

Kitchen Stitchin' with the Baby Lock Accomplish

May 18, 2022

Microwave Potato Bag

Supplies

- One - 10" square piece of cotton fabric for front of bag
- One - 10" square piece of cotton fabric back
- Two - 12" square pieces of cotton fabric for lining inside bag
- Two - 2 1/2" by 10" strips of cotton fabric for binding or two 10" pieces of pre-packaged binding
- Two - 11" square pieces of cotton batting
- Small practice quilt sandwich to test free motion tension
- Scrap of batting for Trapunto
- Bobbin wound with Wash Away thread
- Quilting thread to match fabric for front of bag and a darker color for lettering
- All Purpose thread to match bag fabrics
- Lightweight paper such as deli paper and pencil for transferring design
- Hand sewing needle to bury threads
- Safety Pins
- Appliqué scissors
- Rotary cutter, mat and ruler



Instructions

Create a Trapunto Potato



Using the images provided, trace with pencil the designs and any stitching information such as direction arrows and start and stop points. On the fabric for the front of the bag, place the paper and secure with pins the Potato design and the “Potato Bag” letters on the lightweight paper. The additional markings are for stitching reference only and will not be sewn. Hold the fabric and paper up against the light and place

the scrap of batting piece behind the potato outline. Make sure that the batting is larger than the outline and pin in place. Using wash away thread in the needle and thread to match background in the bobbin, stitch through the paper, fabric and batting scrap just around the outside of the outline of the potato. (When you are finished with the wash away thread, put it in a baggie and label it so it doesn't get mixed up with any other thread!) Carefully cut away the batting just outside the stitching. Use your finger on the bottom to make sure you do not cut through. Make small, careful cuts.



Quilt the Pieces

Center the 10" square front fabric with the trapunto potato on the top of the 11" square of cotton batting. Center one of the 12" square of lining pieces on the back with the wrong side towards the batting to create a quilt sandwich. Pin the layers together with safety pins through all layers. Pin closely to the potato as it wants to shift. Layer the 10" square with the trapunto potato and paper on top of an 11" square of cotton batting and 12" square of lining fabric with the right side down. Pin all the layers together.



Thread the machine with cotton thread for free motion quilting and change the bobbin to quilting thread if necessary. Set up the machine for free motion quilting by lowering

the feed dogs and attaching the free motion foot. Check the tension and adjust by stitching on a small practice quilt sandwich. Quilt around the potato. Pull the bobbin thread and stitch around the potato on the line. When you have finished stitching the outline, gently pull the potato from under the foot and clip the top and bobbin thread leaving a few inches. Bury the threads in the quilt sandwich using a hand needle. Stitch the eyes of the potato and bury the threads in the same manner. Quilt the "Potato Bag" lettering with a darker thread using the stitching guides for beginning location and direction of stitching for a continuous design. If you use the same type of thread used for quilting, the tension should be the same. Test it anyway on a scrap of quilt sandwich. Take a few minutes and study the pattern before you start quilting. If you lose your way to stitch it continuously and need to stop and start, that's okay. Figuring out how to stitch without stops and starts is like a puzzle. Stitch the outline of the words and then the small insets for the "P", "O" and "A". Finish off your threads by burying them in the quilt.

Remove the guide paper from the top by gently tearing it away. Replace the safety pins if necessary. Quilt the background around the potato and lettering with a quilting design of your choice. Dense quilting will make the potato stand out more. It's okay to stitch through the lettering if the inside areas are too small. Quilt the second quilt sandwich for the back of the bag with any design you chose and any density you choose.

Construct the Bag



Using a rotary cutter, ruler and mat trim both quilted pieces to 8". This size will accommodate a couple of potatoes. If your microwave is smaller, make the bag smaller. If you want to also use the bag to warm extra large tortillas, make the bag larger. Thread the sewing machine with thread to match the bag. Fold the binding strips in half, wrong sides together along the length and press. Change machine to

regular sewing by raising the feed dogs and attaching standard foot. Set the machine to a stitch length of 2.0 to 2.5. Lay a folded binding strip on the right side with the raw edges even with the quilted piece for the front of the bag. Sew the binding to the raw edge



using a 1/4" seam. Fold the binding to the back side. Press the binding down. Pin the binding in place with pins on the top side. On the top side, stitch in the ditch along the binding. Stitch slowly and carefully keeping your stitch in the ditch and catching the back side of the binding. Repeat for the back of bag piece.

The sides and bottom seams of the bag will be finished with a French Seam to conceal the raw edges. Place the front and back bag pieces wrong (lining) sides together and align the side edges carefully. Pay special attention to the top bound edges. Stitch the side and bottom seams using a 1/2" seam allowance. Clip the bottom corners to reduce bulk and trim the seams to 1/4". Turn the bag wrong side out. Carefully push the corners out square. Stitch the side and bottom seams again with a 1/2" seam allowance being careful to not catch the edge of the fabric from the previous stitching. Stitch a small seam on the top corners of the opening near the binding to reinforce the opening and hide the seam. See pin for placement in the photo.



Let's Eat!

Wash and dry potatoes. Wrap potatoes in moist paper towel. Put wrapped potatoes in Potato Bag and microwave 7 to 10 minutes or until you smell potato! Check potatoes frequently for doneness. Enjoy!

Strip Pieced Double Pot Holder

Supplies

- Four (4) 2 1/2" by 40" strips of cotton quilting fabric in four coordinating colors for front of potholder
- One (1) 9" by 40" piece of cotton quilting fabric for back of potholder
- One (1) 9" by 40" piece of cotton quilt batting
- One (1) X" by X" scrap of cotton quilt batting for potato trapunto
- Wonder Clips
- Cotton quilting thread to match fabrics
- Cotton quilting thread for free motion quilting of potato and words

- Three (3) yards readymade ½” double fold bias binding or 3” by 108” bias-cut strip of fabric for binding

Instructions

Set up the machine for piecing with cotton thread in the top and bobbin. Lay the 9” by 40” fabric wrong side up on a flat surface and lay the batting on top. Place the first 2 ½” strip right side up on top of the batting along a long edge with raw edges even. Baste the strip down through all layers and close to the raw edge using a long stitch length. Lay the second strip directly on top of the first strip with the right side down. Pin well along the edge. Use a ¼” foot or set up a stitching guide for a ¼” seam and stitch length

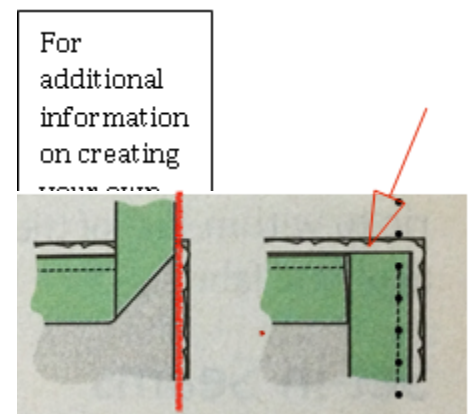


of about “2”. Stitch the two strips together through all layers using a ¼” seam. Open the strips and press the top strip to the side. Repeat positioning, seaming and opening strips for the next two strips to cover the 9” by 40” fabric and batting. Baste down the final raw edge of the last strip.

Straighten raw edges if necessary with rotary cutter and ruler. Trim the length of the strip pieced rectangle close to the last strip sewn. It will probably measure

about 8”-8 ½” To make the potholder pockets, cut two squares from the end of the trimmed 9” by 40” the same size as the final width. Open up the pre-packaged binding and sew to one side of each square using the folded line as a guide. Fold the binding over the raw edge. Press and secure the binding in place with Wonder Clips. Stitch in the ditch on the right side of the square and catching the back folded edge of the binding. Place the bound square on each end with the bound edge towards the center of the strip (use the photo as reference). Baste in place on all three raw edges of each pocket.

Use pre-packaged binding to bind the edge of the potholder. Open up the binding and stitch using the folded line as a guide for stitching. Align raw edges of binding and quilt. Start in the middle of one side of the quilt. Start stitching about 5-6” from end of the binding strip. Stitch to the corner and almost to the raw edge. Do not reinforce with extra stitching. Cut the thread.

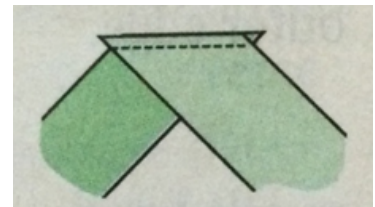


Fold binding straight out forming a 45-degree fold. Raw edge of binding and quilt will form a straight line as shown in red. Any stitching along the previous seam line will release. Fold binding back down keeping this second fold even with the edge of quilt and aligning raw edges as shown with red arrows. Pay particular attention that the binding is even with the two edges of the quilt and the two folds are lined up as shown with the red arrows in the illustration right. Secure folded corner with Wonder Clips. Turn quilt. Start stitching again using the same 1/4" seam. Continue for all four sides.

Stop stitching about 10-15" from beginning stitching. Join binding by overlapping the binding strips the same distance that they are wide. Lay beginning strip along the edge



and cut a small piece from the end. Lay second piece of binding on top of the first. Take the small piece and lay on top of overlapping strips with one end even with the edge of the first binding. Use this strip to determine the overlap of the two strips and trim the terminal end of the finishing binding strip. After trimming, join the ends together with a diagonal seam. Hold binding end to end and turn one with a quarter turn. Bindings will be perpendicular to each other. Pin or clip and sew the diagonal seam from side to side. If you are unsure, place a pin where the seam will be and open up the strips. Trim, open and press seam.



Turn the binding to the back and press if necessary. Secure with Wonder Clips. Stitch on the right side of the binding about 1/8" in from the seam and catch the back folded edge of the binding.

