

## Circles of Cheer

### WALL PANELS

Created by Kim Jamieson-Hirst



**Janome Artisan** Kim Jamieson-Hirst of Chatterbox Quilts, helps quilters improve their skills through online courses, tutorials, and YouTube channel. A Janome Canada Artisan since 2016, Kim loves to share her passion for quilting and embroidery.

**Dimensions finales:** 8½" W x 20½" L (x3)

**Niveau de compétence:** Débutant

Use the Janome circular sewing attachment to create a triptych of holiday panels with ornament appliqués on your Janome machine. For this project I used my Continental M17.

While I've chosen black for the background fabric, you can choose either a dark or light fabric for this area. You want to use a fabric that contrasts with the appliqué fabrics you've chosen so that they will shine.

When choosing thread for finishing the appliqué edges with a satin stitch, choose: Thread that matches the fabric on each ornament, thread that contrasts with the fabric on each ornament or the same thread for all of the ornaments. For my sample, I chose thread to match the fabrics on each of the ornaments.

### Outils et fournitures

- Janome circular sewing attachment
- Straight stitch needle plate
- Satin stitch foot F



- Free motion quilting foot (QC, QO, or PD-H open or closed)
- Janome blue tip and purple tip needles
- Low tension/blue dot bobbin holder (optional)
- Temporary fabric adhesive
- Erasable fabric marking tool
- Ruler, cutting mat and rotary cutter
- Iron



## Materials

- Ornaments (8 pieces from 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" to 7" x 7")
- Backgrounds (3/4 of a yard)
- Backing (3/4 of a yard)
- Batting (1/2 of a yard)
- Ric-Rac or ribbon (3 yards)
- Tear away stabilizer (3 yards)
- Fusible web (1 yard)
- Hanging tabs (1/4 of a yard)
- Thread for quilting and appliqué

## Cutting

### Backgrounds:

Cut 3 pieces of each for Background, Backing and Batting (8 1/2" W x 20 1/2" L)

### Ornaments:

For each ornament cut 1 ornament fabric, 1 fusible web and 3 stabilizers.

#### Panel #1:

- Top ornament (4 1/2" x 4 1/2")
- Middle ornament (5 1/2" x 5 1/2")
- Bottom ornament (6 1/2" x 6 1/2")

#### Panel #2:

- Top ornament (5" x 5")
- Bottom ornament (7" x 7")

#### Panel #3:

- Top ornament (5 3/4" x 5 3/4")
- Middle ornament (4 3/4" x 4 3/4")
- Bottom ornament (5 1/4" x 5 1/4")

## Marking the Background Fabric

Decide where ornament hangers should be and mark with a ruler and erasable marker.

**Tip:** I like to use soap slivers or Clover Chaco Liner filled with iron off Pounce powder to mark these lines on dark fabric.



For my samples, I drew reference lines for the ornament hangers as follows:



BOTTOM

### Panel #1:

Ornament 1:  
Starting 2 3/4" in from the right side, draw a line 4 3/4" in length from the top down

Ornament 2:  
Starting 6" in from the right side, draw a line 9 3/4" in length from the top down

Ornament 3:  
Starting 3 3/4" in from the right side, draw a line 16 3/4" in length from the top down



## Panel #2:

Ornament 1:  
Starting  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " in from the right side, draw a line  $6\frac{3}{4}$ " in length from the top down

Ornament 2:  
Starting  $5\frac{1}{4}$ " in from the right side, draw a line  $15\frac{3}{4}$ " in length from the top down



## Panel #3:

Ornaments 1 and 3:  
Starting 3" in from the right side, draw a line  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " in length from the top down (Ornament 1) and continue the line down to 17" (Ornament 3).

Ornament 2:  
Starting  $5\frac{3}{4}$ " in from the right side, draw a line  $12\frac{3}{4}$ " in length from the top down

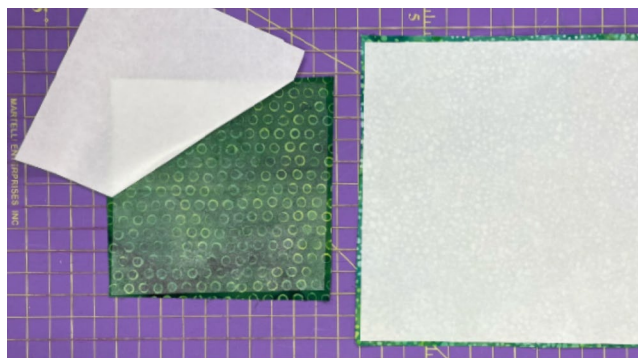
## Construction

Use a glue stick to affix trim or rick rack on the drawn reference lines and stitch it down with matching thread and using a straight stitch. I used a gold metallic for the gold rick rack in my samples. The trim will extend behind the ornament fabric so no raw edges will show.



*Tip:* When using metallic thread be sure to lessen the top tension and use a metallic needle.

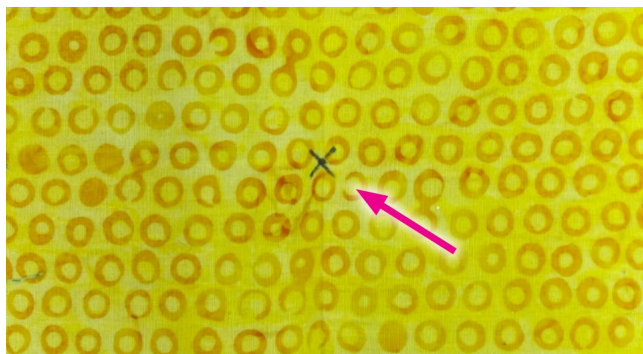
Cut fabric squares (ornaments) and fuse fusible web to back of fabric squares and tear away paper backing.



DO NOT FUSE THE FABRIC SQUARES DOWN YET!



Find and mark all centers on all ornament fabrics.

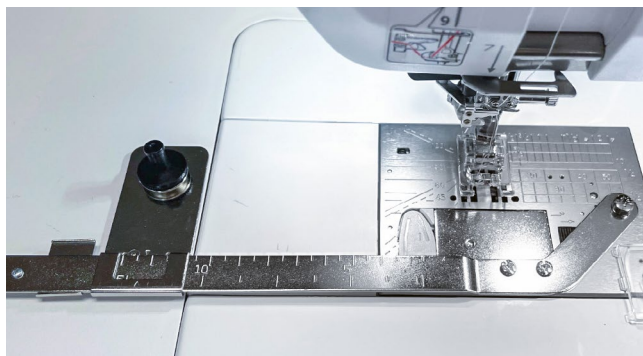


For each ornament, put 3 layers of tear away stabilizer on the back of the fabric background behind where the fabric squares will be. The fabric squares will be centered around the end of the ornament hangers (rick rack or trim) that you have already stitched down. Pin in place to hold.

Insert the regular/zigzag needle plate and a Janome Blue Tip needle in your Janome sewing machine.

Thread your Janome sewing machine with the chosen top thread and insert a bobbin with appropriate thread to match the top thread.

Insert the circular sewing attachment in the needle plate and use the included screw to tighten it in place.



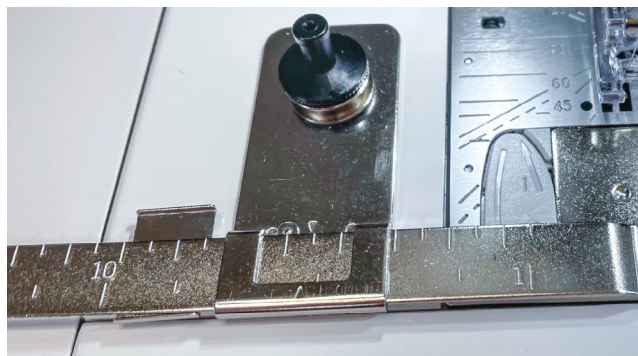
Keep the pin of the circular sewing attachment on the far left so you can attach the stabilizer, fabric background, and ornament fabric on it easily. The pin will go through the stabilizer pieces and background fabric at the bottom

of one of the lines of rick rack or trim that you have stitched down and will also go through the centre of the chosen fabric square.

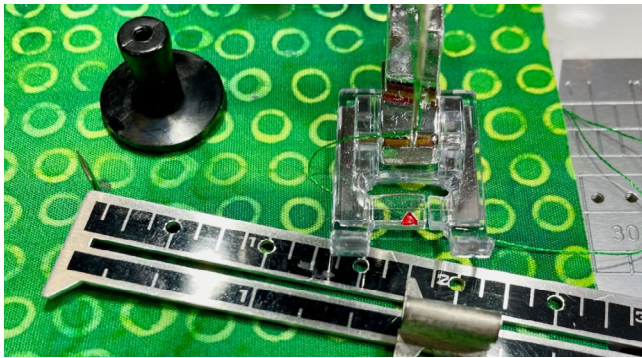


For each ornament, refer to the size indicated in the Cutting – Ornament Fabrics area above, divide that number in half, and adjust the circular sewing attachment to this measurement. Lock it in place by pressing up on the metal tab.

- Large 3 ¼"
- Medium 2 ¾"
- Small 2 ¼"

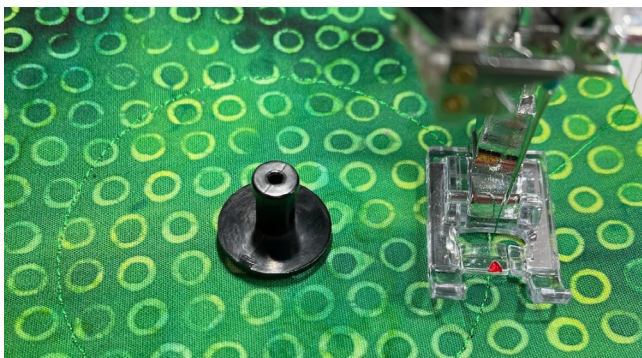


**Tip:** Double check your settings with a ruler.

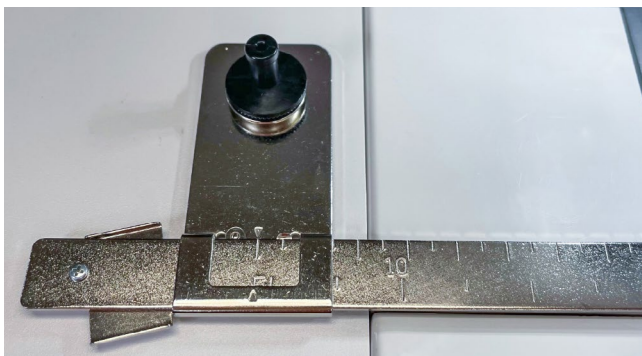


Stitch the ornament fabric to the background fabric with a straight stitch.

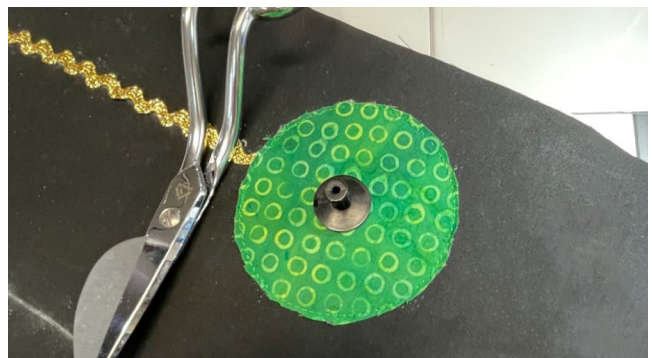
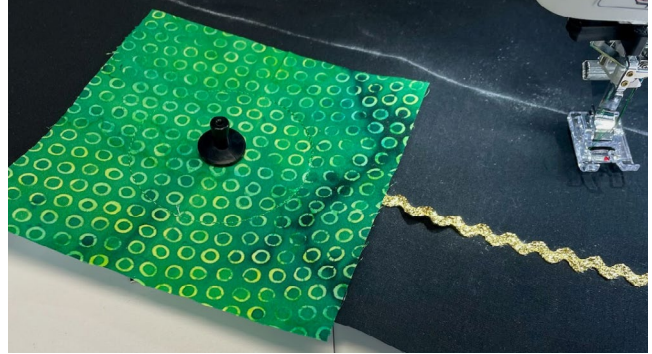
**Tip:** Check first without stitching by moving the fabric around under the machine needle to ensure that the needle (stitch) will fall inside the ornament fabric.



Once you've finished stitching the ornament fabric to the background fabric, don't remove from it from the circular sewing attachment. Unlock the attachment by pressing down on the metal tab and move it to the far left.



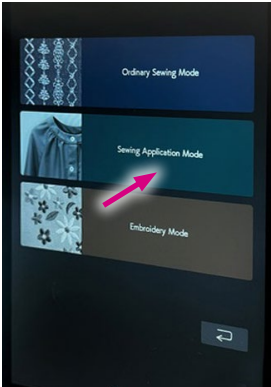
Use duckbill appliqué scissors or small embroidery scissors to trim the ornament fabric close to the straight stitch line.



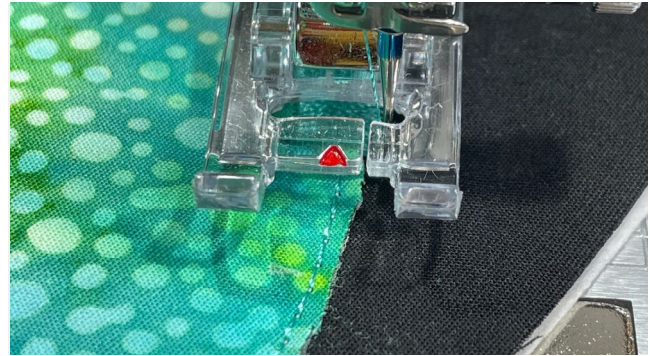
Next you'll stitch around the edge of the ornament appliqué with a satin stitch (narrow zigzag stitch).



Select: Sewing Application

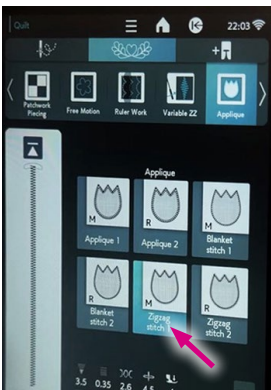


Select: Quilt



After the appliqué edge stitching is complete, continue this same process for the remaining ornament appliqué on this panel. When all of the appliqué have been finished, unlock the circular sewing attachment and move it to the left. Remove the panel from the attachment. Use an iron to fuse the ornament appliqué to the background fabric.

Select: Appliqué > M (Zigzag Stitch 1)



Adjust the width to "9" and the length to ".35" and then slowly stitch around the edge of the ornament appliqué.

Alternatively if your Janome sewing machine does not have a Sewing Application Menu select your Middle Zigzag stitch and adjust your setting until you achieve your preferred look.

**TIP:** I like to check to ensure that the satin stitch will fall into the appliqué fabric and just a bit into the background fabric before I start to stitch it. To do so, without stitching, I move the project around under the machine needle and ensure that the red triangle in the center of the F foot follows along the straight stitch line that I've previously stitched.

## FINISHING

Rather than add binding, I prefer to do the pillowcase method for small projects such as these. [Click here](#) for a video on doing this finishing technique.

If you wish to add hanging tabs, you'll need to make them as follows.

For each panel, you will make 2 hanging tabs. To make, cut 6 pieces of background fabric 7" x 4". With right sides together, stitch a 1/4" seam along the long side of one of the rectangles. Press seam open. Turn tab right side out and press with the seam in the centre of one side (this will be the inside of the tab). Fold the tab in half with the seam inside the tab. Place the tab between the top and background fabric, aligning the raw edges of the tab with the raw edges of the top and background fabrics. Pin in place. For more details on this process, [click here](#).

Fold in the fabrics around the opening and stitch all around the edge of the panel with a narrow seam

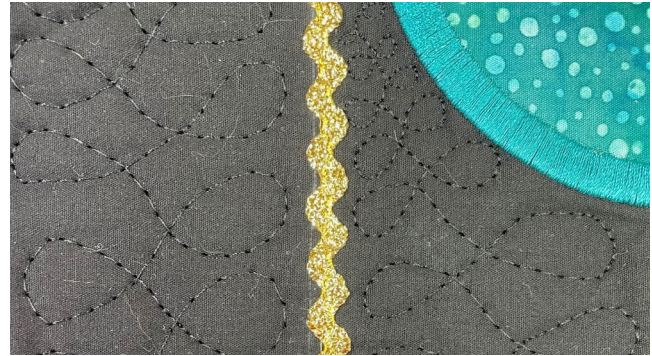
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allowance. This mimics binding and also closes the opening without any hand stitching required.

Change thread to the one you've chosen for quilting. I used a 40 weight polyester thread to match my background fabric and changed my bobbin thread to the same thread.

Install the straight stitch needle plate, the blue dot bobbin case (optional), and a Janome purple tip needle to prepare for quilting.

I used free motion quilting on all 3 panels but stitched a continuous design with loops, swirls and snowflakes for panel 2 and a wishbone motif for panels 1 and 3.



This trio of holiday panels can be hung together on one wall or split up to decorate different areas in your home.

Enjoy!

