



# Oma's Place

Machine Embroidery Designs with a Message

## **OMA-Hello Spring Mug Rug (ITH)**

(for 5x7 hoops)



This mug rug will help you celebrate the arrival of Spring. Placed on a small easel, it can be a beautiful decorative accent during Spring. The center and borders are quilted. The entire mug rug is constructed in the hoop, with no additional machine or hand stitching required. Please note that the oval under the tulips is a satin outline stitch and is not applique.

There are two stitch files in your download. One with the full design as shown, another one with the quilted background and borders, but no other design in the center.

Mug rug finished size: 6.75" w x 4.75" h

**Design dimensions:** 7.00" w x 5.00" h

### **Stitch Counts:**

MR with full design 10,815

MR plain 4,165

Graphic artist for tulips: Bluechair Blessings

## **SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Fusible fleece, heavier weight like Pellon 971 F (Thermolam)

3 contrasting/coordinating quality cotton fabrics

- one fabric for the front center
- one for the wider borders and back
- one for the thin contrast strips

Steam a Seam 2 or similar bonding product like Heat N Bond Lite

Painter's or masking tape

Sharp, small, curved tip scissors

Mini iron

Stabilizer: Polymesh (woven, cutaway)

## **A Word about Tape**

You will find that I use tape throughout my projects. I have found that it gives a more professional look to the end result because there is less shifting of fabric. Painter's, masking or medical paper tape tear easily and should the embroidery needle travel through the tape, it does not "gum up".

## **A Word about Thread Use/Color Charts**

I recommend the use of polyester thread for any items that are likely to get washed frequently. As a matter of fact, I use polyester thread exclusively. There are many different brands available. I use Gunold threads; Robison Anton is another favorite of mine. And there are many others.

Many times I will not give a color chart, especially for in the hoop projects, since color choice will depend on your choice of fabric.

## A Word about Hooping your Stabilizer

Hoop your stabilizer tightly. Polymesh (woven type cut away) stabilizer tends to slip and that could cause issues with the design. I recommend you place straight pins with a large head along the hoop's longer sides. See photo.



## IN PREPARATION

### CUT

**Please use high quality cotton fabrics for best outcomes.**

#### **FABRIC 1**

Front center (1) 6.00" w x 6.00" h piece of cotton fabric

#### **FABRIC 2**

Back fabric (2) 4.50" w x 6.00" h pieces of cotton fabric

Wide borders (2) 2.00" w x 6.00" h pieces of cotton fabric

#### **FABRIC 3**

Thin contrast strips (2) 1.00" w x 6.00" h pieces of cotton fabric

#### **FUSIBLE FLEECE**

(1) 6.75" w x 4.75" h piece of fusible fleece

*Slightly round off all 4 corners.*

#### **STEAM A SEAM 2**

(1) 0.50" w x 6.00" h piece (for the back opening)

## PREPARING YOUR BACK FABRIC

You will be creating two back pieces, overlapping them, and at the end fusing them shut. This method allows for a smooth finish of the mug rug.

To accomplish this follow these instructions:

Fuse the 0.50x6.00" strip of Steam a Seam 2 (SAS2) to the right side of the fabric on one of the long edges of the back pieces.



After fusing, turn the 1/2" of SAS2 to the back and press the fold.



Now take the other piece of back fabric and, with a 1/2" overlap place it, right side down over the folded back edge of the first piece (see photo), with a 1/2" overlap.



Secure in position with tape, both in the front and back. (This will prevent the embroidery foot from getting caught underneath the fabric's edge. )

Lay aside for later use.

## **COLOR STITCHOUTS**

***Please do NOT color sort your design. It has already been color sorted for optimal stitchout.***

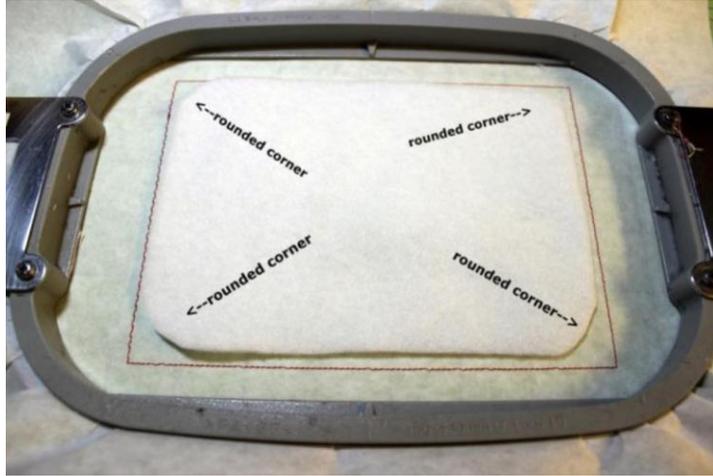
***For PLAIN version, just omit colors related to the center design.***

Hoop your stabilizer. Your first color will be stitched directly onto your stabilizer.

### **1. Placement guideline for fusible fleece**

After 1, remove your hoop from the machine. Do NOT unhoop the stabilizer.

Take the piece of fusible fleece and place it, adhesive/rough side **up**, inside of the placement guideline.

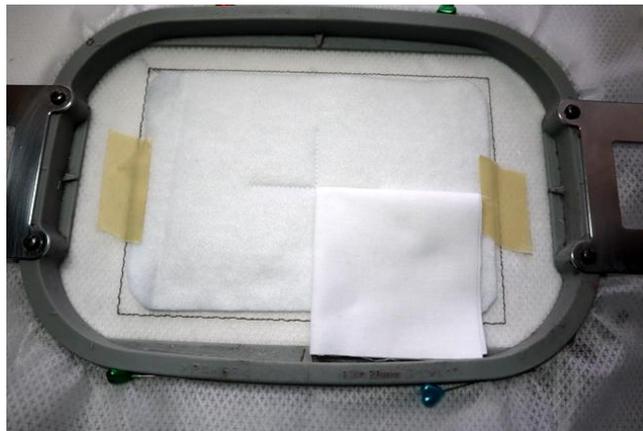


Secure fleece with a couple pieces of tape and continue stitching.

## 2. Placement cross hairs for center fabric

After 2, take the center fabric and fold it in half, right sides together, and half again.

Take the folded fabric and place the center point against the center of the cross hairs.



Open up the fabric all the way and press lightly. Remove the pieces of tape that held the fusible fleece in place and use those to tape down the center fabric.



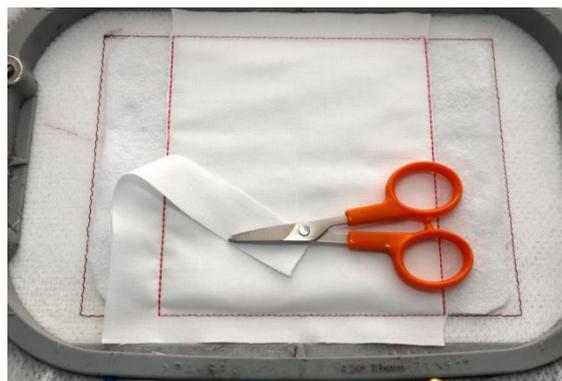
Return hoop to machine and continue stitching.

### 3. Tackdown of front fabric

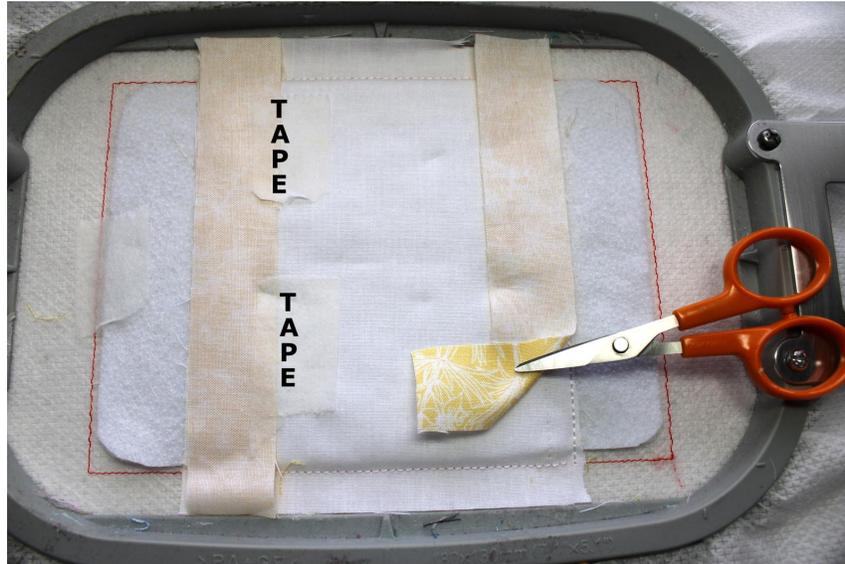
After 3, remove hoop from machine; do not unhoop embroidery.

You will now remove excess fabric from the short sides of the center fabric only. **Do NOT trim the top and bottom of the center fabric.** You may have noticed that the sides you are to trim have a triple bean stitch. Trimming away the excess side fabric will expose the fusible fleece and allow for fusion of the border strips to the fleece later on.

With your small curved tip scissors, remove the excess center fabric from the outside of the tackdown stitches.



Once you are done trimming, take the 2 contrast strips and place them, right side down, along the trimmed edges.



Secure fabric strips with tape.

Continue stitching.

4. **Attaching of contrast strips**

After 4, remove hoop from machine; do not unhoop embroidery.

Turn the contrast strips right side up and press, being careful not to touch the exposed fusible fleece with your iron.



Once you have pressed both strips, take the wider border strips and place them, right side down, along the raw edges of the contrast strips.



Tape in position and continue stitching.

#### **5. Attaching of wider border strips**

After 5, turn the fabric strips right side up and press, just like you did for the contrast strips.

Secure raw edges with tape.



Return hoop to machine and continue stitching.

#### **6. Tackdown of borders and center quilting stitches**

#### **7. Border quilting stitches**

#### **8. Light green tulip leaves**

9. **Darker green tulip leaves and tulip outlines**
10. **Oval under tulips**
11. **“Hello, Spring!”**
12. **Center petals of tulip**
13. **Outside petals**
14. **Outline of tulip petals**

After 14, take the prepared back and place it, right side down, over the embroidery. Secure with tape along sides.



Continue stitching.

#### **15. Stitching it all together**

Time to remove hoop from machine and embroidery from hoop.

Remove all leftover pieces of tape from the embroidery and trim the embroidery to within about 1/4" to 3/8" seam allowance.

Turn the mug rug right side out through the opening in the back. Push out corners with a medium sized crochet hook or similar sewing tool.

Before you press the mug rug, remove any jump threads from the wording. Once you are done trimming threads, press the entire mug rug.

Remove the paper strip from the Steam a Seam 2 and fuse the opening shut.

And you are done!



If you have any questions or feedback, please send them to [monika@omasplace.com](mailto:monika@omasplace.com).