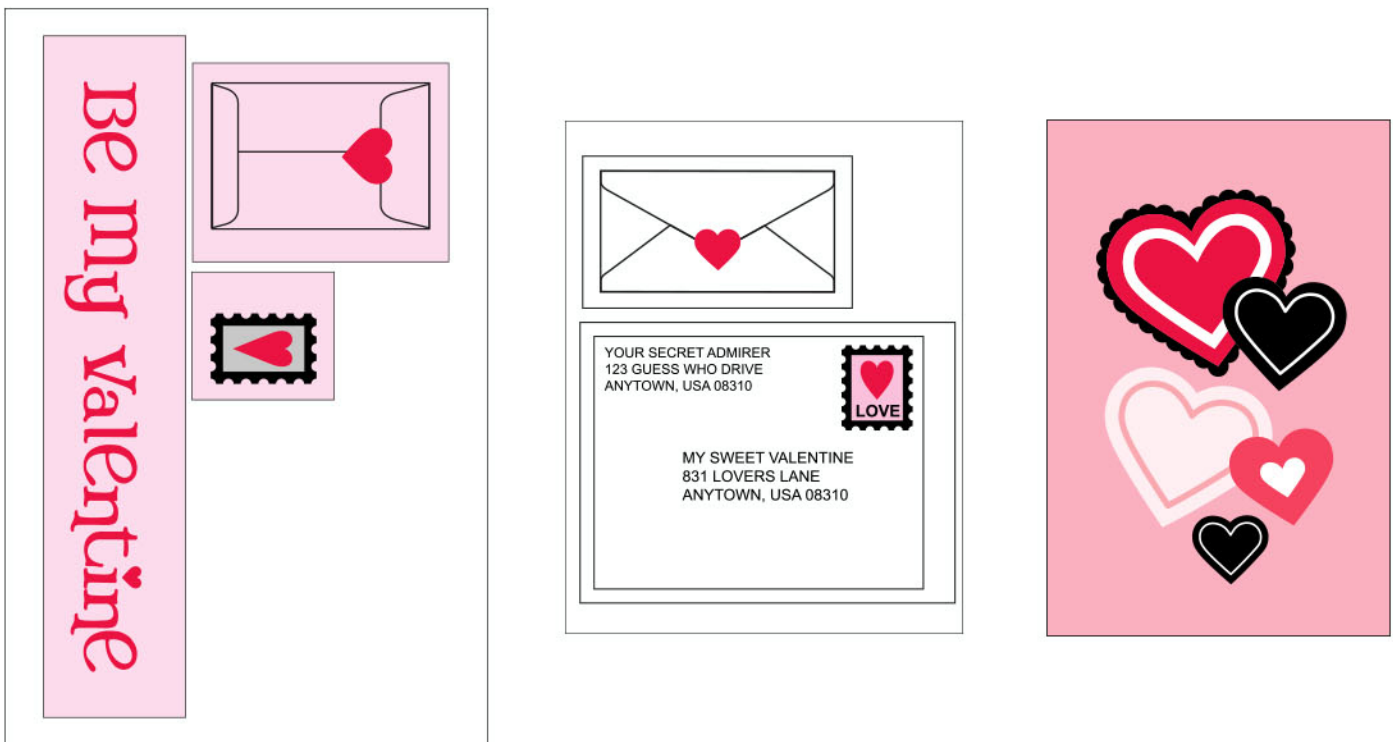
13. Set this piece aside. You can clip it to the loop pieces until we need them later.

Now for the Embroidery...

Get ready to switch your machine to embroidery mode. Remember, change your needle plate and attach your embroidery arm unit.

There are three embroidery files included with this project. They can be divided by piece if you do not have the GR and SQ23 hoops. I've divided them by fabric color for efficiency: Pink fabric pieces, white fabric pieces, and the hearts on a medium pink background.

The title block (Be My Valentine) works best with the GR hoop, but you can divide the words and do a few words at a time on a smaller hoop. You can piece the word sections together to make the finished title block 16 X 3.5



14. Cut your fabric to fit your hoop of choice. Cut light stabilizer for the fabric pieces and iron it on. Note: For the title block embroidery file... You will need this piece to be at least 18 inches so you have a little extra fabric to center things, when you cut the title block down to 16x 3.5 inches. forgiveness when you cut the title block.

15. Hoop the fabric, and embroider the designs on the right color of fabric.

16. Unhoop, then cut the blocks on the outer stitched box around the design. The title block was too big to add this stitched box, so cut that block 16 X 3.5 inches, be sure to center the title.

17. Set your embroidered blocks aside.



18. Cut the remaining blocks according to the sizes on the chart on page 3.

19. Arrange all of your blocks as shown above. Be sure that they are arranged by size exactly as shown on the chart on page 3. You will notice that seam allowance for the binding has been taken into account.

We will applique the heart pieces after sewing the blocks together. This way we can ensure that they will be centered.

Please note the bottom piece was cut from scrap fabric, so I joined two pieces to make the right size for this block. This is going behind the pocket, so the seam won't be seen.

Now to sew the blocks together...

Hint: When piecing, I recommend using foot "O" a guide foot, and adjusting your needle position so that it stitches at 1/4 inch from the edge.

20. Start with the red block (below the title block) and sew it to the medium pink embroidered heart block using a 1/4 inch seam allowance.

21. Sew the pink block to the large white addressed envelope block.

22. Sew the embroidered pink stamp block to the small white envelope heart-sealed block.

23. Sew the medium pink houndstooth block to the light pink paisley block.

24. Now stitch the pink-stamp/heart-sealed-envelope block to the the houndstooth/paisly block as shown in the top right picture.

25. Sew the red block to the pink envelope block.

26. Now you will have four strips. Sew them together in the order shown above.

27. You should now have one complete piece. It's time to add our appliqued hearts. They should already have double sided fusible ironed onto them. Peel off the backing, so they are ready to iron onto your project.

28. Attach hearts according to the picture, adhering them with your iron.

29. After the hearts are attached, stitch around the hearts with simple decorative stitches of your choice. I suggest zig-zag, triple stitch and blanket stitching for a home-spun look.



Top Left:

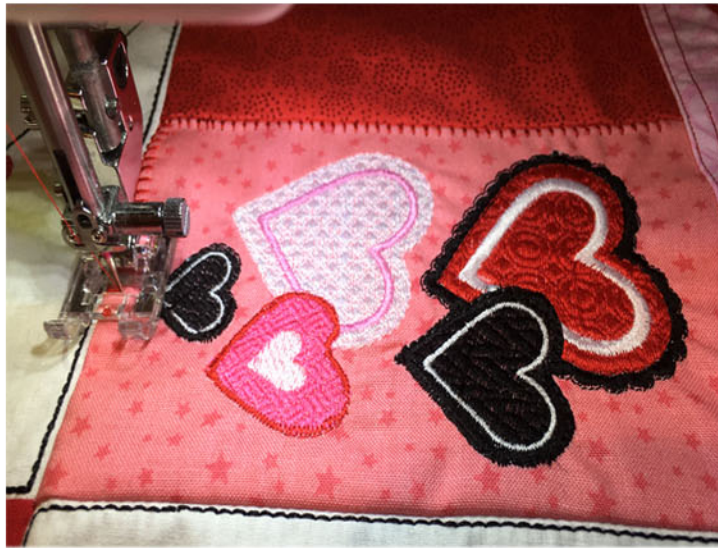
For the double hearts on the medium pink hounds-tooth block, I used a tight zig-zag stitch, and a triple stitch just inside of the heart.

For the flower heart on the pink paisley, I used a super tight zig-zag stitch. I went around the heart then alternated with a triple stitch around the zig-zag stitch. Then I did another round of the zig-zag stitch, followed by another round of the triple stitch.



Top Right:

For the big heart on the red block, I used a blanket stitch. You can see the size and spacing settings I used in the photo at the bottom of this page.



Middle Left:

I added a blanket stitch to some of the blocks just for a fun little detail.

Middle Right:

I used a tight zig-zag on the pink heart, and a triple stitch just on the inside of the heart. I used a blanket stitch (with the same settings in the photo to the left) around the smaller white heart.

Add pink ric-rac to the addressed envelope if you wish.



30. Find your 16X20 backing piece.

31. Cut a piece of quilt batting slightly larger than your backing.

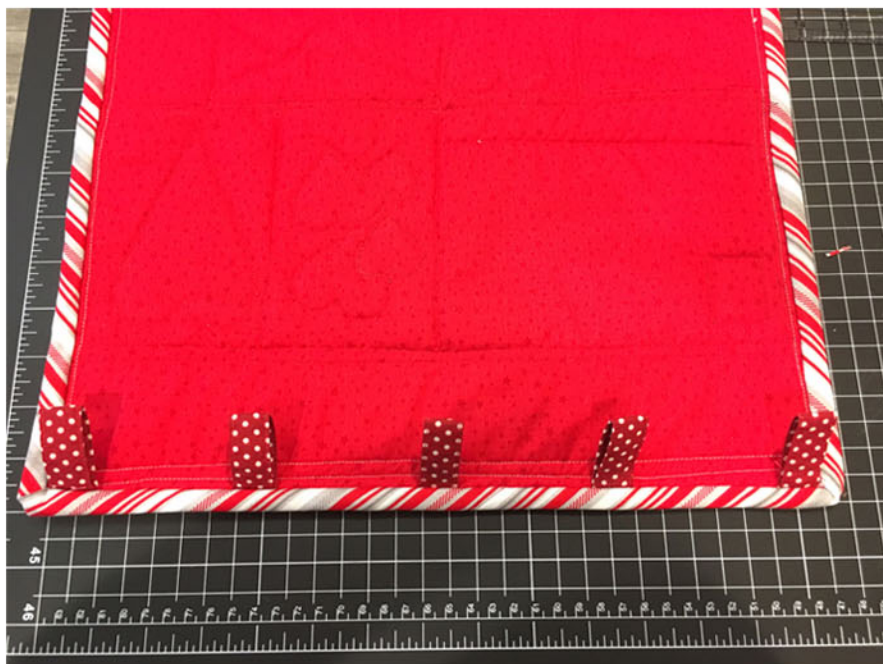
32. Sandwich your front, batting, and your backing. You may wish to use a basting spray to hold your batting in place between the front and the back. Be sure to smooth out the fabric after using the basting spray to adhere the batting.

33. Now we will quilt the front to the back to keep the batting in place. I used red thread as it blended well with the sampler. Starting in the middle of the sampler, stitch in the seam ditch that goes right down the middle. Smooth the fabric again to make sure that it is flat. Next stitch in the seam ditch below the title block. Smooth the fabric again. Stitch in the ditch below the first row of blocks, then smooth. Stitch in the ditch below the next row of blocks, then smooth. The front and back and batting are now attached well. Any additional quilting, would be decorative, and is totally up to you.

I went ahead and did some more quilting. I stitched in the ditch around each block that hadn't been stitched yet. Then I stitched on top of each envelope with black thread on top, and red thread on the bottom to keep consistent with my backing color. This made the envelopes a little dimensional. I also sewed around each heart using the same red color of thread that I already used for the decorative stitches. This made the hearts "pop" a bit more.

34. Now that it is quilted, square up the pieced sampler if needed.

35. Align the pocket piece with the bottom of the pieced sampler, then attach the pocket as you stitch around the entire sampler 1/4 inch from the edge. Find the center of the pocket, then stitch down the middle. You may wish to mark it with a straight edge with a disappearing ink fabric pen.



36. Finally, attach your binding with your favorite method. I used my machine to attach the binding, because I don't love hand stitching. Be sure to catch your hanging loops in your binding. When you insert a dowel rod, the loops will flip up.