

Applique the Cuddle® Way

Note: A general knowledge of fusible applique techniques is assumed. Refer to manufacturer's guidelines for additional information.

- Designs should be traced onto paper-backed fusible web, reversing the design if necessary.
- Fuse to wrong side of Cuddle® using an applique pressing sheet to protect the fabric. It is recommended that you test the heat of your iron on a scrap piece first.
- Remember that embossed/textured designs have been heat-set; be gentle when applying heat to these fabrics. In certain instances, you may want to consider using spray adhesive or a fabric glue stick to adhere the pieces rather than fusible web.
- An open-toe presser foot is highly recommended for visibility.
- The SCHMETZ size 90/14 Stretch needle works well when sewing Cuddle® fabrics.
- Stitch choices: We recommend using a blanket stitch for applique. It is advisable to increase both the length and the width of your stitch. Other stitch choices may certainly be used, including zig zag, satin stitch, blind hem stitch or even simple straight stitches (just inside the edge of your design pieces). The use of more intricate decorative stitches may not be warranted as the majority of the stitch is lost within the nap of the fabric.
- Thread choices: Regular 40 wt. sewing thread is the best choice, either cotton or polyester. Decorative or specialty threads are unnecessary as much of your stitch will be lost in the nap.
- A layer of lightweight tear-away or wash-away stabilizer should be placed behind your background fabric when stitching your design in place. Using a water-soluble topper, especially on Luxe Cuddle, is recommended. Remove it carefully to avoid distorting and/or weakening your stitches.
- Generally, appliques are best done before the quilt is constructed.
- After your project is finished, you may want to stitch-in-the-ditch around your applique for added effect.
- Cuddle® 3 is well-suited for applique dies, such as those by Accuquilt. Apply fusible web before die-cutting and place paper side against the die for best results.

