



*Directions for Monogrammed Fancy Woven Basket / September 2002*

(This project utilizes letters from our [Diamond Monogram Set 3.](#))

This project utilizes a museum-quality Nantucket woven basket, with a padded top. It is the perfect compliment to our Diamond Monogram Set 3, since the letters have a woven background as a fill pattern.

*Step 1. Print the template and instructions.*

These are .pdf files, and require Adobe Acrobat Reader software in order to view and print.

To insure printing in exact size, be sure that FIT TO PAGE (see Properties under the Print Menu) is not selected.

*Step 2. Sew out the letter of your choice.*

Hoop your choice of fabric with the appropriate stabilizer.

We used a medium-weight white satin fabric, and matched it with one layer of medium-weight tearaway stabilizer.

Be sure to use a piece of fabric that is 12" (30.5 cm) x 12" (30.5 cm) or larger. This will insure that there is sufficient fabric to properly wrap the padded top.

*Step 3. Trim the fabric*

After the design has been sewn, turn the fabric over and tear away the excess stabilizer.

Using a compass that is set to produce a circle that is 7 1/2" (19.05 cm) in diameter, draw a circle around the design on the back of the fabric by placing the sharp point of the compass at the center of the design. Use a soft pencil in the compass, and draw the circle carefully.

Trim the fabric along the pencil line with sharp scissors.

*Step 4. Assemble the top*

By hand, sew a running stitch around the edge of the fabric 1/4" (8mm), using a needle and heavy thread. Try to place the stitches so that there is approximately 1/8" (4mm) between each stitch. Leave a long tail at each end, with both ends of the tail exiting on the back side of the fabric.

Place the embroidered fabric wrong side up, and place the foam cushion in the center, foam side down.

Press down on the foam, compressing it, and pull the ends of the thread, adjusting the gathers to be smooth, and pull until

there is an open center about 1" (25mm) in diameter. Tie the thread ends firmly. Turn the padded top over and adjust as necessary so that the monogram is accurately centered.

*Step 5. Finish the top.*

Choose a piece of cording approximately 12" (30.5 cm) long. It is best to have a little excess cording to insure that it will go all the way around the top.

Rather than a fabric cording, we chose a small beaded cord, which lends a nice contrast to the woven basket.

By hand, whip stitch the cording around the circumference of the padded top, about half-way down the sides of the cushion. This provides a "stop" so that the cushion does not fall into the basket.

OPTIONAL: you can make two small loops out of ribbon or cording, placing them on opposite sides, and stitch them to the sides of cushion to act as "lifters" for the cushion. If you are going to do this the handles should be attached prior to sewing on the cording, with the excess brought to the back side of the top. We found that the top of such a small basket was easy to lift off without handles, so we skipped this step.

*Step 6. Finish the back side of the top.*

Cut a circle of ultrasuede or non-fray fabric, and glue it to the back of the cushion with a fabric glue, or with a hot glue gun. This not only gives the back a finished look, but also hides the gathers and running stitch, and helps to stabilize the top fabric so that it won't shift with use.

The cushion top is press fit, and can be easily lifted off for access to the inside of the basket.

*Congratulations! Your project is complete.*

Fabric and cording

Widely available from sewing stores.

4" (102mm) Nantucket Woven Basket:

Manufactured for Sudberry House, the basket is available at many gift and craft shops, or online from the company's website at:

<http://www.sudberry.com>

(The basket is # 30000 - 4" Nantucket Small Basket, and the cushion insert is # 30001 - Matching 3 1/2" Pincushion. Please note that these are separate items, and both must be ordered)