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How To Area (Techniques)

Trapunto with the IQ Tutorial

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[Linda Lawson](#)


Posted: Jul 09 2009 11:02 Post Subject: Trapunto with the IQ Tutorial [Edit](#) | [Delete](#)



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Here is a short tutorial on how to go about doing trapunto using the IQ. There are some things that just cannot be accomplished by this tutorial but I hope it will give the general concept of how I did this. I learned so much just by doing this and there are little things I did along the way that would take up just too much room in this tutorial. I think a whole book is in order LOL... nah, you are all pretty smart, I'm sure you can come up with your own tips and tricks with the concepts of this.

Onto the instructions.....

Supplies:

- Pellon - stitch and tear
- 505 Spray
- Hobbs - Tuscany 100% cotton
- Hobbs - 80/20
- water soluble thread
- spray starch

This trapunto method needs to be done in small sections. You will be working as you go. You will not be removing the quilt from your frame to cut away the batting with this method, so you need to plan what order you will want to go in carefully. I learned that doing one element (design) at a time was the best way. The borders were done in small sections also. I would recommend you start with an easy border. The border I started with was a little challenging. It can be done, but it's harder to work in a formal border such as mine was while doing trapunto.

First starch your backing and top fabric to make it soft or stiff. This will help the fabric not to shift as you stitch it.

Now load your backing fabric on the frame. Make sure it is SQUARE. It should lay like a table-top with absolutely no sagging. Use your straps to secure the sides, but you should not use them to pull the fabric in any way. Gently use them. Many people use these to tight and this will affect the way everything lines up. So be careful not to distort the fabric when putting them on.

Now we are going to use 505 spray to adhere the (pellon) stabilizer to the top of the backing fabric (only).

Bring up the designs on your tablet you want to trapunto. It doesn't matter at this point if your quilt is aligned or not. With your **machine unthreaded**, stitch out all the designs you want to trapunto. If you have 5 wreaths such as mine, you really only need to stitch it out once on the pellon and use that piece over and over again. You do not need to worry about placement, just so long as they do not overlap. Do the same thing with the border pieces. You might need to load more than one piece of pellon to get all your designs stitched out. All we are doing is perforating the pellon to mark our pattern. See picture below.



After we have all our pellon designs stitched, now it's time to cut them out. Sometimes it's hard to see where the holes were to cut around. If you have a hard time seeing your design, lay the pellon on a dark piece of fabric and trace around the design with a pencil.



After the pella is stitched and traced (if necessary), it's time to use the 505 spray to adhere it to the hobbs 80/20 batting. You can really use any batting such as this. All you really need is a batting that is easy to cut into a shape. I would think warm and natural or dream cotton would also be good. I happen to have the 80/20 handy and so I grabbed it and it worked fine. Cut around the pella shape that you stitched. Do this for each design.





Now, back to the machine.....bring up the quilt design on your tablet. This time you will want to align your quilt where you want it to stitch out. Load the first layer of batting on your machine and also **insert the water soluble thread in your bobbin**. Put a color on the top thread that you can easily see when stitched on the batting. I would avoid a strong color such as red or black, but you should be able to see a pink or light blue and it won't show through to the top piece.

Stitch out one design on the batting. Again, I would work in small sections at a time and you will need to plan this out carefully. Work with the design closest to the take-up bar first and work your way down to the belly bar. Do only one design at a time.



Once you have a design stitched out on the batting, find the 80/20 piece of batting that you previously cut out. Spray the back of it with 505 spray and gently place inside the lines you just stitched out. Be careful not to push on this to much as we do not want to disturb the fabric in any way.



Now, lay the top piece of fabric on top of both layers of batting and stitch the design in the exact spot it was previously stitched out on. Since we did not move anything, the placement should be perfect. Also **switch your bobbin thread out to regular thread at this point**. You will be going back and forth with your bobbin to water soluble to regular thread.





Do this for all the remaining designs, working your way down the quilt.



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