

OMA-Merry Christmas Sign



This seasonal sign is completed as an in the hoop project. The center is quilted and the faux binding is attached on the embroidery machine. The sign can be hung from a pegboard, displayed as wall art or placed on an easel.

The design comes in two versions: One with the words "Merry Christmas", the other with the additional words "Around here, we say".

For 6x10" hoops (including Viking Designer 1 machines)

Graphic artist: www.etsy.com (Amanda Ilkov)

Design Dimensions 8.22x5.89"

Stitch Counts

Merry Christmas version	21,895
Around here... version	21,936
Finished size:	8.00x5.75"

SUPPLIES NEEDED

2 quality cotton fabrics (for background, backing and “faux binding”)

Steam a Seam 2 or similar bonding product

Fusible fleece (heavy weight like Pellon 971F)

Heavy cut away stabilizer

Plastic canvas, cardboard or heavy cardstock for giving stability to the project

Mini Clover iron or Mini Clover Wedge iron

A Word about Spray Adhesive

Please make sure you are truly using temporary adhesive spray specifically made for *embroidery* machine. I have excellent results with 505 Spray.

When using spray adhesives, please make sure you remove the hoop from your machine. Do NOT unhoop embroidery, unless instructed to.

NEVER spray the hoop while still on the machine and never spray close to the machine.

Be sure to follow manufacturer’s instructions when using adhesive spray.

If you feel uncomfortable about using spray adhesive, you can always tape down your fabric.

A Word about Tape

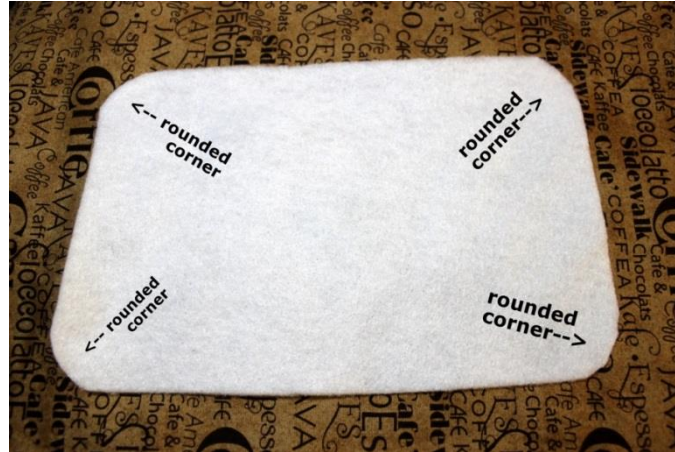
You will find that I use tape throughout my projects. I have found that it gives a much more professional look to the end result of my projects. There is less shifting of fabric when I use it! I use painter’s tape. It tears easily and, should the needle inadvertently travel through the tape, it does not “gum up” the needle.

IN PREPARATION

CUT

- (1) 8.00x5.75" heavy weight fusible fleece (like Pellon 971F)

Round off all 4 corners; this will prevent bulk in the corners later on.



- (1) 8.75x6.50" piece of cotton fabric for the center
- (2) 7.00x1.50" pieces of fusible cotton fabric for the side borders
- (2) 9.50x1.50" pieces of cotton fabric for the top and bottom borders
- (2) 6.50x4.75" pieces of cotton for the backing
- (1) 6.50x0.50" piece of Steam a Seam 2 or similar bonding product

You will fuse this to the back opening when you will create the backing piece (see instructions below)

- (2) 3.50x5.00" pieces of thin cardboard/cardstock or plastic canvas (optional)

Please make sure to press all of your cotton fabrics. I recommend the use of Spray sizing or light Spray Starch to do so.



PLEASE: Read all instructions carefully before starting.

PREPARING THE BACKING

The back consists of 2 overlapping pieces that will get fused shut at the end. This method allows for a smooth finish of the front and back of the sign.

To accomplish this, follow these instructions:

On one of the backing pieces, fold under one of the long edges ½" to the back.



Fuse the Steam a Seam 2 or similar bonding product to the folded under edge.



Now, place the piece of fabric on the table, right side down. Take the piece of backing fabric that does not have Steam a Seam 2 applied to it and place one of its long edges, right side down, over the folded under edge of the second piece. The two pieces should overlap by about 1/2".



Tape the two pieces together in the front and back:



Lay aside for later use.

COLOR STITCHOUT

Hoop your stabilizer.

1. Placement line for fusible fleece

After 1, remove hoop from machine and apply adhesive spray to the top of the stabilizer.

Now, take your piece of fusible fleece and place it inside the stitched guideline.



Apply adhesive spray to the back of your center fabric and place it over the fusible fleece, centering it from left to right.

Continue stitching.

2. Tackdown of center fabric and quilting stitches

3. Top and bottom scrolls

4. "Merry Christmas"

5. Decorative stitches on top of lettering

6. Gold scrolls

For "Around here" version:

7. "Around here

It is now time to apply the border strips, starting with the sides.

Take the 2 strips of side borders and place each strip up against the fusible fleece tackdown stitches, right side down.



Be sure the border strips are centered from top to bottom so that you have at least a 1/4" seam allowance.



Secure with pieces of tape and continue stitching.

7. Tackdown of side border strips

After 7, turn the border strips right side up and secure with pieces of tape along the top (non attached) edges.

Finger or mini clover iron press the attached edges.

Now, take the top and bottom border strips and place them, right side down, up against the placement/tackdown stitches, just like you did for the side borders.

8. Tackdown of top and bottom border strips

Turn the border strips right side up and secure the top (non attached) edges with tape.

Finger or Mini Clover iron press the attached edge.

Now, take the prepared backing and place it, right side down, over the embroidery, centering it from left to right and top to bottom.



Secure with tape and continue stitching.

9. Tackdown of backing

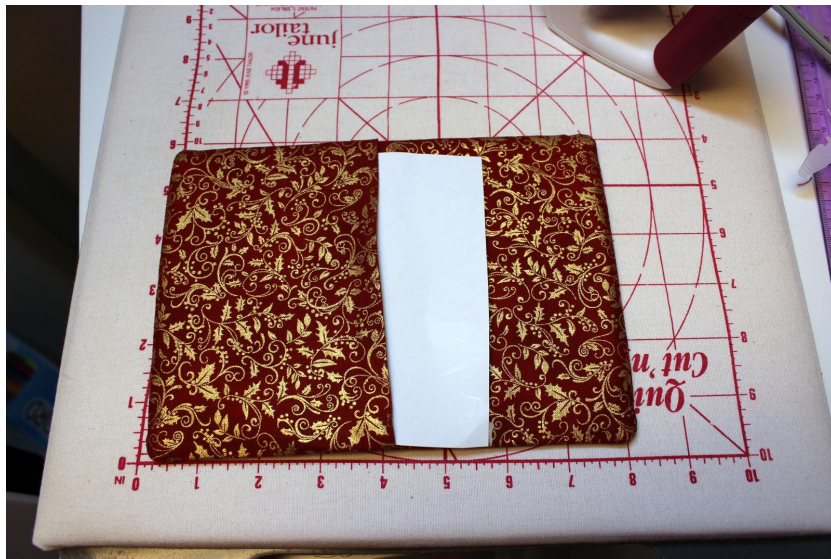
Remove hoop from machine and unhoop embroidery.

Trim seam allowances to approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ ", trimming across corners as well.

Turn embroidery right side out, pushing out corners with a medium sized crochet hook or similar sewing tool.

Now, press the sign, making sure the backing is still on the Steam a Seam 2 to prevent fusion of the opening. Press from the sides toward the center.

If you want for your sign to have more stability/stiffness, insert the 2 card board or plastic canvas pieces now through the back opening, one on the right, the other on the left side.



Now it's time to fuse the opening shut.

And there you are! Place it on an easel or hang it from a pegboard and enjoy.



Tell you a secret: You could also use this as a large mug rug! ☺

**If you hve any questions or feedback, please write
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Thank you for your purchase.