Directions for Monogrammed Photo Album / March 2002

(This project utilizes letters from our Victorian Monogram Set 7.)

Step 1. Print the instructions.

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

Step 2. Review instructions and materials required (materials list at the end of these instructions).

Step 3. Embroider Design.

Choose one letter of your choice, typically the last or surname initial.

We chose a white satin material, and hooped it with one layer of medium weight tearaway backing, which provides good stability.

Following the embroidery, carefully remove the tear-away backing.

Step 4. Attach felt layer

In order to give the monogrammed initial a soft look with good lift, we decided to bond the satin to a layer of felt after the monogram was sewn.

We used a sheet of Wonder-Under (heat fusible pellon), attached to a layer of felt with a hot iron. Once cool, remove the paper backing, then fuse the satin with the embroidered monogram to the felt with a hot iron.

Step 5. Cut a template

The pocket that will receive the embroidered monogram is 4" (101mm) wide, so cut a piece of card stock or heavy cover stock to that width, and at least 6" (152mm) long.

Insert the piece of card stock into the album pocket from the inside, and slide it all the way into the pocket.

With a pencil, mark the size of the window from the front, and also mark the top of the pocket from the inside. Remove the card stock, and with a sharp xacto knife, trim away a window, utilizing your marked square.

Step 6. Cut a backing sheet

This will make it easier to trim the fabric, and will also help keep the embroidery stiff and unwrinkled when it is inserted into the album. The backing sheet is cut from card stock, and should be 1/8" (3mm) smaller on each side than the template, which will make it easier to correctly position the embroidery.

Step 7. Attach the backing sheet

Turn the embroidery over, and position the template card so that the embroidery is centered in the opening.

Mark the outside corners with a pencil or an air-soluble market.

Apply a layer of spray adhesive to the card stock backing, and carefully position it on the back side of the embroidered fabric, 1/8" (3mm) in on all sides from your corner marks.

Step 8. Trim the monogram.

Carefully trim the embroidery, using the edges of the backing card as a guide.

Step 9. Insert the monogram into the album cover.

From the inside, carefully slide the embroidered monogram into the pocket in the cover, insuring that it is centered, and that the bottom edge slides all the way down.

Congratulations! Your project is complete.

Sources for Materials

Cloth Covered Photo Album

This is one of the nicest albums we've seen. It is cloth covered, with a square window into which your embroidered monogram can be fitted through a slot in the inside cover. There is ample room inside for your favorite photos and mementos.

The album comes in colors (we chose red, with a royal blue lining) is $7\ 3/4$ "(196mm) x $8\ 7/8$ "(224mm) and is called "Catalina Luxury Pocket Photo Album."

Available in the US and Canada through art supply dealers and stationers, and online.

For a retail store near you, or for links to online dealers, go to:

http://www.kolo-usa.com