

No Sew Molas

Process

1. Draw a simple design on a sheet of thick paper. Animal or geometric shapes are ideal for this process. The design should be no larger than 7-1/2" x 10-1/2" leaving a 1/2" border around all sides.
2. Review the drawing to determine the number of layers that will be needed to re-create the basic forms in the sketch. Two to three layers are ideal for this project. Layers will be created using either an appliqué or reverse appliqué technique. In the reverse appliqué process, a shape is cut and removed from the piece to create a negative shape that functions as a window to a layer behind. More than one shape can be cut from a layer. For example, a bird shape could be cut from the center and small leaves or worms can be cut from the corners.
3. Select one sheet of black felt for the top layer and additional sheets of other colors for the other layers. To make the design stand out, alternate dark and light colors from one layer to the next.
4. Use the sketch as a template. Cut out the main shape in the drawing, place on the black felt and trace with a chalk pencil that will show up on that surface. Repeat this process for each shape and layer moving from the outside of the design in. You may choose to appliqué or reverse appliqué each of the smaller shapes. In regular appliqué, the piece of felt is cut to shape and added to the top of a layer. In reverse appliqué, each layer is cut smaller to show underneath the top layer.
5. Assemble the pieces with glue. Press firmly after the glue is applied. Repeat pressure as needed to ensure adhesion.
6. Add additional detail by cutting scraps into shapes such as lines, etc and apply in appliqué style to complement the design.

