

Winter Cardinal

Textile Collage Project

14" x 14"



A Beginner / Intermediate-Level Project

By Emily Taylor

Winter Cardinal

Please read through all instructions before beginning

Supplies

- Lite Steam a Seam 2
- Iron (mini iron is preferred)
- Fabric scissors
- Roll of parchment paper
- Fabric for background
- Variety of fabric scraps for bird, branches and leaves

Prepare Template & Workspace

- Cover the template pieces with a piece of parchment paper & pin both the template and parchment paper to work surface (1/4" piece of foam core covered in felt is ideal).
- Trace the bird (including the variations of gray) onto parchment paper with pencil.

Select Fabric

- Gather a variety of red fabric for bird; a small amount of black for his face; brown or gray fabric for the feet and branches; green fabric for the leaves. Try to expand the value spectrum of each color by including dark, medium and light fabric of each color. The more variety of fabric, the more interesting the collage will be! Scraps are good, and if you purchase fabric, you will not need more than an eighth of a yard of each design.



Prepare Fabric with Fusible

- Prepare the fabric with Lite Steam a Seam 2 (SAS): Remove plain paper side of SAS to expose sticky surface.
- Lay fabric pieces on SAS, wrong side of fabric facing SAS, and cut around fabric. Lightly press with hot, dry iron to ensure the fusible is stuck to the fabric. Leave the grid paper on back of the fabric

Cut & Apply Fabric

- Following the design & gradients on the template as a guide, apply fabric pieces directly to the parchment paper by removing the paper on the back of each piece and exposing the Lite Steam a Seam 2.
- Overlap each piece by approximately 1/4" with surrounding pieces and make them fit in the section of the design you are working on. Press pieces with a dry iron if they don't stick immediately to the parchment paper.
- Use the changes in gradient on the template to guide fabric selection-- lighter fabric pieces where the design is lighter, and darker fabric where the design indicates.
- Continue applying fabric to the parchment paper until you've collaged over the entire template.
- Create leaves and branches in the same way.



Making SAS Templates

- If there is a section for which you'd like to trace a template (such as the eye or branch), simply peel the paper away from the fabric and hold it up to the section you'd like to trace. Use a pencil to trace onto the SAS paper.
- Press the paper backing back onto the fabric. Cut the shape following the tracing, and apply it in place on the parchment paper.

Create Composition

- When you are satisfied with the bird and other elements, press the entire piece with a hot, dry iron.
- Gently peel each collage away from the parchment paper. The back side of the Cardinal and each leaf will be sticky with the fusible adhesive.
- Apply the completed bird and complementary elements to a background fabric of your choice. The background can be a solid piece of fabric or pieced. The size of the background is your choice. (My background fabric measures 14" x 14").
- Press the finished composition with a hot, *steamy* iron. (Steam will help soften the fabric so that it is less stiff).

Finish the Project

Make a Quilt

- Use this as a block in a larger quilt, or make a mini quilt.
- Make a quilt sandwich with backing fabric and thin batting.
- Quilt and bind as desired. Quilting should be dense- approximately 1/4" between stitching lines.

Frame & Hang

- Embellish the project by stitching with French ribbon or embroidery thread.
- Using glue stick, cover the corners of the back side of background fabric
- Adhere the collaged design to the foam core and mount it in a frame!

Make a Pillow

- Measure size of pillow insert to cover
- Create a quilt sandwich by layering collaged top, thin batting and backing fabric.
- Quilt densely (1/4" between stitch lines), and trim to the size of the pillow insert
- For envelope back of pillow cover, overlap two pieces of fabric by 6". Pin the back side and collaged front of pillow together along edges (right sides together). Stitch with 1/2" seam around edges. Trim corners.
- Turn pillow cover right side out from the opening in back and stuff insert into pillow (opening should be across pillow horizontally). Fluff and enjoy!



Find the poster hanger I used on Amazon by scanning the link above!





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Included in this Download

- Templates and instructions for collage
- 7 pages in total

Additional Supplies Required

- Fabric scraps in variety of red, green, gray/brown and black from light to dark
- Lite Steam a Seam 2
- Iron (mini iron is preferred)
- Fabric scissors
- Roll of parchment paper
- Fabric for background~ Size to be determined by your composition & project
- Thread and ribbon scraps for embellishment (optional)