

## *Mylar - Machine Applique*

Mylar applique is very much the same as any machine embroidery applique. In my Mylar designs, the 1<sup>st</sup> running stitch is an outline of the design denoting where the mylar will go. Since Mylar can become expensive, I try to use the smallest pieces necessary. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> stops are running stitch tack downs. When there are two tack down stops the first is for a cover-up if needed to keep background from shadowing thru the mylar; this step can be skipped if you do not need or want cover-up, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> running stitch is to tack down the Mylar.

I have found that if I try to tack both down at the same time, the mylar slips and slides on the cover-up. (as a personal choice, I only use the iridescent Mylar, and therefore dark background fabrics frequently override the shading I want from thread colors.) For these color stops I almost always use threads to match my background fabrics. I do not change thread for the outline and tack downs.

The 4<sup>th</sup> and subsequent color stops are usually Motif Fill stitches. Thread color choice here is up to the individual (the design packages come with color charts denoting these stops, and suggested thread colors) Once all of the the fill stitches are completed, the next color stop is usually the Edge or cover stitch sealing the edges and sometimes detail stitches; at this stop I like to gently tear-away the Mylar and cover-up if used, and then the edge stitch will cover all raw edges. The final colors will be detail stitches that require thread changes.

On some designs I have added color stops in case the individual wants color changes in an area, but many times one thread color will work in these areas, so thread changes are not always necessary at stops.

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If at any time you have questions concerning any of the techniques used in our designs, please do not hesitate to ask.

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