

Block of the Month—November 2007

Xmas-Wish Pockets

For the December '07 meeting

It was an awesome sight to see all those flaming falling leaves last month. Thanks to the 25 members who contributed and congratulations to Sheila Hill who took home the 33 blocks.

Well it's already time to think about Xmas. The idea for this month's block is from Diane Weber on a video on the Kaye Wood web site. We think it will make a fun and useful wall hanging, so, depending on the number of blocks received, we will be making several draws for as yet an undetermined number of blocks.

Fabric requirements:

Christmas print for the pocket and the flap

Co-ordinating fabric for the inside of the pocket and the flap lining

White on white fabric for the borders

Cutting directions:

Xmas print: cut 2—6 ½" squares for pocket

cut 1—5 ½" square cut in half diagonally for the flap

Co-ordinating fabric: cut 1—6 ½" square for the inside of the pocket (lining)

cut 1—5 ½" square cut in half diagonally for the inside of the flap

White on white fabric: cut 2—6 ½" x 2 ½" rectangles

cut 2—10 ½" x 2 ½" rectangles

Sewing directions:

Pocket:

-Take your 2—6 ½" squares of Xmas fabric and fold each in ½ diagonally, **right side out**

-Press on fold.

-Mirror image the triangles with the straight sides making right and left bottom corners and the folded hypotenuse directed toward the middle (inside) of the pocket.

-Overlap the left triangle over the right hand triangle with the bottom edges perfectly aligned as in **Fig 1**.

-Pin to secure them together.

-Select a matching or contrasting thread and use the same thread in your bobbin

-Select a straight stitch or decorative stitch to top stitch along the folded edge (hypotenuse) of the top triangle to decorate as well as join the triangles together. (**Fig 1**)

-Flip this unit over and repeat the above step.

-Take your 6 ½" square of lining and lay it right side up.

-Place your topstitched pocket unit on top, matching bottom and side edges.

-Baste 1/8" down both sides and bottom to hold pocket in place and set aside.

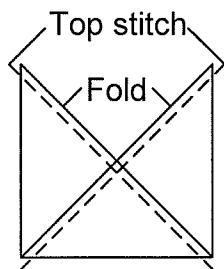


Fig 1

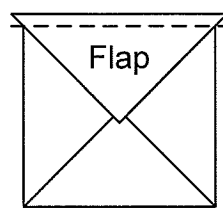


Fig 2

Flap:

N.B: Before beginning to assemble the flap, decide on the type of closure you wish to put on your pocket envelope (in case your closure needs to be caught in the seam)

-Take 1 triangle of Xmas fabric and lay it right sides together on top of 1 triangle of lining fabric.

-Sew ¼" along both short sides (V)

_Trim point --- Turn right side out --- Press.

-As you did for the pocket, topstitch around the closed edges.

-With right sides up, **centre** the flap at the **top edge** of the pocket unit.

-Baste 1/8" along the top edge to secure the flap to the pocket. (Fig 2)

Finishing:

-Place your pocket unit right side up with the flap at the top.

-Take 1—6 ½" x 2 ½" rectangle of white on white fabric and place it, right sides together, on the right side of the pocket.

-Sew with a ¼" seam --- Press toward the white

-Repeat the above 2 steps with the other 6 ½" x 2 ½" rectangle on the left side.

-Take 1—10 ½" x 2 ½" rectangle of white on white and place, right sides together, along the top edge of the pocket unit.

-Sew with a ¼" seam --- Press toward the white

-Repeat the above 2 steps with the remaining white strip along the bottom of the unit.

You should have a 10 ½" square (unfinished)

Affix a closure of your choice: velcro, a snap, a button and loop, a frog, ribbons, etc. You can also affix a decorative button on the top of the flap above where you have affixed a snap or Velcro beneath.

Since it's for Christmas, place a little something in the pocket before submitting it: a card and/or a small **inexpensive** gift such as a 4" or 6" piece of fabric, a seam ripper, a measuring tape, etc... **NO FOOD OF ANY KIND PLEASE.**

Have fun with this ladies.