

In The Hoop Halloween Mylar Tealights

Supplies needed:

- Water-soluble stabilizer (fabric type)
- Embroidery thread with the same thread wound on your bobbin
- Felt (read suggestion at end of directions)
- Battery operated tealight

These designs will stitch in the 4x4 hoop, and is a complete in-the-hoop project using mylar.



To begin, hoop your water soluble stabilizer



Wind the same thread on your bobbin as you are using as the top thread

The first thread color showing is for the stem on the pumpkin. The second thread color showing is red, but use the thread color you chose to do the background and outer border of the pumpkin. The red thread color is simply a thread color stop (similar to an applique) to give you placement for the mylar.

The ghost will of course not have the stem color. The first color shown is red, which will give you placement for your mylar. But as with the pumpkins, the red thread is simply for a color stop and is stitched in same thread color as the ghost design and border.



After the first outline stitches, lay your mylar over the area and let the stitching begin!



When the stitching stops, remove the hoop and gently tear away the excess mylar. DO NOT REMOVE from the hoop at this point!

While the hoop is off the machine, change the thread to the color you are using for the face/design on the pumpkin. Be sure to also change the bobbin thread to match.

Stitch the design.

When the machine stops again, change the top thread and bobbin back to the same color you used for the background and the outside border.

With the hoop back on the machine, slip the felt backer fabric under the design. It will be laying on your sewing machine bed just under the design (make sure the felt is under the WHOLE design). When you stitch the next thread color (red) it will outline the outside border.



Once this has stitched, it will attach the felt to the back of your design.

Remove the hoop and closely trim the felt around the design (similar to an applique design).

Keep some excess felt on the bottom of the design, but closely trim around the shape of the design.

After reattaching the hoop, finish the stitching.

Once the stitching is finished, remove from the hoop and trim the excess stabilizer.

You may want to wait to trim the felt on the bottom after rinsing. It will be easier to trim after the stabilizer is removed.

Soak the design in water to remove the water soluble stabilizer. After soaking, gently blot the excess moisture and lay flat to dry.

Trim the felt on the bottom to match with the stitched front. These will now fit right over the tealight.

SUGGESTION: If you use a darker felt (or comparable fabric) for the backer, spray one side of the backer with a permanent adhesive and attach a layer of mylar. Lay this fabric with the mylar side up when attaching the back to the stitched design. This will sandwich the tealight between two layers of mylar and give a wonderful reflection rather than the light being absorbed by the dark fabric.

I originally did not have any orange felt available and applied a layer of mylar to some orange thin fleece. The mylar reflected the light and gave some stability to the fabric.

Enjoy!

